



Message from the Superintendent

Indian Policies and Procedure Annual Board Meeting

The Indian Policy and Procedures (IPP) meeting dedicated to the education of Native American students will be held at the Montezuma-Cortez High School Library. This meeting will begin with a dessert social at 6:30 p.m. with the meeting starting at 7:00 p.m. The IPP meeting is open to everyone.

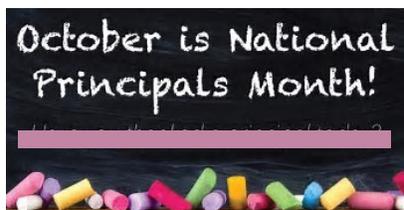
The Retired High School

The full abatement process of the Retired High School started October 11th and will take 3-4 months to complete. The building demolition will start immediately after the abatement. The projected completion date is June, 2018.

The Board of Education is considering an offer from the City of Cortez to repurpose the land as a city park.

Elementary Parent/Teacher Conferences

Parent/Teacher Conferences for elementary schools will be next week, October 26th & 27th. Secondary schools will have school on October 26th with no school on October 27th. Secondary teaching staff will be participating in school-level professional development activities.



October is National Principals Month!

Governor Hickenlooper has joined states across the nation in declaring October National Principals Month. Studies show that principal leadership is second only to strong instruction when it comes to impacting student achievement. The key to student success is a great school, and the key to a great school is a great principal.

Please join us in acknowledging our RE-1 principals' hard work and commitment.

District receives high marks and will move off the "Accreditation Clock"

Montezuma-Cortez School District RE-1 received high praise for their school improvement efforts at a recent visit from the Colorado Department of Education and the University of Virginia, which is the district's school improvement accountability partner. The purpose of the joint visit, was to assess RE-1's school improvement efforts and determine if the district is on track to improve accreditation levels, student growth and achievement. The team had three recommendations on how the district can continue to improve including: expanding efforts to recruit and retain qualified teachers, providing more coaching and support for principals and teachers, and focusing more on improving student growth and achievement in math across the district.

During this visit, Nicole Monet, the District School Improvement Partner from the Colorado Department of Education confirmed that due to recent improvements across the district, the district is eligible to apply for a reconsideration of the district accreditation level. This notification means that the district has met statutory criteria to be considered for a higher accreditation level. If approved, this would mean that the district would be officially "off the clock" and accredited with Improvement status as of December 2017. We are very confident that the state department of education will approve our request and that the District will be 'off the clock' this year. This is due to the hard work of our teachers and students and consistent improvement in student performance that we are seeing across our district and schools. Thank you for all you do for our students!

Friday, October 20 is



SPiRiT DAY

*We encourage you to wear
the colors black and orange and support
Montezuma-Cortez High School!*

**District Priorities –
Big Rocks and Common Expectations**

As a district, the purpose of our turnaround initiative is to collaboratively cultivate a sustainable culture of excellence and high expectations for all stakeholders through the design and implementation of effective support systems with a strong focus on teaching and learning to ensure achievement of student success. To achieve this initiative, our district continues to focus on the Big Rocks of Culture and Climate, Data Driven Instruction and Distributive Leadership. In addition to implementing and refining the work aligned to these 3 Big Rocks, we have added Core Instruction as the 4th Big Rock. Within our Big Rocks, we have defined our District Common Expectations as shown in the chart below.

District Common Expectations	
Big Rocks	Common Expectations
Culture and Climate	Schoolwide expectations and structures for student culture
	Attendance
Data Driven Instruction	Rigorous interim assessments in core content areas
	Data driven SEED meetings
Distributive Leadership	Increase efficacy of leadership teams
Core Instruction	Backwards Planning
	Writing across the curriculum
	Observation and feedback

From now until November 27, you have the opportunity to provide feedback on proposed revisions to the Colorado Academic Standards that have been under review since May. Click on the following link to read the article about the review process [FOX21](#)

To go directly to CDE use this link:

<https://www.cde.state.co.us/apps/costandardsreview/login>

District Administration

Lori Haukeness, Superintendent
 Dan Porter, Assistant Superintendent
 Carla Hoehn, Director of Finance
 Jeanette Allen, Director of Curriculum & Instruction
 Carol Mehesy, Director of School Improvement & Grants

BRIEFLY...

**Homecoming Week
Oct 16th – 21st**



Homecoming week is a time for our students, staff and community to come together in support of our athletic teams. Students will be celebrating with various activities throughout the week by participating in volleyball, soccer, and football games as well as the following dress-up days: PJ Day, Mathletes vs. Athletes, Decade Day, Twin Day, Spirit Day. Band regionals will be held in Grand Junction on Oct 18th-19th. The annual Homecoming Parade will begin October 19th at 5:15 p.m. and the M-CHS vs. Gunnison football game will begin October 20th at 7:00 p.m. The week’s festivities will wrap up with the Carnival De Masquerade Homecoming Dance on October 21st from 8:00 p.m.– 11:00 p.m. at the M-CHS Commons. Good Luck To All and Stay Safe!

Pleasant View Elementary Harvest Carnival, October 27. Chili Dinner 5:30—7:00 p.m., featuring Merlene Lanier’s Famous Cinnamon Rolls! Silent Auction 5:30—7:30 p.m. Good Food & Fun for the whole family.

OPEN ENROLLMENT IS COMING SOON!!

October 30 – November 10

This will include American Fidelity *along with our health, dental and vision insurance*. Look for a schedule of when they will be at your school. If you have questions, call Stephanie Martinez, Payroll Clerk at extension 1112.

Election Day is November 7. Remember to exercise your right to vote. To register to vote or check/update your voting record, visit <https://www.sos.state.co.us/voter/pages/pub/olvr/regVoterDetail.xhtml>

