

**August 21, 2012**  
**Klamath Falls City Schools**

**District Newsletter**  
**Volume 2; Issue 3**  
**Transparency: A Key to KFCS Success**  
By Paul Hillyer, Superintendent

The Vision of KFCS is “Individual and Organizational Excellence.” The district is determined to make this vision a reality. After all, who wants to be a part of a mediocre system? Certainly, this writer does not, and it is doubtful that any of the KFCS’ employees or families do either. Organizations cannot be excellent unless they look clearly in the mirror and determine where they are weak and where they are strong. This is the purpose of the district’s 18 Excellence Indicators.

These Indicators help KFCS examine each of their goal areas (called Aims) and evaluate their progress towards success as determined by KFCS’ targets. These measures serve the same purpose as a dashboard in a car; they allow the district to take a quick check into their critical functions and make sure they are operating properly. The district will continue their efforts in areas in which they see progress. They will adjust and ramp up their work in areas that are below expectations.

These indicators serve as a mirror that helps the district see itself and determine reasons to celebrate and opportunities for improvement. They also serve as a light in a dark room; the measures help the district to see clearly the status of their efforts. Finally, they serve as a means to let the public know the progress of the district.

Yearly, the district will send out an electronic status report to our community. These indicators will allow the district to clearly and frankly share whether or not it is accomplishing the priorities in the KFCS’ strategic plan. This will help the community know exactly how well their schools are working toward their mission: “Preparing all students to succeed in an ever-changing world.”

In October, the district will present its first report to the board of education on the results from the prior year. This first year is a baseline from which we will measure future attainments. The goal in each area is to reach the KFCS target. The Excellence Indicators are also tied to the Achievement Compact (AC) required by the state. Those areas that fall into this category have an AC label before them.

Attached you will find a copy of the Excellence Indicators. In October, the first year’s results will be sent. Setting these clear targets and working to improve in each area will help the district move steadily forward to accomplishing its vision. Excellence will characterize district work and school results as they yearly check the dashboard and make sure the organization is running on all cylinders.

**Other Notes:**

- The KFCS' Board of Directors has set the following timeline on its decision on an elementary school closure:
  - September 10<sup>th</sup>: A 6:30 p.m. board meeting at which the issue will be publically discussed in the LOEC boardroom, 1336 Avalon Street.
  - September 19<sup>th</sup>: At 7:00 p.m. an open forum at which community members may give board members their thoughts on school closure in the LOEC gym, 1336 Avalon Street.
  - October 8<sup>th</sup>: KFCS' Board of Directors will make their final decision during the 6:30 p.m. board meeting in the boardroom at LOEC.
- The district will be spearheading a community group to improve the conditions necessary in our city to improve the graduation rate. The district is looking for interested community members to serve on a steering committee to launch this work. Please respond to this email if you are interested in helping.
- Are you interested in having the state give back local control to school districts? If so, please contact your local senator, Doug Whitsett, and your local representative, Gail Whitsett, at 1-503-986-1728 or email [whitsett.sen@state.or.us](mailto:whitsett.sen@state.or.us).
- A few positive notes from the recent Annie Casey Foundation annual ranking of child well-being released in July:
  - Children with health insurance increased 2 percentage points to 92% from 2008-2010
  - Child deaths dropped 16% between 2005 and 2009 from 32 to 27 deaths per 100,000
  - 5% more children – or 47% -- attended preschool
  - The percent of 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders reading proficiently and the number graduating on time from high school rose
- A number of indicators decreased:
  - 22% of children under 18 live in poverty – compared to 19% in 2005
  - 27% more children, now one in three, has no parent with full-time job
  - “Poor kids and kids of color continue to fall behind their more affluent and advantaged classmates” (Patrick McCarthy)
- Please forward this newsletter on to anyone you think might be interested in KFCS news.
- If you are not a regular recipient of this free newsletter and would like to be, please respond to this email and let us know.

# KFCS EXCELLENCE INDICATORS

ITEM #	AIM	DATA	GRADES	KFCS TARGET	11-12 RESULTS
	<u>Student Excellence</u>				
#1		<b>Percentage of 3rd graders reaching a proficiency score in math and reading</b>			
	AC	Math	Grade 3		60
	AC	Reading	Grade 3		60
#2	AC	<b>School attendance:</b> Percent of students who were present at least 90 percent of school days	Grades K-6 Grades 7-8 Grades 9-12		95 95 95
#3		Percent of students no suspensions or expulsions	Grades K-6 Grades 7-8 Grades 9-12		97 95 95
#4		Percent of students with no Failures on their final report cards	Grades K-6 Grades 7-8 Grades 9-12		100 97 97
#5	AC	<b>Percent of nine grade students on track to graduate</b> (percent of students "having earned 6 credits within 12 months of enrolling in 9th grade" and "attending at least 90% of enrolled school days")			90
#6		Percent of students taking part in one or more school-related sports or extracurricular activities	Grades 7-8 Grades 9-12		92 92
#7	AC	<b>Graduation rate:</b> Percent of students who receive a high school diploma or GED within five years			92
#8	AC	Percent of students earning 9-plus college credits in high school or earlier			20

# KFCS EXCELLENCE INDICATORS

#9	Percent of students who attend post-secondary education within one year of high school completion	80
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**Collaborative Excellence**

#10	<p><b>Satisfaction Surveys:</b> Percent of respondents who gave the school an A or B rating</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;"><b>Students</b></td> <td style="width: 55%;">Grades K-6</td> <td style="width: 30%; text-align: right;">80 N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Grades 7-8</td> <td style="text-align: right;">80</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Grades 9-12</td> <td style="text-align: right;">80</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Parents</b></td> <td>Grades K-6</td> <td style="text-align: right;">90</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Grades 7-8</td> <td style="text-align: right;">90</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>9-12</td> <td style="text-align: right;">90</td> </tr> </table>	<b>Students</b>	Grades K-6	80 N/A		Grades 7-8	80		Grades 9-12	80	<b>Parents</b>	Grades K-6	90		Grades 7-8	90		9-12	90
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	Grades 7-8	90																	
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#11	Percent of parents who report the school being welcoming to them	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 55%;">Grades K-6</td> <td style="width: 45%; text-align: right;">90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grades 7-8</td> <td style="text-align: right;">90</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grades 9-12</td> <td style="text-align: right;">90</td> </tr> </table>	Grades K-6	90	Grades 7-8	90	Grades 9-12	90
Grades K-6	90							
Grades 7-8	90							
Grades 9-12	90							

#12	Percent of students who report having at least one school adult to whom they could turn if they had a problem	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 55%;">Grades K-6</td> <td style="width: 45%; text-align: right;">100 N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grades 7-8</td> <td style="text-align: right;">100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grades 9-12</td> <td style="text-align: right;">100</td> </tr> </table>	Grades K-6	100 N/A	Grades 7-8	100	Grades 9-12	100
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Grades 7-8	100							
Grades 9-12	100							

#13	Percent of students who take part in two or more service projects in a year	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 55%;">Grades K-6</td> <td style="width: 45%; text-align: right;">100 N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grades 7-8</td> <td style="text-align: right;">100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grades 9-12</td> <td style="text-align: right;">100</td> </tr> </table>	Grades K-6	100 N/A	Grades 7-8	100	Grades 9-12	100
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#14	Number of adult volunteer actions per student	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 55%;">Grades K-6</td> <td style="width: 45%; text-align: right;">15 N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grades 7-8</td> <td style="text-align: right;">10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Grades 9-12</td> <td style="text-align: right;">10</td> </tr> </table>	Grades K-6	15 N/A	Grades 7-8	10	Grades 9-12	10
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**Operational Excellence**

#15	Contingency as a percent of operating budget	5	5
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# KFCS EXCELLENCE INDICATORS

#16	Percent of time a student is on task on average in the classroom	Grades K-6 Grades 7-8 Grades 9-12	85 N/A 85 85
#17	Percent of contract teachers who on average reach the Poficient Level or higher on district evaluation standards	Grades K-6 Grades 7-8 Grades 9-12	90 90 90
#18	Percentage of PDSA department plans that meet improvement targets		80 N/A