



Philomath Public Schools

Benton County School District 17J, 1620 Applegate Street, Philomath OR 97370 (541) 929-3169

March 18, 2020

Dear Parents, Students, and Community:

The Philomath School District, our state, and much of the world are now dealing with an unprecedented public health crisis. On March 17th, Governor Kate Brown issued an Executive Order extending the closure of all public schools through April 28th. The entire Executive Order is available on our district website.

The Philomath School District, in collaboration with the State of Oregon, is working to make the following resources and services available, where appropriate, during the extended closure. Below are some services that are or may become available:

- Meal service to continue weekdays at Clemens Primary from 12 to 1 PM
- Child care/daycare for designated groups as determined by the Oregon Department of Education (ODE)
- Continue to post health/medical resources for families in our community on our website
- Pending guidance from ODE, development of additional supplemental educational options for students
- For additional information you can access the Oregon Department of Education's coronavirus webpage - [ODE COVID-19 page](#)

Schools are essential to communities. We know that extending the school closure may cause difficulties for many families who rely on their schools for meals, health care, and a safe place to be during the day. Since the COVID-19 coronavirus first emerged in Oregon, we have followed the guidance of our public health agency partners, including the Oregon Health Authority and Oregon Department of Education, in taking preventative steps to keep our staff and students safe.

Please make every effort to follow published health-related guidelines such as regular handwashing and social distancing. During this health crisis, it is not recommended that students congregate with groups of people or friends. As a community, we all share the responsibility to slow the spread of coronavirus.

We are in uncharted waters, but please know that we, in collaboration with local and state authorities, are doing our best to support the broader community as the reality of this unprecedented crisis continues to evolve. We appreciate your patience during this time.

As this closure moves forward, we will continue to provide updates as information becomes available to us. These updates will include, but not limited to academics, athletics, activities, field trips, and ceremonies.

Sincerely,

Buzz Brazeau