



# Philomath Middle School

2021 Chapel Drive, Philomath, OR 97370

Main office: 541-929-3167

[www.philomathsd.net/Philomath-middle-school](http://www.philomathsd.net/Philomath-middle-school) Attendance: 541-929-5009

Happy New Year! It is hard to believe, but it is true —2020 has arrived! I hope each one of you had an enjoyable holiday season and had the opportunity to enjoy some quality family time. There are many school activities taking place this month, so please review the newsletter and mark your calendars. We appreciate your involvement in our activities.

Steve Bell - Philomath Middle School, Principal

## JANUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER



### Thank You

The new year has begun and we are looking forward to all the activities that will take place this winter and spring. While looking forward, I also reflect on the accomplishments of our students and school over this past year. Each of our accomplishments has a common factor—the support and encouragement of this community. Thank you for putting all of the time and effort into making Philomath a great place to raise children and attend school.

### Annual Talent Show



Our annual Talent Show will be held on Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, at 8:10 a.m., in the Middle School Gym. We will have a variety of student acts performing. Parents are welcome to attend.

### January Dates to Remember



There will be **no school** on **Monday, January 20**, as we observe Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday.

There will be **no school** for students on **Friday, January 24**. Teachers will be preparing Second Quarter grades and planning for the Third Quarter.

Daily announcements are posted on our website under “News” by noon each day. Please visit [www.philomathsd.net/Philomath-middle-school](http://www.philomathsd.net/Philomath-middle-school) for the most up-to-date information on the happenings at Philomath Middle School.

### Sports Scholarships Available



After school sports activities can be very expensive, and there is a lot 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/>



### 7<sup>th</sup>/ 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boy's Basketball

Basketball will begin for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys at Philomath Middle School on Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>. 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 13<sup>th</sup>. The 7<sup>th</sup> grade students will practice and play home games at Philomath Elementary School. The 8<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:chad.matthews@philomath.k12.or.us).

### Canned Food Drive Success!



Thank you to the many students, staff, and families who donated canned food or money to the Annual Canned Food Drive!

Philomath Middle School raised over \$675, and collected many pounds of canned food. One dollar provides six meals! Mr. Gavin's advisory class was the winner of the Canned Food Drive competition. All canned food items and monetary donations were given to the Philomath Food Bank.

Thank you again to everyone who donated and helped make this year's canned food drive a success.



**Pre- Arranged Absences**

Attending school is the first step of the learning process for students. Regular and punctual attendance is often times the student’s responsibility, but by Oregon law, it is the parent’s responsibility to make sure students attend school.

The law states that any student may be excused from school by pre-arranged absence for the purpose of vacation, hunting, family reunion, etc. for a period of time “ not to exceed five days in a term of three months or not to exceed ten days in any term of at least six months” (ORS 339.065) After the excused limit is exceeded, the absence will be coded as “Pre-Arranged Unexcused.”

Unexcused absences will affect admittance to quarterly Passport activities. All pre-arranged absences requests must be submitted in writing to the Assistant Principal, Chad Matthews prior to the planned absence.



**Immunization Requirements**

Please make sure your child’s immunizations are up to date, or that exempt letters are turned in **by February 19, 2020**. You should have received notification from the school district nurse if the record is not up to date. If your child’s immunizations are incomplete, they will be unable to attend school after the **exclusion date, which is February 19, 2020**.

Immunization clinic hours are limited. We encourage families to seek appointments for vaccinations in advance of February. Families can seek immunization at their doctor’s office or clinic, the Benton County Health Department, or at a pharmacy for children over the age of seven years old.

Children without health insurance are eligible for free or very low cost vaccines at the Benton County Health Department. To schedule an appointment please call 541-766-6812.

Please refer to <http://public.health.oregon.gov/PreventionWellness/VaccinesImmunization/Pages/index.aspx> for information regarding immunizations. In addition you can contact me, Nurse Tina, at 541-740-0245 or [tina.hoch@philomath.k12.or.us](mailto:tina.hoch@philomath.k12.or.us) .

Thank you for your attention to this matter.



**December Students of the Month**

Congratulations to the following Students of the Month for December:

- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade – Riley Barrett and Eliannah Kaupe
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade – Mica Boynton and Madison Provance
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade – Jayden McMullen and Jacob Peters



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



**8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**“Rotary Student of the Month”**

Congratulations to the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade “Rotary Student of the Month” for December– Alora Gudge.

**Attendance Matters**



What you can say to your student....

- School is your first and most important job. You are learning about more than math and reading. You’re learning how to show up for school on time every day, so that when you graduate and get a job, you’ll know how to show up for work on time every day.
- Students who attend school regularly are more likely to graduate and find jobs. In fact, a high school graduate makes, on average, one million dollars more over a lifetime than a dropout.
- School only gets harder when you stay home too much. Sometimes it’s tempting to stay home because you have too much work or you don’t understand what is going on in class, but missing a day only makes it worse.

\*Source: [www.attendanceworks.org](http://www.attendanceworks.org)

More information on regular attendance and its impact on student success can be found at [www.attendanceworks.org](http://www.attendanceworks.org) .



**Inclement Weather Information**

Please refer to <https://www.philomathsd.net/parents/school-closure-information> for information on signing up to receive Flash Alert, Inclement Weather and School Closure Policies, and Inclement Weather Alternate Bus Routes.



**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](mailto:chana.vanorden@gmail.com) or 541-929-6696 if you have any questions.



**Resource for Parents and Their Teens**

Being a teen—or raising one—can be a wild ride. Couldn't we all use some support?

[ParentTeenConnect.org](http://ParentTeenConnect.org) provides expert advice and practical tools for dealing with real parent-teen issues. [ParentTeenConnect.org](http://ParentTeenConnect.org), a free website for parents and their teens created by the makers of the *Second Step* Program, is a great resource for middle school families. It provides expert advice and practical tools for dealing with real parent-teen issues.

At [ParentTeenConnect.org](http://ParentTeenConnect.org), you can hear from real parents and teens about the issues that cause conflict in their lives—including screen time, independence, responsibility, and communication—and get expert advice.

Visit [ParentTeenConnect.org](http://ParentTeenConnect.org) at home with your child, select a topic together, and get talking!



**Philomath Community Library**

**Teen Game Night:** Equipment and snacks provided Wednesday, 1/15/2020, 5-7 p.m.



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

- Middle School Students raised enough money to provide 4,050 meals for the Philomath Food Bank.
- The multipurpose room at Philomath Middle School was painted during winter break.



**Class for Middle School Parents**

***Game-Changers Parent Workshop: Take the Middle School Years from Awkward to Awesome!***

Date: Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Time: 6:00-7:30, free dinner offered at 5:30

Location: Philomath Middle School Library

Presenter: Brian MacInnes, MA, Parent Educator

Cost: Free

This free workshop will help parents of current and future middle schoolers learn effective ways to communicate with their child, define parent/youth roles within the family and understand this developmental stage.

## Important Dates



### January

- 13 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Basketball @ North Marion – 4:00 p.m.
- 15 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Basketball @ La Creole– 4:00 p.m.
- 16 Talent Show Dress Rehearsal -3:15p.m.– PMS Gym
- 17 Philomath Middle School Annual Talent Show– 8:10 a.m.– PMS Gym  
Early Release Day – Students dismissed at 12:25 p.m.
- 20 **NO SCHOOL**– Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
- 21 First day of Practice for 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball
- 23 Last Day of 2nd Quarter
- 24 **NO SCHOOL**—Quarter 2 Grading/Assessment  
Drama Practice– 8:57 a.m.– Noon– PMS– MPR
- 27 First Day of 3rd Quarter
- 31 Early Release Day – Students dismissed at 12:25 p.m.  
All School Dance– PMS MPR and Gym– 4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

### February

- 3 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball @ Talmadge -4:00 p.m
- 5 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys Basketball vs. Stayton -4:00 p.m.
- 7 Second Quarter Honor Roll Assembly— PMS Gym—8:10 a.m.  
Early Release Day – Students dismissed at 12:25 p.m.

### 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.	<del>–Break–</del>
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.	<del>–Lunch–</del>

**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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Parenting Game-Changer Series

**Take the middle school years  
from Awkward to Awesome**

Join **Brian MacInnes, MA**, Parent Educator,  
for a free evening workshop

**Parenting 'tween'- agers is a challenge!**

Here you will:

- Better understand this developmental age/stage
- Learn ways to improve communication
- Better define parent/youth roles within the family

**DATE:** Wednesday, January 29th, 2020

**TIME:** 6:00pm - 7:30pm, dinner @ 5:30

**PLACE:** Philomath Middle School Library

**DETAILS:** FREE. Dinner & childcare/study space provided.

(Register by Tuesday 1/28 to reserve childcare spots)

**REGISTER:** Contact Laura, [laura.srf@ruralfamilies.org](mailto:laura.srf@ruralfamilies.org) or  
at the SRF office (541) 929-2535 to get signed up.



Brought to you by  
Strengthening Rural Families &  
the Parenting Success Network

Parenting  
Success  
NETWORK

Strengthening Rural Families

"...working together to build stronger families and communities in rural Benton County"

# Make Parenting a Pleasure!

Do you want to stress less and have more fun as a parent?



These classes are for families who have children up to 12 years old

Learn new skills in a group setting:

- Positive parenting skills
- Self-care & ways to manage stress
- How to talk to & interact better with your children



Brought to you by Strengthening Rural Families and the LBCC - Parenting Success Network



Thursdays, January 16 – March 19  
6:00pm—7:30pm, dinner at 5:30pm

Held at Clemens Primary School

(535 S. 19th Street, Philomath)

Instructor: PK McCoy

Cost: \$30 each/\$45 per family, with dinner and childcare provided. Please register and reserve your childcare space by contacting Laura at (541) 929-2535, or by email: [laura.srf@ruralfamilies.org](mailto:laura.srf@ruralfamilies.org)