



KELSO SCHOOL DISTRICT

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June 15, 2022

Dear KSD Community,

Providing a safe and secure environment for our students and staff and maintaining open and transparent communication with our families are among our top priorities in Kelso School District. In keeping with those priorities, I have some information to share with you.

As we approach the final year of our bond construction projects, I want to thank you for your continued confidence in the work we're doing to improve our learning spaces for Kelso students. There is much to celebrate, and there have also been challenges along the way.

Due to recent developments in the Huntington Middle School modernization project, we find it necessary to make adjustments in our scheduled timeline. We are experiencing an unforeseen window supply shortage. We have worked closely with FORMA Construction to look at every alternative possible. Unfortunately, there is no viable option that fits in our original timeline.

The resulting delays at Huntington also have a significant ripple effect on the Rose Valley modernization project. I know these changes may be disruptive and I sincerely apologize for the inconvenience they may cause. Due to matters beyond our control and for the safety of our students and staff, these shifts in scheduling are necessary. Here is a revised schedule:

- Next year's Huntington students (which includes current 5th grade students at Lexington and Barnes) will begin the 2022-23 school year at the Catlin site
- Next year's Rose Valley students will begin the 2022-23 school year at Rose Valley Elementary
- Huntington and Rose Valley students will remain at these locations through Wednesday, October 5, 2022
- Huntington and Rose Valley students ONLY will have no school on Thursday, October 6, and Monday, October 10 (Friday, October 7, is an in-service day—no school for ALL KSD students)
- Those 5 days (October 6-10) will be used to move, set up, and prepare the modernized Huntington Middle School and existing Catlin site for Rose Valley students
- Huntington students will return to the newly modernized Huntington Middle School for classes beginning Tuesday, October 11
- Rose Valley students will attend school at the Catlin site starting Tuesday, October 11, so the modernization of Rose Valley can begin

The transportation to and from Huntington and Rose Valley for the beginning of the 2022-23 school year, remains the same as the 2021-22 school bus schedule. The [Rose Valley modified bus schedule that begins October 11, 2022, can be found here](#).

An Emergency School Closure waiver has been submitted for October 6 and 10, requesting those days be waived from the Huntington and Rose Valley student calendars. The application cites certain unforeseeable construction delays and emergency lack of space as reasons for the request. If the waiver is granted, students will not need to make up those two days at the end of the school year. We will communicate the results upon receiving them.

We realize this affects families, staff, and students. As always, your thoughts and concerns are important to us. We've put together a survey where you can share your feedback and ask questions. You can access that survey here: bit.ly/hms-rv. Results from the survey will be communicated in a Frequently Asked Question document and distributed by email and online by mid-July.

Thank you for your understanding of this difficult situation and helping us through this time of transition. Below is a condensed timeline for your convenience.

<u>UPDATED TIMELINE – ROSE VALLEY & HUNTINGTON CONSTRUCTION</u>		
Dates	School	Location Site
August 31 – October 5	Huntington Middle School	Catlin Site
August 31 – October 5	Rose Valley Elementary	Rose Valley Elementary
October 6 – 10	Huntington & Rose Valley students	No School
October 11	Huntington Middle School	Modernized Huntington School
October 11	Rose Valley Elementary	Catlin Site

Sincerely,

Mary Beth Tack, Superintendent
Kelso School District
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