



Philomath Middle School

2021 Chapel Drive, Philomath, OR 97370

Main office: 541-929-3167

www.philomathsd.net/Philomath-middle-school Attendance: 541-929-5009

The 2019-20 School Year is off to a great start! Thank you for sending your child to school prepared and ready to learn. We look forward to seeing you at the Back-to-School Open House on September 11th.

Steve Bell—Philomath Middle School Principal

SEPTEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER



Back –to-School Open House

The staff invites you and your family to our annual Back-to-School Open House on Wednesday, September 11. Each school will be hosting activities and informational meetings. A schedule of the meetings taking place at the various school campuses will be available in the near future. Philomath Middle School Open House hours are 5-7 p.m.

We would like your children to attend this event with you and be your guides for the evening. This is a great time to meet your child's teachers and to talk with your child about their school day.



6th Grade Parent Meeting

There will be a meeting in the gym at the middle school to discuss Sixth Grade Outdoor School on Wednesday, September 11, at 6:00 p.m., during the Back-to-School Open House.



Bus Routes

If you have any questions regarding your student's bus route, please call Mid. Columbia Bus Company at 541-929-5474.

Please remember that vehicles are not allowed to drive through the bus lane after school until after 3:30 p.m.



Donated School Supplies

Several local agencies have donated a variety of school supplies to our school. Items include binders, notebooks, pens, pencils, calculators, glue sticks, and much more. Please contact our counselor, Mike Panico, if your child needs any of these items.



Cross– Country

Attention all runners! Cross- Country season has begun. Our coaches, Brian Skaar and Nancy Thompson, would love to have students join the team. The meet schedule will soon be posted on the website at <https://www.philomathsd.net/philomath-middle-school/athletics>

All students who wish to participate will need to have a doctor's physical report on file. If you need to get a physical, you may pick up the paperwork in the office to take with you to the doctor. If you already have a current physical on file from another sport, you will only need to pay the participation fee of \$115.00 and sign the emergency form. Thanks to the generosity of the Philomath High School Booster Club, scholarships are available to students in need of financial support.

If you or your child have questions, please contact Coach Brian Skaar or Coach Nancy Thompson at 541-929-3167.



Student Messages

Student messages are to be limited to those that are *urgent* in nature. Numerous interruptions to the classroom are disruptive and time- consuming. Please make after-school arrangements with your child before they leave for school.



Archery Club

Archery Club is starting soon and will be offered for any current PMS student. The club is scheduled to meet on Tuesdays from 3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. during the fall and spring.

A permission form are available in the front office. Permission forms will need to be completed and returned prior to participation. For immediate questions or concerns, please contact the club's leader Terry Stephenson at 541-602-1805 or Pamkris10@aol.com .



Wazzle Access

The Parent Internet Viewer is now open and available. The Wazzle log-in and passwords have not changed from last year.

We will have user name and password letters available at Open House for new to the district parents. If you are unable to pick them up, please call the office and we can e-mail or mail the letter to you.

Your user name and password allows you access to student assignments, grades, and attendance through the internet.

Please remember that Wazzle is a tool to start conversations. It is typically not representative of the whole story.



School Site Council

The Philomath Middle School Site Council meetings are the second Wednesday of each month from 3:15-4:15 p.m. Site Council members promote staff development and look at ways to improve schools. We have one open Site Council parent position. Please contact Steve Bell if you are interested in attending Site Council meetings. Parents are also welcome to attend meetings as guests.



Friday Early- Release

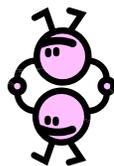
Students will be released from school at 12:25 p.m. on Fridays. Lunch will be available to students prior to the 12:25 dismissal. Students may stay in the school library and receive study help from instructional assistants until 3:00 p.m. All other students need to leave campus unless they are participating in an adult-supervised activity.



Parent Volunteers

Philomath Middle School welcomes volunteers throughout the year. If you plan to volunteer or chaperone any field trips, you will need you have a current Volunteer Background Check on file with the District Office.

Volunteer Background checks are good for 3 years. Please click the link on the District Website “Volunteers Register Here” to fill out the background check and register to be a district Volunteer. All Volunteer Background checks are done electronically through this link.



HERO Challenge

The 14th annual HERO Challenge (*Helping Everyone Respect Others*) will take place September 30-October 3. All seventh-grade students will have the opportunity to spend one day on the OSU Challenge Course, confronting the issues of bullying in school. Students will learn strategies to prevent and overcome bullying, to build and enhance personal skills, and to create friendships and alliances.

Students will bring home permission slips later this month. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Panico at 541-929-3167.



Attendance Matters

Did You Know....

- By sixth grade, absenteeism is one of the three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- Students can be chronically absent even if they only miss a day or two every month.
- Attendance is an important life skill that will help your child graduate from college and keep a job.

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



Corvallis Food Service Jobs

Corvallis Food Service has many job openings for Food Service Assistants in multiple locations and several in the Philomath School District. Please go to <https://www.applitrack.com/corvallis/onlineapp/JobPostings/view.asp?Category=Food+Service&AppliTrackJobId> for more information.



Philomath Community Library

Teen Night: Wednesday, 9/18/19, 5-7p.m. Come to the Library for crafts, art and video games while hanging out with friends. This event is free and snacks are provided.



PYAC Information

Save the date for the 12th Annual PYAC Community Kid’s Carnival Fundraiser! It will be held on the PHS Football Field on Friday, September 20th from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

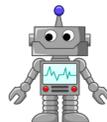
PYAC would like to invite you to an afternoon of family fun! Please join us for a carnival complete with food, games and inflatables. Admission to the event is free, but games, inflatables, and food will be available for a set number of tickets. You can purchase a wristband for unlimited attractions for \$20, or \$15 for kids six and under. We will also have a great selection of silent auction items available for parents to browse and bid on!

Rain or shine! The event will be moved indoors at PHS if it is raining.

We are also selling tickets for our Vacation Get-A-Way, Give-A-Way. There are five trips to choose from, and tickets are \$10 each or, 3-for-\$25. All proceeds directly benefit the youth programs that PYAC offers.

The PYAC Clubhouse has openings and invites 4th through 8th graders to register to come weekdays from after school until 6:00 p.m. If you need a safe, supervised and fun place for your middle-school-aged kid to go after school, come check us out. We offer a game room, computer lab (designated for homework until 4:30 each day), arts/crafts, an indoor basketball court and group activities.

Call PYAC at 929-4040 for more information, or see our website www.philomath-youth-activities-club.org



PHRED 847 BBQ

We are having a BBQ for all new members, current members and people interested in joining PHRED on Saturday, September 14th from 12 noon to 2:00 p.m. at the back of Philomath High School.

PHRED is Philomath High School’s robotics team. Families are welcome to attend the BBQ. Please RSVP by September 12th to phredteam847@gmail.com.

7th and 8th grade students are welcome to join PHRED and 6th grade students are welcome with an accompanying parent. Please contact phredteam847@gmail.com for more information.



**Open House
and
Health Fair**



Philomath Fire & Rescue and Strengthening Rural families are hosting an Open House and Health Fair on October 5, 2019 from 11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m. at the Philomath Fire Station.

Important Dates



September

- 11 U-Turn Begins
Site Council – 3:15 p.m.
Back-to-School Open House – 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- 12 Cross Country Meet @ Sweet Home
Emerging Bilingual Advisory Committee meeting– PMS Library-6:00-7:30 p.m.
- 13 Early Release Day – Students dismissed at 12:25 p.m.
- 16 7th/8th Grade Volleyball @ Stayton
School Board Meeting – District Office Board Room– 7:00 p.m.
- 18 7th/8th Grade Volleyball vs. Lebanon– Home
7th/ 8th Grade Football vs. Sweet Home– Home
- 20 Early Release Day – Students dismissed at 12:25 p.m.
Cross Country Meet @ Lebanon
- 23 7th/8th Grade Volleyball vs. Cascade– Home
- 24 Archery Parent meeting—PMS Library– 4:15 p.m.
- 25 Cross Country Team Pictures– 3:15 p.m.
7th/8th Grade Volleyball vs. LaCreole—Home
7th/ 8th Grade Football @ LaCreole
- 26 Cross Country Meet @ Oak Hill School, Eugene
- 27 Early Release Day – Students dismissed at 12:25 p.m.
Choir Retreat 12:30-5:30 p.m.
- 28 7th/ 8th Grade Football vs. Newport—6:00 p.m. start
- 30 HERO Challenge - 7th Grade classes
7th/8th Grade Volleyball @ Newport

October

- 1-3 HERO Challenge - 7th Grade classes
- 1 Special Education Advisory Committee meeting– District office– 6:00-7:00 p.m.
- 2 7th/8th Grade Volleyball vs. Sweet Home– Home
7th/ 8th Grade Football vs. Talmadge– Home
- 3 Cross Country Meet @ Stayton Middle School
- 4 Early Release Day – Students dismissed at 12:25 p.m.
- 8 7th/8th Grade Volleyball @ Cascade
7th/8th Grade Football @ Cascade (6:00 p.m. Start)
- 10 Cross Country Meet @ Avery Park, Corvallis
- 11 **NO SCHOOL**—Statewide In-service





2019-20 Updates from CSD Food & Nutrition Services

The Corvallis School District Food & Nutrition Services department is committed to providing a daily offering of nutritious and healthy meals that are sourced locally when possible. Our menus rotate on a monthly basis and we are proud of our menu offerings for students. Please review some important updates in our meal program.

NEW!

CSD Food Service purchased one District license and added Philomath and Alsea as additional schools. As a result, Philomath and Alsea parents will need to type Corvallis School District (Oregon) in the district box. The upside is that if any student transfers between the three districts, their meal account balance and eligibility is automatically there at their new school.

Family Portal

Parents are encouraged to create a family portal at family.titank12.com. This portal allows parents to manage their student's meal accounts. By linking all of their students to their portal they can monitor meal transactions, transfer money between them, set spending limits for their student, receive low balance email notifications, make online payments, and even apply for Free/Reduced school meals. (The online payment site last year, PayForIt.net is no longer operational) When using Titan, type Corvallis in the district box. Parents will need to include the leading zero in the student ID number and use preferred student name.

Free & Reduced Meals

Parents and guardians must submit a new application each year unless they already received an email or letter saying their student has already been approved for the current year. Students approved for last year are carried over for 30 days of the new school year or until a new application is processed. The carryover expiration date is **October 7, 2019**. If you have not yet received notification and want to know if your child has been approved for Free or Reduced meals, please log in to the family portal and link your child. You will be able to see their eligibility as well as carryover expiration date or current year approval. (Note: The ODE online application website (<https://www.ode.state.or.us/apps/frlapp>) is still available)

Meal Prices

Meal prices have not increased for the last 5 years. Due to increased labor, benefits, food costs and USDA regulations, meal prices will increase slightly this year and are listed below. Students approved for *Reduced Price* will still have meals at no charge.

Elementary Breakfast \$1.75 / Lunch \$2.75 Middle
Breakfast \$2.10 / Lunch \$3.25 High Breakfast
\$2.10 / Lunch \$3.50 Adults Breakfast \$2.35 /
Lunch \$4.00 All Milk \$.60



Corvallis
SCHOOL DISTRICT

IMPORTANT! Charging Policy

Oregon law requires us to provide a complete meal to any student that wants one regardless of whether they have any money in their meal account. No student will be refused a complete "reimbursable" breakfast or lunch. However, we are not required to allow a student to charge an ala-carte transaction. Our new Titan point of sale system will not even allow a student to charge an ala-carte transaction. This includes "milk only".

If a student brings their lunch from home and wants to get a milk, they will need to pay cash or have money in their meal account. Otherwise, the lunch from home should include something to drink or water is always available.

Students eligible for Free or Reduced meals must have a complete meal for it to be at no charge. "Milk only" is not free and can only be purchased with cash or with sufficient funds in their meal account. There is no charging for "milk only".

Parent are responsible for maintaining sufficient funds in their student's meal account. Please use the **family portal** (see above) to monitor and manage their meal transactions. Outstanding unpaid meal account charges from last year have been carried over to the student's account for this year. These charges are still the responsibility of the parent.

If you have any questions please contact your school or Marv Newcombe, Food Service Supervisor at marv.newcombe@corvallis.k12.or.us or 541-757-5903.

The Corvallis School District does not discriminate on the basis of age, citizenship, color, disability, gender expression, gender identity, national origin, parental or marital status, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation in its programs and activities, and provides equal access to designated youth groups.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding discrimination: Jennifer Duvall, Human Resources Director and Title IX Coordinator, jennifer.duvall@corvallis.k12.or.us 541-757-5840 | 1555 SW 35th Street, Corvallis, OR 97333