



Philomath School District 17J

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

Philomath School District 17J

Board of Directors

Superintendent's Report

April 21, 2022

Appreciating Our Teachers:

The National PTA appropriately states, "Teaching is a Work of Heart!" These staff members keep our students safe, healthy, nourished, and learning—no matter what! "The pandemic has ushered in a new way of teaching and learning. From in-person to virtual to a hybrid learning environment (some all in one school year!), our students have faced challenging, yet innovative times in their learning and development—and teachers have been at the heart of it all!"

Please join me in honoring our wonderful teachers during the week of May 2-6, 2022. The Philomath School District would like to share our heartfelt gratitude for our teachers. You help keep our schools running, even in extraordinary circumstances. We appreciate you!

2022-2023 Student Meal Updates:

- The federal aid currently allowing all students to eat free school meals will no longer be available in the 2022-2023 school year.
- The pandemic EBT assistance has already closed.
- PSD will be alerting families of these changes, alerting the returned need to apply for Free- or Reduced-Price meals.
- PSD will encourage and support the following options:
 - Strongly encourage families to apply for **Free-or Reduced-Price** Meals.
 - Income guidelines for 2021-2022 are currently posted on the district website. While we know these will change a little for 2022-2023, this guidance provides a good start.
 - Once updated income guidelines are available, they will be shared with families.
 - Seek participation in the **Oregon Extended Income (EIG)** Program.
 - This program allows many more families, who would normally not qualify for the Federal Free & Reduced Meal Program, to receive school meals at no charge.
 - Income guidelines for EIG differ from traditional F/R meal guidance.
 - Program is part of the Student Success Act, designed to provide about 62% of Oregon students with school meals at no cost.
 - An eligibility notification letter will be sent to qualifying families.
- Each school maintains a small donation fund should a short-term need arise for student meal needs.

Collective Bargaining with OSEA Philomath Chapter 64:

- Opening session scheduled for Tuesday, April 26, 2022.
- District team will consist of school board members, Joe Dealy and Anton Grube, and school administrators, Steve Bell and Bryan Traylor.

Summer Learning:

Summer learning opportunities will be happening in Philomath! Plans are beginning to emerge for a summer of learning and fun.

- Summer funds are available through the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) for summer learning. Funds include:
 - High School Academic Support
 - K-8 Enrichment Program
- Information will be shared with families as plans continue to take shape.
- Credit Recovery opportunities for high school students will be available, beginning June 20th and ending June 30th. A second opportunity will be available in August.
- Students in grades K-5 will have the opportunity to participate in a two-week Literature Camp, scheduled to begin on August 15th.
- PSD is beginning to advertise for summer staff.

Staffing:

PSD is doing lots of hiring for the 2022-2023 school year! We have retirements and resignations that need to be filled. The Board, families, and community will continue to be updated.

LBL Adjustments:

On March 24, 2022, ODE released an update for the 2021-2022 fiscal year, including a significant change due to SB 743 (State School Fund Calculations for Public Charter Schools). SB 743 requires, for purposes of calculating State School Fund (SSF) distributions, calculations for virtual public charter schools to be separate from calculation for the district if school district has decreasing enrollment.

Two virtual charter schools in our region have been impacted by this change. As a result, LBL received a decrease in SSF payments for this fiscal year in the amount of approximately \$1 million. As a result, Philomath will see a decrease in available Tier 2 funding from LBL, proportionate to our student enrollment. A meeting is scheduled next week with LBL to discuss.

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination):

Fourteen Philomath staff members will be attending the AVID Summer Institute this year.

- Group #1: Seattle (June 27-29, 2022)
- Group #2: San Diego (July 26-28, 2022)

District Calendar:

No changes proposed for 2022-2023 approved calendar.

Local Option Levy:

- Planning to move forward with the November 8, 2022 election.
- Deadline to file ballot title is August 19, 2022.
- Deadline for filing ballot narrative is September 8, 2022.
- Deadline for filing arguments is September 12, 2022.

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

- April 22, 2022 (Friday) COVID Vaccine Clinic (4:00pm-7:00pm @ CPS)
- April 25-29, 2022 (M-F) Spirit Week @ PHS
- April 26, 2022 (Tuesday) Kindergarten Open House @ Blodgett Elementary (5:00pm-6:00pm)
- April 26, 2022 (Tuesday) Open House @ Clemens Primary School (6:00pm-7:00pm)
- April 29, 2022 (Friday) Level Up Football Showcase
- April 29, 2022 (Friday) PHS Spring Dance
- April 30, 2022 (Saturday) Level Up Football Camp
- May 2-4, 2022 (M-W) PHS Advanced Placement Exams
- May 5, 2022 (Thursday) PHS Jazz Band @ District Festival
- May 5-7, 2022 (Th-Sat) PHS Botany Sale
- May 7, 2022 (Saturday) PHS Choir League Festival
- May 9, 2022 (Monday) PHS Booster Club Meeting
- May 12, 2022 (Thursday) PSD Budget Committee Meeting
- May 13, 2022 (Friday) No School for Students (Staff Work Day)
- May 17, 2022 (Tuesday) PMS Spring Choir Concert (7:00pm @ PHS Auditorium))
- May 18, 2022 (Wednesday) PMS Spring Band Concert (7:00pm @ PHS Auditorium)
- May 19, 2022 (Thursday) PSD School Board Meeting (7:00pm @ DO Board Room)
- May 27, 2022 (Friday) Inclement Weather Make-Up Day
- May 30, 2022 (Monday) Memorial Day Holiday
- June 10, 2022 (Friday) Philomath Academy Graduation
- June 11, 2022 (Saturday) Philomath High School Graduation
- June 16, 2022 (Thursday) Last Day of School for All Students