

Newsletter

Continued Focus on School Safety

At Kettle Falls School District, the safety and well-being of our students and staff remain at the heart of everything we do. This year, we continued our commitment to school safety through hands-on preparedness and system improvements. In addition to our other monthly drills, our schools conducted active assailant evacuation drills, helping students and staff practice how to respond quickly and calmly in the event of an emergency. These drills are essential in building confidence and awareness across our campuses.

We've also upgraded the intercom systems in all of our schools. These enhancements allow for faster, clearer communication throughout each building and across our district, strengthening our ability to respond effectively in any situation.

We want to extend a sincere thank you to our families and community members for your continued support of our safety efforts. Your trust, involvement, and encouragement make all the difference as we work together to provide a secure and welcoming environment for every student.



Driving Toward the Future: EV Upgrades and Regional Collaboration

Kettle Falls School District is proud to be part of a transportation cooperative with Inchelium School District, a partnership that allows both districts to pool resources and operate a more cost-effective and efficient transportation system.

We're also excited to share some recent progress in modernizing our fleet—without spending local dollars. Through a successful grant program, our cooperative received two brand new electric school buses at no cost, helping us reduce emissions and operate more efficiently. In addition, we've been awarded grant funding to install electric vehicle charging stations at both our elementary and middle school campuses—again, at no expense to the district.



We're proud to lead the way in rural school transportation—cleaner, smarter, and stronger together.

Better World Day 2025: A District-Wide Day of Service

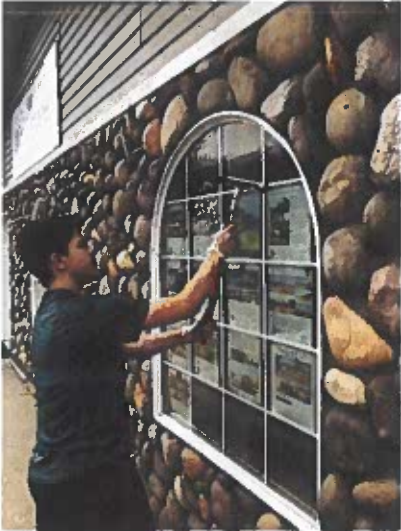
Students across Kettle Falls School District spent a full day giving back to their community during this year's Better World Day. From kindergarteners to high school seniors, each grade level contributed in meaningful ways to help improve our town and show appreciation for the people who make it special.

At the elementary level, students painted colorful kindness rocks with uplifting messages, built bat houses to support local wildlife, planted flowers to brighten someone's day, and visited the Colville Valley Animal Sanctuary to lend a hand. These hands-on projects not only encouraged compassion and creativity but also helped students see how small actions can make a big difference.

Middle schoolers rolled up their sleeves and took on beautification projects throughout the community. They picked up litter at local beaches, placed hand-made signs with positive affirmations around town, and partnered with local businesses to complete outdoor improvement tasks. These activities gave students a chance to develop teamwork skills and civic pride while leaving a visible mark on the places they live and learn.

Our high school students took on more complex tasks, including organizing the football shed, assembling new desks for classrooms, prepping the field for graduation, and cleaning public areas such as Happy Dell Park and Main Street. Their efforts supported school readiness, community use of public spaces, and the upcoming celebrations for our graduating class.

Better World Day is a powerful reminder of the value of service learning. It brings students out of the classroom and into their community, where they learn firsthand the importance of empathy, hard work, and giving back. We're incredibly proud of the effort, heart, and leadership our students showed. They represented Kettle Falls with pride and proved that even a single day of service can create lasting change.



Expanding Graduation Pathways at KFHS: Preparing Students for Life and Work in Our Community

Since 2019, Washington State has broadened the ways students can demonstrate readiness for life beyond high school. At Kettle Falls High School, we are embracing this flexibility through a wide range of Graduation Pathways that help students explore meaningful post-secondary options aligned with their High School and Beyond Plans.

One exciting area of growth is our Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathways, which allow students to complete graduation requirements by earning 2.0 credits in a consistent program area. KFHS has significantly expanded these opportunities to reflect the needs and strengths of our rural community.

In the 2024–2025 school year, students enrolled in new courses in metal shop, welding, horticulture, and forestry. These programs are designed not only to equip students with practical, in-demand skills, but also to connect directly to local industries and career opportunities. Whether it's preparing for a career in natural resources, agriculture, skilled trades, or continuing technical education, our CTE programs empower students to graduate with a strong foundation in hands-on learning and real-world application.

We are proud to offer pathway options in:

- Agriculture
- Welding & Metal Fabrication
- Cabinetry
- Family & Consumer Science
- Textiles

These pathways don't just prepare students for jobs—they prepare them for life in our community where self-reliance, craftsmanship, and stewardship matter. At KFHS, we're helping students forge futures that are both personally fulfilling and deeply connected to our community.



Looking Ahead: End-of-Year Celebrations and a Summer Full of Fun at the ELC!



As we wrapped up another fantastic school year at the Early Learning Center, we celebrated all that our students have accomplished. Our ECEAP graduation was a special time to honor the growth, learning, and friendships our preschoolers have experienced. Room 2 also enjoyed some fun end-of-year graduation activities as we closed out the school year with joy and excitement.

But the fun doesn't end there — summer at the ELC has arrived! This year, we'll have both a preschool room and a school-age room open, and both groups will enjoy exciting virtual field trips and hands-on learning. Our school-age kids will explore a brand-new summer curriculum filled with engaging STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math) projects, while everyone will have a chance to participate in fun activities at the public

library — including story time for our younger learners and robotics and geology sessions for the older ones.

We'll also be pulling out the water table for some outdoor sensory exploration and soaking up the sunshine with lots of play and discovery. We're looking forward to a summer full of curiosity, creativity, and connection at the ELC!



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Kettle Falls School District Honors Student Growth Through Passages

The Passages program is a meaningful tradition in Kettle Falls School District, marking key transitions in each student's journey. At every school level, students reflect on their growth, showcase achievements, and prepare for what's next.

4th Grade Passages

Fourth graders wrap up elementary school by presenting to community panels, highlighting academic progress, leadership, and service projects like Better World Day. It's a celebration of how far they've come—and their readiness for middle school.



8th Grade Passages

Middle school students present on their character, quality work, and readiness for high school. Panels interview them in a job-like setting and provide feedback, helping students grow in confidence and communication.



Senior Exit Interviews

High school seniors complete portfolios with resumes, best work, service, and future plans. Their presentations to community members serve as both a graduation requirement and a real-world interview experience, preparing them for life after high school.