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# Portland High School News

DECEMBER 2025 &  
JANUARY 2026



# PORTLAND RAIDERS

## A message from the Principle

Dear Portland High School Parents and Guardians,

As we move through December and look ahead to Winter Break, I want to thank you for the continued support you provide your students and our school community. This time of year, our calendars are full of learning and meaningful moments, and your partnership at home plays an important role in supporting students.

This edition of our newsletter includes key dates, information, and reminders for the remainder of December and the start of January. Please review the contents and reach out if you have questions.

With appreciation,

Matt Morales  
Principal, Portland High School  
[mmorales@portlandk12.org](mailto:mmorales@portlandk12.org) | [@theportlandprincipal](https://www.instagram.com/theportlandprincipal)

In this newsletter, you'll find information about:

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Important Dates

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Pick Up and Drop off Times

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Student Parking Pass Information

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Save the Date for PROM

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Senior Photo Guidelines

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And more!

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## Important Dates

December 1: School Resumes  
December 5: Blood Drive  
December 8: School Board Meeting at 7 pm  
December 9: Winter Jazz Concert at 7 pm  
December 16: Winter Band Concert at 7 pm  
December 18: Winter Choir Concert at 7 pm  
December 22: No School - Winter Break Begins  
January 5: School Resumes  
January 12: School Board Meeting at 7 pm  
January 16: Half Day (AM) - End of 1<sup>st</sup> Semester  
January 16: PHS Raider Marching Band Performance at the Grand Rapids Griffins Game  
January 19: No School

## Pick Up and Drop Off Times

A traditional full day starts at 7:30 am and ends at 2:20 pm.

The school doors open at 7:15 am for students to enter. Please be aware of this, as it can be pretty cold some mornings!

Please help your students get to school on time!

### PHS Daily Schedule

*Full Day*

Class Period	Time
1st Hour	7:30 - 8:50
2nd Hour	8:55 - 10:10
3rd Hour / Lunch	10:15 - 12:00
4th Hour	12:05 - 1:20
(+1) Personalized Hour	1:25 - 2:20

**A Lunch:** Lunch: 10:15 - 10:45  
Class: 10:45 - 12:00

**B Lunch:** Class: 10:15 - 11:30  
Lunch: 11:35 - 12:00



## Absences

If your student is going to be absent for any reason this year, please give us a call to excuse their absence at (517) 647-2156 or email us at [p hsattendance@portlandk12.org](mailto:p hsattendance@portlandk12.org)

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## **Skyward**

All families and students have access to Skyward, either through the app or through the website. This is essential as it is the way you view student progress, attendance, class updates and more. We have also enabled an automatic email to be generated from Skyward every Sunday that will include grades for each class. Teachers are responsible for updating grades on a weekly basis. Families are encouraged to keep an eye on student progress within Skyward.

Please call the main office if you have any questions with your account

## **Chromebook Charging**

Please help remind students to charge their Chromebook at night before school.

## **National Honor Society**

National Honor Society application materials will be sent out in early February for all Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors with a cumulative GPA of 3.333

## **Backpacks and Lockers**

Students will continue to use their lockers between classes. This will mean that they will not be taking their bags to their classes. If students need help with their lockers or have difficulty with their combinations, they can see the main office for help.

## **Food Assistance and Local Resources**

If you or someone you know could use help putting food on the table, please contact the PHS Main office. Our school partners with local pantries, including Backpacks for Bellies.

[Click here for more information.](#)

## **National Honor Society**

National Honor Society application materials will be sent in early February for all Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors with a cumulative GPA of 3.333 or higher.

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## **Student - Led Conferences**

Over the past two weeks, students were asked to fill out reflection forms for their classes. Students could elect to talk with teachers about their current progress, goals and what they need from class to be successful. This process enables students to practice organizational, communication and leadership skills.

We encourage you to have a conversation with your student about their goals for their classes. If you have questions, please feel free to reach out to their teacher

## **Selective Service Reminder**

If your student is an 18 year-old male, they are required to register with the selective service. All they need is their social security number. It just takes a few minute to register online at <https://www.sss.gov/register>. Please have your student see Ms. Patterson or email [ppatterson@portlandK12.org](mailto:ppatterson@portlandK12.org)

## **Prom 2026**

Juniors and Seniors, mark your calendars! Prom is taking place on Saturday April 25, 2026 from 7-10 pm at Studio D2D 401 Hall Street SW Box 80 Grand Rapids, MI 49503. More information to come in the next newsletter.

## **FAFSA Applications**

If you would like help in filling out FAFSA application forms, please reach out to our counselors, Allison DeGroot at [akdegroot@portlandk12.org](mailto:akdegroot@portlandk12.org)

## **Student Parking Passes**

All students who drive to school need to have a parking pass visible in their windshield. Stop by the main office with a copies of your drivers license, vehicle registration, and insurance certificate. All three items are required to be on file before a parking pass will be issued.

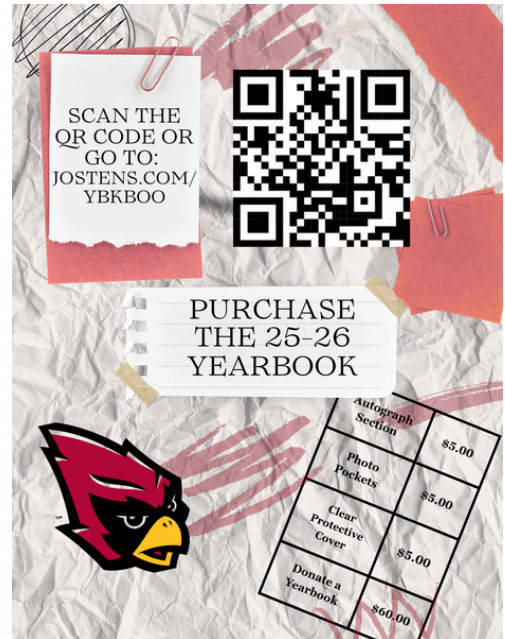
Just a reminder that students must park in designated spaces. Having a vehicle on campus is a privilege, not an expectation, and we appreciate everyone's cooperation.

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## Yearbook Info

Yearbook is looking for pictures of student involvement in clubs, sports and general pictures with your friends! Please send any school appropriate pictures to Miss Nugent at [nnugent@portlandk12.org](mailto:nnugent@portlandk12.org). You can also purchase a 2025-2026 yearbook from now until June. Copy the link or use the QR code to head over to the purchase website.



## Senior Photo Rules and Guidelines:

Please pass this information along to your photographer:

- All photos must be straight on, head and shoulders, color photos only.
- No Hands, No Props, No Laying Down Photos,
- Dress in a neat, respectful fashion (appropriate necklines, no hats, no profanity or guns, etc.)

Submitting Senior Photos: Deadline to submit photos is Monday, March 13, 2026. Photos must be submitted electronically in a JPEG format in one of two ways. They can be emailed to [NNugent@portlandk12.org](mailto:NNugent@portlandk12.org) with the students first name, last name. (i.e. Nicole, Nugent). Photos can also be submitted via the [google form](#). If you submit a full length photo, we will be cropping where the picture has only the chest up. Along with photos, Seniors are being asked to submit their favorite quotes. This can be submitted in the email with the picture or on the google form. Senior quote deadline is May 1, 2026.

Please note:

If you would like photographer recommendations for your senior headshot, or if finances are an issue, please contact Miss Nugent.

If your submitted photo does not abide by the above guidelines or you fail to submit one, your school photo will be used in its place. You will be contacted before this occurs.

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