



Philomath Middle School

2021 Chapel Drive, Philomath, OR 97370

Main office: 541-929-3167

www.philomathsd.net/philomath-middle-school

Attendance: 541-929-5009

December is filled with many activities. Please check the calendar for upcoming events. I extend a special "Thank You" to all of our parents, volunteers, and community members who have been so supportive of our students, school fundraisers, and programs. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Steve Bell - Philomath Middle School, Principal

DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER



Turkey Bingo

The Turkey Bingo Fundraiser was a huge success, we raised over \$5,000.

We sincerely thank all of you who came and participated—especially those who helped with donations, creating silent auction baskets and staffing tables. This event would not be successful without you.

Specifically, we thank Connie Barnes for organizing this event and the Philomath High School Culinary Arts Department for preparing and serving the amazing turkey dinners.

A very big "Thank You" to all the individuals, businesses, and associations that sponsored the event by making donations of money, goods, or services: WinCo Foods, RE/MAX Integrity, Figaro's Pizza- Philomath, Pioneer Connect, Peoria Gardens, Soft Star Shoes, Beggs Tire Center, Dairy Queen of Philomath, PMS Life Skills Class, Philomath School District Maintenance Department, Avie Joy Studios, La Rockita, Imagine Coffee, Maxtivity, Ponsee North America, Bicycle Stage One, Eats & Treats Gathering Together Farm, Inkwell Home Store, Les & Bob's Sports Apparel, Dollar General, Alyrica, Jean Goul, Dick Powell, North Ridge Automotive, Spaeth Lumber, Running Princess, Peak Sports, Dream Dinners, E.B. Dental Lab, Susan Halliday, Dr. Mark Henke, Joyce Kubischta, Miller Timber Services, So Fly Salon, Wacky Bounce, Brian Skaar, Philomath Booster Club, Dawn Anzinger, Marc and Connie Barnes, Marys Peak True Value Shonnards Nursery and The Toy Factory,
PLEASE KEEP THESE BUSINESSES IN MIND WHEN YOU CHOOSE TO SHOP, AS THEY ARE ALL SUPPORTERS OF OUR SCHOOLS.



Winter Break

School is out at 12:25 p.m. on Friday, December 20, and will resume at 8:05 a.m. on Monday, January 6. The staff and I wish you an enjoyable holiday season.



2019 Canned Food Drive

The Annual Canned Food Drive, "Mario's Shopping Cart" organized by Mrs. Martin's and Mrs. Benbow's Advisory class, has begun.

Students may bring canned, boxed or prepackaged food, or cash to donate to the Philomath Food Bank, from December 4th to December 13th.

Please ask your student for details, and thank you for allowing your cupboards to be raided in support of the Canned Food Drive Competition. The community of Philomath appreciates your efforts.



Spring Musical

Frozen Jr. Auditions will be held after school in the school library on Monday December 9th and Tuesday, December 10th. Callbacks will be on Wednesday, December 11th. The first rehearsal week is Monday, December 16th through Thursday, December 19th, from 3:10-5:30 p.m.

Rehearsals will run generally Mon-Thurs after school in January, February and the first two weeks of March. The performances will be March 7-11. Any PMS student in grades 6-8 may audition. Please see Mrs. Latz if you have any questions.



Holiday Concerts

Our holiday music concerts will be held on Thursday, December 12, in the District Auditorium at Philomath High School. The choir concert will begin at 6:30 p.m. A separate band concert will start at 7:15 p.m. and will last about an hour.

Students in grades six-through-eight will be involved in both of these concerts. Families and the public are invited to attend.



Annual Talent Show

Our annual Talent Show will be held on Friday, January 17, in the middle school gym. The start time is yet to be determined. Auditions will be held the week of December 16–20. Please contact Mrs. Thompson with any questions. We will have a variety of student acts performing. Parents are welcome to attend.



Geography Bee

The annual Geography Bee is being held the morning of Friday, January 17th, in the middle school gym. The start time is yet to be determined. This is a student competition for which participants will qualify for during the month of January.



Friday Study Hall

Philomath Middle School continues to offer a study hall on Fridays in the school library, after school 12:30 until 3:00 p.m. This study hall is managed by staff members who are available to tutor students. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.



7th/8th Grade Boy's Basketball

Basketball will begin for 7th and 8th grade boys at Philomath Middle School on Tuesday, January 21st. In order to participate, students must have paperwork completed, a current physical on file, and the participation fee paid. Paperwork is available in the school office. Scholarships are available for those in need of financial assistance.

The boys basketball season is scheduled to run through March 13th. The 7th grade students will practice and play home games at Philomath Elementary School. The 8th grade students will practice and play home games at Philomath Middle School. With a few exceptions, practice will take place immediately after school.

The school will provide bus transportation to and from all away games. Once the game schedule is finalized, it will be posted on the Philomath Middle School Web Page.

Sixth grade students will continue to play through PYAC programs. If you have questions, please contact Chad Matthews at 541-929-3167 or e-mail at chad.matthews@philomath.k12.or.us.



November Students of the Month

Congratulations to the following Students of the Month for November:

6th Grade – Isaac Avery and Jessica McLennan

7th Grade – Cole Greeley and Lilia Leman

8th Grade – Gradin Fairbanks and Alexa Eckhold



Thank You to Philomath Dairy Queen for sponsoring our “Student of the Month” lunches. We appreciate your continued support.



8th Grade

“Rotary Student of the Month”

Congratulations to Bailey Bell, the 8th Grade “Rotary Student of the Month” for November.



Sports Scholarships Available

After school sports activities can be very expensive, and there is lots of help available for Philomath families. We just learned of an organization in Bend that will provide up to \$150 each season to pay for registration fees. There are five ways to prove eligibility: Free/Reduced Lunch, WIC, SNAP, Foster child, or OHP enrollment. If you have any questions, please contact the school office. <https://kidsinthegame.org/programs/pnw/pass/>



Attendance Line

Please use the school attendance line to phone-in your child's absence, prior to 8:30 a.m.. The front office is very busy in the morning and it is important that you use our attendance line to report your child's absence.

The number to call is 541-929-5009. Please leave your child's name and the reason for his/her absence.

If you are planning to have your child miss school for vacation or family fun time, please email Chad Matthews, our Assistant Principal, to have the absence pre-arranged so it may be excused. His email is chad.matthews@philomath.k12.or.us. If this is not done ahead of time, the absence may not be excused.



7th Grade Required Immunizations

7th grade students are now at the age where a Tdap booster is needed for immunization requirements.

The deadline to have updated immunizations complete is February 19, 2020. Students that have not completed their immunizations or turned in an exempt letter by this date will be excluded from school. If you have questions or concerns please call Tina Hoch, RN the District Nurse at 541-740-0245.



Attendance Matters

What you can do....

- Know the school's attendance policy, incentives, and penalties.
- Talk to your child's teachers if you notice sudden changes in behavior. These could be tied to something going on at school.
- Check on your child's attendance to be sure absences are not piling up.
- Ask for help from school officials, after-school programs, other parents or community agencies if you're having trouble getting your child to school.

*Source: www.attendanceworks.org

More information on regular attendance and its impact on student success can be found at www.attendanceworks.org.

Opportunity to Help Support Students

Interested in Supporting Middle School Students?

Named in honor of our long-time, beloved, counselor Jeff Struxness, the Families Helping Families Fund at Philomath Middle School is a donation account used to help middle school families overcome financial barriers.

Over the years, we have utilized donation funds to purchase school supplies, shoes, and clothes for students in need, as well as paid sports fees, utility bills, and emergency expenses. As we are approaching the end of the year, we would love for you to consider donating to our fund. One hundred percent of your contribution will go toward helping a middle school student. Thank you for your consideration.



PG/PG-13 Movies Permission

Can your child view PG and/or PG-13 movies while at school? These questions are typically asked during registration but due to an error in RegiStar they were not asked correctly.

If you would **NOT** like your student to view PG and/or PG-13 movies please contact the school office at 541-929-3167 or e-mail Chelsea.vanderzwan@philomath.k12.or.us.



Parents, Families and Community Members, Did You Know.....

- Every Middle school student received a "future" shirt to wear on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month.
- Our Philomath Middle School Girls Cross Country team took 1st place at the Middle School State Cross Country Meet.



Career Day– Can You Help?

Career Day at Philomath Middle School will be Friday, February 28th. The day will be divided into 45-minute periods for students to learn about a variety of careers.

We can use your help. If you would be willing to share information about your career/profession on that day, or know someone who would, please complete the Career Day Interest form which is the last page of the Newsletter. You can submit this form to the middle school front office. Please contact, parent volunteer, Chana VanOrden at chana.vanorden@gmail.com or 541-929-6696 if you have any questions.



Student Services Team

In order to meet the needs of all students, Philomath Middle School utilizes a Student Services Team approach to observe student behaviors in the school environment. Therefore, from time to time, a counselor, school psychologist, administrator, or other certified staff may be in your child's classroom to monitor and observe student behaviors.

If you have any questions or concerns about how our Student Services Team functions to support student achievement, please contact Steve Bell at Philomath Middle School.



School Donation Opportunity at First Alternative Co-op

First Alternative Natural Foods Co-Op has revived their Round Up program for local schools. This is an opportunity for parents and families or any shopper (Co-op owner or not) to give money to their local school by asking the cashier to Round Up their purchase for whatever amount the shopper chooses.

First Alternative Co-op donates \$1000 per quarter, divided, to local schools.

Any shopper may give the school name or number at the register when asked if they have a Co-op card.

Co-op owners may tie their owner number to a local school and when they give their number to the cashier, the purchase is automatically registered for the school they support.

Philomath Middle School's number is 79936.



Philomath Community Library

Teen Afternoon: Come have snacks, play games and make art with friends. Friday, 12/13/19, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Teen Night: Have fun decorating sugar cookies, finding the gnomes, playing video games and drinking hot cocoa. Wednesday, 12/18/19, 5-7 p.m.

Teen Book Club: Grab a copy of the book at the front desk and join in the conversation with other book enthusiasts. Friday, 12/20/19, 1:15-2:30 p.m.

Important Dates



December

- 2 7th/8th Grade Girls Basketball vs. Newport—4:00 p.m.
- 3 Girls Basketball pictures— gym-3:15 p.m.
Special Education Advisory Committee meeting— District office— 6:00-7:00 p.m.
- 4 7th/8th Grade Girls Basketball vs. Cascade—4:00 p.m.
- 5 Emerging Bilingual Advisory Council— PES— 6:00—7:30p.m
- 6 Early Release Day – Students dismissed at 12:25 p.m.
- 9 7th/8th Grade Girls Basketball @ French Prairie—4:00 p.m.
Frozen Jr. Auditions— Library- 3:15-5:15 p.m.
- 10 *Frozen Jr.* Auditions— Library-3:15-5:15 p.m.
- 11 *Frozen Jr.* Callbacks— 3:15-5:15 p.m.
Site Council meeting— 3:15 p.m.
7th/8th Grade Girls Basketball vs. Lebanon—4:00 p.m.
- 12 Student Choir and Band Winter Concert—District Auditorium at PHS—
6:30-Choir
7:15– Band
- 13 Early Release Day – Students dismissed at 12:25 p.m.
- 16 First *Frozen Jr.* Rehearsal– Library– 3:15– 5:30 p.m.
7th/8th Grade Girls Basketball @ Newport—4:00 p.m.
School Board Meeting– District Office– 7:00 p.m.
- 18 7th/8th Grade Girls Basketball vs. Stayton—4:00 p.m.
- 20 Early Release Day – Students dismissed at 12:25 p.m.
- 23– Jan. 3 **NO SCHOOL**—Winter Break

January

- 6 First day back at school after Winter Break
- 8 Site Council Meeting– 3:15 p.m.
7th/8th Grade Girls Basketball vs. Yamhill Carlton– 4:00 p.m.
- 9 7th/8th Grade Girls Basketball @ Sweet Home – 4:00 p.m.
Emerging Bilingual Advisory Council– PMS Library– 6:00—7:30 p.m.
- 10 Early Release Day – Students dismissed at 12:25 p.m.
- 13 7th/8th Grade Girls Basketball @ North Marion – 4:00 p.m.
- 15 7th/8th Grade Girls Basketball vs. Valor– 4:00 p.m.

HAPPY★NEW★YEAR

Career Day – February 28, 2020

Please consider presenting at Philomath Middle School's Career Day on **Friday, February 28, 2020**. We are interested in **all types** of careers. If you are willing and interested, please complete the form below and return it to the middle school office. If you are not available to share your career but know someone who is, please share this form with that person.

Name: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____ Phone: _____

How did you hear about this event? _____

Career/Job Title: _____

One sentence description of Career being presented: _____

Presenter Name Submitted By: _____

Your Available Times (*check one or both*): ☐ A.M. (8:30-10:05)
☐ Mid-A.M. (10:20-11:55)

SESSION SCHEDULE

8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.	Session 1
9:20 a.m. – 10:05 a.m.	Session 2
10:05 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	--Break--
10:20 a.m. – 11:05 a.m.	Session 3
11:10 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.	Session 4
11:55 a.m. – 12:55 p.m.	--Lunch--

Thank you for your willingness to share your career with our students. You will be contacted with further information by the beginning of February. If you have questions or would like further information, please contact Steve Bell or Jean Chiappisi at 541-929-3167, or Chana VanOrden at 541-929-6696.

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Philomath Community Christmas Tree Lighting

2019



- ❄ Music by the PES Choir
- ❄ Cookies & Hot Cocoa (CUMC)
- ❄ Old Fire Engine #1 (PF&R)
- ❄ Mack the Knight & Lil' King
- ❄ Frolic & Rodeo Queen
- ❄ SANTA CLAUS

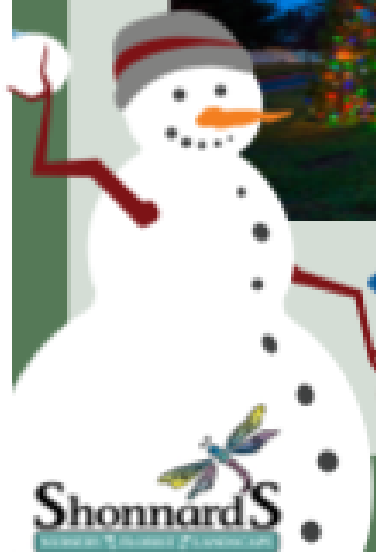
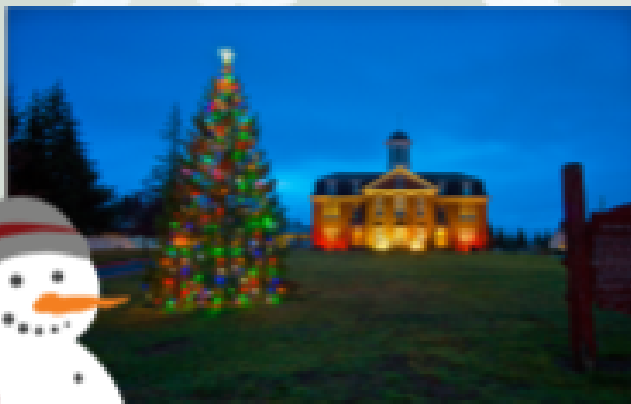
***December 2nd
6:15 pm***

Rain or Shine!

***On the lawn of the
Benton County
Historical Museum
1101 Main Street
Philomath, OR***

www.philomathevents.com

***Hosted by the
Philomath Area
Chamber of Commerce***



Oregon State
Credit Union



PACIFIC POWER

Philomath Rental



HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM