Klickitat School District #402

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September 11, 2026

Dear Klickitat School District Families, Community Members, and Staff,

The Klickitat School District Board of Directors and the Klickitat Education Association (KEA) would like to jointly communicate an important change to the 2026–2027 school calendar.

In July 2026, the Board of Directors approved a school calendar designed to begin the year on a traditional five-day school week and transition during the school year to a four-day school week. This approach was developed as the district pursued and received an Economy and Efficiency Waiver through the Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), allowing Klickitat School District to implement a four-day instructional week.

Following continued discussions between the District and KEA, both parties have mutually agreed that the best course of action for the 2026–2027 school year is to remain on a traditional five-day school calendar for the entire school year rather than making a significant calendar change midway through the year. We recognize that this is a late change from the calendar previously communicated to families, students, and staff, and we understand that calendar decisions directly affect family schedules, childcare, transportation, athletics, staff planning, and many other aspects of our school community.

This decision does not represent a departure from the district's plans to move toward a four-day school week. The Klickitat School District Board of Directors and the Klickitat Education Association are also in mutual agreement that the district will move to a four-day school schedule in accordance with the OSPI-approved waiver, beginning at the start of the 2027-2028 school year. Maintaining the five-day calendar for this school year provides greater consistency for students, families, and staff while allowing the District and Association to collaboratively prepare for a successful transition to the four-day model.

The additional planning time will allow us to thoughtfully address instructional schedules, student learning time, intervention and enrichment opportunities, transportation, food service, athletics, staff responsibilities, family needs, and other operational considerations before implementation. Most importantly, it gives us the opportunity to ensure that the transition supports student learning, engagement, and the long-term direction of the Klickitat School District.

We appreciate the patience and understanding of our families, staff, students, and community as we work through this change. While we recognize that a late calendar adjustment can create challenges, we believe that the shared agreement between the Board and KEA provides a clear path forward: stability and consistency during the 2026–2027 school year, followed by a collaboratively planned transition to the four-day school week authorized by OSPI.

Thank you for your continued support of Klickitat students and schools.

Sincerely,

Klickitat School District Board of Directors
Klickitat School District #402

Klickitat Education Association
KEA