



MATTERS

August 2014



Welcome to the 2014-15 School Year

16 Schools Set to Welcome Nearly 10,000 Students

On Tuesday, September 2, we will open our doors for the 2014-15 school year and welcome an estimated 9,700 students to our sixteen schools. The Mead School District has a long-standing tradition of providing the highest quality learning experience for each and every student. This year will be no exception.

As a district we are proud of our outstanding graduation rates – 92% on time (4-year) and 95% extended (5-year) for Mead and Mt. Spokane high schools. Additionally, an impressive 95% of our recently graduated (Class of 2014) students were accepted to a 4-year or 2-year college or university program.

In February two ballot measures will be brought to Mead voters for consideration.

The first is the renewal of our Maintenance & Operations Levy. This levy is the renewal of an existing tax – not a new tax – and the monies generated will maintain valuable existing programs. M&O levies go before voters for renewal every three years.

The second is a Capital Facilities Improvement Bond. While the exact dollar amount of the bond is yet to be determined, the School Board has approved, in principle, the projects recommended by the Facilities Planning Committee in their 2015-2021 Capital Facilities Plan. Of particular importance is the need to enhance security at each school site by providing a “single point of entry.” Bond flagship projects will be the remodel of Shiloh Hills Elementary and Midway Elementary and the replacement of Northwood Middle School. At Northwood

the plan is to rebuild the school adjacent to the existing gym and weight room, both of which will be retained. All three projects qualify for “state match” monies, which will cover a sizeable portion of the remodel/replacement cost. For additional information visit www.mead354.org.

September and October promise many exciting community events – you are invited to all of them! Plan to be a part of the ongoing pride and heritage of the Mead School District.

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Battle of the Bell 2014



Mead vs Mt. Spokane
Football Game
Friday, October 10 – 7:30 pm
Joe Albi Stadium

Beginning Sept. 15th tickets may be purchased in advance at any of our schools.
\$4 students, \$6 adults

- **4th Annual “Show & Shine” Car Show @ Mt. Spokane**
Saturday, September 6, 9 am – 1 pm, front parking lot of Mt. Spokane HS. No entry fee, however, there will be the opportunity to make a donation toward school supplies for needy students.
- **Neighborhood Harvest Sale @ Farwell Elementary**
Saturday, September 27, 8:30 am – noon.
- **Volleyball Mead vs Mt. Spokane @ Mead High School**
Thursday, October 9, 7 pm. See two of the state’s consistently top teams battle in this annual district classic.



2014-15 Sabbatical Awarded

Pictured with Superintendent Tom Rockefeller, Northwood science teacher April Beck-Friends has been granted a sabbatical for the first semester of the 2014-15 school year.

Ms. Beck-Friends will travel to China and while there visit international schools in Beijing, Singapore and Malaysia where she will exchange middle school STEM curriculum standards and best practices in teaching. Additionally, working closely with both science and social studies colleagues at Northwood, she plans to share, via Skype, her "on the ground" experiences of life in China. She will also post journal entries, photos and videos.



Mead High School Welcomes Bryan Smith

Mead High School has hired Bryan Smith as an interim assistant principal for the 2014-2015 school year. Bryan is replacing Doug Edmonson who accepted the position of Director of CTE and Technology for the Mead School District. A part of Bryan's job will be providing support to special education staff, students and families.

Bryan has extensive background in special education. This past year he was an Education Specialist for the Mead School District. Prior to coming to Mead, Mr. Smith was a teacher and Director of Special Education for the Moses Lake School District.

Mead Welcomes New Administrators



Pictured left to right: Dr. Pam Veltri, Laura Ketcham-Duchow, Justin Valentine & Moleena Harris

The Mead School District welcomes four new educators to its administrative team. All four bring a wealth of experience to their new positions.

- **Dr. Pam Veltri – Assistant Superintendent Learning Services**
Dr. Veltri has been Superintendent in the Medical Lake School District since 2000, providing leadership and oversight for all programs. Prior to that she was the Medical Lake Assistant Superintendent for teaching, learning and human relations. Pam earned her B.A. and M.A. from Gonzaga University and her Ed Admin and Ph.D. from the University of Idaho.
- **Laura Ketcham-Duchow – Principal Shiloh Hills Elementary School**
A product of the Mead School District, Ms. Ketcham-Duchow began her school career at Greenbluff Elementary as a first grader when Colbert Elementary was too small to house all of its students. After graduating from Mead HS she obtained her B.A., M.A. and administrative certification from Whitworth University. Prior to joining the Mead School District, Laura was a principal assistant for Spokane Public Schools.
- **Justin Valentine – Principal Brentwood Elementary School**
Justin Valentine is also proud to be a product of the Mead School District. After graduating from Mead HS he attended Whitworth University earning a B.A. in Elementary Education and a Masters in School Administration. This past year Mr. Valentine was the principal assistant for Prairie View and Evergreen . . . and for 10 years prior to that he taught at Shiloh Hills.
- **Moleena Harris – Riverpoint Academy Administrator/Prin. Asst. @ Prairie View**
Ms. Harris comes to the Mead School District from Spokane Public Schools where she was a principal assistant, secondary literacy facilitator, Advanced Placement coordinator and AVID co-director. Moleena earned her B.A. and Principal Certification from WSU, M.A. from Lesley University and is a National Board Certified Teacher in Early Adolescence/English Language Arts.



Fall Craft Fairs

Mt. Spokane Band Craft Fair

October 11, 9 am – 5 pm

October 12, 11 am – 4 pm

Booth Information @ <http://mstspokaneband.weebly.com>

Mead HS Band Craft Fair

November 15, 9 am – 5 pm

November 16, 10 am – 4 pm

Booth Information @ www.meadcraftfair@gmail.com



Mead Schools Awarded Emergency Response Grant

Thanks to the efforts of Student Services Executive Director Jared Hoadley, the Mead School District has been awarded a \$314,447 Emergency Response Grant from OSPI. Grant parameters dictate funds be used to purchase/install systems that will enhance the response time of emergency responders (fire, police, medical) in a crisis situation.

Grant monies will be used to purchase items designed to allow contact with 911 from any classroom, initiate a lock-down from any classroom and improve access to school buildings by the Spokane County Sheriff's Office.



Matthew Littleton & Jacob Lionello – Career Health Display



Jacob Lionello, Mahen Krishnakumar, Matthew Littleton, Derek Bouvier, Audrey Yaeger & Devon Mead

Mt. Spokane Students Qualify for HOSA Nationals

HOSA – Health Occupations Students of America – is a national student organization with a two-fold mission: to promote career opportunities in the health care industry and to enhance the delivery of quality health care to all people. Led by Mt. Spokane PLTW Biomedical Science teacher Raeleen Epperson, six Mt. Spokane students, following competition at the state level, qualified to compete at HOSA Nationals in Orlando, Florida in July. Student qualifiers, including their state finish and national competition category, are:

- **Audrey Yaeger** – 3rd Place, Medical Photography
- **Matt Littleton & Jacob Lionello** – 3rd Place, Career Health Display
- **Devon Mead, Derek Bouvier & Mahen Krishnakumar** – 2nd Place, HOSA Bowl

Congratulations to these hard-working students. They are the first Mt. Spokane High School students and first Mead School District students to qualify for this national event. They are also the only HOSA National qualifiers from the Spokane region.

Commenting on the HOSA National experience Ms. Epperson said, “I am so proud of these kids. They did a great job!”



PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

Certified BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES Program

District Biomedical Sciences Program Receives Certification

The curriculum used in the Project Lead the Way Biomedical Sciences Program at Mead and Mt. Spokane high schools is described as challenging, hands-on, project-oriented, relevant and case-based. Now a visiting PLTW certification team has officially certified the Mead SD program.

Maintaining the highest level of instruction is a top priority for the folks at PLTW. To ensure program quality PLTW representatives conduct site visits on a regular basis. The Mead School District took part in a site visit this past spring and passed with flying colors. Both Mead and Mt. Spokane were granted official certification. The site visit report included the following notations:

The Mead School District was the first district in the greater Spokane region to start the Biomedical Science Program. They were influential in recruiting WSU Spokane to join PLTW as the NW Regional Affiliate University. The district has systematically grown the biomed program at both Mead and Mt. Spokane and both schools exhibit

best practices in a large suburban high school setting.

District biomed teachers go the extra mile to identify opportunities for students to experience college programs and careers in the biomedical sciences. Students have participated in medical science and allied health college campus shadow experiences including participation in college level lecture classes and clinical laboratory classes in a variety of health care fields.

Biomed students actively participate in hands-on labs that simulate real world scenarios. This active learning engages students on many levels ensuring a solid transfer of knowledge and understanding.

In the fall of 2010 students at Mead and Mt. Spokane high schools had the opportunity to sign up for the first of four PLTW biomed courses. In June we celebrated the graduation of twenty-six Mead seniors and twelve Mt. Spokane seniors who completed all four years of this exciting learning program. Graduating seniors overwhelmingly said, “What we have learned and the insights we have gained will be a tremendous help in making future college and career plans.”

Social Media @ Hoopfest



MHS Students Keely Liles, Chase Jameson, Derien Kraus & Averie Skeels

Digital Media students from both Mead and Mt. Spokane high schools volunteered their time in late June to help promote Hoopfest via social media.

Students took pictures, edited video and helped create minute-by-minute posts for YouTube, Pinterest, Twitter and Facebook.

Check out their work by visiting the following social media outlets:

- [Youtube.com/7hoop](https://www.youtube.com/7hoop)
- [Pinterest.com/SpokaneHoopfest](https://www.pinterest.com/SpokaneHoopfest)
- [Twitter.com/SpokaneHoopfest](https://twitter.com/SpokaneHoopfest)
- [Facebook.com/SpokaneHoopfest#Hoopfest25](https://www.facebook.com/SpokaneHoopfest#Hoopfest25)

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Mead School District #354
2323 E. Farwell Rd.
Mead, WA 99021

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Questions or concerns?
509-465-6014
www.mead354.org

The Mead School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Grievances or concerns should be directed to: Jared Hoadley, Executive Director of Student Services and Activities - 509-465-6008 or jared.hoadley@mead354.org.

ECR WSS Postal Customer

2014-15 School Calendar

Sept. 2	First Day of School
Oct. 10	No School
Nov. 7	Elementary School Early Release
Nov. 10	No School
Nov. 11	Veteran's Day
Nov. 20-26	Elementary Conferences – Early Release
Nov. 27-28	Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 22	Winter Break Begins
Jan. 5	School Resumes
Jan. 19	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Jan. 23	1 st Semester Ends – Secondary Early Release
Feb. 16	President's Day
March 13	Snow Make-Up Day (if needed)
March 30 - April 3	Elementary Conferences – Early Release
April 6-10	Spring Break
May 25	Memorial Day
June 12	Last Day of School

Welcome to the New School Year! A Message from Superintendent Tom Rockefeller



On behalf of the Mead School District Board of Directors, our teachers, administrators and staff, I extend a warm welcome to our students, parents and Mead community to another school year! The Mead staff is ready and excited to get the school year started. We look forward to providing a top, high quality education for all of our students.

I invite you to take advantage of the many, many opportunities available to become associated and involved with our schools during this school year. Consider being a classroom volunteer, go to a cross-country meet, watch a football game, attend a music concert or enjoy a play. I am confident you will find connecting with our great students and staff a fulfilling and exhilarating experience! There are literally thousands of activities, programs and competitions you can attend during the school year. Mead is a great school district. By supporting our students together, we will continue to build a stronger community.

This is a “levy” and “bond” year for the Mead School District. Please take time to become informed about the details and particulars of these upcoming (February 2015) ballot measures by visiting our District and individual school websites. Both the levy and bond are essential to continuing our long-standing tradition of being a highly effective school district.

Again, welcome to the new school year!

14th Annual Cat Scramble Golf Tournament & Silent Auction

*Saturday, September 13
Wandermere Golf Course*

It's not too late to be a part of this fund-raising event that benefits the athletic programs at both Mt. Spokane and Mead high schools. Early morning tee-times are available and the public is invited to the steak dinner/silent auction (5:30 p.m.) held at the conclusion of the tournament. For ticket information please contact event co-chairs Renee Fine (385-2023) or Joanie Pringle Jones (981-6942).

After last year's tournament, Ian Johnstone, General Manager of corporate title sponsor Cenex Zip Trip, presented a record-breaking check for \$40,000 to be shared by the Mt. Spokane and Mead Booster Clubs.



4th Annual “Show & Shine” Car Show

*Saturday, September 6, 9 am – 1 pm
Mt. Spokane High School*

This annual community event, organized by Student Services Executive Director Jared Hoadley (aka “Motor Head Hoadley”), provides the opportunity for Mead patrons to display their car or spend a relaxing morning looking at the 30-40 models on display. All makes and models are welcome . . . even those “in process.” Visit the Mead School District homepage, www.mead354.org, for registration information.

Participants will select the “Best Of” in 16 categories including:

- Best of Show
- Modified
- Wish You Owned
- Exterior Appearance
- Interior Appearance
- Work in Progress
- Custom Paint
- Best Truck
- Student Owned