



Philomath School District 17J

Benton County School District No. 17J, 1620 Applegate Street Philomath OR 97370 (541) 929-3169

August 5, 2021

Good Afternoon, Students and Families of the Philomath School District:

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year. I am excited about the opportunities we have for our students. We get to begin the school year with full-day, full-week, in-person learning this fall. Students and staff will have the opportunity to interact with one another. The chart below shares a comparison between last year and this year, sharing the benefits and excitement for a new school year.

Activity/ Protocol	This Year (21-22)	Last Year
In-Person Learning	Beginning in-person learning on the first day of school year— 09/07/2021.	All CDL (Comprehensive Distance Learning) until: Hybrid: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K-3: 02/23/2021 • 4th: 03/02/2021 • 5th: 03/04/2021 • 6-12: 04/06/2021 Full In-Person: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K-12: 05/04/2021
Length of Week	Five-Day School Week: In-Person <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 full days (M-TH) • 1 early release (F) • 5 full days (KVCS) 	CDL: 4 days/ week Hybrid: 2 days/week in; 2 days/online. In-Person: 4 days/week
Student Mental Health Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will begin school together from the start. • Ability to more freely interact regularly with peers and school staff. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-person learning limited to late in the school year. • Limited in-person interaction with peers and school staff.
Student Instructional Time (In-Person Learning)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K-1: 325 min/day • 2-5: 325 min/day • 6-8: 340 min/day • 9-12: 350 min/day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K-1: 250/day • 2-5: 250 min/day • 6-8: 250 min/day • 9-12: 250 min/day
Face Covering Requirement	Mandatory Face Covering for All Students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worn inside only • May use face shield if individually needed • Individual Mask Breaks • Not required during meals 	Mandatory Face Covering for All Students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worn inside and outside • Individual Mask Breaks • Not required during meals

As you know, there are many details involved in planning for the year. COVID-19 safety measures continue to be a part of that planning process. To begin the school year, face coverings will be required indoors for all students and staff during the school day. Oregon Governor, Kate Brown, has “directed the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to create this requirement, regardless of vaccination status.

Working closely with Benton County Public Health and following guidance from ODE and OHA, we will take care to monitor other COVID protocols such as:

- Stay home when ill;
- Wash hands often; and
- Be aware of distance.

Additional information related to COVID protocols and decisions will be made available soon.

Each of our schools will be sending out registration packets to families this week. Please watch your mail for arrival. Online registration, via RegiStar, is open now to enroll your child(ren). If you have questions, please be sure to contact your school(s).

Students wishing to participate in on-line learning will enroll and participate through the Philomath Academy. For students from Kings Valley Charter School interesting in on-line learning, please contact Jamon Ellingson (jellingson@kvschool.org) for details.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with questions.

Still learning together-

Susan