

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:

- School Messenger
 - Parents/ guardians will automatically be added to this communication system with the contact information provided at registration.
 - Emergency alerts will always be sent by text or phone call.
 - General school and district announcements will also be sent via this system 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 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/>

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 2021-2022 school year:

- February 21, 2022;
- May 27, 2022; and/or
- June 17, 2022.

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.