



KSD family CONNECTION

February 8, 2022

Dear KSD Community,

This is our twice monthly communication, KSD Family Connection. Each edition includes:

- Relevant and timely information based on the month's theme
- A health and safety section
- A brief spotlight on one of our district programs, clubs, services, etc.



this month

February is known as the month of love and kindness. We invited students, staff, and families to share what they love about their school and/or a KSD team member that makes Kelso a great place to learn and work. You can see the [287 \(and counting\) notes of love and appreciation here \(bit.ly/show-love-ksd\)](https://bit.ly/show-love-ksd).

The Show Some LOVE, Kelso campaign continues, so feel free to add to the growing goodness by [sharing what you love here \(bit.ly/ksd-love\)](https://bit.ly/ksd-love).



February is also host to:

- [Black History Month](#), which serves as a time to honor and reflect on Black people's important contributions, accomplishments, and leadership to our nation and world.
- [National School Counseling Week](#) is February 7-11 and highlights the tremendous impact school counselors can have in helping students.
- [Random Acts of Kindness Day](#) is Thursday February 17, and Random Acts of Kindness Week is February 13-19.



The health and safety of our students and staff is always a top priority. We continue to work closely with state and local health authorities, such as Washington Department of Health (WDOH) and Cowlitz County Health & Human Services department (CCHHS) to ensure our mitigation strategies are strong and effective. CCHHS publishes their report every 4 weeks. The next report is scheduled for February 9. More frequent data updates can be found on [their Facebook page](#) and [COVID-19 Data webpage](#).

FREE COVID-19 Testing

Kelso School District students and their immediate family members may receive [free COVID testing](#) if they:

- are showing [symptoms](#), or
- may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19

Testing is available at the **KSD Family Community Resource Center** (2001 Allen Street, directly across from the KHS/CMS parking lot entrances) from **7 AM to 4 PM on weekdays**.

ADDITIONAL DAYS IN FEBRUARY: Saturdays from 9 AM to Noon

COVID-19 links and resources:

- WDOH [K-12 COVID-19 Requirements](#)
- CCHHS [COVID-19 Reports & Presentations](#)
- WDOH [K-12 Isolation and Quarantine Decision Trees](#)
- Kelso School District [COVID-19 Dashboard](#)
- Cowlitz County is 1 of 8 WA counties participating in the [Say Yes! COVID Test program](#), allowing residents to get free at-home test kits. [Learn more here](#). (NOTE: At-home tests are not acceptable proof of a negative result for coming back to school.)



Forecasting For High School And Beyond

As we move into the middle of February, our 8th-11th grade students will start forecasting their classes for next school year. Forecasting helps students take classes that support their goals and prepare them to pursue their post-secondary plans. Because of this, the process of forecasting is anchored in the High School and Beyond Plan created by each student in 8th grade; which is based on their selected career cluster. Students have access to their High School and Beyond Plan via their Google classroom.

Other critical tools in the forecasting process are the Kelso High School course catalog and the student's transcript. The catalog contains all the career clusters offered at KHS, graduation requirements, and descriptions of all classes offered. The transcript tells the academic story of a student and is how students track their progress.

For Kelso High School students, counselors will be holding grade level meetings on February 8, 9, and 11 to talk about the forecasting process and answer questions. Students will be forecasting with their 4th period teachers on February

17, 18, and 24. On February 24, students will submit their forecasting requests to our Career Center and our counselors will get to work on creating next year's master schedule.

Kelso Virtual Academy students will work directly with their counselor for individualized forecasting.

In Kelso School District, our goal is to graduate 100% of our students and have them all be post-secondary ready. We know family involvement is vital to achieving this goal. The biggest way families can support this process is to **ask your children about the High School and Beyond Plan, look at the career clusters together in the course catalog, and talk about class options.**



As always, if you have any questions, feel free to email me.

Sincerely,

Mary Beth Tack, Superintendent
Kelso School District
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