



1620 Applegate Street  
Philomath, Oregon 97370  
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February 14, 2024

Dear Students, Families, and Staff of the Philomath School District:

With our ice storms now behind us, we are moving forward with decisions about our lost school days. It is my hope that the prediction for an early spring, made by Punxsutawney Phil on Groundhog Day, will prove to be true. I am ready to be done with the ice for the year!

Since losing three school days to the storms, decisions need to be made about handling the possible make-up of these days. Some information has been solidified while other items remain under consideration. Information about changes in school days are as follows:

- February 16, 2024 (Friday):  
No School for Students – Teacher Work Day
- February 19, 2024 (Monday):  
School **in Session** for Students and Staff (Make-Up Day for Inclement Weather)
- May 24, 2024 (Friday):  
School **in Session** for Students and Staff (Make-Up Day for Inclement Weather)

Another view of the same information for...

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		February 14 Happy Valentine's Day!	February 15 Regular School Day	February 16 No School for Students Teacher Work Day
February 19 Regular School Day (Make-Up from Ice Storm)	February 20 Regular School Day	February 21 Regular School Day	February 22 Regular School Day	February 23 Regular School Day

The Oregon State Board will be voting, this week, on a proposal to allow school districts the ability to waive up to fourteen instructional hours from school district requirements. The decision made on this proposal will assist the Philomath School Board in making decisions about any additional make-up days... of course, pending any additional inclement weather episodes this spring. We will be sure to keep you informed.

In case there might be additional inclement weather incidents, I am including ***Inclement Weather and School Closure*** information that was shared a month ago. Highlights include the following:

- In the event of school closures or delays, Philomath School District will notify the school community through the following:
  - School Messenger
    - E-mail to address provided with student registration.
    - Text message to those who have opted in to receive texts.
      - Text “Yes” to 67587.
  - Flash Alert
    - To register for alerts, go to [www.flashalert.net](http://www.flashalert.net)
  - Philomath School District Website
    - Pop-up message posted @ <https://www.philomathsd.net/>
  - Facebook and Instagram Postings.

Please understand that the decision to cancel school or school activities is not made lightly. While roads in your area may be passable, others in the district may be compromised. We always respect and appreciate the judgement of parents in such cases. Any time that parents feel it is unsafe to send their child(ren) to school due to inclement weather, they are encouraged to keep students at home.

#### **Special Activities This Weekend:**

- In case you are looking for something to do this weekend, consider supporting the ***Special Olympics Polar Plunge***. The event will take place at the Willamette Boat Landing, located at the Crystal Lake Sports Complex in Corvallis. If you wish to join a team or donate from the sidelines, information can be found at <https://support.soor.org/team/546208>

#### **Upcoming Events and Support:**

- Congratulations to the ***PHS Unified Basketball Team*** as they finish an awesome season!
- Congratulations to the ***PHS Cheer Team*** on their 3<sup>rd</sup> Place finish at the State Competition!
- Congratulations to the ***PMS Boys Basketball*** Teams as they finish their seasons in early March!
- Best wishes to the following PHS athletic teams headed to State and Regional Meets!
  - PHS Swimming (State Meet) – February 16-17, 2024.
  - PHS Girls Wrestling (Regional Meet) – February 16-17, 2024.
  - PHS Wrestling (State Meet) – February 22-24, 2024.
- The competition season is beginning for our PHS Band and Choir programs.
  - PHS Jazz Band, Wind Ensemble, and Choir @ Solo & Ensemble Competition – February 24, 2024.
  - PHS Wind Ensemble @ OSU Band Festival – February 26, 2024.
  - PHS Jazz Band @ Oregon West Conference Jazz League Festival – February 29, 2024.

Terri Guillemets, a Quotation Anthologist, tells us that, “February is the border between winter and spring.” May we enjoy the unveiling of the new. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Always Learning Together-

Susan