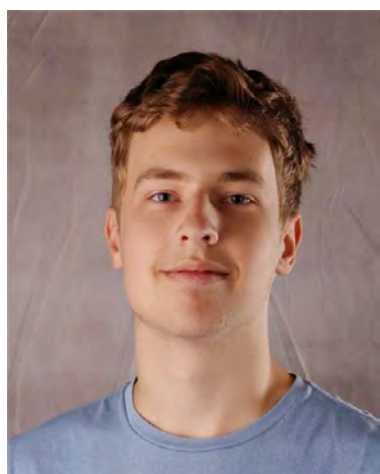


WEEKLY WARRIOR

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF PHILOMATH HIGH SCHOOL



Philomath High School Student Named National Merit Finalist

Philomath High School is proud to congratulate senior Ezra Smith on being named a National Merit Finalist for 2026!

Ezra is among a select group of students nationwide who, after being named a Semifinalist in September 2025, met all requirements to advance to Finalist standing in the National Merit Scholarship Program. Of the 16,000 Semifinalists named last fall, over 95 percent have become Finalists — and Ezra is one of them.

As a Finalist, Ezra is now being considered for National Merit Scholarship Awards to be offered in 2026. The selection of approximately 6,870 Merit Scholarship winners from the group of more than 15,000 Finalists is currently underway, with scholarship winners to be notified by email beginning in March. Major news media announcements of Merit Scholar designees will follow in April, May, June, and July.

Please join us in congratulating Ezra on this outstanding academic achievement. We look forward to watching him shine!

What Does It Mean to Be a Warrior? PHS Wants to Know and Wants Your Help

Philomath High School is embarking on an exciting initiative to strengthen and define what it truly means to be a Warrior. In partnership with SchoolMark — a program dedicated to helping schools build strong, unified identities — PHS is asking students, staff, parents, and community members one important question: What does it mean to be a Warrior?

If you asked that question today, you'd likely get a wide range of answers. That's not necessarily a bad thing, but it does point to an opportunity. PHS wants to move from a broad collection of ideas toward a focused, shared identity — something meaningful enough to live in the hallways every single day. To get there, SchoolMark consultant has developed a short survey being distributed to the entire Philomath community. Your responses will help paint a picture of what values, traits, and traditions our community associates with Warrior pride. That data will then be organized and brought before a stakeholder committee made up of students, staff, parents, and community members, who will review the findings and help chart the direction for PHS's identity going forward.

That's where we need your help. We're asking all of you that have stake in PHS to complete a short survey. You can access the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PhilomathHighSchool>.

Together, let's define what it means to be a Warrior.

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



Follow us on
Instagram
@phswarriornation

Dates to Remember

March 5th - PHS Art Night 5:30 pm

March 12th - half day

March 13th no school

Family VS. Student Challenge: Would You Rather?

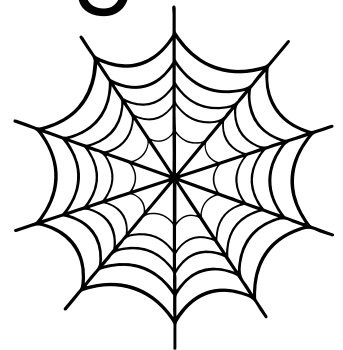
Our 'Would You Rather' last week was: **Would you rather have a scheduled day off of school, or an unexpected snow day off?**

Participants decided that a scheduled day off was more appealing.

This week, our question for you is:

Would you rather have a pet tarantula, or a pet hermit crab?

Use the QR code to participate!



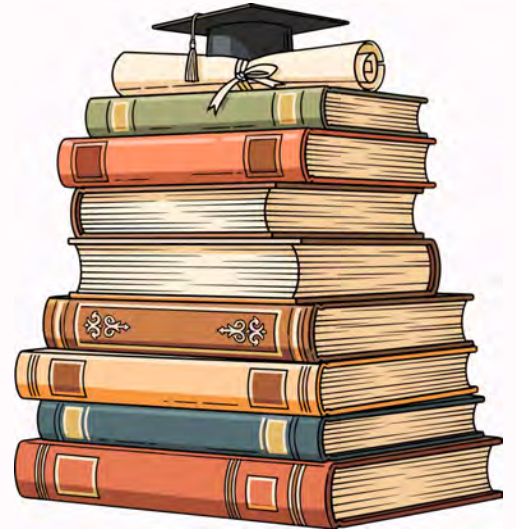
Exciting New Opportunity:

College Literature Coming to PHS

We are thrilled to announce an innovative course offering for the upcoming school year — one that represents a meaningful step forward in how we think about learning and student preparation for life beyond high school.

Mr. Kelly will be teaching College Literature: Fiction, a College Now dual-enrollment course offered in partnership with Linn-Benton Community College (EN104). Students who successfully complete this course will earn college credit, giving them a genuine head start on their post-secondary journey.

What makes this course especially exciting is the format. Rather than following the traditional five-day classroom model, this course will be offered in a hybrid structure. Students who are performing at a C or above will attend class on Tuesdays and Thursdays, giving them greater flexibility and an introduction to the kind of independent responsibility they will encounter in college. Students whose grade falls below a C will attend class daily until their grade is brought back up to that level, ensuring that no student falls behind and that everyone has the support they need to succeed.



This course reflects our broader commitment to reimagining what learning can look like for our students. We believe in meeting students where they are, while also challenging them to grow. Our goal is to expand this kind of innovative, flexible learning model to additional courses over time, and we are intentionally moving thoughtfully to make sure we get it right.

We are proud to offer this opportunity and look forward to seeing our students rise to meet it.

Congratulations To These Amazing Students!

Over the weekend some of the music students participated in the solo and ensemble contest. This is a contest that is held within each music district within the state. The music district that Philomath is in, is with all schools in the Lincoln, Linn and Benton Counties.

The schools that were represented were:

- Corvallis HS
- Crescent Valley HS
- West Albany HS
- South Albany HS
- Philomath HS
- Santiam Christian Schools
- Newport HS
- Central Linn HS



Through participating in this contest students are selected to perform at the state level for their solo or ensemble performance. We had 2 students from Philomath participate this year! Andy Glover and Andrew Sims. Andy competed in the Clarinet division and Andrew competed in the Tenor Voice division. Both performed beautifully!

I'm happy to brag that both of them not only qualified to perform at the state solo competition but they won, yes WON in both of their divisions. Andy brought home one of the highest scores ever in the history of this festival! He missed getting a 'perfect' score by 9 points.

If you see either of these gentleman, please give them a much earned congratulations! I'm beyond proud of them and all of the hard work that they have accomplished! I can't wait to see them perform at State!

The state solo competition will take place on Saturday May 2, at Portland State University. We won't know the schedule till the middle of April.

Thank you all for your support of the band and choir programs!

Let's celebrate the hard work of these students!

PHS Unified Warriors Shine at OSU Tournament

The PHS Unified Warriors had a day to remember at the OSU Unified Tournament this past Saturday, bringing home not one, but two reasons to celebrate!

The team earned the Silver Medal in competition, a fantastic achievement that reflects the hard work and dedication each athlete has put in throughout the season. But perhaps the most meaningful honor of the day was being awarded the Sportsmanship Pin, a recognition that goes beyond the scoreboard and speaks to the character of every single player on the roster.

From start to finish, the Unified Warriors played with heart, hustle, and a whole lot of team spirit. The energy was electric, the smiles were contagious, and the fun was felt by everyone in attendance.

To our Unified Warriors, you make us proud every time you take the floor, and Saturday was no exception. Silver medals and sportsmanship? That's a championship combination.

Way to go, Warriors!



CTE STUDENTS TAKE THE SHOW ON THE ROAD FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL CAREER DAY

Nine PHS students recently made their way to the middle school to take part in Career Day, giving 8th graders an exciting preview of the CTE opportunities waiting for them at the high school.

The student ambassadors brought along projects to showcase the hands-on, real-world learning that CTE programs have to offer. The 8th graders had a chance to ask questions and get a firsthand look at what life in a CTE pathway could look like for them – straight from the students living it.

Joining the visit were Ms. Drennen, Mrs. Adams, and Mrs. Hanson, who spoke with students about the upcoming forecasting meeting and walked them through the variety of CTE pathways available at the high school. It was a wonderful opportunity to connect with future students and get them thinking about their futures early.



Culinary Arts -
Isabelle Muir
Child Development -
Madi Endicott & Aleah
Hendrix
Health Occupations -
Makayla Lillie
Industrial &
Engineering Systems
- Hunter St. Clair
Information &
Communication
Technology - Isabelle
Norman & Esias Sapp
Forestry - Olivia
Daggett



Spanish Class at PHS:



Exciting Happenings

Zani Refugio, (Amy and Abby's mom) came into Spanish class and taught us how to cook gorditas. She is from Gathering Together Farms and uses all organic produce in her cooking and also sells her food at the Corvallis Saturday market.

Nico, the Spanish exchange student, also came in and presented to all classes about Spain. Students had lots of questions and learned about many cultural aspects in Spain.

Alba and Olalla, also students from Spain came into classes and presented about Spain and taught students how to play 2 Spanish card games.





2026-2027 School Year Forecasting



The forecasting process for the 2026-2027 school year is quickly approaching. This is an important opportunity for students to plan their academic path and select courses that align with their post-high-school goals.

Key Dates:

- March 3rd – Assembly for 9th-11th grade students to learn about class opportunities
- March 3rd-10th – Forecasting window open for course selection
- March 5th – Staff visit to middle school to begin their forecasting

Important Information:

Students will be selecting the classes they want to take next year. This information is used to build our master schedule, so thoughtful planning is essential. Once schedules are created, changes will only be permitted for the following reasons:

- Scheduled in the wrong level or missing a prerequisite
- Schedule conflict with classes at LBCC
- Need a different course to meet a graduation requirement
- Conflict with work schedule
- Ensuring athletic eligibility
- Duplicate classes



Action Required:

Students should take time to carefully review the course catalog posted online before making their selections. Consider which classes will support your graduation requirements and future goals, whether that's college, career training, or entering the workforce. Choose courses you're genuinely interested in and committed to completing.

Class of 2026--this is your year! Check out important dates on the Senior Calendar:



March:

March 2 OSAC Scholarships Final deadline
March 2 Ford Family Foundation Application deadline at 5pm
March 23-27 Spring Break



April:

April 15 Philomath Community Foundation Scholarships Deadline

May:

May 4-15 AP Testing Window
May 4 Mandatory: Senior Meeting
May 9 PROM
May 12 Graduation Response -Google Form Due
May 12 Auditions for graduation speeches/music
May 26-29 Homegoing/S week
May 29 Field Day
May 31 Sunday @ 6:00 Baccalaureate

June:

June 2 Tuesday @ 6:00 Honors Convocation
June 4 No later than 8:00 am Fees due to Office Manager
June 5 Official Transcript Request Form Due
June 5 Senior Breakfast hosted by PHS Staff & Senior Last Day
June 5 Senior Checkout & Parade of Grads & Grad Practice Day:
June 6 @ 11:00 Graduation

**CITY OF
PHILOMATH**

DIGITAL MEDIA

IF I WERE MAYOR...

CONTEST



DEADLINE

16 MARCH

2026

**GRADES
9-12**



All entries must include an entry form.
For more information please visit the link below

[philomathoregon.gov/city-council/page/
if-i-were-mayor-contest](https://philomathoregon.gov/city-council/page/if-i-were-mayor-contest)



COMMUNITY CONNECT

Oregon Family Support Network (OFSN) is a statewide organization providing education and advocacy from the family experience through to state government. Our work is community and family-driven to provide the best access and support to the families being served.

Support for families

Family Connections

[REGISTER](#)

Rainbow Family Support Group

[REGISTER](#)

Learning to Walk with Our
Children

[REGISTER](#)

Families United

[REGISTER](#)

Reach Out Oregon Family

Discussion

[REGISTER](#)

Parent's Night Out Respite -
Eugene

[RSVP](#)

Training for families, caregivers and healthcare workers

Documentation for
the Workforce

[REGISTER](#)

Family-Led Crisis Planning
for Families

[REGISTER](#)

Wraparound TAG

Coaching

[REGISTER](#)

Wraparound FSS

Modules 1 & 2

[REGISTER](#)

Family Support Specialist
(FSS) Foundations

[REGISTER](#)



PROM DRESS GIVEAWAY

March 6 & 7, 2026

Oregon Convention Center



Pick from over 5,000 **FREE** dresses!

Visit AbbysCloset.org to register

ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES

Spring Sports Start Monday, March 2nd

Register on the Philomath High School Athletics page at:

<https://www.philomathsd.net/philomath-hs-home/athletics>

Swim Team

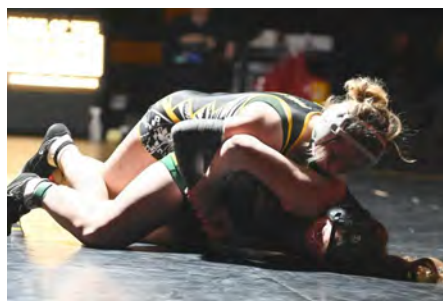


Philomath junior Lucas Brandt won his second straight state title in the 100-yard breaststroke at the 4A/3A/2A/1A

Championships, while also breaking his own school record twice in the 200 individual medley and finishing second in

that event. Brandt helped lead Philomath to a fifth-place team finish, highlighted by a fourth-place showing in the 200 medley relay

Girls Wrestling



Philomath High freshman Makinzey Harrington qualified for the state tournament with a runner-up finish at 135 pounds at the Special District 1

Championships, earning three straight pins before falling in the title match. Three other Warriors

placed fifth but narrowly missed state qualification, and Philomath finished 10th overall in the team standings.

Girls Basketball



The Philomath High School girls basketball team defeated Newport 59–20 to finish the regular season 13–10 overall and 5–3 in Oregon West, securing third place in the conference and a road game in the March 7 playoffs.

Photo Credits Philomath News

Information

Below you will find links to corresponding sites that will provide you with current information for athletics and activities.

OSAA

- Game schedules; dismissal, departure, and return times; rosters; coaches contact information, etc.

PHS Athletics Page

- Calendar, sports registration, athletic forms, athletic handbook and policies, athletic fundraisers, etc.

Athletic.net

- XC and Track and Field meet information.

Philomath News

- Local coverage about Warrior sports.

Please note that game times are subject to change, so please check schedules prior to scheduled events.

Mike Hood

Assistant Principal/Athletic Director
541-929-3211

mike.hood@philomath.k12.or.us

Ashley Toombs

Athletics & Activities Administrative
Assistant

541-929-2043

ashley.toombs@philomath.k12.or.us