



Photos from "Battle of the Bell" September 2011



Welcome to the 2012-13 School Year

September is packed with events.

A new school year is upon us, with classes starting Tuesday, September 4. Our enrollment is projected to be just over 9,500 students and we consider it a privilege to provide the highest quality learning experience for each and every one of them.

This year we are especially excited about the highly

anticipated opening of Riverpoint Academy. Located on the Riverpoint campus in downtown Spokane, RA will provide, in its first year, a unique learning opportunity for up to 75 MSD juniors. The school's curriculum combines science, technology, engineering, math and entrepreneurship (STEM+) in the way those disciplines are linked in the world of work and innovation.

September promises many exciting community events and you are invited to all of them! Plan to be a part of the ongoing pride and heritage of Mead Schools.

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"Battle of the Bell"

Mead vs Mt. Spokane Football Game
Friday, September 21, 8 pm
Joe Albi Stadium

Connect with neighbors at the pre-game tailgate party and enjoy Homecoming festivities and a performance by the Mt. Spokane Marching Band at Halftime.

For additional information on these events visit www.mead354.org

➤ 2nd Annual "Show & Shine" Car Show

Saturday, September 8, 8 am – 1 pm, front lawn of Mt. Spokane HS. Car registration and admission are free.

➤ Volleyball, Mead vs Mt. Spokane

Thursday, September 20, 7 pm @ Mead HS. See two of the state's consistently top teams battle in this annual district classic.

➤ Neighborhood Sales

Saturday, October 6, 9 am – Noon, Evergreen & Farwell Elementary Schools. A garage sale for everyone, no charge!

Food Service Update



The Federal Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act will be implemented over the next three years. This act includes new meal standards designed to improve the health of children who eat lunch and/or breakfast at school.

New requirements include:

- Reduced sodium
- Establishment of calorie maximums and minimums
- Increased fruit & vegetable offerings
- Minimization of trans fat

Questions? Contact our Child Nutrition Services Office at 465-6100.



**Director of
Child
Nutrition
Services**

Kim Elkins is our new director of Child Nutrition Services. She comes to us from Nine Mile Falls School District where she worked for seven years. Prior to that she worked at Providence Sacred Heart as the Assistant Director of Food and Nutrition Services.

Kim is very excited about her new position. In her spare time she enjoys horseback riding, gardening, reading and an occasional game of golf.

Mead Welcomes Three New Principals



Pictured left to right: Danette Driscoll, Darren Nelson & Rob Haugen

The Mead School District welcomes three new principals for the 2012-13 school year. All three bring a wealth of experience to their new positions and are outstanding educators.

➤ **Danette Driscoll, Riverpoint Academy**

While the position of Riverpoint Academy principal is new for Ms. Driscoll, she is not new to our district. Danette has served for the past five years as our Director of Secondary Education. She views Riverpoint Academy as a "once in a lifetime opportunity to participate in an innovative educational start-up program."

➤ **Darren Nelson, Mt. Spokane High School**

Mr. Nelson makes the transition this school year from being an assistant principal at Mead HS, where he worked for the past five years, to the position of principal at Mt. Spokane HS. Darren is "thrilled to serve the Mt. Spokane community." He sees this as an opportunity to work with a skilled group of individuals and serve the community where he resides. "A dream come true."

➤ **Rob Haugen, Colbert Elementary**

A native of Medical Lake, Mr. Haugen comes to us from Graham Elementary School in the Bethel School District where he was the principal for the past three years. Prior to that he was an assistant principal and 5th and 6th grade teacher. Rob is excited to be back on the east side of the state and be a part of the Colbert/Mead community. Rob loves riding motorcycles, boating, camping and working around the house and yard. He also enjoys traveling to big cities, presidential libraries and National Parks.



**Golf Tournament &
Silent Auction**
September 15, 2012
catscramble@hotmail.com

Henry Ford Learning Institute & Mead School District

Mead HS Entrepreneurship teacher Lee Chambers was a co-facilitator at the Henry Ford Learning Institute *Design Thinking 101* workshop held in Detroit in mid-July. Program participants left with an in-depth understanding of "Design Thinking", the ability to facilitate the design process with students, and the preparation to teach Foundations of Innovation, a course developed by Stanford University in partnership with the Henry Ford Learning Institute. This semester course is currently taught by Mr. Chambers to 9th graders at Mead High School.





Service Project "Clean Up" Day August 11, 2012

This volunteer event helped beautify our schools in a way not otherwise possible because of belt tightening in our maintenance and grounds-keeping budget.



Service Project Benefits Mead Schools

Local churches partner with Mead District.

If you were out and about on Saturday morning, August 11, and drove by any one of our schools, chances are you saw lots of folks pulling weeds, trimming bushes, sweeping and performing a variety of general clean-up chores. Robert Olson of Life Center Church, who is the "Serve our City" Volunteer Director, and Cathy Fayant, the district's Custodial Services Director, organized this "clean up" event.

Several north side churches sent a team of workers to nearly every one of our schools. These teams, assisted by a district volunteer at each location, set out to give schools a facelift. They accomplished their mission. Our schools look fabulous!

Executive Director of Student Services Jared Hoadley said, "The event was a

tremendous success! We enjoyed working with local churches and hope to pursue other opportunities that will allow us to partner together in the future for the benefit of the Mead community."

We say "THANK YOU" to the following churches and volunteer coordinators:

- **Calvary Chapel Spokane**
Ken Kerr & Collin Johnson
- **Life Center North**
Vinny Del Pizzo & Cathy Del Pizzo
- **Northview Bible Church**
David Hara & Linda Zienhert
- **Crosswalk Community Church**
Mike Brose
- **Christian Life Church**
Taylor Countryman
- **Turning Point Open Bible Church**
Nathan Hagan
- **Branches Church Spokane**
Jeff Naslund

2012-13 Budget Adopted



Budget reflects sound and prudent financial practices.

After five years of reducing programs and services because of state and federal budget reductions, the 2012-13 MSD operating budget reflects stable funding, the state legislature's commitment to protect K-12 education from further budget reductions, and the district's continued careful and prudent spending.

This newly adopted budget projects an enrollment of approximately 9,500 students and totals \$83,232,876, which is nearly identical in size to the 2011-12 operating budget.

"Repurposing" Nets Savings for Mead District

"Repurposing" is a term growing in popularity and refers to reusing materials instead of simply throwing things away and buying new. That's what the district plans to do with the signs at Northwood Middle School and the District Office Administration Building - repurpose them. The estimate for a new building sign is \$12,000. Using the skills of district maintenance personnel each building sign can be refurbished for approximately \$4,000 - a substantial savings over brand new.



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

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Spokane, WA
Permit No. 622



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

ECR WSS
Postal Customer

Upcoming Events

Sept. 4	First Day of School
Sept. 8	"Show & Shine" Car Show, Mt. Spokane HS 8 am
Sept. 10	School Board Meeting, District Office 6 pm
Sept. 11	Farmer's Market Meeting, District Office 7 pm
Sept. 13	Riverpoint Academy Grand Opening 2 pm
Sept. 15	Cat Scramble Golf Tournament
Sept. 20	Mead vs Mt. Spokane Volleyball, Mead HS 7 pm
Sept. 21	"Battle of the Bell" Football, Albi Stadium 8 pm
Sept. 24	School Board Meeting, District Office 6 pm
Oct. 6	Neighborhood Sales, Farwell & Evergreen 9 am
Oct. 8	School Board Meeting, Farwell Elementary 6 pm
Oct. 22	School Board Meeting, District Office 6 pm

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



I believe I speak for the entire Mead School District teaching and support staff when I say we are excited to begin a new school year. We consider it an honor to be a highly recognized K-12 learning organization and we look forward to providing a quality educational experience to each of our 9,500 students.

This fall we are especially grateful to be on stable financial footing after the community's renewal of our maintenance and operations levy last February, which maintains basic operating expenses for three more years. Thank you!

I extend a personal invitation to attend one or all of the community events featured in this issue of Mead Matters. I hope to see you there!

Reading Curriculum Expands to 4th Grade

We are pleased to announce the second phase of our *Treasures* reading implementation, which adds all 4th grade classrooms. Kindergarten through 3rd grade students were introduced to the new material last year.

All 4th grade teachers received curriculum training in August and are very excited to implement this comprehensive reading program.

A highlight of *Treasures* is its strong non-fiction focus. All students in the class might be learning about a topic like sharks or cloud formation, but each student is reading in a book

appropriate to his or her own reading and skill level.

The curriculum is uniquely designed with built-in assessments that help teachers monitor individual student progress.



Kayden Younker
Midway 4th Grader

According to Learning Services Executive Director Dorcas Wylder, "The district relied on a lengthy study before choosing *Treasures*. Thirty-two teachers helped analyze highly recommended reading curricula and selected two that would meet state and district standards." Those two programs were then featured at a parent night that provided opportunity for community input.

Our goal is to implement 5th grade next year, followed by 6th grade in 2014-15. A comprehensive K-6 reading program will provide a strong learning experience for all students.