

The 4<sup>th</sup> grade Invention-Entrepreneur Project at Midway Elementary integrated reading, writing, science, art and business while making connections to the real world. The project raised over \$500 for the American Cancer Society.

## New Roads to Learning

### Student learning encouraged with multi-faceted projects.

Project-based learning is a comprehensive approach to classroom teaching and learning designed to involve students in the investigation of real world problems. Students pursue solutions to problems by asking and refining questions, debating ideas, making predictions, designing plans and/or experiments, collecting and analyzing data, drawing conclusions, communicating their ideas and findings to others, asking new questions and creating products.

One example of project-based learning in the Mead School District comes from Hoa Cong's 4<sup>th</sup> grade

class at Midway Elementary. Students engaged in a five week Invention-Entrepreneur Project that involved four major assignments:

- Product Creation
- Expense/Profit Analysis
- Marketing & Advertising Strategy
- Written Essay (explaining why his/her company would succeed)

Students presented to a board of directors (the class), and had the opportunity to test market their products, which included Mystery Rocks, Tyson's Lollipops, Gunnar's Loving Dog Treats and Shayla's Customized Bookmarks.

The class voted to donate proceeds from the sale of products (\$566.59) to the American Cancer Society.

Commenting on the learning experience, Mr. Cong said, "I hope students see learning is not something contrived but rather something that will aid them throughout their lives in an authentic manner. I want students to retain and get more mileage from what they learn."

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## Class of 2013 Commencement Exercises



### Five Mile Prairie School

Thursday, June 6, 6 pm, Mead High School Theatre

### M.E.A.D.

Thursday, June 6, 7 pm, Mead High School Theatre

### Mead High School

Friday, June 7, 5 pm, GU's McCarthy Athletic Center

### Mt. Spokane High School

Friday, June 7, 8 pm, GU's McCarthy Athletic Center

## Inside Our Schools



For the second year in a row, Mountainside Middle School is the recipient of a Washington Achievement Award. This year they are being honored in two categories: "Overall Excellence" and "Science."

## '13 AMERICA'S BEST HIGH SCHOOLS

Each year *Newsweek* and *The Daily Beast* analyze data from thousands of high schools in the United States to find the country's best – the schools that best prepare students for college. It is a pleasure to announce that both Mead High School and Mt. Spokane High School made the list.



Five Mile Prairie School, the Mead School District's parent partnership program, has been honored by *U.S. News and World Report* as a bronze "best high school" in their 2013 rankings.



## Fall 2013 Events

- ❖ "Battle of the Bell"  
Mead vs Mt. Spokane Football Game  
Friday, September 27 – 7:30 pm Albi
- ❖ Mead vs Mt. Spokane Volleyball  
Thursday, September 26  
Mt. Spokane @ 7 pm
- ❖ 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual "Show & Shine" Car Show  
Saturday, September 7  
Mt. Spokane Parking Lot 9 am



## Mead Scholars Stole the Show!

The Spokane Scholars Foundation was established in 1993 by a group of area professionals who believed recognition of academic excellence in Spokane County was not what it should be. Founders felt it was time to stand up and cheer for scholarly efforts. The Foundation, for the past 20 years, has awarded hundreds of scholarships to Spokane high school students.

This year 24 area high schools nominated one student in each of the six honored disciplines – English, Fine Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and World Languages – resulting in 144 total nominees. Four scholarships were awarded in each category for a total of 24 monetary awards.

Simply being nominated is an honor – being one of the 24 award winners is most definitely cause for celebration. At this year's awards banquet (April 22, Spokane Convention Center) students from Mt. Spokane High School and Mead High School won six (25%) of the 24 awards presented! Mt. Spokane students Natalie Pilgeram (Social Studies), Carter Bastian (English) and Emily Stephens (World Languages) all earned first place honors (\$4,000 scholarship) and Leah Wurst placed second in Mathematics earning a \$3,000 award. Mead High School's Rylan Edlin placed second in the Fine Arts category (\$3,000) and Daniel Rahn was third in Mathematics (\$2,000).

## Celebrating the Class of 2013 Valedictorians (4.0 GPA)

### Mead High School

Ashley Ayala	India Halliburton-Link
Andrew Baird	Jordan Helgesen
Gabriella Bilyeu	Taylor Hellman
Troy Caselli	Mackenzie Kutz
Sierra Crook	Alexandra Maxwell-Bumann
Rylan Edlin	Teddi Patnoi
Taylor Ellingsen	Tanner Peterson
Meghan Elmore	Demi Pfarr
Jacob Facer	Daniel Rahn
Hannah Ferris	Kelsey Rinaldi
Ryan Fraser	Connor Tsuchida
John Goins	Randi Wallace

### Five Mile Prairie School

Hannah Pulcastro

### Mt. Spokane High School

Abigale Anderson	Taylor Oddino
Carter Bastian	Sarah Overfelt
Courtney Bray	Robert Perry
Julia Brim	Jayne Peterson
Kelsey Frank	Andrew Pignataro
Rylee Gallagher	Natalie Pilgeram
Matt Graham	Emerson Shaffer
McKenzie Harsin	Victoria Smith
Jessica Imel	Emily Stephens
Dane Larson	James Story
Kyle Larson	Jalyn Vigil
Kelsa Lowe	Leah Wurst
Ross Mader	Brooklin Young
Danika Martin	Amela Zukic
Patrick Mudd	

## 2013 Poetry Out Loud National Champion

Langston Ward, a senior at Mead High School, has won the 2013 Poetry Out Loud National Recitation Contest. As the national champion, Ward received a \$20,000 cash award. The competition took place April 29-30 in Washington D.C. and included 53 students representing every state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.



## Students Excel at DECA Conference

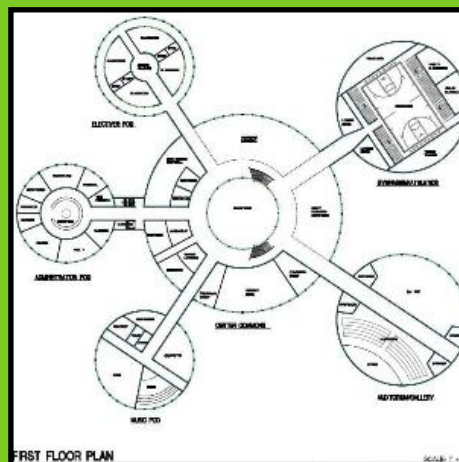
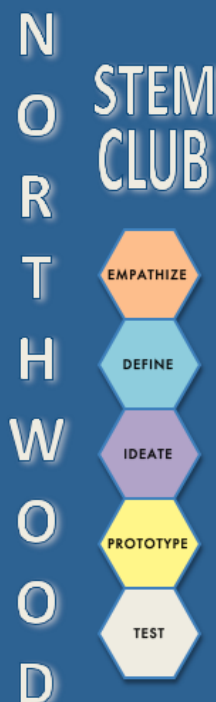
Mt. Spokane DECA sent 11 competitors to the DECA International Conference in Anaheim, California, where they competed against more than 16,500 DECA members from around the world. Teagan Brown and Kelsey Frank became the highest placing team in Mt. Spokane history. They finished 1<sup>st</sup> in the nation and 3<sup>rd</sup> in the world in the Sports and Entertainment Team Decision Making category.







Northwood "School of the Future"



STEM Club Members: Dan Dylina, McKenna DeWeese, Robyn Villines & Jacob Broemeling

## Award Winning Student Design

### Challenge: Envision and design a school of the future.

Northwood Middle School's Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) Club recently took first in state at the *School of the Future* competition sponsored by the Council of Educational Facility Planners International. The team continued on to the Pacific NW regional competition where they finished third.

Using a five-step design thinking process, students planned a new hypothetical Northwood. The process included:

- Identifying school stakeholders.
- Interviewing to determine needs.
- Brainstorming thousands of ideas.
- Designing a prototype with floor plans and a model of the new Northwood.
- Presenting the design concept at the CEFPI state and regional competitions.

Students selected the old Kaiser Aluminum Plant as the location for their design, which resembled a wheel and utilized circles to maximize space. As illustrated above, five smaller pods feed into a center pod housing common areas. On the roof of the center pod the design calls for rotating solar panels to collect energy to power the school.

When asked about the design thinking process and the project students replied, "Currently Northwood is 67 years old and in desperate need of a remodel so stepping up to the challenge and designing a new Northwood was particularly meaningful. The new Northwood shows functionality, helps the community and encourages thinking/learning outside the box. It's a place where students can pursue problem solving and explore ways to make a difference in the world."

### Board Members Honored



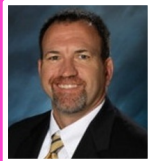
Pictured left to right: Superintendent Tom Rockefeller, Tom Hunt & Ron Farley

Directors Ron Farley (14 years of service), Denny Denholm (15 years) and Tom Hunt (17 years) were recently honored and thanked by the Washington Association of School Administrators for their years of service to the Mead District. Director Bob Olson (27.5 years) was previously honored.



### Special Programs Assistant Superintendent

Dr. Susana Reyes will be joining Mead Schools as an assistant superintendent beginning July 1, 2013. Dr. Reyes has been an assistant superintendent in the Pullman School District since 2006 providing leadership and oversight for a variety of state and federal programs including Special Education.



### Mead High School Principal

Mead High Assistant Principal Mark St. Clair has been named the new principal at Mead High School. He will be replacing Ken Russell who will join the district office staff as an assistant superintendent. Prior to coming to Mead Mark was the principal at Lakeside HS.

### Another "Clean" State Audit

Each year the Washington State Auditor's Office conducts an Accountability Audit to review the district's compliance with state laws and regulations. We are pleased to announce, for the seventh consecutive year, the district had "no audit findings."

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Mead School District #354  
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### Upcoming Events

June 6	Five Mile Prairie Graduation, Mead HS 6 pm M.E.A.D. Graduation, Mead HS 7 pm
June 7	Mead HS Graduation, GUs McCarthy Center 5 pm Mt. Spokane Graduation, GUs McCarthy Center 8 pm
June 14	Last Day of School
Sept. 3	First Day of School
Dec. 23	Start of Winter Break
Jan. 6	School Resumes after Winter Break
April 7-11	Spring Break



### Celebrating Our Students! A Message from Superintendent Tom Rockefeller

On behalf of the Mead School District Board of Directors and staff, I would like to extend our sincere congratulations to each of our graduating seniors. This year Mt. Spokane, Mead, M.E.A.D. and Five Mile Prairie will graduate some 825 seniors! These graduates will begin their adult lives with a high quality education and a broad spectrum of learning experiences. The Mead District is honored by each of our graduate's academic, extra-curricular and co-curricular accomplishments. We are excited for their future in work, furthering their education or serving our country.

As we come to the end of the 2012-13 school year, I want to thank the teachers, administrators, support staff and school volunteers who make the Mead School District a wonderful place for children to learn. I would also like to extend a special "thanks" to our students, parents and patrons for their continued involvement and support. The Mead School District is a great place for students because of a wonderful community that has high learning standards and considers education a top priority!

As you read this issue of Mead Matters please take in all of the successes, achievements, awards and accomplishments associated with the Mead School District. Our students and staff do great things!

Again, a big "thank you" to our Mead community and wishing the "best" to the Mead School District Class of 2013.



### New Location *Igniting Passion, Producing Innovators*

We are pleased to announce Mead's Riverpoint Academy is expanding and moving north. This new location will provide enhanced learning opportunities for our students.

For additional information visit  
[www.mead354.org](http://www.mead354.org).



Dale Preedy - Mead Class of '54

*You may spot Dale at Mead District events, and not only because he's 6'6". Guaranteed, he will be the only one wearing a 1954 Mead letterman's sweater.*

## In the Time of Ike Graduate Remembers Mead District's Middle Age

The Mead District was more than forty years old when Dale Preedy graduated from Mead High in 1954. His family had arrived in the 1930s, settling on Green Bluff after leaving their Kansas farm during the Dust Bowl.

"Mead High School was where the Boys & Girls Club is now, on Market," he recalls. "My graduating class numbered about fifty, mostly farm kids and Kaiser workers' kids."

"It was when cars began to really transform this area. Almost everything north of Francis was still country, but that began changing with things like the Auto-View Drive-In Theater on Division, and the midget racecar track nearby - both are gone now.

Country Homes became the first big suburban neighborhood, housing lots of Kaiser people. Cook's Roller Rink (now Pattison's) was quite a community hub."

Young people also drove to dances at Mitcham's Barn near Mt. Spokane, which Dale so loved that he later ran the place, calling square dances there for twenty years. "You wouldn't believe how many local couples met at those dances!" he says.

Dale remains a Mead District fan. His three boys and three of his grandchildren have attended school here, with the youngest now finishing at Colbert Elementary, soon headed for Mountainside Middle School.