

## A message from Superintendent Rothlin



Just before Thanksgiving, I announced my plan to retire at the end of the 2019-2020 school year. It is such an honor to finish my 42 years in education as the

Superintendent of Chehalis Schools.

The hard work of all of our staff and students is to be commended. With that said, great momentum continues on the goals of our Student Achievement Initiative (SAI - IMPROVE MODERNIZE PREPARE). Since 2013, teachers have worked to change instruction in the classroom to align with students' learning needs toward preparing every graduate to be ready to pursue college, certificate or trade programs that lead to living-wage jobs (the specific goal is to increase the percentage of Chehalis graduates earning a postsecondary credential to 60% by the class of 2022). We know that the SAI is succeeding as it is evidenced by the amazing things going on in our district and for our students beyond their high school years. Our high school graduation rates continue to soar higher than the state average. The percentage of graduates ready for admission to 4-year colleges has increased. The percentage of students enrolling in a postsecondary institution within one year of graduation has increased.

The future for our district and our community is very bright. The groundwork is done for the next superintendent, and the Board is seeking someone with the commitment to continue the lead of the Student Achievement Initiative in partnership with Centralia College, Chehalis Foundation, community, parents, students and staff. For information on the superintendent search process, visit: [chehalissuperintendentsearch.org](http://chehalissuperintendentsearch.org).

Sincerely,

**Ed Rothlin, Superintendent**

## Our Schools

### W.F. West High School FFA



### students place 4th in nation

Congratulations to the Dairy Cattle Evaluation team from the Chehalis Future Farmers of America Chapter as they placed 4th in the nation! The State champion team competed in the FFA National Convention held in Indianapolis, Indiana. The competition tests the students' abilities to select and manage quality dairy cattle. Event components include six classes of dairy cattle, herd record evaluation and a dairy management team activity. In addition, W.F. West freshman Lauryn Young placed 6th in the nation as an individual. Team members include Gary Young, Cassy Schilter, Lauryn Young, Kaylee Keehr and Sahara Twiss. The Chehalis students are advised in FFA by CTE teachers Chris Guenther and Kyla Bailey. The team has been invited to attend the International competition next summer in Ireland and Scotland.



## Thank you School Board members!

Two long-serving board members retired in December 2019. Thank you to retiring School Board Members Dr. Brian Roberts, 12 years on the board, and Joe Clark, 20 years on the school board.

The Chehalis School District and Board welcomes new directors Larry Petersen and J. Vander Stoep.

# Chehalis School District students are Career and College Ready (CCR)

The Chehalis School District is preparing all students for career and college after high school. In order to accomplish this, students have opportunities to learn about careers, and the education required to pursue them, as early as kindergarten. Beginning in elementary school, students have opportunities to visit colleges, learn from professionals working in various fields, and explore apprenticeship opportunities. District teachers and staff

display their alma mater on their door or desk, and everyone is encouraged to wear career and college attire on Wednesdays.

Career and college preparation activities such as this are all part of the Student Achievement Initiative. Chehalis School District's goal is to prepare graduates to succeed in a meaningful career and/or college degree post-graduation. Aware, eligible and prepared = ready.



## Career and College Readiness Wednesdays

Students and staff wear career or college apparel on Career and College Readiness (CCR) Wednesdays. It's a great way to support a favorite university or local business. This year at Orin C. Smith Elementary, the CCR team set a goal for every student to receive a career or college t-shirt at no cost. To date, the school has received contributions from the University of Washington, St. Martin's University, FORMA Construction, Travers Electric, and Centralia College, totaling over 200 t-shirts. Students have been excited to receive and wear the shirts. Even if students don't have college gear to support a particular school, they can still wear that school's colors to be part of the effort.

"We have been promoting career and college readiness by encouraging students and staff to wear college logo gear for several years," said Assistant Principal Rachel Dorsey. "The generous donations of these local employers, as well as colleges and universities, ensure that every student can participate."



## CCR Assembly

Orin C. Smith Elementary students are enjoying their brand new school thanks to the voter-approved capital facilities bond that made it possible. Recently, students had a special opportunity to learn how their new school was built, from the construction professionals who built it. During a special school assembly, students met FORMA Construction Project Manager Alex Chicano, along with others who worked on the new school project, including: FORMA carpenter, Mark Cline; McGranahan architect, Mark Bergquist; and Travers Electric electrician, Dean Bringolf.

Each person shared their role in the construction of the building along with the education and hard work it took to obtain a job in their profession. Students enjoyed seeing photos of many different phases of the Orin Smith Elementary building process and were also introduced to all types of trades/professions that were involved in the building of their new school.

## Naviance system helps students explore careers

W.F. West High School students use the Naviance Career Exploration system, which connects students' interests to their potential career paths, so they can actively participate in their own academic success. Naviance opens students' eyes to a variety of career opportunities and helps students to understand how their

strengths, goals, skills, and interests can lead to careers.

As part of the Career and College Readiness initiative, W.F. West students spend 30 minutes every day dedicated to preparing for careers and college and every Wednesday is Naviance day.

# Chehalis Middle School students connect with community and learn about careers

Chehalis Middle School students have several opportunities to learn about potential career paths. Sixth graders take a field trip to Centralia College each spring. Eighth grade students can participate in a monthly Community Connections event to hear speakers present about their career, education and certification required, and sometimes do a hands-on activity related to that career.

In December, students participated in a College Panel where W.F. West alumni present about their career and college pathways.

Career and College Wednesdays are celebrated across the district. Every Wednesday, students are encouraged to bring or wear a college, local business, or career logo and those who do receive a piece of candy during lunch.

During the school's morning announcements each Wednesday, a "fun fact" relating to a college, career, or apprenticeship program is broadcasted. Students have an opportunity to answer a multiple choice trivia question related to that "fun fact" at lunchtime. Two lucky winners receive college or career swag prizes.

Staff Spotlights highlight information about careers CMS staff had prior to becoming teachers, counselors, or administrators. And, like all Chehalis schools, staff college and university mascots are proudly displayed on desks and classroom doors.



Centralia College Advisor Oscar Escalante (center) works with W.F. West students

## A focus on W.F. West graduates attending Centralia College

A large number of college going seniors at W.F. West attend Centralia College. For that reason, the Chehalis Foundation has made a concerted effort to support student success at Centralia College by hiring an advisor, Oscar Escalante, to work directly with those students. Escalante works exclusively with former W.F. West students attending Centralia College, checking in with them regularly to ensure they are on track, offer support, and help them succeed.

All W.F. West seniors had the opportunity to apply to Centralia College during a dedicated time in the W.F. West library when they could use school Chromebooks. Escalante, along with W. F. West College Prep Advisor Kerri Chaput and Chehalis Middle School College Prep Advisor Autumn Ledgerwood, were there to answer questions and help students navigate the process. In addition to Centralia College, the application is also accepted at other two-year colleges, so students need only to fill out the application once.

(CCR)



CAREER & COLLEGE

READY

*You might have noticed this new logo—it means we have "stamped" or identified our focus: for our students to become effectively prepared for life after graduation and obtaining their first real job.*



## College Tours

Chehalis students have ongoing opportunities beginning as second graders to visit local colleges. This past fall, approximately 180 W.F. West High School juniors and seniors were able to choose between Bates Technical College, Central Washington University, Western Washington University, University of Washington, Washington State University in Vancouver or DigiPen Institute of Technology. The tours were paid for by the Chehalis Foundation.

"We are grateful to the Chehalis Foundation for supporting this opportunity," said W.F. West College Prep Advisor Kerri Chaput. "Students got excited about college life and were able to see campuses that they may not otherwise be able to visit. We even ran into W.F. West graduates who are now off and running at their perspective colleges!"

*"We are grateful to the Chehalis Foundation for supporting this opportunity"*

*– W.F. West College Prep Advisor Kerri Chaput*



# Meet W.F. West college prep advisor Kerri Chaput



W.F. West College Prep Advisor Kerri Chaput plays an important role in preparing W.F. West's 200 seniors as they navigate what their post-high school plans will be and what they need to do to get there. She's not one to take credit for her efforts and is quick to point out that she works in tandem with the school's other counselors to help students succeed.

"It's really a team effort," said Chaput. "First of all, we have amazing teachers preparing our students every day and they allow our students the flexibility to access career and college opportunities. I work to support college prep efforts so that counselors can focus on scheduling and social and emotional supports for students. I feel so blessed to work one on one with students and help them succeed, but the bottom line is that we are all in this together."

Working in partnership with other W.F. West counselors, she delivers presentations to students on topics including what to expect your senior year, how to prepare for graduation, how to apply for scholarships, the college admissions process, and how to complete financial aid forms.

Chaput organizes college and technical school tours, apprenticeship panels to explore career training opportunities, organizes visits from professionals working in fields based on students' responses to interest surveys, and holds targeted meetings for students on topics ranging from the college bound scholarship to student athletes. She works with students

individually to develop a post-high school plan, and then she checks in regularly about timelines and deadlines to make sure they stay on track.

Last year, more than 270 students attended an apprenticeship panel, which featured experts from various trades, including the laborer's union, boiler makers, pipe trades union, sheet metal union, electrical union, linemen, and the PUD.

Students also have opportunities to explore careers through visits to technical colleges and programs.

In their senior English class, students complete a job shadow and also write a research paper on a career.

Chaput is tuned in to what every senior is planning to do after high school, even if that may change over the course of their senior year. She supports them by tracking deadlines and setting up systems to remind students about various deadlines and scholarship opportunities. She helps track SAT scores and whether they have completed important scholarship or financial aid forms.

"The biggest impact I can make is working with students one-on-one," said Chaput, who still hears from graduates who come back and share their college successes with her. "It's important for students to feel valued, no matter what their post-high school

plans are, whatever they choose to do, whether it's college or an apprenticeship or the armed forces. The goal is for them to succeed and earn a livable wage."

Graduation and the end-of-school involves celebrating what they've accomplished

and what they'll do next. Students celebrate their futures by proudly carrying pennants into an end of year assembly each spring with the name of the college, university, apprenticeship, career, or military branch they'll be joining after high school.

Chaput says the goal is to help prepare students but she doesn't expect them to have "everything" figured out in terms of their future plans. "Some kids take longer than others to figure it out," she said. "And that's ok, we take it one step at a time, as long as we are making forward progress toward developing a future plan, they will get there. Sometimes finding out what you don't like is just as helpful as finding something you do, and I make sure they know it's ok to change their minds."

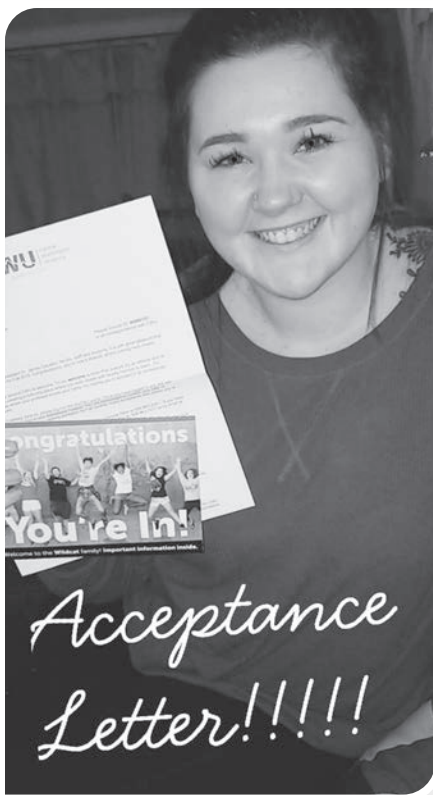
"It's so rewarding to be able to get to know these students and play a small role in helping them plan their future," said Chaput.

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*"I feel so blessed... the bottom line is that we are all in this together"*

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## Kendall Hoffman



Kendall Hoffman, W.F. West Class of 2017, is currently studying Elementary Education and minoring in Special Education at Central Washington University.

Hoffman says that she felt well-prepared for college thanks to college prep and extracurricular activities at W.F. West High School. "I took part in the cheer

team all four years of high school and was captain my senior year. Involving myself in sports at W.F. West helped me stay motivated to keep my grades up while challenging myself in 'college in the high school' courses."

"I definitely think that career and college preparation activities helped me decide what to do after high school. I am most grateful for W.F. West High School's college prep advisor, Mrs. Chaput. She is a very dedicated, committed, generous, and supportive person to each and every single student she crosses paths with."

"I participated in all of the college tours and workshops (admissions, FAFSA, scholarships) that were offered. As a first generation college student, these workshops were necessary for my family and I to understand what new chapter I was about to enter."

"The career spotlights and different panels held at W.F. West for seniors looking for their potential career paths were vital in my next chapter as a graduating senior. They really helped me decide the career path I chose and am working towards now."

When asked what advice she would give to current W.F. West students, she says, "Work hard, ask questions, stay focused, be realistic about your future, and don't forget who you are!"

## Jessica Street



Jessica is a graduate of the W.F. West Class of 2019 who currently attends Western Washington University and is planning to pursue a career in Secondary Math Education.

"The best things I learned in high school were how to make good relationships with my instructors and how to manage my time well.

I was also able to learn how to support my peers through leadership."

"I definitely did learn about myself and what kind of school I was looking for through Naviance, college tours, and many of the workshops. I felt so supported by the counseling center at W. F. West and many other staff members when making my decision to go to college. Career spotlights were incredibly insightful and a huge help when narrowing down my career options. I could not be more grateful for all the FAFSA help as well. W.F. West's College Prep advisor sure knows what she's doing!"

"After high school I felt as prepared as I could've been for college. College is still a new environment, style of teaching, and life, really. However, I can definitely say if I was lost I knew where to look and ask questions because of all the help I received from W.F. West."

"My advice to current W.F. West students to prepare for their future is to really find a school that matches them and all the other pieces will fall into place. I advise them to research areas they want to live in, environments they want to be surrounded by, and student body size they'd feel comfortable with. If they are undecided on a career, maybe pick a school that has the most options."

### **Nondiscrimination**

Chehalis School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, honorably discharged veteran or military status, sex, 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. The following employee(s) has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

*El Distrito Escolar de Chehalis no discrimina en ningún programa o actividad por raza, credo, religión, color, origen nacional, edad, estado dado de baja honorablemente veterano o militar, sexo, orientación sexual, expresión o identidad de género, discapacidad o el uso de un Guía de perros entrenados o un animal de servicio y proporciona igual acceso a los Boy Scouts y otros grupos juveniles designados. Los siguientes empleados han sido designados para manejar las preguntas y quejas de supuestas discriminaciones:*

The Board designated staff member who serves as Title IX / affirmative action compliance office is Jeff Johnson, (360) 807-7235.

### **Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)**

As a requirement of FERPA, educational agencies must, at minimum, inform parents/eligible students of the following rights:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading. Parents or eligible students may ask the district to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading.
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.
4. The right to file a complaint with the US Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:  
Family Policy Compliance Office  
US Department of Education  
600 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington DC 20202-4605

### **Regulation of Dangerous Weapons on School Premises**

It is a violation of district policy and state law for any person to carry a firearm or dangerous weapon on school premises, school-provided transportation or areas of other facilities being used exclusively for school activities. The superintendent is directed to see that all school facilities post "Gun-Free Zone" signs, and that all violations of this policy and RCW 9.41.280 are reported annually to the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The following persons may carry firearms into school buildings, as necessary:  
Persons engaged in military, law enforcement, or school district security activities including the School Resource

Officer; Persons involved in a school-sponsored and authorized convention, showing, demonstration, lecture or firearm safety course; Persons competing in school-sponsored and authorized firearm or air gun competitions; and any federal, state or local law enforcement officer. School officials shall notify the appropriate law enforcement agency of known or suspected violations of this policy. Students who violate this policy shall be subject to discipline, including a one-year expulsion for a violation involving a firearm. However, the superintendent may modify the one-year expulsion on a case-by-case basis.

### **Rights Under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)**

Rights in the administration of surveys, analysis or evaluations: All instructional materials, including supplementary materials and teacher's manuals, used with any survey, analysis or evaluation in a program or project supported by federal funds are available for inspection by parents and guardians. No student will be required as part of any project or program supported by federal funds to submit to a survey, analysis or evaluation that reveals information concerning:

- A. Political affiliations
- B. Potentially embarrassing mental or psychological problems
- C. Sexual behavior and attitudes
- D. Illegal, anti-social self-incriminating or demeaning behavior
- E. Critical appraisals of close family members
- F. Privileged or similar relationships
- G. Religious practices, affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parents; or
- H. Income, or other information necessary to establish eligibility for a program, without the prior consent of adult or emancipated students, or written permission of parents.

The District shall make arrangements to protect student privacy during the administration of surveys and the collection, disclosure or use of personal information for marketing, sales or other distribution purposes.

### **Harassment**

The Chehalis School District is committed to a positive and productive education and working environment free from religious, racial or sexual harassment. The District prohibits any form of religious, racial and sexual harassment or violence involving students, employees or others participating in school district activities. Engagement in harassment activities will result in appropriate discipline or other appropriate sanctions against offending students, staff, contracted service providers, parents or others participating in school district activities. Incidents of harassment should be immediately reported to the building administrator, if available, or to: Jeff Johnson, compliance officer, (360) 807-7235. All formal complaints shall be made in writing addressed to the District Office.

All certificated staff members share legal responsibility for reporting suspected child abuse including allegations of sexual harassment or inappropriate sexual relations with other students or adults.



### Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Policy

It is in violation of Board Policy 3207 for a student to harass, intimidate or bully others. Information regarding this policy is available on the Chehalis School District website, the District Office and at each school building.

### Title I, Part A – Highly Qualified Teachers

Parents can request the following information regarding instructional staff who work with their children:

- Whether or not the child's teacher has met state certification for the grades and subjects she/he is teaching.
- Whether or not the teacher is working with an emergency or conditional certificate where state certification criteria has been waived.
- The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held, including field of discipline of the certificate or degree.
- If the child receives instructional services from a paraeducator, the paraeducator's qualifications.

### Homeless Liaison Notification

Chehalis School District provides education to all students living within the district including homeless students, as part of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Act. Under this Act, homeless children are defined as "individuals who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence." The Act provides examples of children who would fall under this definition:

- Children sharing housing due to economic hardship or loss of housing,
- Children living in motels, hotels, trailer parks or campgrounds due to lack of alternative accommodations,
- Children living in emergency or transitional shelters,
- Children awaiting foster care placement,
- Children whose primary nighttime residence is not ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation (e.g. park benches, etc.),
- Children living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations.

If you or someone you know in our district needs more information, please contact: Brian Adams, Homeless Liaison (360) 807-7200.

### Asbestos Notice

In compliance with federal EPA rules, the Board of Directors of Chehalis School District hereby notifies patrons that asbestos containing materials are present in Chehalis school buildings. The condition of the asbestos is monitored every six (6) months to ensure that it does not pose a threat to children, staff and patrons. The locations of friable (able to crumble and release fibers) asbestos and encapsulated (sealed) asbestos may be obtained by contacting Derek McMillion, District Facilities Supervisor, (360) 508-4513.

### Pesticide Notification

The Chehalis School District complies with all legal requirements for record keeping regarding the application of pesticides to school grounds or school facilities and such records are available upon request. At least 48 hours before the application of a pesticide to school facilities or school grounds, the District shall notify parents and staff of the planned application by posting a notice in a prominent place in the building and grounds.

Following application, a sign shall be posted at the location of the application. The notice shall state the product name, date, time and specified location of the application, the pest for which the application was made, and a contact name and telephone number. The notice shall remain posted for 24 hours or longer, if required by the label of the pesticide.

### Publication of Student Pictures

Throughout the school year, the District may feature pictures of students participating in various school activities. The pictures may be published in school bulletins, on the website, in the newspaper, in community newsletters, the annual yearbook, recognition programs, social media, and sports activity sheets. If you do not wish to have photos of your child published by the District, please contact the school office where your child attends or the District Office at (360) 807-7200.

### Special Education Program

Any application and any required policies and procedures related to special education programs are available from the Student Support Office, which may be contacted at (360) 807-7245.

### Section 504: Free and Appropriate Public Education

Section 504 information regarding free and appropriate public education for any qualified student with a disability is also available from Loretta Duncan, Special Education Director, (360) 807-7245.

### Attendance Law Public Notice on Truancy

According to the Washington State Code as stated in Chehalis School District policy, "Parents of any child eight years of age and under eighteen years of age shall cause such child to attend school and such child shall have the responsibility to and therefore shall attend for full time when such schools may be in session unless the child is enrolled in an approved private school, an educational entity as provided in RCW 28A.205 or is receiving home-based instruction." The superintendent may grant exceptions under certain specified conditions. According to statute as stated in policy, "Any law enforcement officer authorized to make arrests can take a truant child into custody without a warrant and must then deliver the child to the parent or to the school."

### Highly Capable Program

The Chehalis School District Highly Capable Program is designed to meet the academic needs of our students in grades K-12 who fall generally in the top 2 percentiles for cognitive aptitude; those assessed to have superior intellectual ability as demonstrated by one or more of the multiple criteria specified in WAC 392-170-040. These students exhibit high capability in intellectual and/or creative areas, possess an unusual leadership capacity, or excel in specific academic fields, thereby requiring services beyond the basic programs provided by schools. More information regarding the Chehalis School District Highly Capable Program is available at [www.chehalisschools.org](http://www.chehalisschools.org).

*Spanish Translation Available*

## Postal Patron

*"We have always felt it's important to recognize local Veterans for their sacrifices and contributions to our community and country"*



## Chehalis students celebrate Veterans Day

Chehalis students thank members of the armed forces through patriotic school assemblies every November. School events feature musical performances and guest speakers as Veterans are welcomed and thanked for their service to our country.

"We have always felt it's important to recognize local Veterans for their sacrifices and contributions to our community and country," said Superintendent Ed Rothlin.



## Lintott Elementary second graders visit college

It's never too early to start thinking about the future. Every year, second grade students tour a college or university. Last spring, they visited South Sound Community College to see what a college campus looks like and learn more about how college works.