

MINUTES
KELSO SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2/15/22

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Kelso School District No. 458 was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at Kelso School District as well as on a Zoom online/phone platform.

Board Members: Leah Moore (In-Person)
Karen Grafton (In Person)
Jeane Conrad - President (In Person)
Mike Haas - Vice President (In-Person)
Ron Huntington (Zoom)

Cabinet Members: Scott Westlund – Chief Financial Officer (Zoom)
Holly Budge – Director of Human Resources (Zoom)
Don Iverson – Director of Student Services (Zoom)
Heather Ogden – Director of Special Programs (Zoom)
Kim Yore – Director of Teaching & Learning (Absent)

Superintendent: Mary Beth Tack (In Person)

Asst. Secretary: Molly Guler (In Person)

OTHERS PRESENT – This meeting was held remotely as well as in person. Not all of the names of people in attendance were available if online, or partial names were listed. The names of people in attendance are listed as they were shown and included: iphone, susan.morrow, CKV, iphone, Sandy DeBruler, Bob Gustin, Anna B, Angie Blum, Kim Allais, Dave, Candi Engabo, Jennifer Bee, E patriot, ljbay, E Patriot, Karen Thelin, Melody Redden, Lindsay, Fle, Asia’s Iphone, Katie Olason, David Alexy, Rachel, Alisha McComie, Lauren Anderson, KSD Family, sherlyn damian, Christy, Michelle, Stephanie, Sharon Bender, Sara Richmond, Samantha Brosnan, iPad, Laynes Iphone, Zoom User, Aryia, Ryan Prothero, Rachel, REbecca, Tracy’s Iphone, Brand, Lacey DeWeert, Theresa Ames, Bailey Clark, Teri Stewart, Tom Januescheitis, Candice Chapin, Marc Almquist, Zach Murphy, Stephanie Stewart, Kyle Stewart, Mickey Young, Backstrom, Dan Falen, Suzi Murray, Sandy Branch, Ted Branch, Rachel Strickland, Rachel Plank, Alix Hixson, Tracy Davis, Haleigh, Carri Erickson, Justina Taft, Alisha McOmie

COMMUNICATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE & INTRODUCTIONS -

A. HMS Student Recognition

- a. Recognized for representing KSD in the Clean Water Calendar

COMMENTS & QUESTIONS –

The School Board received an email from Siera Nortness and Lindsay Rieker. Both emails ask that the mask mandate in schools be lifted and made optional.

Bob Gustin: States the close and productive working relationship between KSD and KEA over the years has been strong. Asks for a student discipline policy that recognizes not all students are the same and supports staff authority as stated in RCW 28A.600.020 and the district CBA. Explains verbiage such as “ensuring the optimum learning atmosphere of the classroom” with “the highest consideration given to the judgment of qualified teachers” would be preferred.

Rachel Strickland: Would like masks optional for public schools. Shares data from other locations with masks optional.

Justina Taft: Would like masks optional for public schools. States health information from their own children.

Carri Erickson: Would like masks optional for public schools. States mental health information of their own children.

Haleigh Bruell?: Would like masks optional for public schools. States information from their own children.

Tracy Davis: Would like masks optional for public schools. Speaks of own children's experience.

Laura Anderson: Would like masks optional for public schools. Speaks of own children's experience.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Motion Passed

Motion to Approve By: Director Haas
Seconded By: Director Grafton

PUBLIC HEARING - POTENTIAL SALE OF BEACON HILL PROPERTY

Zoom - No comments from zoom participants.

Tom Januscitis: Would like the board to deny purchase of Beacon Hill property to an apartment building.

Ted Branch: Asks if the board already has a purchaser in mind? Board states that they do not have anyone else in mind as this is the first step. He requests possibly a school, trade school, christian school etc be considered for the property purchase.

Mark Almquist: Lives on the backside of Beacon Hill and would like the opportunity to purchase the portion closest to his property. Also opposes any sort of halfway house.

Sandy Branch: States' concern for the capacity of new Lexington Elementary as the community grows. Explains how the neighborhood is a family and asks that the board considers the neighbors when looking at possible buyers. Superintendent Tack states that Lexington Elementary was designed to allow substantial growth using a demographer and looking at upcoming developments.

Micky Young: States concern for safety as the purchase moves forward. Would like the board to consider the safety of the neighborhood upon sale of property.

Candice Chapin: Concerned about the safety of the neighborhood depending on who purchases the property as well as people feeling forced to move, thus raising the prices on homes in the area.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA - Motion Passed

Minutes of January 24, 2022 Board Meeting & Work Session

Certificated Employment Recommendations

Classified Employment Recommendations

Warrants:

Contracts

Salary Schedule Updates:

- **ASB & Casual Workers**

Motion to Approve By: Director Huntington

Seconded By: Director Grafton

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

APPROVED POLICY 1815 ETHICAL CONDUCT FOR SCHOOL DIRECTORS (2ND READING & ACTION) - MARY BETH TACK

Agenda stated 1805, the policy is 1815 and will be changed for the 2/15/22 agenda.

WSSDA highly recommends this for boards.

This policy is NOT a direct reflection of our incredible team, we are working on being proactive.

Ethical behavior is paramount and this policy ensures this continues throughout the years.

Motion to Approve By: Director Haas

Seconded By: Director Grafton

APPROVED POLICY 1825 ADDRESSING SCHOOL DIRECTOR VIOLATIONS (2ND READING AND ACTION) - MARY BETH TACK

Outlines, if there is an issue or a challenge, this is the process that will be followed to deal with a violation by a director.

Director Haas: Thankful these policies are not reflective of our board and thankful for our board members.

Motion to Approve By: Director Huntington

Seconded By: Director Moore

MOVED TO 3RD READING - POLICY 3241 STUDENT DISCIPLINE (2ND READING AND ACTION) - DON IVERSON

Policy came to us around 2016. There was a disproportionate level of exclusion, this policy directly relates to those. Tonight we are moving forward with the policy and the procedure will come later in

the spring in conjunction with the Rights and Responsibilities handbook. ADHOC Team will work on this together before we bring it before the board.

Director Haas: States he is ready to move forward.

Director Moore: States she is ready to move forward

Director Grafton: States she is not ready to take action and requests another reading. Plans to reach out to WSSDA for more direct answers to questions.

Director Huntington: States he is not ready to take action and requests another reading. Plans to reach out to WSSDA for more direct answers to questions.

Director Conrad: Takes roll, it is unanimous to move it to a 3rd reading March 3 for action.

**Motion to move to a 3rd reading By: Director Huntington
Seconded By: Director Conrad**

NEW BUSINESS

HEARD HUNTINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT PRESENTATION - KIM ALLAIS

AVID

Huntington is in its 6th year of AVID schoolwide implementation.

Regardless of their life circumstances, AVID students overcome obstacles and achieve success. They graduate and attend college at higher rates, but more importantly, they can think critically, collaborate, and set high expectations to confidently conquer the challenges that await them.

In 47 states across the US, educators are driving student success through engaging, rigorous and student-centered learning environments.



AVID Culture Goal; Collaboration through PLC's

HMS Staff are working to reach every students social emotional needs by committing to improving our tiered structures of academic and SEL student support. We are intentionally focusing on school systems and structures that have historically left certain demographic groups underserved and ignored.

Three areas of data;

1. Skyward Discipline Data
2. IEP Grades 1st Semester
3. Tier 1, 2 and 3 Teams

Discipline Data/PBIS

We have looked at data including; documentation referrals, discipline referrals, suspensions and re-entry meetings. We look at the current data and compare it to data collected pre-covid. This information is shared with staff each grading period.

HMS Dean of Students Nick Crowe has provided more support time working directly with individual students. The relationships that Nick is building has impacted our students to advocate for support when they are struggling throughout their day.

“Kind” Students and Staff were recognized during our first semester over the intercom during morning announcements.

IEP Grades 1st Semester

HMS has 84 students on Individualized Education Plans (IEP's)

Out of a possible 504 Grades from 1st Semester there were only 28 F's given. This equates to less than 5.5%.

This data tells us that our teachers are accommodating and modifying curriculum at a level that is appropriate and allows for academic success.

Tier 1, 2 and 3 Teams

Tier 1, 2 and 3 Teams are working weekly to provide support to students at HMS. This teamwork has been strengthened this year by our work with our District Office SEL Team. The work will continue over the summer and allow concentrated time to work to meet student needs.

Tier 1, 2 and 3 Teams

Communication with families and re-establishing relationships has become a priority for HMS staff. Staff are reaching out with positive phone calls twice a month for 30 minutes. The target of the calls is to highlight success and celebrate achievement. At this point HMS staff have contacted more than 200 parents/guardians. Parents are typically overwhelmed in their response and tears of gratitude are the norm. Below is an email response to one of our teachers received from a HMS parent.

Hi Mr. Fromdahl,

Thank you so much for the very kind message you left me today regarding xxxx. I didn't realize that was you at the basketball game tonight otherwise I would have told you in person. xxxxx works really hard to keep his grades up and I'm so glad he is doing well in your class. It seems like the only feedback we get from teachers are generic messages or talks too much 😊. He really enjoys your class too. Thank you for all your hard work. I can't imagine how hard it is to be a teacher through all of the chaos.

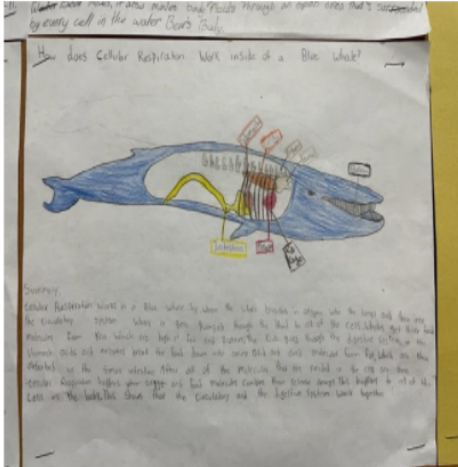
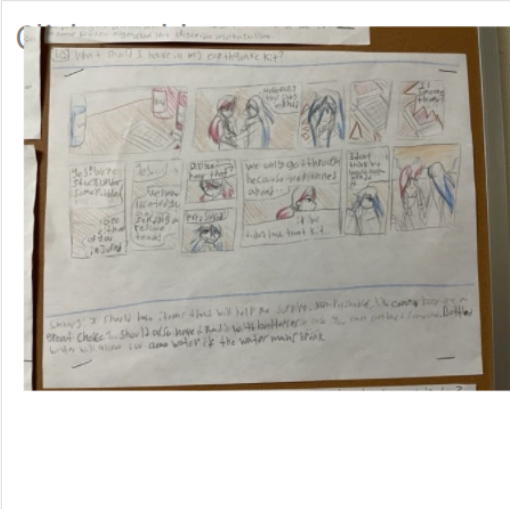
Hope you have a great week! -

AVID Classroom Instruction Focus

Focused Note
Taking



Focused Note Taking Examples



AVID Site Team

The AVID Site Team is continuing to grow its membership as we have returned to in person learning. The team has reignited the focused note taking work through professional development with staff collaboration.

We are excited to be taking 20 staff member to the AVID Summer Institute. This opportunity will bring new staff together, expand upon the understanding of those with more experience, and further unite our team and focus. When we return we will also have identified our goals and plan for the 2022/23 school year.

Show some love, Kelso Campaign

Students said;

One thing I love about my school is that the teachers here who I can always count on, even when I'm not doing well and maybe even they aren't doing well.

Huntington gives many options and tries there best to help those who need it.

There is a teacher always her to help you.

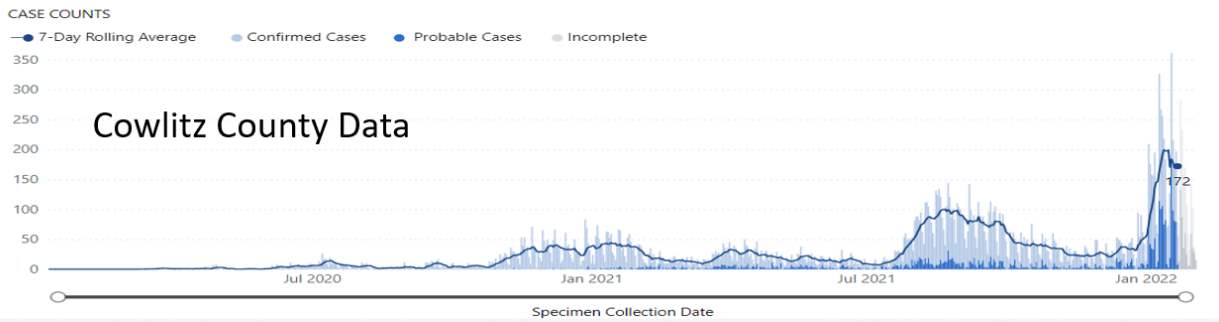
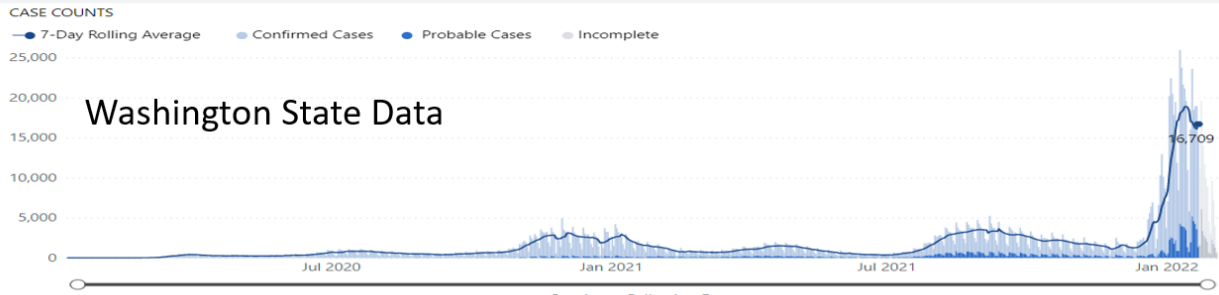
I love the teachers, staff, friends and our mascot Winston, and the positivity that runs through the halls into the classrooms and just everywhere in our school.

Huntington school shows what it means to be a Husky

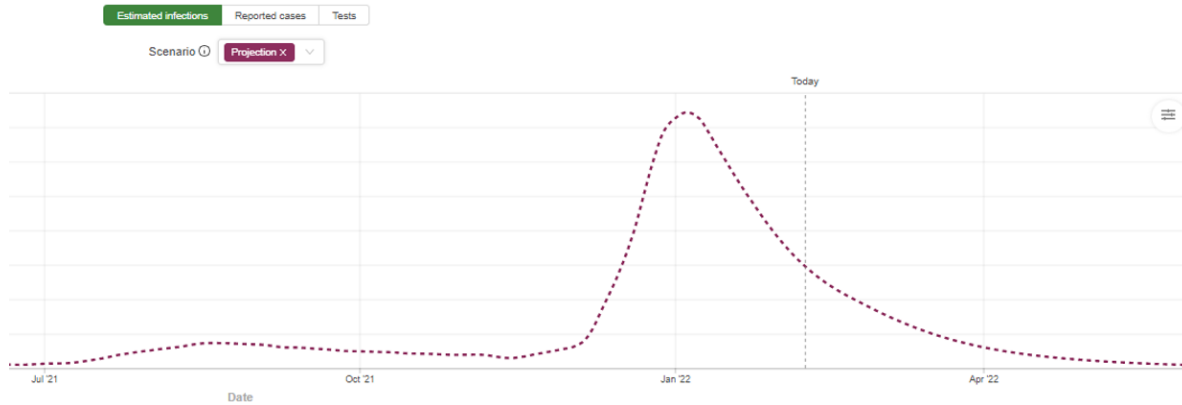
Because you are making my sister smarter each day she is there.

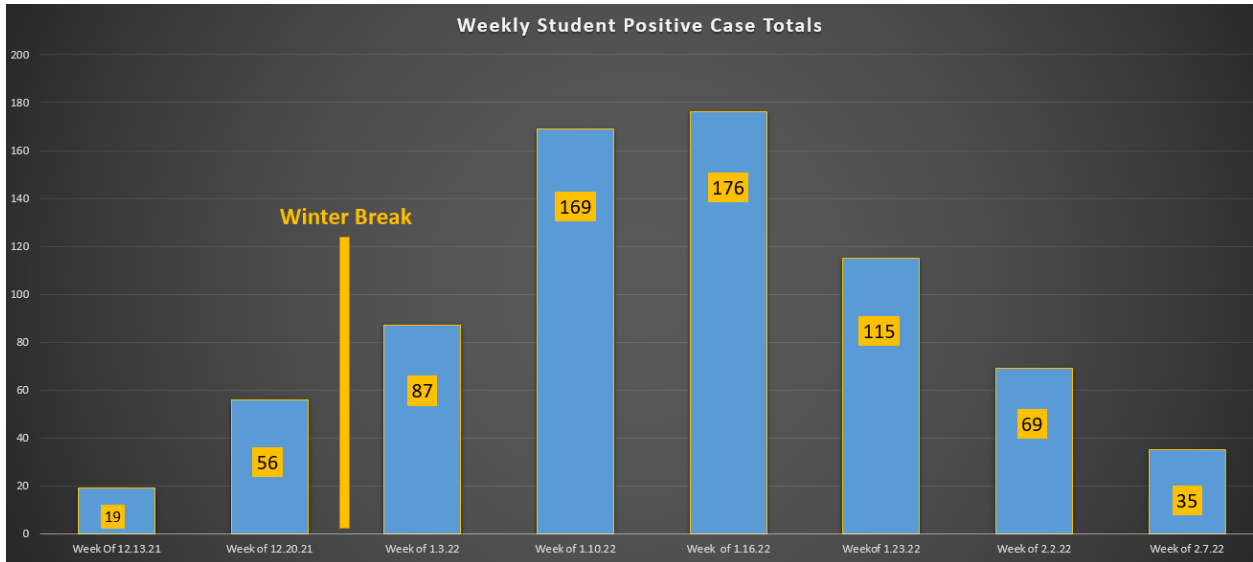
HEARD HEALTH AND SAFETY UPDATE - DON IVERSON

Washington State Department of Health Data



Washington State---Current Estimates
Institute for Health Metrics Evaluation





MITIGATION STRATEGIES

- Staying home when sick.
- Face coverings/masks. → Changes anticipated to indoor masking.
- Physical distancing.
- Increase ventilation.
- Handwashing.
- Respiratory etiquette.
- Cleaning and disinfecting.
- Access to COVID-19 Testing.



STAY HOME WHEN SICK

Staying home when sick with COVID-19 is essential to keep COVID-19 infections out of schools and prevent spread to others.

Students and school employees who have symptoms of infectious illness, such as influenza (flu) or COVID-19, should stay home and seek medical evaluation, which may include testing for COVID-19 and other respiratory infections.

Kelso School District Testing Center

Open from 7:00AM-4:00PM Monday-Friday
9:00am-12:00 Saturdays (Feb only)

Hours Changing
in March

Rapid and Antigen Tests Available
for Staff and Students.

Antigen Tests available to Family
Members!

Rapid Tests results provided within
15 minutes!

No appointment necessary.



Please preregister when possible at:

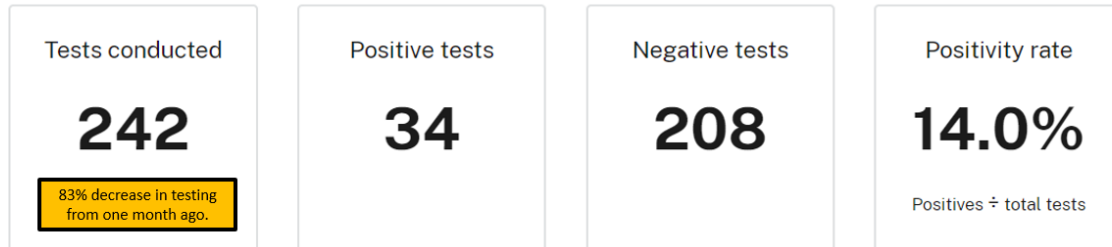
<https://www.simplereport.gov/register/A6Q2C>

Kelso School District Testing Center

Kelso School District

All people tested

2/4/2022 – 2/11/2022



As a parent, who should I contact about quarantine or isolation for my student?

- Consult your family medical provider for questions.
- For testing or quarantine timelines, you can contact:
 - The Health Care Specialist at the school your students attends,
 - Stephanie Toms, Kelso School District Nurse; (360.501.2463).
 - DOH website @ www.doh.wa.gov

KELSO BELIEF STATEMENT



A young person's commitment to education is their key to success in life. Exclusionary discipline disconnects a young person from school, limiting the prospects for their success. Youth need positive adult relationships, safe and supporting environments in which to learn, and engaging curriculum that guides them through the transitions and developmental stages.

Our goal as a Kelso school community is to reduce factors that inhibit academic success. We must agree that exclusionary discipline is a primary factor leading to academic disconnection and ultimately failure; therefore reducing or providing alternatives to exclusionary discipline should be prioritized for all of our students.

HOUSE BILL 1541



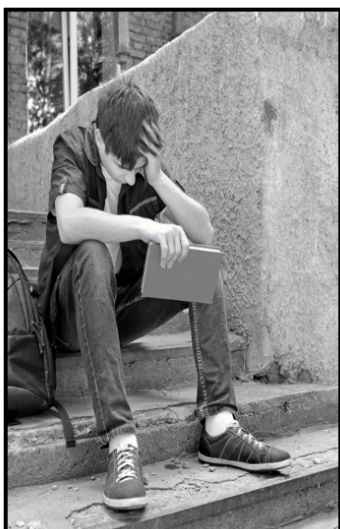
Revisions to state law in 2016 (HB 1541) that became effective in districts in 2019 require schools to use proactive, instructional, and restorative approaches to behavior while keeping students in the classroom to the maximum extent possible.

Since the enactment of these legal changes, evidence continues to verify the strong correlation between exclusionary discipline (meaning suspension and expulsion) and outcomes such as reduced graduation rates, involvement in the juvenile justice system, and overall negative school climate.

To mitigate persistent disparities, our discipline reform and school improvement efforts must work to benefit those students who have long been most negatively impacted by punitive approaches to discipline.



POLICY 3241



The Kelso School District has followed the practices outlined in guidance from the Race and Ethnicity Student Data Task Force in disaggregating student data.

In tonight's presentation, the Kelso School District has considered student program status and demographic information (i.e. gender, grade-level, low-income, English language learner, migrant, special education, Section 504, foster care, and homeless) when disaggregating student race and ethnicity data to identify any within-group variation, disproportionality, in school discipline experiences and outcomes for diverse student groups.



EXCLUSIONARY DISCIPLINE DEFINITION



Exclusionary discipline describes any type of school disciplinary action that removes or excludes a student from his or her usual educational setting. Typically used to punish undesired behaviors, deter similar behavior by other students, and promote more appropriate behavior, studies have shown that such practices are primary factors leading to academic disconnection and ultimately failure; therefore *reducing or providing alternatives to exclusionary discipline should be prioritized for all of our students*.

Exclusionary Discipline includes:

- Classroom Based Exclusion
- Short term suspension
- Long term Suspension
- Expulsion
- Emergency Expulsion



EXCLUSIONARY DISCIPLINE RATE

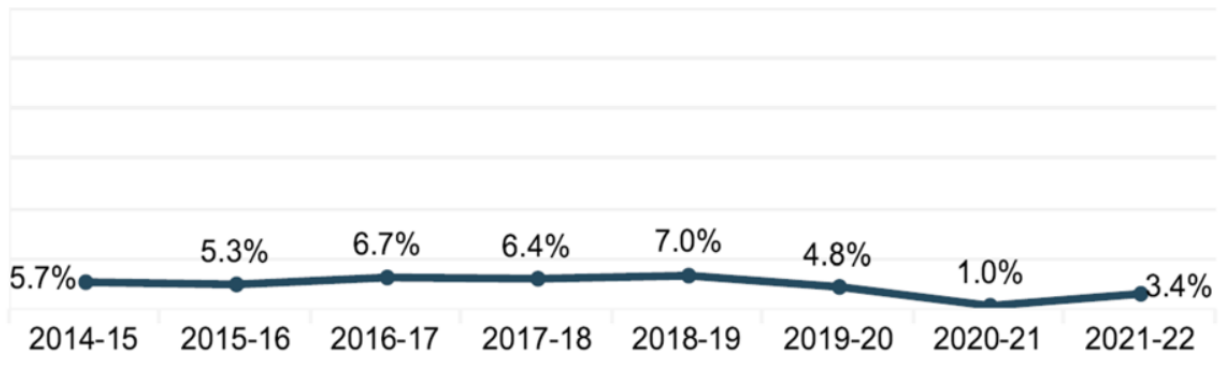
2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR

3.4%
Kelso School District

School Year:	2021-22
Student Group(s) Selected:	All Students, All Students, All Students
Total Incidents (across all behaviors):	290
Total Excluded Students:	177
Total Enrollment:	5,181
Discipline Rate:	3.4%

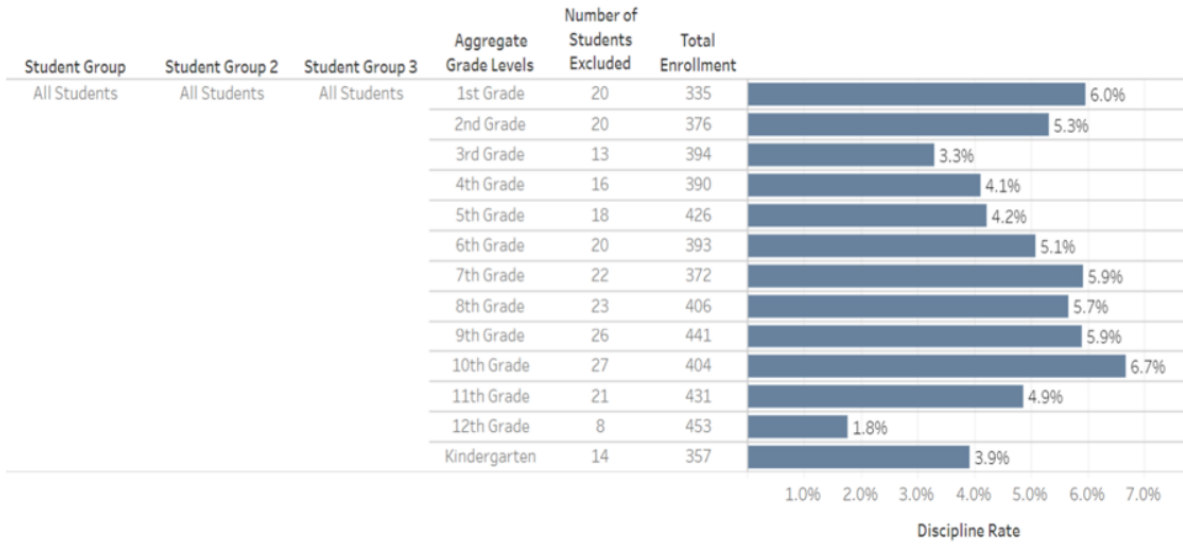


EXCLUSIONARY DISCIPLINE TREND DATA

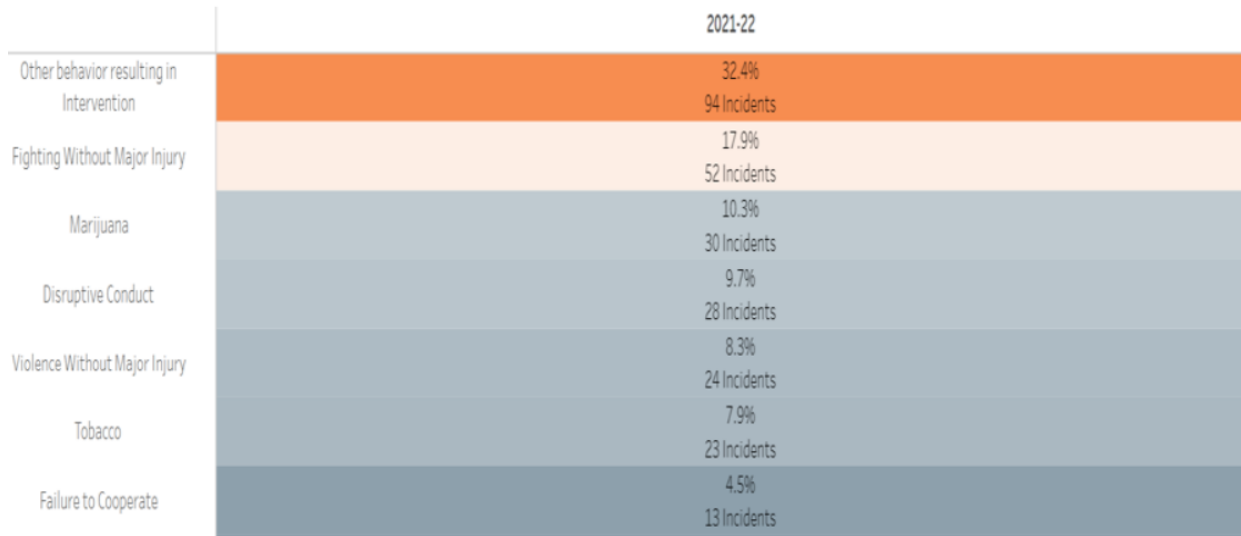




EXCLUSIONARY DISCIPLINE RATE BY GRADE LEVEL



EXCLUSIONARY DISCIPLINE WHAT AREAS?





EXCLUSIONARY DISCIPLINE PERCENTAGE DISPROPORTIONALITY

Disproportionality refers to **a group's representation in a particular category that exceeds expectations for that group**, or differs substantially from the representation of others in that category.



EXCLUSIONARY DISCIPLINE PERCENTAGE DISPROPORTIONALITY





DISCIPLINE AD-HOC TEAM

NEXT STEPS

The District Ad-Hoc team will convene later this month. The purpose of our Ad-Hoc team is to :

1. Engage stakeholders in decisions related to the development and implementation of discipline policies and procedures (per Policy 3241).
2. Review Discipline Data (per Policy 3241).
3. Incorporate new board approved student based board policies and procedures (Section 3000-Students) and distribute these policies and procedures to students, parents, guardians and staff with all the required due process and appeals listed.



DISCIPLINE AD-HOC TEAM

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

If there are community members, staff, parents or students interested in serving on this team, please contact:

Don Iverson
Director of Student Services
360.501.1905
don.iverson@kelsosd.org

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We must agree that exclusionary discipline is a primary factor leading to academic disconnection and ultimately failure; *therefore reducing or providing alternatives to exclusionary discipline should be prioritized for all of our students.*

HEARD POLICY 5400 PERSONNEL LEAVES (1ST READING) - HOLLY BUDGE

Revision is around the governor's proclamation around vaccine mandates and leaves.

APPROVED 2022-2023 KSD SCHOOL CALENDARS - HOLLY BUDGE

Motion to Approve By: Director Huntington

Seconded By: Director Haas

HEARD BUDGET STATUS UPDATE – DECEMBER - SCOTT WESTLUND

Overall, average annual District enrollment (including Running Start) for the 2021/22 school year was budgeted at 4826 FTE. January 3rd total average enrollment was 4789 FTE or down 37 FTE from budget. Our improving enrollment is due to the addition of five (5) Transitional Kindergarten (TK) classes that started January 3. The addition of TK will continue to increase our average enrollment FTE through August, bringing our annual average to approximately 20 FTE.

Beginning fund balance as of September 1, 2021, is \$6,755,864. This equates into an 8.8% projected ending fund balance of anticipated expenditures and transfers for the 2021/22 school year. Projected ending fund balance for August 31, 2022, is estimated to be in the range of \$6 million.

The budget looks good through the first four months of the school year.

HEARD POLICY 3231 STUDENT RECORDS (1ST READING) - SCOTT WESTLUND

Changes that were made were the same we saw in the 3520 update - saying the only thing we can withhold from a student who owes fines or such is a diploma.

POLICY 6220 BID OR REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS (1ST READING) - SCOTT WESTLUND

Not much new information, just gets a little more specific. We already follow all changes.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 2021/22-06 SALE OF BEACON HILL PROPERTY (ACTION) - SCOTT WESTLUND

KELSO SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 458
COWLITZ COUNTY, WASHINGTON
RESOLUTION NO. 2021/22—06

**A RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors of Kelso School District No. 458,
Cowlitz County, Washington, Authorizing the Sale of School District Property**

WHEREAS, the Kelso School District Board of Directors (the “Board”) currently holds title to a certain parcel of real estate, located at 257 Alpha Drive, Longview, Washington 98632, commonly known as Beacon Hill Elementary School property, comprised of one parcel, #6330803 (the “Parcel”);

WHEREAS, the Kelso School District Board of Directors adopted on April 27th, 2020, Resolution 2019/20—22, closing Beacon Hill Elementary and Catlin Elementary School for K-12 educational programming;

WHEREAS notice of a public hearing was given by publication of legal notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the District on January 16, 2022, and January 23, 2022, and posted on the District’s website;

WHEREAS, the Kelso School District Board of Directors pursuant to Board Policy 6882, the Board conducted a public hearing on February 15, 2022, starting at 6:00 P.M., or as soon thereafter, at the Ruth B. Clark Administration Building, 601 Crawford Street, Kelso, Washington, to: (a) consider the sale of Beacon Hill Elementary School and Property; and (b) receive public testimony;

WHEREAS, the Kelso School District Board of Directors is of the opinion that the Parcel, including the structure(s) thereon, have become unsuitable and inconvenient for the uses of Kelso School District; and,

WHEREAS, the Kelso School District Board of Directors considers it to be in the best interest of the District to sell the property at public sale in adherence to RCW 28A.335.120, and Board Policy 6882.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Kelso School District Board of Directors hereby authorizes District staff to publish a notice of sale, seek the assistance of a local real estate agency, and negotiate terms of sale of the Beacon Hill Elementary School property. The Superintendent, or her designee, is authorized to establish the terms of sale as discussed with the Board during Executive Sessions authorized under RCW 42.30.110(1)(c). Approval of any sale will be contingent upon final School Board approval at a future date.

Board members - all agree they want to take into consideration all comments from the community tonight. They plan on staying in communication with the Beacon Hill community as they move on.

Motion to Approve By: Director Haas

Seconded By: Director Moore

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - DIRECTOR LEAH MOORE

- Today was the halfway point
- Items should be narrowing down from here
- House Bill 1664 - pushed it to pay out further
- Enrollment stabilization bill has an end date in site
- Budget forecast news should be out tomorrow and looks good
- Fighting about the prototypical school model stating how much districts should get from state to fund business

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- School counselors week last week
 - amazing team that has dedicated to help
 - staff
 - students and
 - families
 - dedicated to making a positive impact
- Health and Safety
 - Challenging month
 - we made it through strong
 - our team from full time to subs made it happen
- Scott Westlund and business team
 - in the middle of our audit right now
 - Paula Edwards
 - Retiring at end of month after 18 years
 - Lorretta Lafave
 - Amanda Sanders
 - Scott Cantwell

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

- Listening Tours
 - Board goal was to hear from students more in 2021-2022
 - Rose Valley and Carrolls so far
 - 8-10 students each school
 - Been the highlight of the week
 - Asks questions of the kids
 - surprised at the knowledge of students
 - Answers have been fun
 - love their school
 - take care of eachother
 - love their teachers
 - happy to be back at school

- shared challenging subjects
- want committees
- hot topics of recess and recess equipment
- they are our future
- look forward to Fridays and cherish the time spent with each group

Adjourn at 8:14 p.m.

X _____

President

X _____

Secretary