



# Philomath School District 17J

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

*Graduate EVERY student and transition each into a job, training, or college.*

## Philomath School District 17J

### Board of Directors

Superintendent's Report

November 17, 2022

#### **Real Time Assessment and Student Support:**

At the October meeting of the Philomath School Board, data from the Oregon District Report Cards was shared. A follow-up work session was held on Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, to decipher how to read the 'At-A-Glance' reports.

At the meeting tonight, you will have the opportunity to hear about how our schools monitor and adjust to meet the needs of students each and every day. The following examples will be addressed this evening:

- CHSS (Center for High School Success);
- RTIi (Response to Instruction and Intervention); and
- SEL (Social Emotional Learning).

#### **Local Option Levy:**

A big thanks to the Philomath community for supporting Measure 2-137! The renewal of this Local Option Levy provides a great benefit to our Philomath schools!

#### **Center for Educational Leadership:**

With the agreement of the twelve regional superintendents, LBL contracted with the Center for Educational Leadership. The Center is a part of the College of Education through the University of Washington. The goal has been to provide sustained, high-quality professional learning for our school leaders.

A portion of the training involves site visits to schools in our regional area to review and discuss instructional practice. In October, our participating administrators visited schools in Lincoln County.

On Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, participants had the opportunity to visit our own Clemens Primary School! Thanks to *Abby Couture* for offering CPS as a site to review primary teaching and learning.

**Paid Leave Oregon (PLO):**

Paid Leave Oregon is a new law that allows employees to take up to twelve weeks of paid leave for qualifying events, as noted in ORS 657B (Family and Medical Leave Insurance). Contribution amount is currently 1% of employee wages, consisting of at least 40% from the employer and no more than 60% from the employee. The benefits of this program begin on September 3, 2023.

There are two options for participation:

- Oregon PLO Trust Fund                      Contributions begin January 2023
- District Equivalent Plan                      Contributions begin September 2023

At the present time, the Philomath School District is planning to use the ‘equivalent plan option’, most likely working with American Fidelity.

**LBL Fall Updates:**

Joining our meeting this evening is Mr. Jason Hay, the Assistant Superintendent from Linn Benton Lincoln (LBL) Education Service District.

**RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus):**

Oregon is seeing a surge in pediatric cases and hospitalizations related to respiratory viruses. On November 14, 2022, the Governor issued an Executive Order giving hospitals flexibility and support.

“It’s important for parents to remember that while this respiratory season is severe, there are key steps families can take to protect their young children,” said Dr. Jim McCord, interim chief medical officer for Randall Children’s Hospital at Legacy Emanuel. “Be cautious with your young children around large groups of people, particularly indoors, make sure your child is up to date on flu and childhood immunizations, and everyone needs to wash their hands frequently. Parents should contact their primary care provider with questions or concerns.” (Office of the Governor Media Release, 11/14/2022).

State health experts at the Oregon Health Authority encourage all individuals at increased risk of severe disease (and their caregivers) to take steps to prevent RSV and other respiratory infections this flu season. They recommend the following:

- Stay up-to-date on flu and COVID-19 vaccinations (should you choose to be vaccinated);
- Keep your child(ren) home when ill;
- Practice good hand hygiene by washing hands thoroughly and frequently;
- Keep high-touch surface areas clean and disinfected; and
- Consider wearing a face covering in indoor spaces.

The Executive Order also suggests contacting your health care provider or visit an urgent care center if you have questions or concerns. “At this time, hospital emergency departments are strained. Only visit the hospital if your child shows signs of severe illness, such as if your child has trouble breathing.” (Office of the Governor Media Release, 11/14/2022).

The Philomath School District will continue to monitor student attendance throughout this surge.

**Oregon School Boards Association (OSBA) Annual Conference:**

Had the wonderful opportunity to participate in this conference with members of our School Board. We were able to gather some great information during this past weekend.

**COVID Vaccine Clinics:**

As we wind down the calendar year, Philomath School District is hosting two COVID Vaccine Clinics.

- November 18, 2022 (Friday) 4:00pm-7:00pm @ Clemens Primary School
- December 16, 2022 (Friday) 4:00pm-7:00pm @ Clemens Primary School

**Kings Valley Charter School:**

On November 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Boards from the Philomath School District and Kings Valley Charter School met to discuss fall updates. One result of the meeting included a planned meeting to discuss some operational items in additional detail. That meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday, November 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Synergy:**

Philomath School District staff will begin embarking on some initial training related to the Synergy platform. Our school registrars and other key individuals will hold an initial gathering on Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Long-Range Facility Planning:**

The Committee has completed site visits through all District facilities. A report of information and findings will be compiled and shared with committee members in January 2023.

Thanks to *Joey DiGiovannangelo* and *Jennifer Griffith* for making this happen!

**School Traffic Safety Study:**

On Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, the PSD Board of Directors and the Philomath City Council met in a joint meeting to discuss the School Traffic Circulation Study. Report information has been passed along to the consulting firm, Kittelson and Associates, to provide their final report and recommendations for improvement.

Top areas of concern identified by meeting participants were:

- Crosswalk at 19<sup>th</sup> and Applegate;
- Crosswalk at 17<sup>th</sup> and Main;
- After-school pick-up area (19<sup>th</sup> Street) at Clemens Primary School; and
- Crosswalk at 19<sup>th</sup> and Main.

**Early Learning:**

The Pre-Kindergarten-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Committee of the Early Learning Hub met in Philomath on Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. This sub-group looks specifically at the connections and integrations between childcare, preschool, and public schools.