



1620 Applegate Street  
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November 26, 2025

Dear Students and Families of the Philomath School District:

As I look out my window this morning, I notice most of the leaves are continuing to fall... along with the rain. As we enter our first lengthier break of the school year, I want to wish each of you and your families a restful, joy-filled, and safe Thanksgiving. Our schedule for this break is as follows:

- November 26-28, 2025 (Wednesday-Friday)
  - No School for Students and Staff
- December 1, 2025 (Monday)
  - No School for Students
    - Staff Grading/ Assessment Day – End of Trimester #1

We will all be back to the regular routine on Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Winter Activities Abound:**

As we move into December, a number of winter activities are being prepared to share with our families and community. Various activities include the following:

| Date        | Day       | Activity                          | Time/ Location   |
|-------------|-----------|-----------------------------------|--|
| December 10 | Wednesday | CPS 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Concert | 6:30pm @ CPS Gym   |
| December 11 | Thursday  | PMS Winter Concert                | 6:00pm @ PMS Gym   |
| December 15 | Monday    | PES Winter Programs               | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade: 6:00pm @ PES Gym<br>3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade: 7:00pm @ PES Gym |
| December 16 | Tuesday   | PES Winter Programs               | 4 <sup>th</sup> Grade: 6:00pm @ PES Gym<br>5 <sup>th</sup> Grade: 7:00pm @ PES Gym |
| December 17 | Wednesday | PHS Winter Concert                | 7:00pm @ PHS Auditorium  |
| December 18 | Thursday  | Blodgett Winter Concert           | 6:00pm @ Blodgett Gym  |

**Lost & Found:**

We have an abundance of unclaimed items in each of our schools. Please remind your student(s) to check the designated 'Lost & Found' area at their school prior to the start of the Winter Break. As you may be at schools for winter events, please make the time to check for any missing coats, shirts, shoes, or other items.

This is also a great time to label all outerwear, hats, and gloves. This will support a quick return if items are misplaced.

### **Inclement Weather and School Closure:**

As we move into the winter months, I have attached an ***Inclement Weather and School Closure*** document for your reference. Highlights include the following:

- In the event of school closures or delays, Philomath School District will notify the school community through the following:
  - Synergy E-Mail
    - E-mail to address provided with student registration.
  - 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.

Enjoy this opportunity to pause and to spend time with family and friends. May we all return to school energized for the final weeks of the 2025 calendar year.

Continuing to learn together-

Susan

## **Philomath School District 17J**

### **Inclement Weather and School Closure**

The safety of students is the primary consideration for any decision regarding snow routes, delayed start, school cancellation, or district closure. When we are faced with the potential of unsafe conditions, we use a process that includes weather forecasts, radar imagery, and reports from Mid-Columbia Bus Company, our transportation provider, as to road conditions. The decision to hold classes or cancel school for the day is based upon whether or not we believe it is safe to transport children to school.

Safety considerations include:

- Student drivers;
- Student access to bus stops;
- Students walking to and from school; and
- All other modes of transportation for students attending school.

In the event of such closures or delays, Philomath School District will notify the school community through the following:

- Synergy E-Mail
  - Parents/ guardians will automatically be added to this communication system with the e-mail contact information provided at registration.
  - General school and district announcements will also be sent to the e-mail address provided at registration.
- Flash Alert Messaging
  - Flash Alert is a free, emergency notification service available to all on the web, via e-mail, or on a Smart Phone app.
  - This service allows anyone to opt-in to receive school emergency or snow closure information for the Philomath School District.
  - To register, visit [www.flashalert.net](http://www.flashalert.net) and click on the 'Eugene/ Springfield/ Roseburg/ Albany/ Corvallis' region. Select 'Benton Co. Schools' followed by 'Philomath School District'.
- Philomath School District Web Site
  - Pop-up messages posted on PSD web @ <https://www.philomathsd.net/>
- Facebook and Instagram Postings

Parents/ guardians are encouraged to make transportation and attendance decisions for their child(ren) based on their own assessment of travel conditions at their location. Should school be cancelled, the following weather make-up days may be used for the 2025-2026 school year:

- February 16, 2026;
- May 22, 2026; and/or
- June 12, 2026.

Please understand that the decision to cancel school is not made lightly, as we must take into consideration the condition of roads throughout the district. While roads in your area may be passable, others in the district may be compromised. Student safety is our foremost consideration.

The Philomath School District always respects and appreciates the judgement of parents in such cases. Any time parents feel that it is unsafe to send their child(ren) to school, they are encouraged to keep them home. Any such absence will be excused.