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Kids depart a school bus for the first day of school at Werner Elementary School on Aug. 14 in Fort Collins.
LOGAN NEWELL/THE COLORADOAN

PSD might change bell times again

Reclassifying recess could involve second change in 2 years

Kelly Lyell Fort Collins Coloradoan | USA TODAY NETWORK

School start and end times are likely changing, again.

Poudre School District switched up its schedules just two years ago to address a shortage of bus drivers. Now, district leaders are considering plans to alter bell times yet again.

Proposals under consideration include one that would move high schools back to 7:30 a.m. start times and push dismissal times at most elementary schools to 4 p.m. or later.

None of the changes under consideration would be made before the 2027-28 school year, the PSD school board determined in a 6-1 vote at its Oct. 21 meeting.

Outgoing board member Jim Brokish cast the dissenting vote, preferring to make changes for the 2026-27 school year.

Why would school start times change?

In June, school board members unanimously voted to include recess as instructional time in order to meet the state's required number of instructional hours.

The district had determined after the 2024-25 school year was over that it was out of compliance in at

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The construction of the main dam of Northern Colorado's newest reservoir, Chimney Hollow Reservoir, is seen from an overlook near Loveland on Feb. 22, 2024. The reservoir is expected to be completed in 2025.
LOGAN NEWELL/THE COLORADOAN

Reservoir water delivery delayed

Mineralized uranium found at Chimney Hollow

Erin Udell and Miles Blumhardt
Fort Collins Coloradoan
USA TODAY NETWORK

Water delivery to Chimney Hollow Reservoir will be delayed to allow for more testing after the discovery of mineralized uranium at the reservoir earlier this year, Northern Water announced in a Nov. 12 news release.

High levels of naturally occurring uranium were detected in water samples at Northern Water's Chimney Hollow construction site back in June, just months before the water conservancy district had hoped to begin filling the 90,000-acre-foot reservoir west of Carter Lake, according to past Coloradoan reporting.

Now, after planning to flow water into the reservoir in August and, later, November, those plans are on hold until early next year as Northern Water conducts additional testing, it announced.

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Food banks will feel shutdown fallout for months

Many Americans used up reserves during closure

Sarah D. Wire
USA TODAY

The Missoula Food Bank & Community Center in Montana doubled its food order for the first two weeks of November to help handle a flood of requests and will spend "far and above" more than what its has budgeted this month, said Executive Director Amy Allison.

A half-dozen other food banks across the country have similar stories: They've carved massive holes in their budgets over the past six weeks as they've tried to keep up with demand sparked by the fed-

eral government shutdown. It hit at the same time layoffs and rising prices had already boosted the number of people seeking help.

And now they're facing the rest of the year having already pleaded with every donor on their list to give as much as possible.

"The fallout is going to be huge, and I don't think we can even really wrap our heads around that yet," Allison said.

The food banks said they expect to feel the impacts of the shutdown for months, even though the federal government re-opened Nov. 13.

Soon, benefits will resume flowing to tens of millions of federal food assistance

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When the USDA announced in late October that there would be no SNAP benefits in November, it was the first time federal food aid had not arrived in the program's more than 60-year history. GARY C. KLEIN/SHEBOYGAN PRESS

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