

SEPTEMBER 2025 | ISSUE 80

# WEEKLY WARRIOR

Official Newsletter of Philomath High School

## Philomath High School earns recognition from U.S. News & World Report

Philomath High School has earned recognition as one of the nation's top performers, ranking in the upper 40% of nearly 18,000 public high schools nationwide according to U.S. News & World Report's latest rankings. Our 12th-place showing in Oregon and national ranking of 1,546 represents a significant achievement for our small-town school competing against schools with much larger budgets and resources across the country.

This recognition is particularly meaningful because it's based on hard data that directly impacts students' futures—graduation rates, state test scores, and Advanced Placement performance. Philomath High's placement in Oregon's top 25 for state assessment proficiency and college readiness demonstrates that students are genuinely prepared for their next steps.



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



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# Dates to Remember

## September

30<sup>th</sup> Picture Retakes starting at 7:45 in auditorium

## October

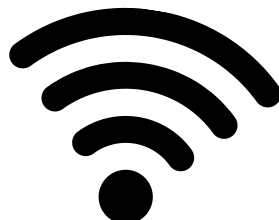
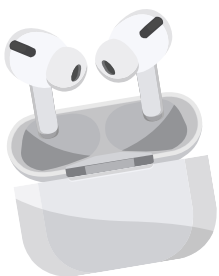
9 - 10<sup>th</sup> Conferences  
30-31<sup>st</sup> No School

## Family vs. Student Challenge: Would You Rather?

In last week's 'Would You Rather?' in the PHS library, the question presented was: **Would you rather have extremely slow WiFi, or an earbud that only works intermittently?**

Our students and parents who submitted their responses came to a consensus that having an on-again, off-again relationship with their earbuds was more bearable than waiting for a stubborn internet connection. Use the QR code to participate this week!

**Stay tuned for the results of this week's 'Would You Rather!'**



# Erin's Law Activity - Monday, September 22nd

## Homeroom

On Monday, September 22nd, students will participate in an age-appropriate Erin's Law lesson during Homeroom. Erin's Law requires schools to provide personal body safety education to help students recognize inappropriate behavior, understand healthy boundaries, and know how to seek help when needed.

### Grade-level topics:

- 9th Grade: Understanding grooming behaviors
- 10th Grade: Recognizing power dynamics in relationships
- 11th Grade: Advanced concepts of consent in dating
- 12th Grade: Building healthy relationships for adulthood



This is one of four required lessons students receive throughout the school year. Parents who wish to opt their child out of this activity can use the QR code. Students who are opted out will be supervised in a designated area of the school during the lesson.

These lessons are designed to provide students with important life skills and safety awareness in an educational, supportive environment.

## Show Your Warrior Pride!

Looking for official Philomath High School gear? Check out our **Warrior Wear** online store! From hoodies and t-shirts to accessories, you'll find quality items to show your school spirit.

**Shop now at:** [PHS Online Store](#)

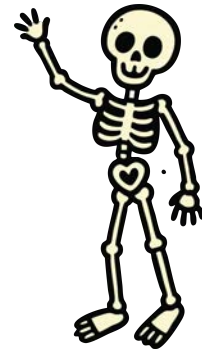
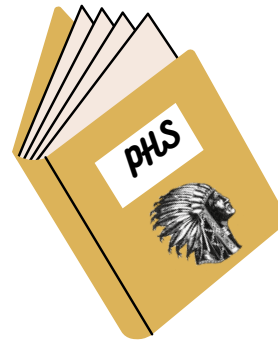
Perfect for students, families, and alumni who want to represent Warrior Nation in style!



# Classroom Report: Mrs. Carter



Mrs. Carter's Anatomy and Physiology class is currently learning the structure and function of the human skeletal system. On Friday the students then participated in a beef bone lab where each group explored a cross-section of a long bone. Anatomy is just one of the amazing classes PHS offers that set students up for success in their futures. Go Warriors!



## Attendance Reminder

Thank you, families! You've been doing a great job calling in when your child is sick. We appreciate your communication and partnership in keeping everyone healthy.

### Students should stay home when they have:

- Fever (100.4°F or higher)
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- Contagious illness (strep throat, pink eye, flu symptoms)
- Significant family emergency or unavoidable medical appointments



### Students should come to school with:

- Minor aches and pains
- Tiredness from staying up late
- Routine appointments that could be scheduled after school

Remember: students need to be fever-free, vomit-free, and diarrhea-free for 24 hours before returning to school.

**Please continue calling in absences: 541-929-3177**

# Students Discover Career Paths with YouScience This Week



This week, students in Homeroom classes are taking the YouScience Aptitude & Career Discovery assessment – an exciting opportunity to uncover their natural talents and explore potential career paths.

YouScience uses brain game-like exercises to measure students' natural aptitudes in areas like spatial visualization, numerical reasoning, idea generation, and problem-solving abilities. Unlike typical career assessments that only focus on interests, YouScience reveals what students are naturally good at, regardless of their previous exposure to different careers.

## How YouScience helps students:

- Matches aptitudes with 600+ real-world career opportunities [Career Aptitude Assessment for Schools | YouScience](#)
- Shows education pathways to reach career goals
- Reveals hidden strengths and talents students may not know they have
- Helps students understand their natural work style and approach

Students often discover they have much higher aptitude for certain careers than they initially had interest in opening doors to possibilities they might never have considered! This assessment gives students valuable insight into careers where they'll have a competitive advantage and can truly thrive.

## Cell Phone Policy Update

Great news! Students are doing an excellent job following our cell phone policy, and student engagement in class has been fantastic. We truly appreciate the family support in helping make this transition smooth and successful.

**Friendly reminder:** The policy includes ALL devices that can send or receive messages, including smartwatches. Students should leave smartwatches at home or in their lockers during the school day.



The positive impact on classroom focus and student interaction has been remarkable. Thanks for your continued partnership in helping us maintain a focused learning environment!

# FAFSA Opens October 1st – Get Ready Now!

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) opens October 1st, and we can't stress this enough: the sooner you apply, the better!

## Get a Head Start with Your FSA ID

Here's a pro tip: you don't have to wait until October 1st to get started! You can create your FSA ID right now, which will save you time and allow you to complete your FAFSA the moment it opens.

### What you'll need for your FSA ID:

- Social Security Number (SSN)
- Full legal name
- Date of birth

Important reminder: Make sure the information you and your parent/guardian enter for your FSA IDs match exactly. Mismatched information can cause delays and headaches later in the process.

## Ready to Get Started?

Visit [Studentaid.gov](http://Studentaid.gov) to:

- Apply for your FSA ID today
- Complete your FAFSA starting October 1st



## Questions?

Don't navigate this alone! If you have questions about the FAFSA process or need assistance, reach out to Leslie Adams at [leslie.adams@philomath.k12.or.us](mailto:leslie.adams@philomath.k12.or.us). She's here to help make this process as smooth as possible for your family.

Remember: every day you wait is potential financial aid you might miss out on. Mark your calendar and get that FSA ID created today!



Free Application for Federal Student Aid

# ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES

## Volleyball Downs Junction City



Photo Credit Philomath News

The Philomath High School volleyball team bounced back in style Tuesday night, sweeping Junction City 25-19, 25-19, 25-17 to improve to 2-2 on the season. Head coach Whitney Thomas credited her players for

adjusting to lineup shifts and showing poise, noting that everyone who stepped on the court contributed to the win. Junior standout Nora Stanley powered the offense with 11 kills, senior Avery Smith dished out 22 assists, and sophomore Libby Kramer added four aces as the Warriors shift focus to a weekend tournament before opening league play against Sweet Home on Sept. 23.

## Boys Soccer 5-0 vs JC



Photo Credit Philomath News



Photo Credit Philomath News

On a scorching afternoon in Junction City, Philomath junior Jacob Hernandez caught fire, netting four goals in the first half to propel the Warriors to a commanding 5-0 victory. Senior Zach Grapoli tacked on the final goal early in the second half, while the defense kept its perfect season intact with a third straight shutout. With 10 goals in three games and tougher opponents on the horizon, including a home clash against undefeated Gladstone, the Warriors now face their first true test.

## PHS Athletic Events Next Week

### Monday, September 22

- JV Girls Soccer vs Corvallis JV2 4pm
- JV Boys Soccer @ Corvallis 5pm

### Tuesday, September 23

- Volleyball vs Sweet Home
  - 4:30pm JV and Jv2
  - 6pm Varsity

### Thursday, September 25

- Volleyball @ Stayton
  - 4:30pm JV and Jv2
  - 6pm Varsity
- Varsity Boys Soccer @ Sweet Home 6pm
- JV Boys Soccer @ Jefferson 4pm
- Varsity Girls Soccer vs Sweet Home 4pm
- JV Girls Soccer vs Molalla 5:30pm

### Friday, September 26

- Varsity Football @ The Dalles 7pm

### Saturday, September 27

- Volleyball Varsity @ Junction City Tournament 8am
- Cross Country @ Willamette Golden Hour 5k

# ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES

## Girls Soccer Defeats JC 7-0



Photo Credit Philomath News

The Philomath girls soccer squad cruised past Junction City on Tuesday with a 7-0 shutout, fueled by multi-goal efforts from sophomores Kya Bolton and Bethany Cannon and a memorable finish from senior Ana Candanoza off a corner kick. After racing to a 3-0 lead in the opening 14 minutes, the Warriors stayed aggressive, tacking on four more goals in the second half with contributions from several players across the lineup. Now 4-1 on the season, Philomath heads into a nine-day break before opening conference play at home against Sweet Home on Sept. 25.



Photo Credit Philomath News



Photo Credit Philomath News



Photo Credit Philomath News



Photo Credit 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.**

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