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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Cheney Public Schools and the Medical Lake School District Awarded Purple Star Awards

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SPOKANE, WA – NorthEast Washington Educational Service District (NEWESD) 101 is proud to share that two districts in our service region, Cheney Public Schools and the Medical Lake School District, were selected to receive the 2024 Purple Star Award. The two districts are among 12 in Washington State selected for this honor and will retain this designation for the next two years.

Established in 2023, the Purple Star Award recognizes school districts that successfully address the educational, social, and emotional barriers students may experience when their parents/guardians are deployed or when relocating or transferring to different schools. They must also demonstrate a commitment to military-connected families and students by providing the tools and supports needed for success in their education and in their futures.

"Being recognized as a military-friendly school district is an incredible honor," said Robert Roettger, NEWESD 101 Superintendent. "This designation is evidence of how diligently and thoughtfully the administrators and staff within Cheney Public Schools and the Medical Lake School District work to support our students whose caregivers are serving our country,"

Jointly administered by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) and the Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA), the Washington State Purple Star Award was established through [House Bill 1346](#), which became law in July 2023.

"At NEWESD 101, we strive to promote educational excellence by delivering essential, cooperative services to schools and other learning communities," said Roettger, "and we could not be prouder of our districts for providing environments that are supportive of our military families."

To learn more about the Purple Star Program, click [here](#).

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About NorthEast Washington Educational Service District (NEWESD) 101

NEWESD 101 promotes educational excellence by delivering essential, cooperative services to 59 public school districts, 45 state-approved private schools and four charter schools across northeast Washington in Adams, Ferry, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens and Whitman counties.

To learn more, visit www.esd101.net.

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