

**MINUTES**  
**KELSO SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**3/7/22**

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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.

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**Board Members:** Leah Moore (In-Person)  
Karen Grafton (Absent - excused)  
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)

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**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: Quick\_Julian, Teo crow, Gabriel Quick, Maddy, iPhone, Baylee, Lily <3, Griffin S, chris roewe, Cindy Cromwell, Yenni Woodall, **Gianne Curry** , Rob Schulties, Larry Crosby and William

**COMMUNICATIONS, CORRESPONDENCE & INTRODUCTIONS -**

- A. Loowit & KVA School Student Recognition
  - a.
- B. Classified Staff Recognition
  - a. Superintendent Tack read Governor Inslee’s Proclamation

## **COMMENTS & QUESTIONS –**

Rob Schulties - States concern regarding accepting funding from the federal government.

William - States data from multiple sources and asks that in the future the district would look at other data when making decisions, not just the state guidance.

No comments on zoom

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Motion Passed**

**Motion to Approve By: Director Huntington**

**Seconded By: Director Moore**

## **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA - Motion Passed**

### **Minutes of February 15, 2022 Board Meeting & Work Session**

**Certificated Employment Recommendations**

**Classified Employment Recommendations**

**Warrants**

**Contracts**

**Surplus of Transportation Items**

**Motion to Approve By: Director Haas**

**Seconded By: Director Huntington**

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**MOVED TO 4th READING - POLICY 3241 STUDENT DISCIPLINE (3RD READING AND ACTION)  
- DON IVERSON**

Lines in blue have been added since the last reading, making a 4th reading necessary.

Policy came to us around 2016. There was a disproportionate level of exclusion, this policy directly relates to those. Tonight we are moving to 4th reading 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 Conrad: Expresses gratitude for the ADHOC team and their collaboration and hours spent being thorough and asking hard questions.

Director Haas: Clarifies that everyone had their questions answered.

**Motion to move to a 4th reading By: Director Moore  
Seconded By: Director Haas**

**APPROVED POLICY 5400 PERSONNEL LEAVES (2ND READING & ACTION) - HOLLY BUDGE**  
Revision is around the governor's proclamation around vaccine mandates and leaves.

**Motion to Approve By: Director Moore  
Seconded By: Director Haas**

**APPROVED POLICY 3231 STUDENT RECORDS (2ND READING & ACTION) - SCOTT WESTLUND**  
Changes 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.

**Motion to Approve By: Director Huntington  
Seconded By: Director Haas**

**APPROVED 6220 BID OR REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS (2ND READING & ACTION) - SCOTT WESTLUND**  
Not much new information, just a little more specific on how we get quotes. We already follow all changes.

**Motion to Approve By: Director Moore  
Seconded By: Director Haas**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**HEARD KELSO VIRTUAL ACADEMY AND LOOWIT HIGH SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT PRESENTATION - CINDY CROMWELL**

- **Celebrations and the future of Kelso virtual academy**
  - **97% course completion rate**

- **The history of Kelso virtual academy**
  - 30 students prior to COVID March 2020
  - 1000+ students in August 2020
- **Our focus for 2021-2022**
  - 20 members currently on site
  - Build culture
  - Improve KVA



- - Offering college classes through ASU
- **Grant funded initiatives through June 2023**
  - Site challenges and fix them
- **Graduation Success Coach**
  - On site grad coach initially focused on Juniors and Seniors
  - Expanding all the way down to Kindergarten
  - Currently calling all students and families to fulfill graduation requirements
- **Kelso Virtual Academy Summer School (Any student in the state of Washington)**
  - CMS
  - HMS
  - KHS
- **Hybrid Kelso High/Kelso Virtual Teacher**
  - Students on a hybrid schedule
  - This will give students time between on site classes with a location and support to continue education courses
- **Kelso Virtual Academy Evening Cafe**
  - 2 teachers for tutoring
  - Twice a week
  - In person or zoom in
  - More opportunities for family connections after work hours
- **Feeling solid in the work so far, however:**
  - Looking into virtual field trips
  - Have a virtual honor society currently

- Looking to more options for courses
- Build brand and reputation locally and state wide

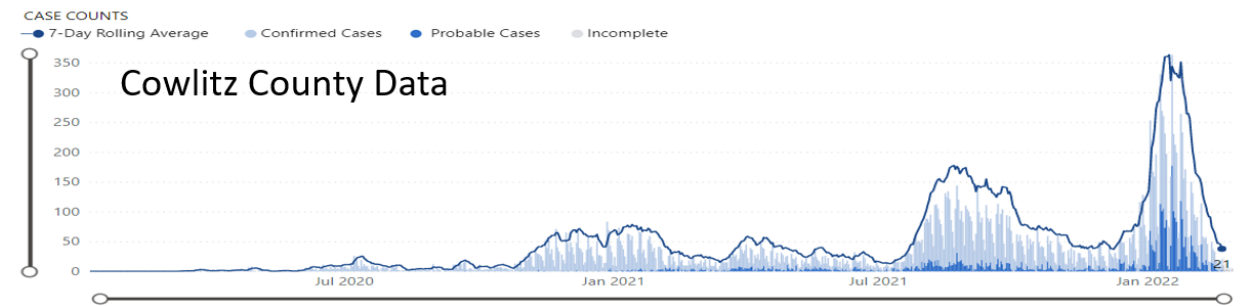
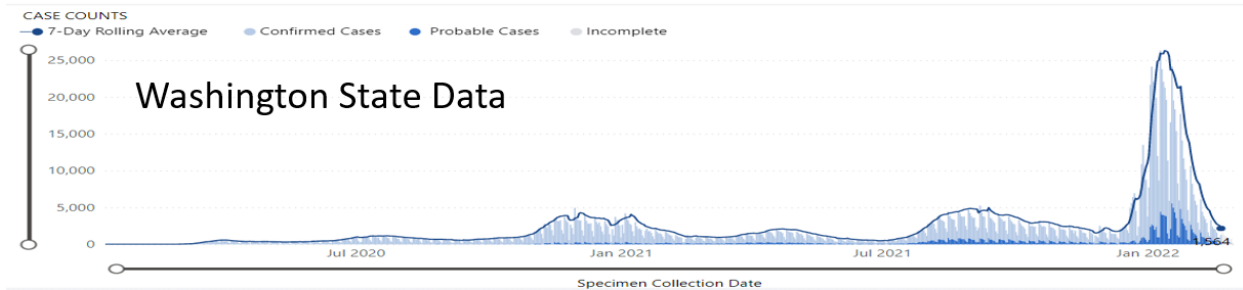
**Director Conrad: Great example of visionary leadership. Expresses gratitude for creating a bridge for students and families**

**Superintendent Tack: Expresses gratitude for everything provided to our families as well as students outside of Kelso School District, making a great experience for all.**

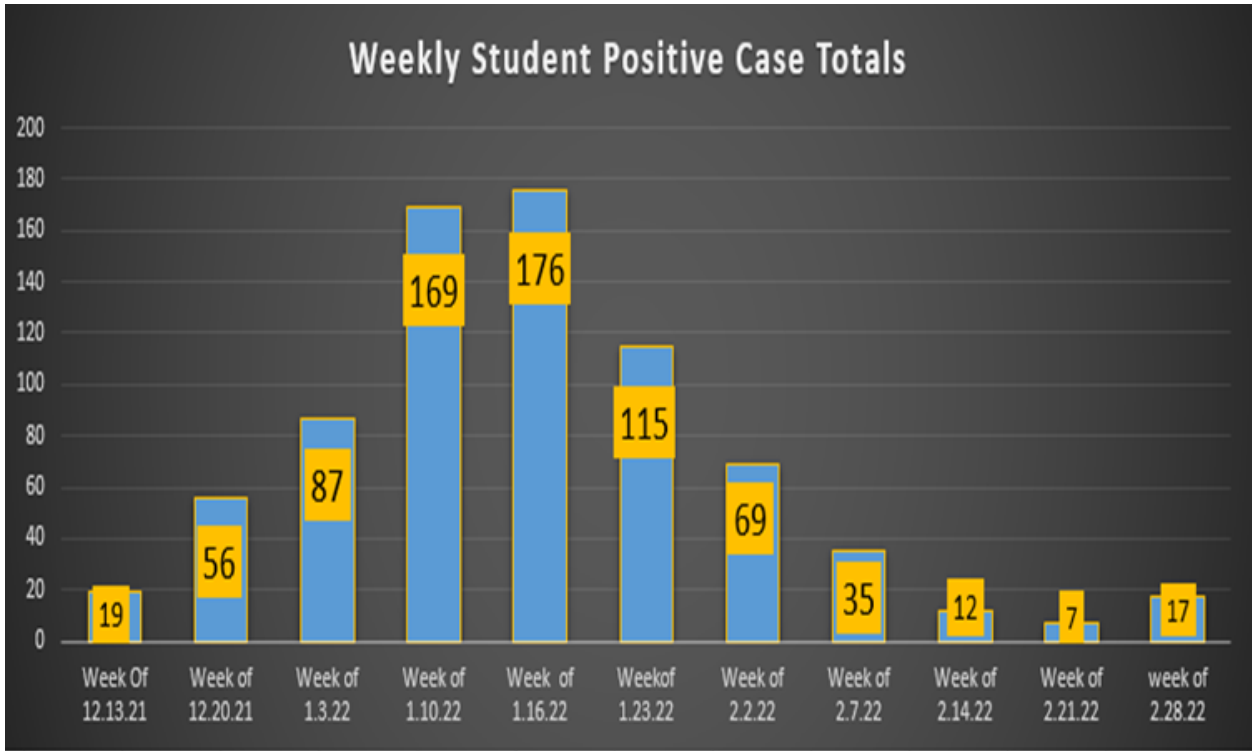
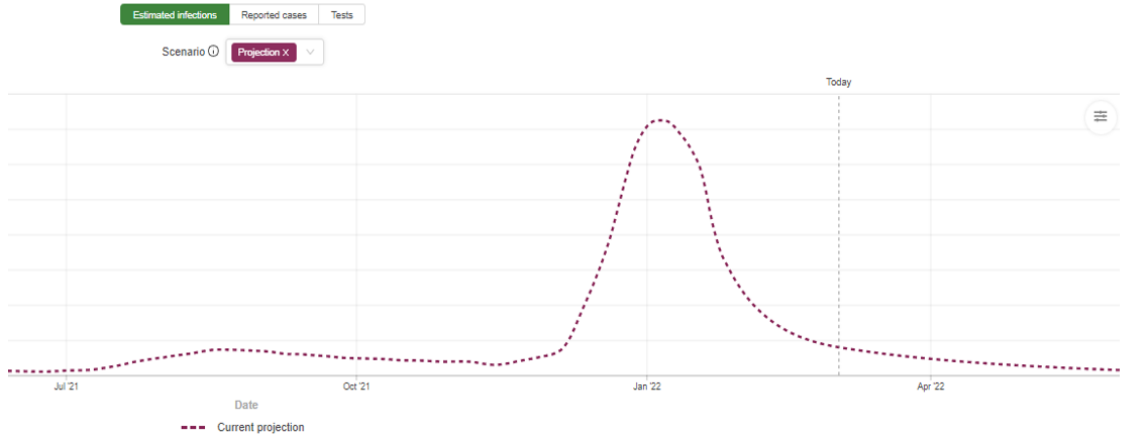
**HEARD HEALTH AND SAFETY UPDATE - DON IVERSON**

**Current Data**

*Washington State Department of Health Data*  
(3.3.22)



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



## Indoor Masking Changes:

### Changes in Indoor Masking---moved up to March 12<sup>th</sup>

Governor Jay Inslee announced last Monday that Washington is lifting its statewide indoor mask policy earlier than previously announced.

Washington was set to lift the mandate on March 21, but will now do so at 11:59 p.m. on March 11<sup>th</sup>.

With no school for students on March 11<sup>th</sup>, mask "optional" at school becomes effective for students and staff on 3.14.21.



The CDC's requirement for buses was eliminated two weeks ago, however DOH's guidance will continue to require masking on buses until March 14<sup>th</sup>.

This means that beginning Monday, March 14 (which is now our snow make-up day), barring a new requirement from our local health department, masks will become optional in our school buildings and buses regardless of vaccination status. Staff and students will have the choice to wear a mask at school or on buses, with the expectation that others' choices will be respected. One should not make assumptions regarding someone's beliefs or health status, nor should they comment on them. In order to maintain our inclusive learning environment where all are valued, this choice should not be a topic of conversation as we continue to be resolute about our commitment to excellence in academic and social emotional learning for each and every student.

We are awaiting updated DoH PK-12 school guidance with specifics on contact tracing, testing, physical distancing, etc. The projected release later this week. Once this guidance is released, we will communicate the changes.

Until March 14, masks will continue to be required for all students, staff, and visitors in all Kelso School District buildings AND buses. Masks will continue to be provided for those who do not have them, and students who will not wear masks will be sent home. Kelso School District and our Board of Directors do not have local control over this matter. We are legally required to follow the Governor's directive, which currently requires masks in school buildings and on buses.

## Vaccination Exemptions

# Vaccination Requirement--Staff

On August 18, 2021, Governor Inslee announced a directive requiring all employees working for public and private K–12 schools to be vaccinated against COVID-19 or obtain a religious or medical exemption by October 18, 2021.

What about now?

We are awaiting further guidance!

Testing center

## ***Kelso School District Testing Center***



Open from **7:00AM-10:00AM** Monday-Friday until Spring Break  
No appointment necessary.

Rapid and Antigen Tests Available for Staff, Student and Family Members.

Rapid Tests results provided within 15 minutes!



Please preregister when possible at:

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

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](http://www.doh.wa.gov)



## **HEARD BUDGET STATUS UPDATE - JANUARY - SCOTT WESTLUND**

Overall, average annual District enrollment (including Running Start) for the 2021/22 school year was budgeted at 4826 FTE. February 1<sup>st</sup> total average enrollment was 4802 FTE or down 24 FTE from budget. We continue to see improving enrollment numbers as we move throughout the school year, particularly in our kinder grade without factoring in the new transitional kinder program.

It appears the same trend occurring last school year continues into this year with kinders showing up throughout the year rather than at the beginning of the school year as normal. We are up about 25 kinders from the beginning of October. If this trend continues we may see a relatively even to slightly below budgeted enrollment for the school year.

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 five months of the school year.

## **ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS - SCOTT WESTLUND**

We have had two recent donations that I am seeking Board approval.

Kelso Youth Basketball through Jon Webb has donated a soccer weather shelter with a cost of \$5,449 plus tax.

Altrusa International's local Longview/Kelso Chapter has also donated \$5,000 of children's books to the Barnes Library.

We continue to appreciate the support that our schools and programs receive from our local community to help operate our schools and support student learning and extra-curricular activities.

I would ask that the Board accept this donation as required under Board Policy 6114. Under Policy 6114, the Board must approve the acceptance any gift to the district, school, department or classroom of money, materials, or equipment having a value of \$5,000.00 or greater.

**Motion to Approve By: Director Haas**

**Seconded By: Director Moore**

## **HEARD POLICY 2161/2161P SPECIAL EDUCATION AND RELATED SERVICES FOR ELIGIBLE STUDENTS (1ST READING) - HEATHER OGDEN**

Policy, saying we will provide special education and related services for eligible students, this is a new policy for Kelso

Procedure - changed it to student first language. Use of interpreters for use during meetings. Alignment to High School and Beyond plan in IEP. Included crisis intervention training needs to be trauma informed. Eliminated certain holds and restraints. Added in our specific plans. Update to staff requirements.

## **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - DIRECTOR LEAH MOORE**

- HB 1664 - funding for counselors - pushed out to 2025
- SB 5563 - Enrollment stabilization
- Budget forecast should be good
- 5595 Prototypical school funding model

### **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

- Arts
  - 2 specific art shows
  - ESD March 16th on Zoom
  - April 25-28 art show at Cowlitz Expo Center if all goes well
  - This week choir concert
- KHS Staff
  - Revision of master schedule
  - New process by counselors and admin team
  - Help student course selection
  - Stretch course - focus on kids setting rigorous goals
- KSD Team
  - Approaching March 17, 2 year anniversary to when everything closed at schools (3 S's)
  - **S**tudent Centered
  - **S**teady Approach
  - **S**EL Focused Work
  - Thank the school Board for the work

### **FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

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**Adjourn to executive session RCW 42.30.110(1)(c) at 7:40 p.m.**

**Adjourn at 7:07 p.m.**

**X**

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President

X

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Secretary