



KELSO SCHOOL DISTRICT

COVID-19 ROADMAP TO

REOPENING

July 17, 2020

Dear Kelso Families,

We've been hard at work planning for the 2020-2021 school year. Attached is a draft of our fall reopening plan based on efforts from the district task force and survey feedback. A Thoughtexchange survey will be emailed to you on July 24 and will remain open until the 30th to share your thoughts on the attached model.

When we began this work, the preferred option for school this fall, as indicated by parents and staff members in recent surveys, was to return to school in-person with the required safety precautions. Guidance from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) also set an expectation for schools to reopen for "traditional" in-person learning, following physical distancing protocol as much as possible along with other health and safety practices, like wearing face coverings.

If a full return to in-person school isn't possible due to state and/or local conditions and restrictions, a hybrid model will be implemented. At the elementary K-5 level, due to the lower class size numbers, in general, and students in same classroom for majority of the day, we are able to accommodate an everyday in-person instructional model with some adjustments. Secondary students will attend school in an alternating A/B schedule of in-person and remote instruction (see attached draft plan for specifics). A rotating schedule reduces the number of students in schools by half so physical distancing requirements can be met.

Families who do not want their child to return to school in-person can access online-only learning by enrolling in Kelso Virtual Academy (KVA). This program is for K-12 students and includes remote instruction with Kelso School District teachers. Students can enroll in KVA one trimester at a time. Find more information at bit.ly/ksd-kva.

Plan details for the return to school will evolve as conditions change over the summer. **With the past several press conferences from key state officials, full remote learning for all continues to be a strong possibility for Washington students for fall reopening.** Our Kelso Reopening Task Force meets on August 6 to review current conditions and finalize the Kelso Roadmap to Reopening. That plan will seek school board approval on August 10 and you will receive information about finalized schedules and updated options mid-August.

If there's one thing I've learned from the last few months, it's that we truly are all in this together, and, together, there's nothing we can't handle. Thank you for being our partner in the education of Kelso kids. If you have any questions, please feel free to email me directly.

Respectfully,

Mary Beth Tack, Superintendent
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