

Ellensburg Activities

Template created by KCPHD

Instructions: Please provide a brief summary of progress made for each activity below for the CURRENT REPORTING QUARTER. This summary should include key points, stay on topic, and be simple enough for those who arent familiar with your project to understand.

	Q1 2026	Q2 2026
Behavior Specialists at Morgan Middle School and Ellensburg High School	Certificated Behavior Specialists at both schools are fully implemented and providing Tier 2 behavioral health and attendance interventions aligned to MTSS-B. At Morgan Middle School, systems are well established, including small group interventions, check-in/check-out, and positive attendance supports, resulting in improved student engagement. At Ellensburg High School, systems are in earlier stages but are focused on building consistent interventions, improving attendance, and coordinating supports with counseling and administration. These roles emphasize proactive, data-informed interventions rather than disciplinary responses.	The certificated Behavior Specialists continued providing early behavioral and attendance interventions for students needing additional support. At Morgan Middle School, the Behavior Specialist regularly facilitated targeted groups addressing needs such as positive peer behavior and anxiety, provided check-in/check-out support, and worked directly with students and families on attendance. At Ellensburg High School, the Behavior Specialist focused primarily on attendance intervention, student engagement, and monitoring areas with higher reports of bullying-related behavior. The district continues to expand the high school role toward the broader intervention model established at the middle school.
The District will replace previously funded classified Engagement Specialist positions with certificated Behavior Specialist positions at Morgan Middle School and Ellensburg High School. These positions provide data-informed intervention, crisis prevention, progress monitoring, and coordination with counseling and community partners.	See above	See above.

Temporary Contracted Behavioral Health Services at Ellensburg High School	The contracted Mental Health Counselor is providing ongoing direct services to approximately 20 students and supporting crisis response in coordination with school teams. The Student Assistance Professional provides substance use prevention and early intervention services across Ellensburg High School and Morgan Middle School, including prevention programming, Why Try, and student engagement activities. Both positions are also supporting a districtwide suicide prevention system update aligned with ESD 105 guidance and best practices.	Grant carryover supported the contracted Mental Health Counselor at Ellensburg High School during the 2025-26 school year. The counselor provided ongoing mental health services to approximately 20 students and coordinated with school and community providers when students needed crisis support or more intensive services. The Student Assistance Professional identified in the amended grant was ultimately funded through another source and was not charged to this grant.
For the current school year (2025-2026) only, the District will fund: Ellensburg High School Mental Health Counselor (contracted through ESD105) Ellensburg High School Student Assistance Professional (partial funding, contracted through ESD105)	see above	See above.
Hire a social worker to work with students at Ellensburg School District's alternative learning programs : Ellensburg Choice Schools and Ellensburg Open Doors.	The School Social Worker at Ellensburg Choice Schools provides intensive case management, direct mental health services, and family engagement for students in alternative programs, including Open Doors. Services focus on removing barriers to attendance and coordinating supports with school staff and community partners. Attendance at Choice Schools increased by more than 10 percentage points compared to the same period last year.	The School Social Worker continued providing intensive case management, direct mental health services, family support, and attendance intervention for students in Ellensburg Choice Schools and Open Doors. Students showed improvement in attendance, behavior, engagement, and quality of academic work. The social worker also provided substantial support for the district's update of its suicide prevention procedures and practices, which was substantially completed during this reporting period.

Purchase Yondr pouches to assist with establishing Morgan Middle School as a cellphone-free Campus	This activity is no longer being implemented under the revised grant scope. See Behavior Specialists at Morgan Middle School and Ellensburg High School.	This activity is no longer being implemented under the revised grant scope. See current activities above.
Hire an Engagement Specialist that will work in both Morgan Middle School and Ellensburg High School	This activity is no longer being implemented under the revised grant scope. See Behavior Specialists at Morgan Middle School and Ellensburg High School.	This activity was replaced through the amended grant scope. See Behavior Specialists at Morgan Middle School and Ellensburg High School.
Consultation services for anti-bullying and anti-discrimination programming.	This activity was revised through the amended grant scope. See Temporary Contracted Behavioral Health Services at Ellensburg High School.	This activity is no longer being implemented under the revised grant scope. See current activities above.
Hire a part time Student Assistance Professional at Morgan Middle School.	This activity was revised through the amended grant scope. See Temporary Contracted Behavioral Health Services at Ellensburg High School.	This activity was revised through the amended grant scope. The Student Assistance Professional was ultimately funded through another source and was not charged to this grant during the reporting period. See Temporary Contracted Behavioral Health Services at Ellensburg High School.

Successes

Template created by KCPHD

Instructions: Please provide a brief summary of successes you've seen during the CURRENT REPORTING PERIOD. This summary should include key points, stay on topic, and be simple enough for those who arent familiar with your project to understand. Each success needs to have its own cell.

Q1 2026	Q2 2026
Morgan Middle School attendance increased by 2 percentage points compared to the same period last year, indicating positive impact of Tier 2 behavioral health and attendance supports.	Ellensburg Choice Schools increased regular attendance, defined as attending at least 90% of school days, from 1.6% of students in 2024-25 to 14.7% in 2025-26, an improvement of 13.1 percentage points. Staff also observed improved student behavior, engagement, and quality of academic work.
Attendance at Ellensburg Choice Schools increased by more than 10 percentage points year-over-year, reflecting improved student engagement and consistent mental health support.	Ellensburg High School increased the percentage of students attending at least 90% of school days from 53.5% to 58.1%, an improvement of 4.6 percentage points compared with the prior year. EHS also reduced exclusionary discipline events from 169 to 103, a 39% decrease.
Students at both secondary schools are engaging in structured behavioral health supports, including check-in/check-out and targeted small group interventions.	Exclusionary discipline declined across all three grant-supported schools. Combined events decreased from 284 in 2024-25 to 202 in 2025-26, a reduction of approximately 29%. Morgan Middle School also established a strong early-intervention system that includes targeted student groups, check-in/check-out, and direct attendance work with students and families.
Implementation of proactive, skill-based behavioral health interventions is improving student support systems and reducing reliance on disciplinary responses.	The district substantially completed an update of its suicide prevention procedures and practices during this reporting period. The Ellensburg Choice Schools Social Worker made a significant contribution to this work, extending the benefit of the grant-funded position beyond the students she serves directly and strengthening prevention and response practices across the district.

Challenges

Template created by KCPHD

Instructions: Please provide a brief summary of challenges you've seen during the CURRENT REPORTING PERIOD. This summary should include key points, stay on topic, and be simple enough for those who aren't familiar with your project to understand. Each challenge needs to have its own cell.

Q1 2026	Q2 2026
Limited outcome data available for Ellensburg High School due to later start of the Behavior Specialist position and the time required to establish systems.	Regular attendance at Morgan Middle School decreased from 69.8% of students attending at least 90% of school days in 2024-25 to 66.3% in 2025-26. Several unusual events likely contributed to the decline, including a large exclusion of students who did not meet varicella immunization requirements and a period of increased absences associated with a student safety concern. Attendance remains an area for continued intervention.
Changing attendance patterns at the high school level is more complex due to student independence and long-standing habits.	Although attendance improved at Ellensburg High School, long-standing patterns of nonattendance can be difficult to change with older students. The high school's Behavior Specialist began later than the middle school specialist, and the district is continuing to develop that role toward the more comprehensive early-intervention model operating at Morgan Middle School.
High levels of student mental health and substance use needs require intensive coordination across staff and services.	The schools continue to see significant student mental health and behavioral health needs. Meeting those needs requires sustained coordination among school staff, mental health providers, families, and community partners, particularly for students experiencing multiple barriers to regular school
Implementation of new systems requires ongoing staff training and consistency to fully shift from reactive to proactive practices.	

Ellensburg Objectives

Template created by KCPHD

Instructions: Please provide a brief summary of progress made for each objective below for the CURRENT REPORTING QUARTER. This summary should include key points, stay on topic, and be simple enough for those who arent familiar with your project to understand.

Objective	Q1 2026	Q2 2026	
Improve student attendance, particularly for students with high barriers to engagement	Improved student attendance, with measurable gains at Ellensburg Choice Schools and Morgan Middle School through targeted mental health and attendance interventions.	Attendance improved at two of the three grant-supported schools. At Ellensburg Choice Schools, the percentage of students attending at least 90% of school days increased from 1.6% to 14.7%, a 13.1 percentage-point improvement. At Ellensburg High School, it increased from 53.5% to 58.1%, a 4.6 percentage-point improvement. Morgan Middle School decreased from 69.8% to 66.3% and remains an area for continued targeted attendance intervention.	
Increase access to school-based mental health services	Increased access to mental health services, including direct counseling for approximately 20 students and coordinated crisis response support at Ellensburg High School.	Students continued to receive direct mental health and behavioral health services through the School Social Worker, Behavior Specialists, and contracted Mental Health Counselor. The contracted counselor provided ongoing mental health services to approximately 20 high school students, while the School Social Worker and Behavior Specialists provided additional individualized support and early intervention.	
Increase access to substance use prevention and early intervention services	Expanded substance use prevention and early intervention services through Student Assistance Professional programming, including Why Try and student engagement activities.	The Student Assistance Professional identified in the amended grant was ultimately funded through another source and was not charged to this grant during the reporting period. Substance use prevention and early intervention activities continued through other district resources.	

Strengthen Tier 2 behavioral health and attendance intervention systems at secondary schools	Established and implemented Tier 2 behavioral health and attendance intervention systems, particularly at Morgan Middle School, addressing a previous gap between universal and intensive supports.	Morgan Middle School established a strong early-intervention system that includes several targeted student groups, check-in/check-out, and direct attendance work with students and families. Ellensburg High School continued developing a similar approach, with current emphasis on attendance, student engagement, and prevention of bullying-related behavior. These interventions provide support before concerns escalate to more intensive intervention or exclusionary discipline.	
Improve coordination of behavioral health, attendance, and crisis response systems across the district	Strengthened coordination of behavioral health, attendance, and crisis response systems, including collaboration across Behavior Specialists, contracted providers, and district staff, and ongoing work to update the district's suicide prevention system.	Grant-funded staff strengthened coordination among attendance, behavioral health, mental health, and crisis-response services. Students had increased access to adults who could identify barriers, provide direct support, and connect them with additional services when needed. The substantial completion of the district's suicide prevention system update also strengthened coordinated prevention and response practices across all schools.	