



Community Connections

For our children, our community, our world, our future

Honoring our students

This month's column is very short. Instead of providing a message from me, I want to dedicate this space—along with the rest of the newsletter—to the accomplishments of our students. We have had a great year and I want you, our parents and community, to see the power of your commitment to our kids. **Thanks for your support!**

For our children, our community, our world, our future ~

Larry Keller
Superintendent

High school student academic accomplishments



Congratulations to Three Springs and Cheney High School students on their academic accomplishments this year!

Three Springs High School Valedictorian – Ruth Powell
Cheney High School Valedictorian – Rachel Secor
Cheney High School Salutatorians – Jacob Kimball, David Leong, Sydney Reynolds

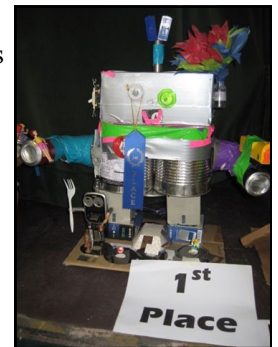
CHS Spokane Scholars for 2011 were Justin Bockstruck (World Languages), Sydney Brock (English), Daniel France (Science),

Betz Vikings give back to the school community

Students at Betz have literally logged hundreds of hours of volunteer service this year. Thirty-two fifth grade P.E. pals have helped out during four sessions of kindergarten P.E. each week, assisting with set-up, warm-ups and leading stations. Thirty fifth graders have volunteered their time keeping our students safe by serving as crossing guards on Safety Patrol. Also keeping students safe were 44 Conflict Managers—fourth graders who give up time during morning recess to help other students solve problems peacefully. Additionally, 89 third, fourth and fifth graders have worked during their lunch recess helping out in the primary classrooms as Viking Volunteers. We truly appreciate the time these students have given to their school. What a great example of giving back to the community!

CMS celebrates "Earth Day"

CMS 8th graders collected garbage from the lunch room, from the grounds around CMS, and from their lives the week before "Earth Day" and used those materials to create masterpieces for the "Garbage Sculpture Contest." Five four-person teams participated and for one week spent their lunch time creating their garbage sculptures in the art room. The sculptures were then voted upon by 7th and 8th graders, and three winning sculptures were chosen. The winning teams were given gummy worms (useful garbage decomposers) and were given handmade garbage trophies that a few of the 6th grade "banner group" kids made for them. The 1st place sculpture is pictured here.



Our essential foundations

- ★ High Expectations and Continuous Progress
- ★ Involvement and Engagement with School District Community
- ★ Stewardship and Planning

Cheney Middle School activities line: (509) 559-4488
Cheney High School activities line: (509) 559-4120

Important Dates:

August 31 **First Day of School, 2011-2012**
September 5 Labor Day Holiday
 NO SCHOOL



Josh Browne, ASB President at Sunset

Josh Browne has been a student at Sunset Elementary since kindergarten. Now a fifth grader, he serves as Sunset's ASB President. When asked about his year in leadership, he

explained, "I've liked leading the school and hearing other kids' opinions. Some people think kids' opinions don't matter because they are young, but that's not true. I like to be able to represent all of the kids." Josh feels it is important to be involved in both your school and your community. This year at Sunset, he participated in the Relay for Life, St. Jude's Math-a-Thon, and the Canned Food Drive. He remembers loading all of the food into a teacher's car and delivering it to Yokes. "I like to be out in the community helping, and not just stay inside the school," Josh said. Josh participates in many youth sports programs and, when it comes to school activities—whether as a Literacy Night reader, band member, crossing guard, or Conflict Manager—Josh is there. "I don't ever want to just sit back. I want to be one of the outstanding ones. I want to be remembered." Next year, Josh will be going to Cheney Middle School. He hopes he will be remembered at Sunset. We think he definitely will be.

Salnave students will have poetry published

Hunter Smith, Kassie Brennan, Julianne Mewhinney, Karlee Jackson and Taehler Tobey

recently received a letter from the National Schools Contest informing them that their poetry will be published. Good job, Salnave Sparrow Hawks!



Sierra Green wins writing contest

Eighth grader Sierra Green won the April Scholastic Persuasive Writing Contest in which her essay was one of ten winners among essays submitted from all over the country. Scholastic sent her a wonderful letter and a copy of an award-winning novel with the message, "We loved your opinion essay about scared-straight programs. You did an excellent job writing a well-structured persuasive essay."



Windsor students learn about serving others

The boys and girls at Windsor had many opportunities throughout the year to serve others in our community. Our fifth graders took the lead by raising money in support of the *Honor Flight Program*, which recognizes and thanks those who served our country by sending World War II veterans to Washington D.C. to view the memorial created in their honor. In December, we held our annual Sock Drive for Crosswalk. Students collected and brought socks for young adults who count on Crosswalk for assistance during the cold winter months. Socks collected were doubled by a long-term anonymous donor. Animals in need of a home were supported in February during our annual Pet Food Drive for Spokanimal. We collected pet food, pet cleaning supplies and toys for our four-legged friends waiting for adoption. Also in February, students participated in the Penny Drive to support children attending Spokane Guild School. Finally, in May we raised money and enjoyed exercise and some sunshine during our Wildcat Walk in support of Windsor's PTO. Thank you to everyone in our community for joining us in helping so many!

CHS student Habeebah Sabir honored

Habeebah Sabir has been selected to participate in the Northwest Association of Biomedical Researchers Fellowship this summer. These students were selected after a very highly competitive application process. Habeebah will be spending two weeks this summer learning about biomedical research and careers. She will also earn a stipend of \$350 for this period of time, with the chance to earn \$50 more for finishing a special project within the next year. Congratulations, Habeebah!



Cheney High School Choir news

Cheney High School choirs had another successful year of providing entertainment in the Pacific Northwest. The Concert Choir and Music 'N' Motion performed for several community events, and enjoyed singing their holiday music for Providence Day Center and River Park Square. These two choirs were busy all year, fundraising for their trips to Kennewick, Whidbey Island and Victoria B.C. The choirs performed at area high schools, on the Victoria Clipper Ship, and in the rotunda of the British Columbia Parliament Building.

All of the Cheney High School choirs participated in the Eastern Washington Music Educators Large Group Choral Festival in March. The Women's Choir received an Excellent rating, the Intermediate Choirs received a rating of Excellent Plus, and the Concert Choir received a Superior rating. These choirs also performed for the community at their fall, winter and spring concerts, and Music 'N' Motion finished this year's performances in May with their end-of-the-year concert of vocal performance and dance.

Congratulations to Kiyana Dickson, Seth Martin, Cameron Mauget and Arthur Bush, who were selected to participate in the All Northwest Choir, and to Nathan Hoyt who was selected for the Washington All State Choir. Kiyana Dickson, Seth Martin and Gabby Fuqua also participated in the Northeast Region Solo and Ensemble Festival, where Kiyana won the soprano category and moved on to the state level competition.



Betz students shared “What My Home Means to Me”

This year Betz’s third grade students realized home is more than just a house as they participated in an annual essay/poster contest sponsored by the Spokane Association of Realtors. It touched our hearts as we read each student’s personal essay about “What My Home Means to Me” and admired their home portraits. Three students received “honorable mentions”—Brianna Nielson, Tess Vasecka and Mackenzie Huotari. Their essays/posters were displayed in River Park Square. We are so proud of all the students who participated in this contest.

CHS athletics tradition of excellence continues!

2010-2011 Great Northern League All Sports Winner —Cheney High School

Teams Winning a WIAA State Trophy:

Girls Cross Country—2nd Place Boys Track—4th Place

Great Northern League Coaches of the Year

Jay Martin—Girls Cross Country Gerald Morton—Girls Golf

State Special Olympics Track & Field Meet

Cameron Finley: 1st Place 400 Meter Walk, 6th Place 100 Meters, 4th Place Shot Put

Hana Devine: 7th Place 100 Meter Walk, 7th Place 400 Meter Walk, 6th Place Softball Throw

Jessica Curbow: 2nd Place Softball Throw, 5th Place 400 Meter Walk, 7th Place 100 Meter Dash

Great Northern League Champions:

Girls Cross Country Girls Golf Boys Track Girls Track

Regional Champions:

Boys Cross Country Girls Cross Country Boys Track & Field Girls Track & Field

2010-2011 2A State Champions:

Elias Mason, 139 Weight Class

Diondre’ Moore-Young, 110 Meter High Hurdles

Sanne Holland, 3200 Meter Run

2010-2011 State Team Finishes:

Girls Cross Country, 2nd Place

Boys Track & Field, 4th Place

Boys Swim, 6th Place

Girls Track and Field, 8th Place

Boys Cross Country, 12th Place

Athletic Teams that made District Playoffs:

Baseball Boys & Girls Basketball Boys & Girls Cross Country Boys & Girls Golf

Boys & Girls Soccer Boys & Girls Track Boys & Girls Swim Volleyball Wrestling Softball

Athletic Teams that made Regional Playoffs:

Boys & Girls Basketball Boys & Girls Cross Country Boys & Girls Golf Boys & Girls Track

Cheney High School Senior Tri-Athletes:

Parker Franklin Football, Basketball, Baseball

Diondre’ Moore-Young Football, Basketball, Track

Sarah Benzel Cross Country, Basketball, Golf

District 7 Champions:

Girls Cross Country Boys Cross Country

Boys Track Girls Track

CMS Art Department news

In March, CMS held an “Art Supply Donation Drive” fundraiser benefitting all of our elementary schools. New and used art supplies and cash donations were collected at all area elementary schools. Many art supplies were donated, and cash donations received were over \$550. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making this drive such a success. It is very much appreciated, and our children will be the benefactors of your generosity.



We celebrated Youth Art Month by creating our sixth annual unique, oversized, paper “ties” for the “Best Tie Design Contest” to be worn by our principals and staff. Sixth and seventh graders created a paper tie using the elements and principles of visual art they learned about in class. “Top of the Class” ties were chosen and then voted upon by other CMS students during lunch time. This year’s winners—Brooke Hosmer, Mackenzie Hilzendeger, Jennifer Harbick, Gabe Claydon, Shayla Payne and Mackenzie Campbell—had their pictures taken with their winning ties and our principals. Then the winning ties were worn by the principals and passed around to participating teachers to show their support for our creative student winners and the arts in our school.

This spring we also started creating a 10-foot banner that helps advertise our school’s annual trip to Washington D.C. that dozens of eighth grade students attend each year. Several Washington D.C. monuments were carefully drawn and then craft-fully painted by a group of about ten sixth graders both at lunch time and after school. The final product was amazing! Look for it the next time you are in the building. In fact, it was so much fun to meet and create artwork that we have decided to start an Art Club here at CMS next year with the young people who worked on this banner being the initial, honorary first members. Pictured are Aztec Quintero, Carissa Teeters, Brooke Hosmer, Jennifer Harbick, Brooklyn Spencer, K.D. Skillingstad, Kristie McGourin and Jordan Wessels.



Cheney Public Schools complies with all federal and state rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, religion, color, national origin, honorably discharged veteran or military status, economic status, gender, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, pregnancy, familial status, marital status, age, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. This holds true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extracurricular school activities. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the school district's Title IX/RCW 28A.640 Officer/ADA Coordinator or Section 504 Coordinator. Or inquiries may be directed to the Director of the Office of Civil Rights, Department of HEW, Washington, D.C.

Title IX/Chapter 28A.640 Officer/ADA Coordinator
Dr. Debra Clemens, Assistant Superintendent
Cheney School District, 520 Fourth Street
Cheney, WA 99004 Phone: (509) 559-4550

Section 504 Coordinator
Kristi Thurston, Director, Student Support Services
Cheney School District, 520 Fourth Street
Cheney, WA 99004 Phone: (509) 559-4507

Requests for Disclosure of Public Records
Sharon Throp, Public Records Officer
Cheney School District, 520 Fourth Street
Cheney, WA 99004 Phone: (509) 559-4502



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Cheney High School Band Awards, 2010-11

2010-11 Jazz Ensemble:

**EWU Jazz Dialog*

Outstanding Rhythm Section

Outstanding Saxophone Section

**Jazz Northwest*

1st Place AA Jazz Ensemble

**CBC Jazz Unlimited*

1st Place AA Jazz Ensemble (Jazz I)

3rd Place A Jazz Ensemble (Jazz II)

2010 Marching Band:

**Cavalcade of Bands*

2nd Place AAA Division

Best General Effect

3rd Place Overall

**Pacific Northwest Championships*

2nd Place AA Division

1st Place Overall

**Northwest Championship Show (Eugene, OR)*

2nd Place AA Division



Cheney High School Marching Band

Individual Student Awards:

**EWMEA Regional Solo Winners*

Lucas Barry—Alto Sax

Chris Knox—Trumpet

Lauren McKinley—Mallets

Jessica Ho—Clarinet

David Denny—Oboe

**Runners-Up*

Caitlin Foster—Bass

Wesley Nanny—Trumpet

Danielle Gilmour—Alto Sax

**EWU Jazz Dialog*

Jacob Weisgerber—Outstanding Soloist

**Viking Music Festival*

Quindrey Davis-Murphy—Outstanding Musician

**Bellevue Jazz Festival*

Quindrey Davis-Murphy—Soloist Award

Jacob Weisgerber—Soloist Award

**CBC Festival*

Katherine Schuemann—Solo Award

Jacob Kimball—Solo Award

2010-11 Percussion Ensemble:

Regional Winner—Large Group Percussion Ensemble

2010-11 Wind Ensemble:

**CBC Wind Festival*

Superior Rating

Program Awards:

**CBC Music Festival*

Outstanding AA Instrumental Music Program

Lauren McKinley—Solo Award

Quindrey Davis-Murphy—Soloist Award



Nash Springberry, David Leong, Solomon Springberry, Jacob Mager, James Borchers, Washington State Coordinator Wency Offril and Coach Karlyn Urdahl

CHS FCCLA Life Smarts team wins 4th at nationals

The Cheney High School FCCLA Life Smarts team, Jacob Mager (team captain), Nash Springberry, James Borchers, David Leong, and Solomon Springberry, returned to school from the national competition with a 4th place trophy. Team members are eligible for a paid internship with the National Consumers League in Washington D.C. this summer. Coach Karlyn Urdahl said, "This is a perfect example of, when given the opportunity, students will take the ball and run with it." In the fall, these young men asked to sign up for the Life Smarts on-line competition. They then began going on line to practice and compete. In January they were informed they had the highest team score for Washington and were invited to the in-person competition. CHS took first place in the state competition. They were then invited to attend the National Life Smarts Competition in Hollywood. The National Consumers League, Washington State and WSECU provided Washington State winners with a check for \$2500 to help with the expenses, and the team earned \$1335 by conducting a grocery raffle and obtaining donations.

Life Smarts is an educational program of the National Consumers League that develops the consumer and marketplace skills of teens in a fun way, and rewards them for the knowledge they demonstrate. Life Smarts complements curriculum already in place in schools and questions are from the areas of Technology, Health, Consumer Rights, Personal Finance and Safety. For the national competition, students have to take a written test in the area of their expertise, participate in team problem solving and compete in buzzer matches. The team wishes to thank Kiwanis, Dr. Rocanova, Dr. Stockton, Mrs. Riddick, Copy Junction, Frankie Doodles, Dick's Hamburgers, Cheney Realty, Cheney High School ASB, and Safeway for their support and for the opportunity to compete in Hollywood.