Whitepine Joint School District #288

Newsletter

November 2026

Superintendent Caessens' Corner

November is the perfect time to emphasize the importance of reading. Small moments at home can make a big difference in building strong readers! It would be great to cozy up with a good book.

Here are a few simple tips to encourage literacy at home:

- Read together daily: 15 - 20 minutes, or a bedtime story counts!
- Let your child pick books that interest them. This builds excitement for reading.
- Build vocabulary by introducing new words and talking about what they mean.
- Read recipes, signs, instructions, and articles together.

You don't need fancy materials or hours of extra time; just a few minutes of reading, talking, and exploring words can help grow confident, capable readers!



Deary School, 1912, Built by Charlie Miller and John C Miller. University of Idaho Library Digital Collections, https://www.lib.uidaho.edu/digital/phs/items/phs70.html

SCHOOL SCHEDULE CHANGE

EARLY RELEASE AT 1:30 PM FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH

Congratulations to our Mustang football team on their win this weekend against Richfield! They will advance to the state quarterfinals this week on November 6th at the new Lewiston High School at 4pm against the Kendrick Tigers. Please note, November 6th has been designated as an early release day to accommodate the many students and staff members who will be supporting our Mustangs at the game.

GENERAL NEWS:

- **SUBSTITUTES NEEDED**: Are you ready to make a difference, have fun, and inspire the next generation of learners? Whitepine Joint School District 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.



- **SCHOOL MEAL INFORMATION-** School meal payments can be made at the Deary School Office using cash or check. Please ensure that checks are written to "Whitepine Joint School District #288." Note that the free and reduced lunch program does not cover additional milk purchases, single milks without a full meal, or other à la carte items. District policy permits only 10 lunch charges, so it is important to manage any negative balances promptly. Please contact the Deary School Office with questions regarding student meal balances. *This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*
- Please be sure to check the District website - www.sd288.org - periodically for scheduled events and changes. Updates may also be found on our official Facebook page, Whitepine Joint School District.

IN THIS EDITION:

- General News
- School Updates
- Student Highlights
- Upcoming Events
- Athletics

Bovill School

208-826-3314 **Principal: Stacy Monk**

208-826-361 **Secretary: Mikayla Workman**

Deary School

208-877-1151 **Principal: Amy Caessens**

208-877-1366 **Secretary: Kelsey Sutton**

District Office

208-877-1408 **Superintendent: Amy Caessens**

208-877-1570 **Business Manager: Stephanie Fletcher**

Whitepine Joint School District #288

District News

November 2026

A Heartfelt thanks to Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories

Bovill and Deary Schools extend their heartfelt thanks to Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories (SEL) for their generous contributions to our schools. Each year, SEL provides employees with a $100 corporate gift to donate to a school of their choice. Funds donated will be used to support STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) program activities in our schools. This year, we had 55 donors choose our schools for a total donation of $5,500.

We appreciate SEL's ongoing support of our schools and local communities. A special thank you to the employees who chose to donate their corporate gift funds to our schools. We are excited for the many STEM opportunities these funds will provide to the students of Bovill and Deary schools!





WE ARE HIRING!

Driver's Education Instructor

A Driver's Ed Instructor is needed to provide an in-house driver's ed course. Course times are flexible, and a district car will be provided. Specialized credentials are required, but can be obtained prior to teaching. Please inquire at the district office by emailing sfletcher@sd288.org or calling the district office at 208-877-1408.

Apply Now





Help Celebrate our Heroes!

Veterans Day is just around the corner! Students from Deary and Bovill are joining forces to honor those who have served and are currently serving our nation. The Middle and High School Student Councils are planning events and collaborating to create an honor wall along with a video tribute. In addition, elementary classes will participate by crafting cards to be sent to veterans and coloring pictures with thank you messages for the honor wall.

Do You Have a Veteran to Honor?

Is there a veteran you would like to see featured in our Honor Wall and Video Tribute? You can submit a veteran's information by completing the online form at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfYqNxEzgbV4SHzEato7VcQITmDtBrDL8Zp1GBGGPChJC3ISw/viewform?usp=preview, visiting the Deary School Office to fill out a paper form, or emailing your submission details to abrown@sd288.org. **Submissions will be accepted until November 3rd.** Please be sure to include a photo with your submission.

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District News

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Introducing ParentSquare

We are thrilled to announce the launch of ParentSquare! This innovative communication app has been specifically designed for K-12 school districts. In the coming months, we will begin implementing this app and eagerly anticipate its full rollout.

With ParentSquare, parents will benefit from:

- Direct communications
- Emergency notifications
- Updates on sporting events
- Updates on field trips and school activities
- Information regarding absences
- And much more!

We are excited about the many features that ParentSquare will offer to both parents and staff. Download the app and connect with your student(s) today!



Elementary News

Message from the Principal

October was a busy month for our students and staff. Our students continue to bring excitement to school while they dig deeper into their learning. Students have also participated in some exciting activities. The 4th and 5th grades visited the Deary Library to learn about Nez Perce legends and folk tales. The Bovill students visited Spring Valley Farms for a pumpkin hunt and straw bale maze. As we wrap up the first quarter of school, we'd like to thank our parents. Parent-teacher conferences were once again well attended, and we appreciate your continued support and involvement.

As we move into winter, please send your students to school in appropriate clothing for cold, wet weather. We encourage good attendance and want to see your students every day. If your student(s) will be absent, please get in touch with us at the Bovill or Deary School.

Thank you,
Mr. Monk



Save the Date- Elementary Winter Wonderland Concert

Mark your calendars for this year's Winter Wonderland Concert featuring Deary and Bovill Elementary students! The event will be held on **December 9th** in the **Deary School Gym**, starting at **6:30 PM**. Come and enjoy as our students from preschool through 5th grade showcase their talents! The Middle and High School Concert will follow.

Whitepine Joint School District #288

Elementary News

November 2026

The Importance of Teamwork

Mrs. Olson's first grade students spent time earlier this month to explore the concepts of perseverance and collaboration. Students teamed up to engage in a range of enjoyable activities and competitions. To achieve success, students needed to collaborate and use creative thinking. Each student played an important role within their team.



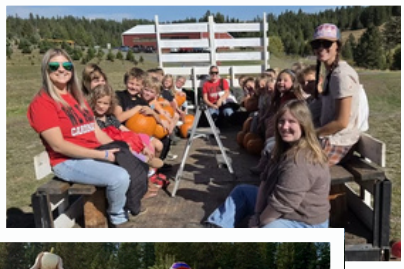


Fun at the Pumpkin Patch





Bovill Elementary students went on a filed trip on Friday, October 2nd to Spring Valley Tree Farm! Each student got to chose a pumpkin to take home with them, go on a tractor ride, and run through the hay-maze. At the end of the day they sat down and enjoyed a much needed snack.







Students of the Month - Honesty



Bovill Students of the Month for October
Left to Right:
Ella Stoor, Gr 2; Lincoln Lindberg, Gr 1;
Ceila Massie, K; and Addisyn Arnold Gr 3

Congratulations to our elementary students who were awarded student of the month for October:

- ***Kindergarten: Ceila Massie***
- ***1st Grade: Lincoln Lindberg***
- ***2nd Grade: Ella Stoor***
- ***3rd Grade: Addisyn Arnold***
- ***4th Grade: Jack Stradley***
- ***5th Grade: Stevie Curry***



October's character trait was honesty.

The character trait we will be focusing on for November will be Initiative.



Deary Students of the Month for October
Left to Right:
Stevie Curry, Gr 5; & Jack Stradley, Gr 4



Whitepine Joint School District #288

Secondary News

November 2026

Message from Principal Caessens



As the whispers of fall settle into this picturesque community, I find myself reflecting on just how much I have to be grateful for. I feel incredibly fortunate to have landed at Whitepine Joint School District and to have the opportunity to serve your families and students.

I am blessed to work alongside such a caring, nurturing, and talented staff who give their best every day to ensure our students have a safe, welcoming, and supportive place to learn and grow. Our middle and high school students bring energy, curiosity, and respect to our schools, and I am grateful for the opportunity to watch them learn, build relationships, and discover their potential.

To each of our families, thank you for trusting our team with what matters most to you. Your support, partnership, and involvement make a meaningful difference in the lives of our students and the strength of our school community. It is a privilege to be entrusted with the responsibility of providing leadership and helping create opportunities for every student to succeed.

As we move through this season, I hope you and your family take time to pause, appreciate the little things, and find a reason to celebrate the people who make a difference in your lives. I am especially thankful to be a part of a community that cares so deeply about its children and their future.

With gratitude,
Amy Caessens, Principal

Save the Date- Middle & High School Winter Wonderland Concert



Mark your calendars for this year's Winter Wonderland Concert. The elementary concert will begin at 6:30pm and be followed by the Middle and High School concert which will begin at 7:30pm in the Deary School Gym. Come and enjoy as our students from showcase their talents!

Student Opportunities from Mrs. Guier

The Sophomores and select Juniors completed the PSAT in October. Some Seniors have selected to apply for college and completed the Apply Idaho Application. They also completed the Idaho Launch Scholarship and researched currently available scholarships. Additional Scholarships can be found at https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/scholarship-listing. Seniors and their families also participated in FAFSA Night on October 27th. The 8th grade Careers and 9th grade Digital Literacy classes created an account for Next Steps Idaho and have been learning about college and career opportunities. Elementary students have been participating in Social Emotional Learning through the SMARTS program and the Ninja Life Hacks. Students have learned about kindness; honesty and dishonesty; communication; how our thoughts and feelings lead to our behaviors; and individual strengths and weaknesses.

Upcoming Events: If you missed FAFSA Night in Deary, you have another opportunity on November 5, 2026, at LC State from 3:00 pm- 7:00 pm. LC State is also hosting Discovery Day on November 6 and 14, 2026, and Health Professions Day on November 13, 2026. Washington State University is hosting Music Major Day on November 9, 2026. In November, the Seniors will have the opportunity to meet with Admissions Counselors from Idaho State University, Boise State University, Washington State University, and the University of Idaho.





Dreaming Big and Applying Bigger!

Congratulations to the above group of seniors on submitting applications to colleges and trade schools. We can't wait to see what the future holds for our 2027 graduates!

Whitepine Joint School District #288

Springboard Into Red Ribbon Week

November 2026

On Friday, October 23, thirty-three iDFY (*Idaho Drug Free Youth*) members, along with staff advisors Kelly Vincent and Marci Wood, from the high school joined our fourth and fifth graders at the Deary School to have some fun and learn about the harmful effects of drugs. The student leaders began with some trivia on reasons to stay drug-free. Then they divided up into four groups and played a fun game of Midnight Madness. Lots of running and laughing were had by all the students involved. Eventually, the students settled into nine groups and created posters for different doors around the school. These drug-free messages, which focus on the year's theme -- "Make a Difference" -- will help us kick off Red Ribbon Week, which runs through October 31st and is the oldest and largest drug prevention campaign in the nation!



Deary elementary students play a game of Midnight Madness with iDFY members.



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL

Spike for a Cure Cancer Awareness Fundraiser

High School Student Council members have been busy this past month! The annual Spike for a Cure Volleyball game was held on October 8th in conjunction with girls volleyball Senior Night. Student Council held their annual cancer awareness fundraiser at the event, raising roughly $700 for the Northwest Cancer Foundation of Hope. In addition to the silent auction, Pink "Swag Bags," and pink ribbons were sold at the event. Student Council would like to thank the Mustang Booster Club, Mustang Athletics, The Locals Coffee Company, Kendra Keen, and the Pie Safe Bakery for their generous donations to this year's auction. Middle School Volleyball donated their 50/50 proceeds from the Pink Night football game on October 16th, bringing the total donation to The Northwest Cancer Foundation of Hope to $1,095! Student Council would also like to thank Aaron Proctor for announcing during the event and his support of this great cause!



Pictured above: High School Student Council Members Sophia Winter, Teagan Taylor, Paisley Capps, and Keara O'Brien working to raise funds for cancer awareness at this year's Spike for a Cure Volleyball game!



Help us Create a Field of Flags & Support Disabled American Veterans!

Student Council is working on creating a Field of Flags to be displayed at our school in honor of Veterans Day! Funds earned will support Disabled American Veterans (DAV). Donations can be made at the Deary School Office or online by visiting https://support.dav.org/participants/DearyHighStudentCouncil.

Whitepine Joint School District #288

Secondary News

November 2026

Spread the Word About Red Ribbon Week

DID YOU KNOW?
Children of parents who talk to their teens regularly about drugs are 42% less likely to use drugs than those who don't; yet, only a quarter of teens report having these conversations. Red Ribbon Week (October 23 - 31), the oldest and largest drug prevention campaign in the nation, is your opportunity to get the ongoing conversation started.

This year's theme is Make a Difference. Be A Hero. Stay Drug Free. Visit www.redribbon.org to learn more about Red Ribbon Week and get tips for talking to your kids about drugs. The life you save may be that of your own child or a dear friend.

Eighth Grade Students Give Back

8th-grade English students helped plant milkweed seeds at the Olson Land Preserve with their teacher, Shandra Floyd. This experience helped students connect hands-on conservation efforts with the nonfiction book, *The Monarch Effect*.



Mrs. Floyd's 8th grade students at Olson Land Preserve.

Important Dates

- 11/2: Idaho Youth Well-being Survey
  - Parental Consent must be provided before the date of the survey.
- 11/03: Submission Deadline for Veterans Day Tribute
- 11/04: School Picture Retakes
- 11/06: Early Release @ 1:30 pm
- 11/09: Late Start Day
- 11/11: Fall Sports Banquet- 6pm at the Deary Community Center
- 11/23-11/27: Thanksgiving Break - No School
- 12/07: Late Start
- 12/09: Middle School & High School Winter Wonderland Concert at 7:30pm

Forms Available

There are forms available for reporting Universal Grievances and Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying Behavior on the website. You can also report issues via the See, Tell, Now platform, which is linked on our website or through the banner below:



Staff and Student Shout-Outs

There are forms available on our website for sending in staff shout outs too. Just this past week, our football team earned some nice compliments from the Richfield fans and Booster Club. They said our boys were alsways showing support to each others, and helped other players up and didn't "talk a lot of trash." They said they appreciated our crowd and their high level of respect. They also wished us the best of luck against Kendrick this next week.

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Athletics

November 2026

Athletic News from Mr. Kirk:

Fall Sports Banquet Change of Date- The *High School Fall Sports Banquet* will be held on **November 11th at 6pm** (Deary Community Center). We please ask that only immediate family members attend, as we are providing a catered dinner like we have in the past. Thank you.



Information:

- **Fall Sport(s) Post Season INFO:**
  - **HS Volleyball** earned the title of Whitepine League Champions! They advanced to a State Play-In game on 10/24 @ Salmon River HS (Riggins, ID). They competed, but fell short. (3 sets to 1)
  - Congratulations to Allie Vincent and Emily Bovard on being selected for this year's Volleyball Senior Showcase! Allie and Emily will play in this year's showcase game at Lewiston High School on November 4th at 7pm.
  - Congratulations to this year's 1A Whitepine League Volleyball All League Selections! Emily Bovard, and Allie Vincent were both selected for first team; Payton Reynolds was selected for second team; and Cassidy Henderson was selected for Coach of the Year!
  - **HS Football** advanced to the 'Round of 12', and traveled to Richfield HS in Southern ID. They won BIG (72-50), which advances them to the State Quarterfinals!
    - vs Kendrick @ 4:00 PM, Friday November 6th (@ Lewiston HS)
  - **HS Cross Country**: BOTH ATHLETES advanced to the State Meet -
    - Ben Forsmann (DISTRICT CHAMPION)
    - Vada Jensen (6th place @ District Meet)
    - **Ben Forsmann is the 2A Boys Cross Country STATE CHAMPION. The first EVER @ Deary HS.**



Cross Country Athletes: Vada Jensen & Ben Forsmann

- With 'Fall Sports' wrapping up, that means **Basketball Season** is right around the corner! Important dates:
  - High School GBB first practice - Nov 2nd
  - High School BBB first practice - Nov 13th
- Schedules will soon be uploaded to the website as usual!
  - check peridoically, as we all know things can change quickly
  - **QUAD/TRI Nights** (3-4 games) - we ask you to please understand, that game times are all subject to slight change, due to pace of play. Once the first game starts, we will go with whatever flow the night presents us with.



Whitepine League Champions



Boys 2A State Cross Country Champion, Ben Forsmann

UPCOMING ATHLETIC EVENTS

- 11/2: 1st Practice for Girls Basketball
- 11/6: Football State Quarterfinals @ Lewiston High School
- 11/11: Fall Sports Banquet
- 11/13: 1st Practice for Boys Basketball
- 11/16: Girls Basketball @ Clearwater Valley
- 11/18: Girls Basketball @ Potlatch
- 11/30: Girls Basketball @ Highland **Varsity Only*
- 12/2: Boys Basketball @ Potlatch
- 12/3: Girls Basketball @ Kendrick
- 12/4: Boys Basketball vs Prairie
- 12/8: Boys Basketball @SJB
- 12/8: Girls Basketball @SJB
- 12/10: Boys Basketball vs Nezperce
- 12/10: Girls Basketball vs Nezperce
- 12/11: Boys Basketball vs Colton
- 12/11: Girls Basketball vs Colton
- 12/15: Boys Basketball@ Genesee
- 12/15: Girls Basketball @ Genesee
- 12/17: Boys Basketball vs Kootenai *Varsity Only
- 12/17: Girls Basketball vs Kootenai *Varsity Only
- 12/18: Boys Basketball vs Timberline
- 12/18: Girls Basketball vs Timberline

Athletic event schedule may be subject to change.