



# Community Connections

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

## Stewardship

As the superintendent of a high-performing district undergoing growth, I spend a great deal of my time thinking about how we balance our financial needs—making certain we maintain and further enhance the quality of education opportunities for our kids, while at the same time maintaining the facilities and equipment that support the learning processes within the district. As we have seen recently within our country, when we do not maintain a clear perspective of our financial picture we place ourselves at risk and create hardships that are not easy to overcome. As I pass the 100-day mark as your Superintendent, I want to assure the students, staff and communities I serve that being a good steward of all that makes up the Cheney Public Schools is my highest priority.

From the financial perspective, we have in place a process to make sure we maintain a 5% reserve to cover any contingency that might arise. We are also keeping a watchful eye on our student enrollment; and, as it has grown, we have brought on additional staff to maintain the quality of education expected by our communities while at the same time maintaining a good fiscal position. We already are looking at how we can increase space at our middle school next year on an interim basis, and the impact of projected growth to the district over the next 10 years.

In the facilities arena we continue to work on improving the appearance of our grounds and athletic fields. You will see this next summer in the replacement of our football stands, which has been a long time coming and is truly needed. We also will continue our work in increasing access for those with disabilities. Beyond that, we will continue to focus on preventive maintenance to ensure that our systems and buildings are maintained to a level that helps us “stretch our dollars,” just as many of you have to do.

As your steward of the district, I will not compromise the education your child or children receive, and I will work to demonstrate that we continue to understand the value of the dollars you provide through the local levy process. Thanks for your continued commitment to kids.

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

Lawrence R. Keller  
Superintendent

**Friday Reminder:** One hour late start for all schools in our district to provide for teacher collaborative time. Your child’s school day begins one hour later; the buses run one hour later.

## 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

Go to [www.cheneyisd.org](http://www.cheneyisd.org) for more news and information about Cheney Public Schools.

## Important Dates:

Nov. 11	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> Veterans’ Day Holiday
Nov. 20-21	Early Dismissal 11:30 a.m. (Conferences/Testing)
Nov. 24-25	Early Dismissal 11:30 a.m. (Conferences/Testing)
Nov. 26	Early Dismissal (1 1/2 Hours Early)
Nov. 27-28	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> —Thanksgiving Holiday
Dec. 22-Jan. 2	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> —Winter Vacation

## CHS Blackhawk activities



Elizabeth Hilzendeger and Raman Kaur, members of the FCCLA (Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America) organized the "Need to Feed" canned food drive, which raised 1,303 cans in a competition between classes at Cheney High School. The Junior class won!



Diondre' Moore-Young (3) outruns a Colville defender in the Varsity football game between Cheney and Colville on Friday, October 10, 2008. Cheney won in overtime 26-23.

## CHS activities and athletics information available on-line

You can check out the Cheney High School website at [www.cheneyhsd.org](http://www.cheneyhsd.org) → Our Schools → Athletics → Choose Sport → Desired Schedule → View Schedule. Please feel free to call the Activity Line at 559-4120, or the main CHS line at 559-4000.

# Thanksgiving

***NO SCHOOL November 27 and 28—  
Enjoy time with family and friends.  
Happy Turkey Day!***



## CHS student stars deviate from script in spring blockbuster

If we expect it, they will achieve it. It was no surprise that our kids once again performed well on the reading and writing WASL here at CHS. We expect it. We work very hard to perpetuate an "I-can attitude" among our students with a "you-can approach" from the staff. And apparently it's working; once again, our kids passed the ninety-percent mark in both reading and writing. Of course they did. It's in the script, which carefully outlines our story of achievement tradition here at the high school. Ho-hum, another good year. So we thought.

Though we didn't issue the direction from the comfort of our proverbial director's chair, some—more likely several—of our students conspired to change things up a bit and buck tradition. Apparently, movie stars are hard to work with, but Mr. Spielberg—bless his heart—has never worked with a building-full of student stars. We suspected something last spring as we finished up production. The kids seemed awfully confident and comfortable at the premier, but we dismissed it as a symptom of stardom and prepared to await the results of our latest work.

In June, the initial returns looked good—all went according to plan, but as we investigated further we discovered that nearly sixty percent of our kids strayed from the script and exceeded standard in both areas. *That* was not in the script, and though we finally got over this "act of insubordination," we are still dealing with our "superstars."

Silliness aside, as always, we are immensely proud of our kids, our stars. And, as always, *we* continue to learn from *them*. And thank goodness, for now we know that we can never rest on our success.

## New CHS scholarship provided by the Foy family

It is our pleasure to share that the Hubert (Hugh) and Kathleen (Bunnie) Foy family presented a \$90,000 donation to the Cheney Public Schools Dollars for Scholars program at the School Board meeting held on Wednesday, October 8. This gift was facilitated by Mr. and Mrs. Foy's daughters: Donna (1953 graduate), married to Mr. Kent Helmer; Rita (1957 graduate), married to Dr. Tom Brodie and living in Las Vegas; and Jacquita (1962 graduate), married to Mr. Garrison Brusco. Mr. Mitch Swenson, President of the Dollars for Scholars program, was present to accept this generous donation on behalf of the Dollars for Scholars Foundation.

Hugh Foy was a teacher and principal at Marshall School, grades 1-8, from 1949 to 1959 when Marshall School closed. Mr. Foy then taught at Cheney High School until 1962, and was Principal at Windsor from 1963 to 1966. Mrs. Foy taught at Marshall from 1949 to 1959, and then at Windsor and Betz until 1962. Hugh and Bunnie were wonderful individuals who loved teaching. Their former students and the Marshall community greatly admired both Mr. and Mrs. Foy, and they are still spoken of highly.



## Catch the WAVE each Monday morning at Betz

On Monday, October 13, Betz Elementary School implemented our first weekly WAVE (Walking Activates Viking Energy) activity by having all students walk a 1/3 mile “track” around the front playground at Betz during our morning 15-minute all-school recess. It is recommended by our state that elementary students have 100 minutes of organized physical activity each week. Currently our students receive 70 minutes of health and fitness classes each week and one hour of recess each day (recess is not considered “organized” by the state). Our WAVE activity each week will get us closer to this 100-minute weekly goal.



Each week, we will count the number of student laps that are walked and divide this total by three (3 laps = 1 mile) to determine the number of miles walked by students (203 miles this first week!). Miles walked will be charted to reach our first WAVE goal, which is to walk from the Pacific Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean. Our teachers will be encouraged to plan classroom activities in mathematics, social studies, reading and science to enrich student understanding of this trip across the U.S.A.

**We'll make our hearts beat stronger, make new friends along the way  
For fitness, fun and friendship across the U.S.A.!  
Our feet will be our sail, our bodies will be the ship.  
With true Betz Viking Spirit, this will be a super trip!**

Catch the wave Betz Vikings—catch the wave!!



Students Kaiden Robbins, Allyson VonHagel, Walker Ross, Kyle Peabody, Alivia Gunyon, and Kaiden Custer practice math skills with Mr. Songaylo.

## Math coach Vince Songaylo at Windsor

Thanks to funding from a district Partners in Learning (PiL) Grant and under the direction of Vickie Kennedy and EWU, Windsor—along with other elementary schools in Cheney—is benefitting from having a math coach work with children and teachers this year. The five-year grant, currently in year four, is being implemented at the elementary level for the first time this year, having been part of the middle school and high school for the last three years.

Part of the responsibility of the math coach is to help teachers become familiar with, and begin to address with students, the new *Washington State Math Standards* which were approved by the state legislature last spring. Through a variety of training opportunities, teachers are becoming familiar with the standards and beginning to incorporate the new higher expectations for students in their daily lessons. Students and teachers have embraced this wonderful district opportunity for “new learning.” As Windsor’s math coach, Mr. Vince Songaylo brings his skill and enthusiasm to the study of the new standards, in addition to instructional planning and delivery.

In addition to training in the standards, math coaches throughout the district are working with children in classrooms, modeling lessons, providing additional training opportunities in math, researching and offering new resources for classrooms and, finally, assisting teachers in other methods of instruction. Of course the goal of the grant, and the goal of our math coaches, is to improve student learning in the area of mathematics, helping all students become confident and proficient in grade level standards.

If you have any questions about the new state standards or math in our elementary schools, please contact your building math coach.

## District awards and accomplishments

### Scott Frederick selected as Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year

Scott Frederick, a fourth grade teacher at Sunset Elementary, has been selected as the Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year by the Wal-Mart store in Airway Heights. He was nominated by Wal-Mart customers for this honor. Mr. Frederick will receive a \$100 Wal-Mart gift card for his classroom, and Sunset Elementary will receive a \$1000 educational grant for his selection.

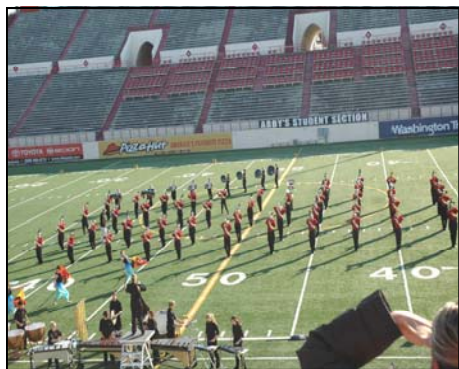


Mr. Frederick and students Whitney Hilzendeger, Kyler Pederson, Jacob Richards, and Alyssa Roberts

The Teacher of the Year program is a part of Wal-Mart's long-term commitment to support education throughout the United States. Since its inception in 1995, Wal-Mart's Teacher of the Year program has recognized more than 26,000 teachers at the local, state and national level for their hard work and dedication to the betterment of our children. Congratulations Mr. Frederick, and thank you!

### Junior Achievement Teacher of the Year Terry Regnier

CHS Economics teacher Terry Regnier was awarded Teacher of the Year by Junior Achievement, a non-profit organization of businesses promoting the idea of students entering the business field, sales field, or becoming entrepreneurs. Mr. Regnier's program is based on real-life situations, and he utilizes members of the business community who speak to classes. He also runs a career unit in which students learn about completing job applications, writing resumes, and handling job interviews. They also learn about networking, being evaluated on the job, and work ethics. Thank you for your dedication to students Mr. Regnier!



### CHS Marching Band wins Division

The CHS Marching Band won their Division at the Pacific Northwest Marching Band Championships—outplaying and outperforming some big schools again. Cheney's awards for the finals performance were as follows:

- 1st Place in the Division of nine
- Best Brass and Winds (Overall Musical Accomplishment)
- Best Color Guard (Our Dance/Flag team)
- Best General Effect (Overall impression of the show)
- Best Marching (How well students move on the field)

Cheney High School's Marching Band performing at the 2008 Pacific Northwest Marching Band Championships at Albi Stadium in Spokane

Congratulations to all of our hard-working band students, and "Well done!" to Mr. Suhling.

Cheney Public Schools complies with all state and federal rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, disability, familial status, marital status, or age. 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 and/or 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 Throop, Public Records Officer



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