

Whitepine Joint School District

#288

JANUARY 2026
NEWSLETTER



General News:

- **IMPORTANT NOTICE:** Are you ready to make a difference, have fun, and inspire the next generation of learners? Whitepine Joint SD is seeking enthusiastic and dedicated substitute teachers to join our team! Whether you're an experienced educator or just looking for a rewarding way to give back to the community, we welcome you to be part of our small, vibrant school district. Step into the classroom and help students discover their potential.
- Please be sure to check the District website - www.sd288.org - periodically for scheduled events and changes. We also post updates on our official Facebook page, [Whitepine Joint School District](https://www.facebook.com/WhitepineJointSchoolDistrict).
- Next *Late Start Day* - Monday, Feb. 9th.
- Upcoming Surveys - We will have two surveys coming out soon. The first will be to poll individuals about the *Class of 2027 Commencement Ceremony*, which should be available later this week. The second survey will be a Parent Engagement Survey. This should be sent in an email next Monday, January 26th.

In this newsletter
you can expect:

General News

School Updates

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District News

Fortifyyourkids.com- Parent Resource for Online Safety

Fortifyyourkids.com contains information and resources parents need to fortify their children's online activity. It provides parents with videos and blogs made to teach and to understand environments to protect their home and train their children to navigate online danger more effectively. Idaho Residents may access this resource for free and are encouraged to sign up.

Important School Nutrition Program Reminders

Beginning this year, **all meal payments, regardless of which school your child attends, need to be sent to the Deary School, PO Box 9, Deary, ID 83823.** Furthermore, all checks need to be written to "Whitepine Joint School District #288" or "WJSD #288". Families with multiple students are welcome to pay balances for all children on one check.

Because meal balances are only mailed once per month, balance letters will be sent to all students with balances owed and as well as full-price students who have \$30.00 or less remaining on their meal account. Please be aware of our policy, that a student should have no more than 10 charges on their account at a time. In order to avoid more than 10 charges, it is recommended and encouraged to maintain a positive balance on your child's account. Maintaining a negative account balance places an unnecessary financial burden on the district. We hope these adjustments will simplify the meal payment process for families within our district. Please contact the Deary School (208)877-1151 if you have questions regarding your child(ren)'s meal balance.

Changes to the WJSD Board of Trustees

We extend our deepest gratitude to Mrs. Shawna Winter for her 4½ years of voluntary service as a trustee! During her tenure on the school board, Shawna has devoted countless hours to the betterment of our schools. We truly appreciate her passion for learning and her willingness to share her expertise in the development of policies and school governance. Shawna has been an exemplary board member, and her presence will be greatly missed. Thank you for your years of service and commitment to the students of Deary and Bovill!

We would like to extend a welcome to our newest Trustee, Mrs. Sarah Stanton. Appointed by the Board of Trustees, she will fill the vacancy that arose at the end of last year. The Board faced both the pleasure and challenge of selecting from three highly qualified candidates. Each candidate provided outstanding responses during the interview process, making the decision quite difficult. After thorough consideration, Mrs. Sarah Stanton was chosen for the role. We extend our gratitude to all candidates who submitted their letters of interest for this position.

Elementary Highlights

Elementary Christmas Concert

Ms. Autumn Heath, along with our elementary students, delivered an unforgettable holiday concert! This year's event was especially memorable due to the initial delay caused by severe weather and power outages leading up to Winter Break. We were lucky enough to reschedule the concert for Wednesday, January 7th, and it truly was worth the wait. Despite being on break before the concert, students of all ages demonstrated their talents and put on a truly exceptional performance. We look forward to watching the musical talents of our students continue to grow!

Elementary Students of the Month

For **November**! The category for Deary Elementary was initiative, and the category for Bovill was problem solving.

Bovill

Kindergarten: Jackson Hank Jones
1st Grade: Jackson Everhart
2nd Grade: Ford Durski
3rd Grade: Emilia Winter

Deary

4th Grade: Lydia Larsson
5th Grade: Samson Jones



For **December**: The category for Deary Elementary was kindness, and the category for Bovill was creativity.

Bovill

Kindergarten: Chesney Medlock
1st Grade: Jax Halverson
2nd Grade: Winston Olson
3rd Grade: Madison Dean

Deary

4th Grade: Gabbi Guier
5th Grade: Emma Nelson



Secondary Highlights

8th Career Fair

Eighth-grade students in Mr. Kirk's Middle School Careers class have been diligently working on their career projects. They crafted resumes and cover letters, explored what a typical day in their selected career field entails, researched the education required to achieve their goals, and examined salary expectations for their chosen paths. The culmination of their efforts was a series of presentations held on Thursday, January 13th in the Deary School Gym. The students delivered impressive presentations and gained invaluable insights into the pathways necessary for pursuing careers in their fields of interest.

MS/HS Band Concert

On Wednesday, December 10th, parents, family members, and community members had the pleasure of attending a concert featuring our Middle School and High School bands. Students had the chance to demonstrate their skills and share what they have learned during the semester. It was a wonderful evening, and the delivered an outstanding performance! We look forward to the continued growth our music program under Ms. Autumn Heath's guidance.

Deary Students Light Up the Park

In December, Mrs. Floyd and her high school Speech class volunteered to assist with the installation of holiday lights at the City Park! We take great pride in our communities and are proud of the efforts made by these students- they did an outstanding job!

7th Grade Social Studies Geography Projects

On Thursday, December 4th Mr. Kirk's 7th Grade Social Studies class showcased their geography projects in the school gym- the focus was Europe. Students did a great deal of effort on their projects which was reflected in their presentations.

IDFY Visits Bovill

In December, our High School IDFY students visited younger students at Bovill Elementary for a variety of fun games and activities. Older students joined the younger students for various Christmas activities in the classrooms, for lunch, and played with them are recess. The younger students look forward to this visit every year!



Mustang Athletics Updates

HS Basketball is FULL-ON at this time, and both teams are continuing to battle as the District Tournament(s) are fastly approaching. Here is where our Boys/Girls team stand:

- Boys - 3-8 Overall, 2-4 in the WPL. At the time of writing this, they are on a 2 - game WIN streak, and are improving as the season progresses! They are BATTING.
- Girls - 12-1 Overall, 7-0 in the WPL. The girls are off to a terrific start, and have THE GAME coming up soon - They will travel to Nezperce HS this Friday (1/23), and take on the Nighthawks with the #1 spot in the WPL up for grabs.
- Girls District Tournament dates - 2/7 (play-in), 2/9, 2/10, 2/12. (Lapwai HS)
- Boys District Tournament dates - 2/21 (play-in), 2/23, 2/24, & 2/26. (Lapwai HS)

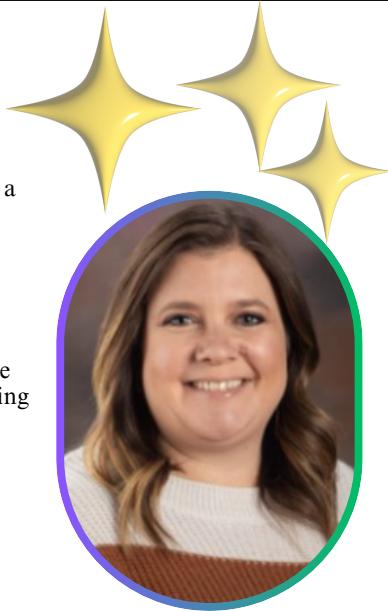
Other things to make note of:

- **Ciel Sattler** continues to impress through the Deary-Lapwai Wrestling co-op. She recently competed in the *Rollie Lane Invitational Tournament* in Nampa - a competition with top wrestlers from Idaho, California, Nevada, Utah, Washington, Oregon & Montana. Ciel had an amazing tournament pinning 7 of her 8 opponents and taking 3rd Place in her weight class. **Great job, Ciel!**
- **MS Basketball** - Practice begins on February 11th, and the official schedule will be out to the public soon!
- Looking ahead into the spring, we have nailed down the date for our annual "Leah Swanson Memorial - Deary Invite" track meet - Saturday, April 11th @ Lapwai HS.



Super Staff Spotlight

Julia Proctor



This month, we are proud to shine our Super Staff Spotlight on **Mrs. Julia Proctor**, a truly outstanding member of the Whitepine Joint School District team.

Mrs. Proctor serves multiple vital roles across our district. She is the Special Education Director for the whole district, a SPED teacher at Deary Middle/High School, and serves on a number of important committees.

As an educator, Mrs. Proctor is deeply committed to the success of every student she serves. She is known for being prepared, persistent, and endlessly supportive—meeting students where they are and helping them grow beyond what they thought was possible. She is also a trusted confidante and collaborator among her peers, always willing to listen, problem-solve, and support others in meaningful ways.

One student shared this powerful reflection: “Even when she is not feeling her best, she is always happy to work with students. Even if the students are difficult, she is always prepared in the best way. She is by far my favorite staff member. She has helped me, and so many more, to achieve more than I thought I could ever do.”

A co-worker echoed those sentiments, saying: “She cares deeply about the students and works very hard to ensure their needs are met.”

Mrs. Proctor has been with our district for several years, and throughout that time, her commitment to students and staff has remained unwavering. Her dedication, compassion, and tireless advocacy for students make her an invaluable asset to our schools and community. We are incredibly grateful for the heart, professionalism, and leadership she brings to Whitepine Joint SD every single day.

Thank you for all you do, Mrs. Proctor – you truly make a difference!

If you have a super staff member to nominate, please visit our Homepage at www.sd288.org.

Upcoming Events

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1/20 GBB @ Genesee 6:00• 1/20 BBB @ Genesee 5:00/7:30• 1/22 GBB v. Potlatch 6:00/7:00• 1/23 GBB @ Nezperce 6:00/7:00• 1/24 Saturday Basketball 8:00-12:00• 1/26 BBB v. Potlatch 5:00/6:00/7:30• 1/27 GBB @ Kootenai 6:00• 1/31 Saturday Basketball 8:00-12:00• 1/31 GBB v. Nezperce 2:30/5:00 *Senior Night*• 1/31 BBB v. Nezperce 1:00/3:30 *Booster appreciation night*• 2/2 GBB @ Lapwai 6:00/7:00• 2/5 BBB v. Kootenai 6:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2/6 BBB @ Nezperce 6:00/7:30• 2/9 Late start at 10:30• 2/9 GBB Districts @ Lapwai TBD• 2/10 GBB Districts @ Lapwai TBD• 2/11 BBB @ Potlatch 5:00/6:00/7:00• 2/12 GBB Districts @ Lapwai TBD• 2/13 BBB v. CV 5:00/6:00 *Senior Night*• 2/16 No School, President's Day• 2/19-2/21 GBB State TBD• 2/23 BBB Districts @ Lapwai TBD• 2/24 BBB Districts @ Lapwai TBD• 2/26 BBB Districts @ Lapwai TBD
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Contact Information



School Board Trustees

Zone 1 - Sarah Stanton - sstanton@sd288.org
Zone 2 - Mandy Kirk - mkirk@sd288.org
Zone 3 - Brittany Griffin - bgriffin@sd288.org
Zone 4 - Marc Manni - mmanni@sd288.org
Zone 5 - Bev Clark - bclark@sd288.org

District Administration

Superintendent/Secondary Principal: Joshua Hardy - jhardy@sd288.org
Elementary Principal: Stacy Monk - smonk@sd288.org