



1620 Applegate Street
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January 2, 2022

Dear Students and Families of the Philomath School District:

I hope that each of you were able to enjoy a little winter wonderland over the last two weeks. Just as this snow fades following our winter break, we are ready to get back into learning and growing together. School will begin tomorrow, **January 3rd**, at the normally scheduled times. We will be ready to see students back from vacation.

As predicted, we are seeing a surge in COVID-19 cases at this time. As mentioned in my last note, it is important to layer our health and safety protections, much like we wear layers to protect from the cold. As a result, we will be reminding our students about appropriate use of face coverings, physical distancing, and appropriate hand hygiene. Please help us out by sending your student(s) to school with a well-fitted face covering, as wear continues to be required in indoor venues.

We continue to thank you for keeping your student(s) home when sick. This, too, helps us maintain safety in our schools. If you have not already done so, please consider participation in COVID testing options in our schools. Each requires active permission from a parent or guardian. Testing options include the following:

- Screening Testing: Weekly screening for individuals with no symptoms or known exposure to COVID-19.
- Diagnostic Testing: For individuals with symptoms of COVID-19 or exposed through a close contact.
- Test-to-Stay: For unvaccinated individuals without symptoms to remain in school during quarantine period with negative test results.

Information is located at:

- [Screening and Diagnostic Testing](#)
- [Test-to-Stay](#)

Welcome to 2022! May it be a year filled with kindness, light, and goodness.

Always learning together-

Susan