

September 1, 2026

Dear Tumwater Families and Staff,

We are thrilled to share that the Tumwater School District and the Tumwater Association of Paraprofessionals (TAP) have reached an agreement on a new contract.

We are grateful for the hard work and dedication our paraprofessionals bring to our schools each day. They play an essential role in supporting our students, and we believe this agreement provides a competitive salary schedule that recognizes and honors the important work they do.

At the same time, we have worked carefully to ensure this agreement allows the district to continue on its path toward fiscal recovery and long-term financial stability. Reaching an agreement that recognizes our paraprofessionals while maintaining our responsibility to the district's overall financial health was important to all of us.

Most importantly, we are excited to put bargaining behind us and get back to what we do best: supporting students and providing them with an excellent education.

Wednesday, September 2nd: School for grades 6-12 will start

Strong Start Conferences will begin for K-5

We know there has been uncertainty surrounding the start of the school year, and we sincerely appreciate the patience and understanding of our students, families and staff throughout this process.

We also want to extend our sincere gratitude to the members of both bargaining teams. Reaching an agreement like this takes an incredible amount of time, effort and commitment. The teams spent countless hours at the bargaining table, working through challenging issues and remaining committed to finding a path forward. We appreciate their dedication and willingness to keep working toward an agreement that recognizes our paraprofessionals while supporting the long-term financial health of our district.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back tomorrow and beginning the 2026–27 school year together!

With appreciation,

Kevin Bogatin, Superintendent
Tumwater School District