



# BILLIE NEWS!



[www.pleasanthill.k12.or.us](http://www.pleasanthill.k12.or.us)

*Vision Statement: Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow*

## Pleasant Hill Elementary

36386 Highway 58, Pleasant Hill, Or 97455

Phone: (541) 736-0400 Fax: (541) 736-0446 Attendance Line: 541-736-0411

### Winter Break



It's hard to believe winter break is less than a week away. We have had an incredible start to the 2021-22 school year thanks to all of our wonderful families and staff!

The last day of school prior to winter break is Friday, December 17th. Winter Break will last from Monday, December 20th through Sunday, January 2nd. Monday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> is an Inservice Day for staff only. Classes resume for our students on Tuesday, January 4<sup>th</sup>.

I want to wish you all a very Happy Holiday Season and hope you all enjoy a wonderful, healthy, and relaxing winter break! See you in 2022!

### Thank you!

Thank you to all of our families and community members who generously donated to the PHES Bucket Filler Food Drive. We donated approximately 1000 pounds of food to our community food pantry and the Christmas Basket program. In addition, thank you to all who donated approximately \$2200 for our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders to purchase toys and donate them to the Toys for Tots program last week.

### Mask Update from the Oregon Department of Education

Earlier this month, Supt. Linenberger sent out a community letter sharing an update from the Oregon Department of Education stating at this time, staff and students do not have to wear masks outside anymore. I am proud of how our students have demonstrated Billie Spirit by being respectful to each other regardless of who is or is not wearing a mask whenever outside.

We do request, if your student wears a cloth mask, please take a moment, and write their name inside of their mask with permanent marker. We are finding 2-3 cloth masks on the playground a day. We would like to return them to their owner.

### Winter Break Chromebook Updates

With winter break around the corner, please remember during the break your school issued Chromebook is basically designed to run the programs and apps the district has selected to use this year. Any added apps and extensions such as wallpapers, games, virtual pets, etc. interfere with the Chromebooks ability to run at maximum capacity. So, that your Chromebook is school ready, please do not add any additional apps or extensions.

# PHSD CHROMEBOOKS AND DATA

Please be aware that ALL information that is viewed or searched for is visible to our Filtering Software (GoGuardian) and the staff that view it. This information is used to keep our students and PHSD secure and scholarly while they are online in school and while using your Chromebook at home.

Don't forget your Chromebooks need to be restarted at least weekly. This updates apps (Zoom, etc.) and operating systems (Chrome OS) to the newest and best for the systems. (Just closing the lid does not accomplish this)

Step 1: Press and hold the *Power* button.

Step 2: The screen dims, and a pop-up appears. Click the *Power Off* button.

Step 3: Press your Chromebook's *Power* button to restart.

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## It's Cold Outside!

It's a little chilly outside. Our students go outside for recess daily rain or shine. All students are encouraged to wear a jacket.



Please label the inside of your child's jacket. If you write your child's name inside their coat, should they become separated from their coat we make every effort to return it to them.

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## Immunizations



Just a reminder now is the time to make sure your child's immunizations are up-to-date. State law requires that all children in public schools either have vaccinations or a religious or medical exemption.



Letters will be sent home soon if your child's immunization record shows that he or she has not received the required vaccinations. Children will not be able to attend school starting Feb. 16th if their records show missing immunizations.

Families are advised to contact their health care provider or the local health department. No one can be turned away from a local health department because of the inability to pay for required vaccines.

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## School Attendance Matters!

We realize some absences are unavoidable due to health problems or other circumstances. But we also know that when students miss too much school— regardless of the reason - it can cause them to fall behind academically. Your child is less likely to succeed if he or she is chronically absent—which means missing 18 or more days over the course of an entire school year. Research shows:

- Children chronically absent in kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grade are much less likely to read at grade level by the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.
- By 6<sup>th</sup> grade, chronic absence is a proven early warning sign for students at risk for dropping out of school.
- By 9<sup>th</sup> grade good attendance can predict graduation rates even better than 8<sup>th</sup> grade test scores.

Absences can add up quickly. A child is chronically absent if he or she misses just two days every month!!

We don't want your child to fall behind in school and get discouraged. Please ensure that your child attends school every day and arrives on time. Here are a few practical tips to help support regular attendance:

- Make sure your children keep a regular bedtime and establish a morning routine.
- Lay out clothes and pack your backpacks the night before.
- Ensure your children go to school every day unless they are truly sick.
- Avoid scheduling vacations or doctor's appointments when school is in session.
- Talk to teachers and the principal for advice if your children feel anxious about going to school.
- Develop back up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, neighbor, or another parent to take your child to school.

Let us know how we can best support you and your children so that they can show up for school on time every day. We want your child to be successful in school! If you have any questions or need more information, please contact either your child's classroom teacher or Mrs. Stoneberg.



## When Should I Keep My Child Home?



Student's Symptoms or Illness	Student May Return to School When
<b>Fever:</b> temperature by mouth greater than 100.4 degrees	No fever is present for at least 72 hours without the use of fever reducing medicine.
<b>Skin rash</b> or open sores	Rash is gone; sores are dry or can be completely covered by a bandage; or with orders from doctor to school nurse.
New <b>Cough</b> illness	In general, when symptom-free for 72 hours. If pertussis (Whooping cough) is diagnosed, after taking 5-day course of prescribed antibiotics, or when cleared for return by local public health authority. If COVID-19 is diagnosed, with orders from local public health authority.
<b>Diarrhea:</b> 3 loose or watery stools in one day <b>OR</b> newly not able to control bowel movements	Symptom-free for 48 hours.
<b>Vomiting</b>	Symptom-free for 48 hours.
<b>Headache</b> with stiff neck and fever; <b>OR</b> with recent head injury	Symptom-free or with orders from doctor to school nurse.
<b>Jaundice:</b> (new) yellow color in eyes or skin	After orders from doctor or local public health authority to school nurse.
<b>Red eyes or eye discharge:</b> yellow or brown drainage from eyes	Redness and discharge is gone <b>OR</b> with orders from doctor to school nurse.

## REMINDERS FROM THE OFFICE



**ABSENCES:** If you are keeping your child home, **PLEASE** call the office attendance line, **541-736-0411**, otherwise we will be calling you to verify your child's absence as required by law.

**PHONE MESSAGES:** We really appreciate and request that all of our families who discover throughout the school day their child's after school plans need to change **please call the school office before 1:30 p.m.** Bus notes are delivered to the classrooms around 1:45 p.m. daily.

On Early Release Days please call in the messages before 12:30 pm. It is important to allow as much time as possible on those days.

**TREATS IN THE CLASSROOM:** If you would like to bring treats, we ask that you let the teacher know **at least 24 hours in advance**. The Health Department requires that any snacks served to students at school be purchased from a licensed bakery or store. **Home baked goods are not allowed to be served to students.**