
BILLIE NEWS!

www.pleasanthill.k12.or.us

Vision Statement: Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow



Pleasant Hill Elementary

36386 Highway 58, Pleasant Hill, Or 97455

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Attendance Line: 541-736-0411

Supervision: 7:45 - 2:30 p.m. Mon.-Thur.

7:45 - 1:30 p.m. Fri.

Office Hours: 7:30—4:00 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

Meal Prices: Breakfast 1.75 / Lunch 3.00

School Pay <https://www.schoolpay.com/>

Daily Schedule: 8:00 - 2:15 p.m., Mon.-Thur.

8:00 - 1:25 p.m., Fri.



Welcome back to a brand-new calendar year, 2024! With the start of the new calendar year signals, we are almost halfway through the 2023-24 school year. Our teachers have been reviewing our school-wide expectations with their classes since our student's return to school.

What is Billie Spirit?

Billie Spirit is our Positive Behavior Intervention Support System, PBIS, which is a systematic approach to building the capacity of schools to educate all students. It is based on the idea that when students are taught clearly defined behavioral expectations and provided with positive corrective responses to behavior, 85% or more of students will meet those expectations. Those needing additional assistance are provided with more support.



There are three components to our PBIS system:

- School-wide systems to establish a positive culture.

- Classroom systems that blend academic and behavioral expectations.

- Individual student support for those students needing the most intense behavior support needs.

We have four school wide expectations of students: **Kind**, **Respectful**, **Responsible**, and **Safe**. Each area of the school, playground, classroom, and other areas of the campus have specific behavior expectations for our students based on these principles. These expectations are taught at the beginning of every school year, and are reinforced throughout the year, with booster lessons after every major break such as winter and spring break.

Praise and encouragement combined with effective instruction are the cornerstones of the Billie Spirit program. Although negative consequences are sometimes necessary to change inappropriate behavior, students are more likely to learn and demonstrate appropriate behavior in an encouraging and supportive learning environment. Appropriate behavior will be encouraged and reinforced formally and informally on a regular basis in all school settings.

Students have an opportunity daily to earn Billie Bucks for demonstrating Billie Spirit by being Kind, Responsible, Respectful and Safe. Students can buy special privileges such as to eat lunch with a friend in the cafeteria instead of at their classroom table, brag time with the principal, write in ink for the day, purchase special recess privileges, just to name a few things students can spend their Billie Bucks on. Classroom teachers also hold special drawings and have classroom specific privileges students can purchase, too.

There are times when a student might be experiencing some form of difficulty at school. We ask that you please contact your student's teacher immediately. I can't emphasize this enough. Your student's teacher knows your student better than anyone at school. He or she is able to observe and experiment with different solutions to the problem. Even contact your student's teacher first when you feel the problem has to do with the student - teacher relationship.

In any human interaction, there is the potential for disagreements and problems. There are times when your student's teacher won't know there is a problem. It is only fair that they have an opportunity to try to correct the situation. Often, the problem will quickly disappear once the teacher is made aware of the problem. By meeting with the teacher either in-person or telephone, a plan of action can be agreed upon to help remedy the problem.

If you feel you need additional assistance or the problem continues, please feel free to contact me, Devery Stoneberg, or our school counselor, Stephanie Black. We are available to meet with parents and students to assist them in being successful. By working together, we teach our children a valuable skill that will help them through their lives.



Top Billie Attenders for the Month of December

Check with your student every Monday or the first day of the week to see if their class received a weekly Billie's Attendance Banner given to classes who have at least 90% attendance during the week.

Congratulations to Ms. Sprague's, Mr. Holladay's, and Mr. Grassman's classes that had the highest rate of attendance, 97% during the month of December. These classes will be receiving an extra PE class with Mr. Bofto.

Safety Week

After every major break, such as winter break, our building PBIS / Safety committee implements a safety week to review safety drills and procedures. Safety week does not take the place of the required monthly drills. Next week, we will be hosting our safety week.



Monday, we will be practicing the 3-whistle drill. During this drill students stop playing, looking to the adults for directions. This drill is used if we experience weather requiring the staff to bring everyone either under cover or into the building or if we should have an unsafe situation on the playground ranging from a stranger to a service truck driving on the playground.

In addition on Monday, the staff will be spending time reviewing and practicing a room clear drill. During this drill students leave one room and enter another classroom.

Tuesday, as a school we will practice a Hold Drill. This drill is implemented when we need everyone to remain in their classrooms, out on the playground or wherever they are just not out in the hallways due to something like a medical issue taking place in the hallway. Classes continue with business as usual until the "All Clear" signal is given.

Wednesday, we will practice a Secure Drill. This drill is implemented whether it's due to some criminal activity happening in the neighborhood or an unwanted animal out on the school grounds such as a cougar. During this drill staff are directed to secure, get inside and lock all outside doors. No one is allowed in or out of the building until the "All Clear" signal is given.

Thursday and Friday, we had planned to hold a Fire Drill and a Shelter / Earthquake Drill. With the weather forecasters forecasting a damp and soggy week, we took advantage of the sunshine last Friday. I must brag about our students who listened, followed teacher directions and demonstrated Billies know what to do if an emergency were to arise.

Visitors



All visitors and volunteers need to sign in and pick up a badge in the office before entering a classroom starting at 8:00 a.m. when school starts each morning.

Volunteers

Thank you volunteers for your participation and dedication to the students of Pleasant Hill Elementary. There are many ways for parents/guardians to volunteer such as assisting with PTO events and activities such as room parent, helping students in the classroom, chaperoning field trips, copying and preparing materials, field day, etc.



Pleasant Hill School District policy requires all volunteers to have completed a yearly survey and criminal background check. Therefore, if you would like to volunteer, we ask you to simply fill out the survey and criminal background check form found available in the office or on-line at www.pleasanthill.k12.or.us and turn it into our school office.

If you are not sure that you have completed the volunteer background check process, the office has a list of approved volunteers. Please also understand it can take up to a few weeks for the Oregon Department of Education to complete the background check process including notifying the school district you are approved to volunteer. Therefore, if you want to volunteer at some point in the school year, even if it is to go on a field trip or assist with some of our upcoming grade level projects, we also ask that you fill out the volunteer survey and criminal background check as soon as possible.

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 non-medical or medical exemption.



If your student's immunization record shows that they have not received the required vaccinations, you should have received a letter from our school nurse during winter break.. Children will not be able to attend school starting Feb. 15, 2023, if their records show any missing immunizations.



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. Also, please encourage your child to check lost and found in the main hallway.

School Matters!



Attending school is extremely important for children's social, emotional and educational development. Children who miss a lot of time at school can suffer in the long term from significant gaps in their learning. We need your support to ensure that children's education is not affected. Send children to school every day, all day to get the most out of their education.

Did you know that:

- Early childhood is a great time to start building a habit of good attendance. Studies show that poor attendance in preschool/kindergarten can predict absenteeism in later grades.
- By middle and high school, chronic absence is a leading warning sign that a student will drop out.
- Absences can add up before you know it. Our goal is student's miss no more than 10% of the school year, 18 days of lost instruction. That's just two days each month!
- It doesn't matter if these absences are excused or unexcused. They all represent lost time in the classroom and a lost opportunity to learn.
- Studies show many children who miss too many days in kindergarten and first grade can struggle academically in later years. They often have trouble mastering reading by the end of third grade.

- Foundational reading skills are taught at the kindergarten levels. Missing out on these early reading lessons due to absences can create gaps in their learning that are harder to fix later.
- Too many absent students can affect the whole classroom, creating disruptions and slowing down instruction.

REMINDERS FROM THE OFFICE

ARRIVAL TIME—7:45 a.m.: Students may enter their classrooms at 7:45 a.m. **Attendance is taken and classes starts promptly at 8:00 a.m.**

Breakfast: Students may enter the cafeteria as early as 7:30 a.m. if they will be eating breakfast at school. All students will be sent to class by 7:55 as school starts promptly at 8:00 a.m. .

PHONE MESSAGES: We really appreciate and request that all of our families who discover throughout the school day their students' 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 before 12:30 p.m.**

Cell Phones and Digital Watches: Students may bring cell phones, for safety reasons, and wear their watches to school. However, cell phones and the watch volume needs to remain off during the day to not distract students from their students. In addition, the state of Oregon has declared that any cell phone or watch in a testing environment is a breach of testing security resulting in a test being voided, which we will begin OSAS testing in March. So, please help us reinforce that all cell phones and watches must be turned off while at school. Misuse of cell phones or watches will result in these items being placed in the office for a parent / guardian to pick-up.

Contact Information



You never know when someone from school may need to contact you due to a child not feeling well. If you have changed any of your phone numbers where we may reach you please call the office, so we can update your child's student information contact form. In addition, if someone you have listed as an emergency contact may have changed their number please let the office know.

Upcoming Events:

- Jan. 8th - Jan. 10th - Safety Week
- Jan. 8th - 1:00 p.m. Em's Sluggo Reading Assembly
- Jan. 9th - 2:30 p.m. PTO Mtg., PHCC
- Jan. 12th - Billie Spirit Day! Wear your Billie Gear or blue and yellow
- Jan. 12th - 1:25 p.m. Early Release for All Elementary Students
- Jan. 15th - Martin Luther King Observance Day / No School
- Jan. 19th - Poppin' Good Friday! Billie Spirit Day! Wear your Billie Gear or blue and yellow
- Jan. 19th - 1:25 p.m. Early Release for All Elementary Students
- Jan. 24th - 2:30 p.m. Site Council, Library
- Jan. 26th - Billie Spirit Day! Wear your Billie Gear or blue and yellow
- Jan. 26th - 1:25 p.m. Early Release for All Elementary Students
- Feb. 1st - The Last Day of the 2nd Qtr. / 1st Semester of School

