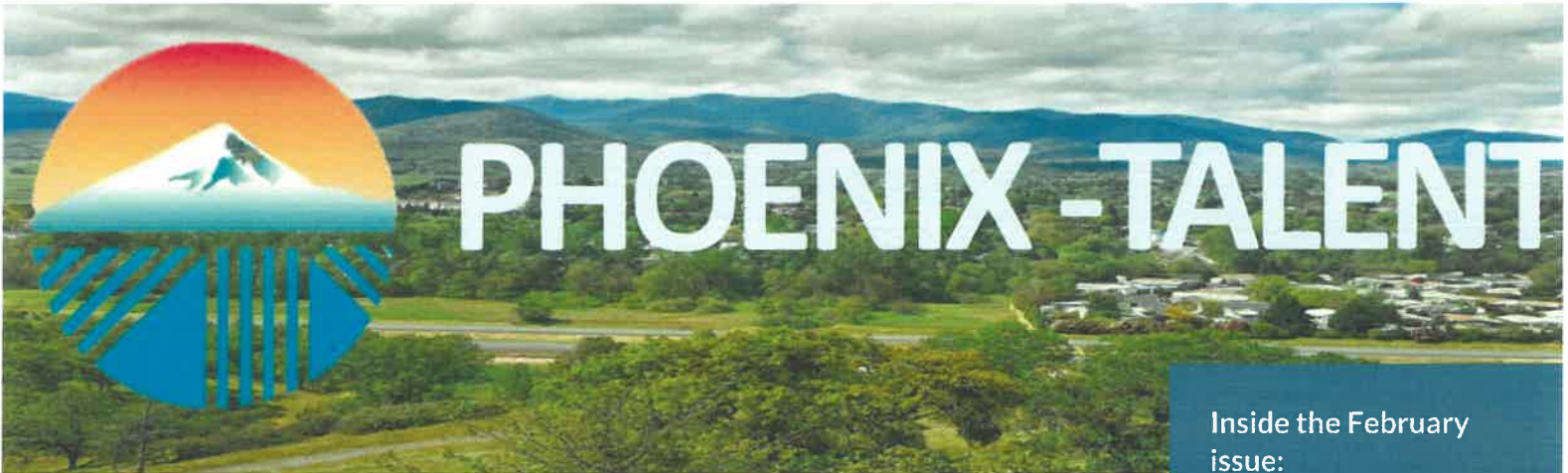


# WHAT'S THE NEWS....



*The monthly newsletter for Phoenix-Talent Schools*



## PHOENIX-TALENT

### Inside the February issue:

- Latest on Student Investment Account
- Classified Week
- Flu/Coronavirus
- Celebrations
- Mark your calendar

At the February 20th School Board Meeting, the Board unanimously approved the SIA plan to submit to ODE for approval. This is an exciting time for school districts across Oregon and we are thrilled to implement the plan for our kids and families! Again, we would like to thank the team of volunteers who spent many hours over the last year reaching out to our community and preparing for this application. It was truly a collaborative effort and we very much appreciate all involved. Some of the highlights of the plan include:

- Mental Health support across the district through a partnership with La Clinica. This is a longstanding partnership with the School Based Health Center at PES and we look forward to expanding the impact across the district. In addition, we are posting an additional School Psychologist position.
  - We have hired a Social Emotional Learning and Professional Development Coordinator.
  - Hire an instructional aide for every Kindergarten classroom and additional instructional aides to support 1st and 2nd grade classrooms across the district.
  - An inclusion support team will be developed to provide support for students and staff.
  - Expanding elementary music program by hiring an additional music teacher.
  - Funds for creation of Pre-school opportunities.
  - Many more creative and additional supports for students, staff and families.
- Our hope is to have our annual State of the District meetings with schools prior to spring break. Stay tuned for more details.

Note: We are leveraging other funding sources to support smaller class-size by hiring additional teachers.



## Coronavirus/Flu Information:

As many of you are aware, there is increased attention and alarm on the spread of Coronavirus across the globe. We have been in communication with Oregon Department of Education (ODE) and Jackson County Health Department on the most effective ways to plan and respond to ongoing spread of Coronavirus and flu virus. As you may remember, we ordered equipment to allow for a more efficient way to disinfect surfaces and areas in our schools. This equipment arrived and were then recalled due to a malfunction; we are expected to receive one of the machines back on Monday and we will begin the ongoing process of disinfecting schools on a regular basis. In addition, please refer to the communication from our school nurse that will be distributed via email. Below is some good reminders for us all:

### **General precautions:**

- Practice social distancing when ill.
- Ask parents to keep children home who exhibit cold and flu-like symptoms
- Encourage staff to refrain from coming to work if they have cold and flu-like symptoms.

### **Handwashing:**

- Encourage all students to frequently wash hands with soap and water.
- Keep hands out of mouth, eyes and nose.

### **Classroom/School level**

- Have teachers review hand-washing techniques with students.
- Discourage the sharing of food.
- Clorox wipes will be available to clean desks, keyboards, door knobs, etc.



In case you missed it last week, we had 20+ students attend the Rogue Community College CTE signing day at the Table Rock campus. Of all the attendees, over 50% were from PHS! Nice work to you all! Next year at this time, with the completion of the high school, students will be working in a state of the art facility to support Career and Technical Education.



Powerschool and server upgrade will happen over spring break and we will have periodic outages with Powerschool and Network. Guidance will be shared with staff on any major changes but it shouldn't impact users daily work.

Thank you in advance for your patience.



## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**MARCH 6TH - READY MATH (ELEM/MIDDLE)**

**MARCH 16-17 CONFERENCES**

**MARCH 18-29 SPRING BREAK**

*"Don't judge me by my success, judge me by how many times I fell down and got back up again"*

-Nelson Mandela

# CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION WEEK

JOIN US IN RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF OUR CLASSIFIED STAFF



## WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU

*Did you know about companion planting?*

In an article published by "Cult of Pedagogy" and written by Jennifer Gonzalez, the author describes the concept of companion planting. Gardeners, place certain vegetables and plants near each other to improve growth for one or both plants. "Among these companion plants, the Marigold is one of the best," the author explains. When you place a Marigold near other plants, those plants will growth strong and healthy and protected by the Marigold. Marigolds also exist in schools, and we can't think of a better example than our classified staff. Thank you for being super heroes to us, thank you for helping the school community thrive and grow strong, thank you for being our Marigolds!