



REPORT TO OUR **KELSO** COMMUNITY

2023-24



#KELSOSTRONG

MISSION

The mission of Kelso School District is to prepare every student for living, learning, and achieving success as a citizen of our changing world.

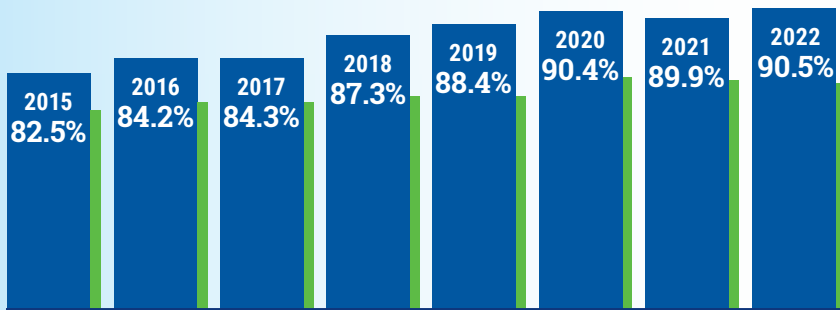
VISION

Our students begin school ready to learn, transition confidently between grades and schools, and emerge from our district as engaged citizens, both career and college-ready.



CAREER, COLLEGE & COMMUNITY READY

Kelso School District is committed to ensuring students transition successfully between grades and schools and graduate with the skills necessary to excel in post-secondary opportunities, thereby increasing their ability to realize personal goals and to be fulfilled, productive citizens.

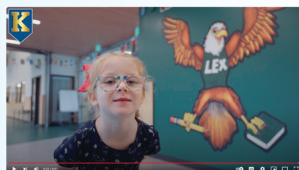


GRADUATION RATE

We are continuing to work toward our goal of... **100%**

What does 100% mean?

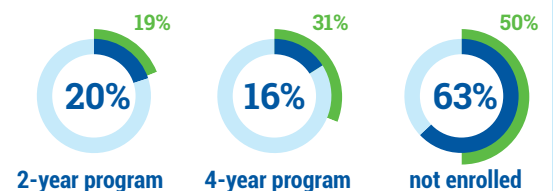
We asked 45 students and staff members. Find out what they said at bit.ly/ksd-100



LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

Our goal is to have 100% of graduating seniors immediately enrolled in an apprenticeship, trades, military, 2-year institution, or 4-year institution.

Class of 2021 post-secondary enrollment:





COMMUNICATION



Kelso School District is committed to open and transparent communication and strives to develop and maintain positive, collaborative relationships with our students, staff, and community in a variety of ways.

- **Hilander Highlights:** a quarterly publication mailed to every home in the district
- **Family Connection:** a monthly email to all our families and students sharing program and other important updates and more
- **Inside Connection:** an internal email sent to all district staff following each school board meeting sharing program and other important updates, essential employee information, safety and wellness information, and more
- **Listening Tours (shown above):** a team of staff and board members meet annually with groups of 10 students at each school from diverse backgrounds and ask them the same series of questions to hear first-hand their experiences, challenges, and celebrations
- **ThoughtExchange Surveys:** Two to four times each year the district sends surveys containing foundational questions and one open-ended question to elevate student, staff, and family voice
- **Websites:** The district and each school have websites where families and community members can find information ranging from daily essentials (school boundaries, bus schedules, meals, etc.) to district information (staff, board meetings, facilities, employment opportunities, etc.)
- **Social Media:** there are multiple social media accounts for individual schools and the district

2022-23 MAJOR MILESTONES ON THE ROAD TO 100%

Looking back at 2022-23, our collective achievements are many. Our students, staff, and families have much to be proud of. Thank you for all you've done to make this another great year in Kelso's tradition of excellence. We couldn't be more proud. You can find these accomplishments at bit.ly/2022-23milestones



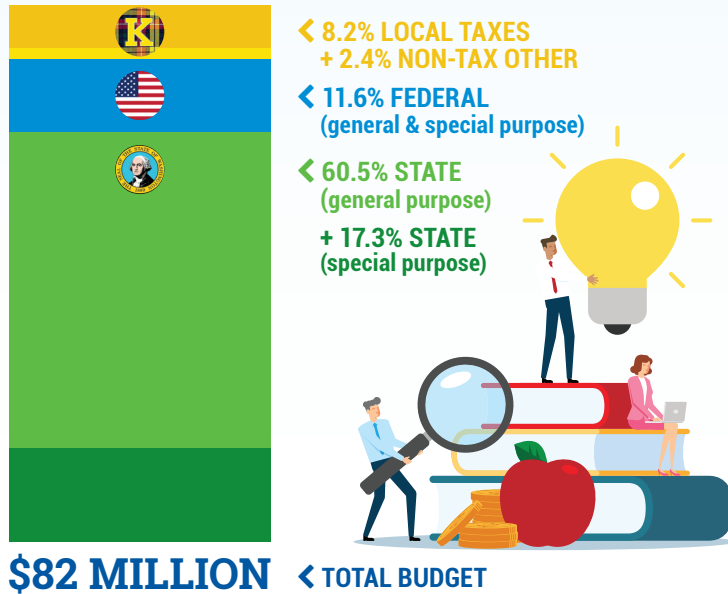


FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

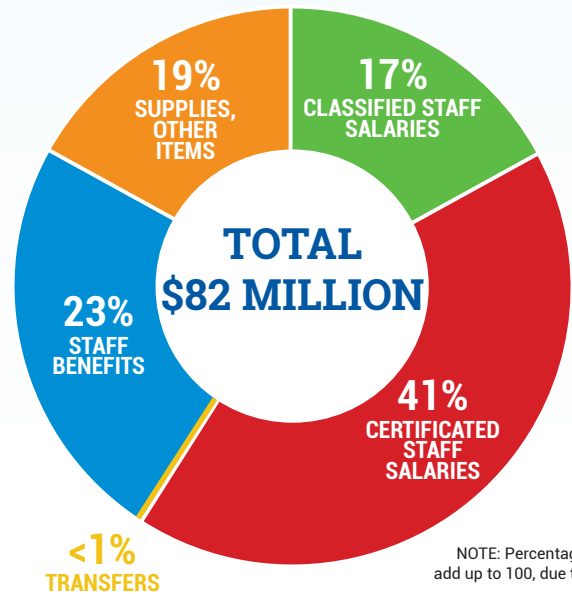
Kelso School District is committed to a strong and collaborative budget process that maintains effective resource allocation, efficient operational planning, and solid fiscal controls.

2022-23 FINANCIALS

Revenue & its sources:



Expenditures by category:



STAFFING FUNDED BY LOCAL LEVY DOLLARS*



100%

Athletics & Activities



100%

Family & Community Resource Center



100%

School Safety Support



48%

Counseling & Nursing Supports



12.3%

Instructional Staff



EARLY LEARNING

Kelso School District is committed to offering high-quality early learning experiences to help students meet or exceed standards by the end of third grade in English language arts and mathematics.

EARLY LEARNING PROGRAMS

Preschool Pups: 68 students enrolled in 2022-23

An inclusive preschool program available to all Kelso residents. Classes are taught by certified teachers.

Transition to Kindergarten (TK): 90 students enrolled in 2022-23

A pre-kindergarten program for children who would benefit from additional preparation to be successful in kindergarten the following year. Classrooms are staffed by certificated teachers and paraeducators who provide a curriculum that offers a rich, varied set of experiences in learning environments that are developmentally appropriate and address the whole child.



55% of KSD TK students read at or above end-of-kindergarten standards



85% of KSD TK students are doing math at or above end-of-kindergarten standards



QUALITY INSTRUCTION

Kelso School District is committed to a growth mindset grounded in instructional framework and implementing standards-based instruction responsive to individual learning so students learn at high levels and graduate career- and college-ready.

ASSESSING GRADE-LEVEL STANDARDS

Smarter Balanced Assessments (SBA) and Washington Comprehensive Assessment of Science (WCAS) are one measurement among several gauging student performance relative to grade-level learning goals. We gauge learning and growth in multiple ways, including engagement, attendance, grades, and class assignments and assessments. We continue to focus on ensuring each and every student learns at grade level or higher.

SPRING 2023 ASSESSMENTS

% of students meeting standards by grade

SCIENCE

GRADE	KSD	WA AVG
5	49	51
8	32	43
11	47	50

MATHEMATICS

GRADE	KSD	WA AVG
3	42	50
4	38	48
5	37	41
6	21	37
7	22	37
8	18	33
10	13	27

ENGLISH LANG. ARTS

GRADE	KSD	WA AVG
3	39	47
4	41	49
5	51	53
6	41	47
7	41	51
8	40	50
10	45	60

338

Advanced Placement classes taken

W 605

University of WA College in the High School classes taken

1,749

Visual and performing arts classes taken

4,178

Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes taken

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS



SCHOOL CLIMATE

Kelso School District is committed to developing a safe, caring school community focused on creating a positive climate and culture to promote the success of each and every learner and positively impact the relationships, curricular connections, and ultimately the long-term development of the whole child.



SAFETY UPGRADES

Thanks to the passage of the 2018 bond, we have been able to allocate \$7.5 million to upgrade our safety and security systems.



TRAINING & DRILLS

- All district and school administrators and safety personnel attended the 2023 Lower Columbia School Safety Summit in August where they revised and updated school-specific safety plans
- All school staff received instruction on safety plans and protocols in August
- Every school will perform one safety drill each month that school is in session



THREAT ASSESSMENTS

Threat assessments, used to determine whether a student poses a violent threat, are intended to prevent violence and involve both assessment and intervention. Threat assessments are conducted by a multidisciplinary team of trained professionals, including a school mental health professional, administrators, and school resource officer or local law enforcement.



THE WHOLE CHILD APPROACH

Providing a safe environment means not only having comprehensive safety plans and features, but also increased mental health services and supports. Our whole child approach to safety includes social emotional learning (SEL) and counselors at every school.



WORKPLACE WELLNESS

Our Workforce Wellness Committee focuses on reducing absenteeism, increasing staff retention, improving employee morale and disease prevention/management, and promoting a healthier workforce. We have quarterly wellness surveys, wellness presentations, and a robust employee assistance plan.

OUR DISTRICT SNAPSHOT



60th

largest district in WA
(out of 295 districts)

STUDENTS*

4,975 students enrolled

6% of students have been or currently are **HOMELESS** 
(1 student in every class of 20)

17% of students receive special education services

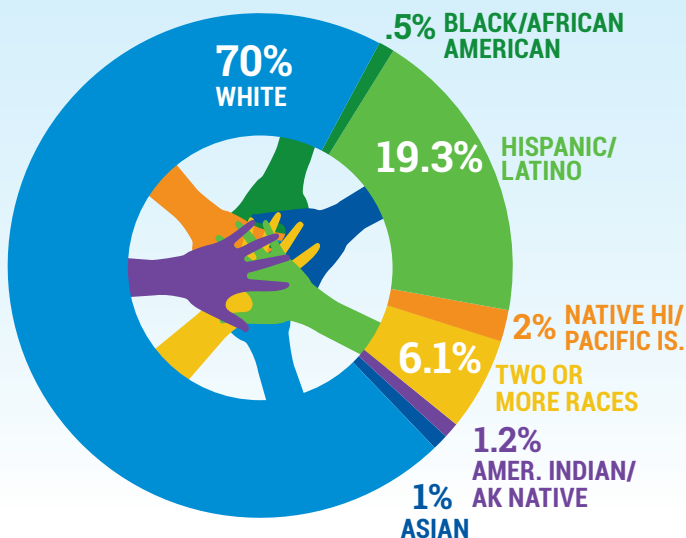
6% of students are highly capable (Hi-Cap)

7% of students are multilingual learners

15

**DIFFERENT
LANGUAGES**
are spoken by students

Student Ethnicity:



STAFF & TEACHERS*

734 total personnel

 **383**
certificated

 **351**
classified

Facts about Kelso teachers:

- > 58.1% have a Master's degree or higher
- > 12.6 years average teaching experience
- > 7.3% National Board Certified



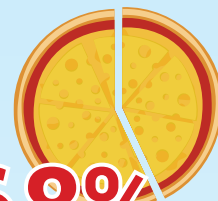
FOOD SERVICE

800,000

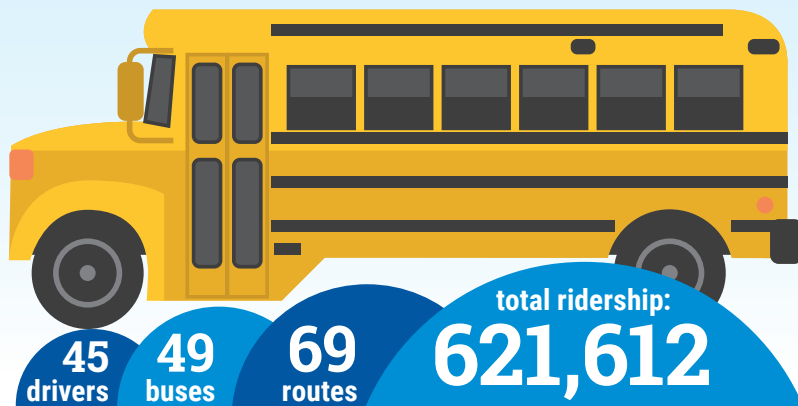
meals served in 2022-23

- > 4,400 meals per day on average
- > 100K lbs of fresh produce served

68%
of our students are low income



TRANSPORTATION





601 Crawford Street
Kelso, WA 98626
360.501.1900
www.kelso.wednet.edu

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
KELSO, WA 98626
PERMIT NO. 40

ECRWSS

Postal Patron



Jeane Conrad
President
Position 3



Mike Haas
Vice President
Position 4



Karen Grafton
Position 2



Ron Huntington
Position 5



Leah Moore
Position 1



100 years ago, Kelso High School declared blue and gold as its official colors. To celebrate we're sharing photos capturing moments over the last 100 years at: bit.ly/ksd-100ybg. **We invite you to join us in reminiscing by sending in photos of memorabilia you or your family have through this Google form: bit.ly/share-100.** Include a story/memory or your favorite Kelso tradition. We'll add what we can to the webpage and share the collective glow of **WE ARE** with others.

What's YOUR Top Priority?

There are many components to providing a high-quality education, all of which are priorities. As we prepare for the February 2024 levy, we want to know what's most important to **YOU**.

Please take this short 4-question survey to rank our district priorities in order of importance. surveymonkey.com/r/ksd11

Scan to take
survey on your
phone!



Mary Beth Tack
Superintendent