



# HILANDER highlights

APRIL 2024



## EARLY LEARNING

Hilander Highlights is a publication of Kelso School District to keep community members informed about our schools.

# FREE EARLY LEARNING OPTIONS



## KSD Preschool Pups

<b>Students</b>	3- and 4-year-old early learners who benefit from a half-day program
<b>Teachers</b>	Certificated Teachers
<b>Support staff</b>	Special Education support staff, Paraeducator(s)
<b>Program locations</b>	Catlin site
<b>Program calendar</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follows KSD calendar</li> <li>Family meetings Aug 28, 29, and 30</li> <li>Classes run Sept 3 through June 12</li> </ul>
<b>Program hours</b>	M, Tu, Th, F (Not on W) AM Session: 8:45-11:40 PM Session: 12:30-3:25



## KSD Transition to Kindergarten

4- to 5-year-old early learners with no prior high quality early learning program opportunities
Certificated Teachers
Special Education support staff, Paraeducator(s)
To the greatest extent possible, students' home schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follows KSD calendar</li> <li>Family meetings Aug 28, 29, and 30</li> <li>Classes run Sept 3 through June 12</li> </ul>
M, T, Th, F: 8:45-3:25 W: 8:45-1:55



## Cowlitz Co. Head Start

3- to 5-year-old income-eligible children who benefit from full- and part-day programs and family support
Certified Associate and Bachelor level Early Childhood Teachers
Early Childhood Teacher Assistants; Family Advocates; Interpreters Specialists in Health, Disability, Behavior, School Readiness, Family Services, Parent Involvement, & Mental Health; KSD Special Ed
For Kelso: Barnes Elementary, across the street from Wallace Elementary, & Lower Columbia College Campus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>September to June</li> <li>Accepts applications all year</li> </ul>
M-F: 8 AM -2 PM T-F: 8 AM -11:30 AM T-F: 12:15 PM - 3:45 PM



### Need more?

For information about other early learning opportunities, visit Child Care Aware

[childcareawarewa.org/families](http://childcareawarewa.org/families)



SCHOOL BOARD:  
 Jeane Conrad, President  
 Mike Haas, Vice President  
 Rich Fletcher  
 Karen Grafton  
 Leah Moore

SUPERINTENDENT: Mary Beth Tack

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT: Kelso School District #458 complies with all federal rules and regulations and does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides



# FOR KELSO STUDENTS



## KSD Preschool Pups

Parents provide transportation

Apply online  
([bit.ly/pups24-25app](https://bit.ly/pups24-25app))  
and at Kinderpalooza



- Application processed
- If there's an opening, parent called to complete registration packet
- Registration completed & student enrolled
- Classroom teacher contacts parent

Preschool serves up to 54 three- and four-year-olds (must turn three by August 31). Students are enrolled as they apply until the program is at capacity.



## KSD Transition to Kindergarten

Bussing available for those who are not in the identified walking boundaries

Apply online  
([bit.ly/tk24-25app](https://bit.ly/tk24-25app))  
and at Kinderpalooza



- Application processed
- Screening June 1-14 and August 8
- If accepted into program based on need, parent called to complete registration packet
- Registration completed & student enrolled
- Classroom teacher contacts parent

TK serves students (must be four years old by August 31) who have not had a high-quality early learning opportunity elsewhere. **Apply early: openings are limited** and filled based on highest priority of developmental learning and family needs.



## Cowlitz Co. Head Start

Limited, needs-based bussing available to Barnes centers

Apply online  
([bit.ly/hs-app-info](https://bit.ly/hs-app-info)),  
call 360-442-2800, and  
at Kinderpalooza



- Pre-application processed
- Parent income verified
- Child immunization verified
- Parent attends 30-minute intake at LCC campus
- Welcome visit with teacher or family advocate in August
- Parent orientation in September

We serve families with income near the federal poverty level. Our staff will help you determine eligibility.

If your family isn't eligible, we strive to connect you to other early learning programs in our communities.

## Transportation

## How to apply

## Application process

## Qualification criteria

QUESTIONS? EMAIL [EARLY.LEARNING@KELSOSD.ORG](mailto:EARLY.LEARNING@KELSOSD.ORG)



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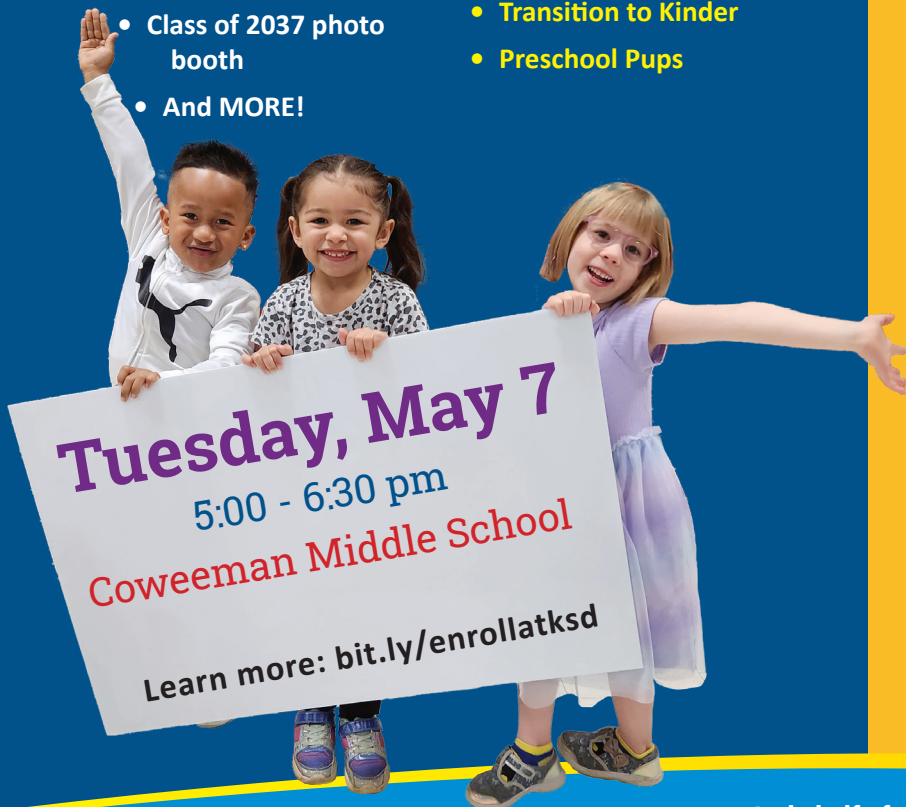
Postal Patron

# kinder palooza

- Meet Kelso kinder teachers
- Board & ride a school bus
- Class of 2037 photo booth
- And MORE!

Too young for kindergarten?  
Come anyway & learn about:

- Transition to Kinder
- Preschool Pups



**THANK  
YOU,  
VOTERS!**



On behalf of  
staff and  
students,  
#WeAre deeply  
grateful the  
EP&O levy  
passed.

**Strong Schools, Stronger Community**

Register for  
kindergarten **NOW**



- **PICK UP A PACKET** at your elementary school, or
- **VISIT** [bit.ly/enrollatksd](http://bit.ly/enrollatksd), or
- **CALL** your school office

**We can't wait  
to see you!**

