Correction Enclosed

Pages were inadvertently omitted from the previous version of the August newletter to Palmyra patrons. This mailing includes the omitted submissions.

School District OR-1

425 F Street, Box 130
Palmyra, NE 68418
402-780-5327 Fax: 402-780-5349
Superintendent: Rob Hanger
Secondary Principal: David Bottrell
Activities Director: Aaron Hoeft

Elementary Principal: Linde Walter 50 Dogwood ST Bennet, NE 68317 402-782-3535 Fax: 402-782-3545

www.districtor1.org Twitter: @OR1_Panthers

PRSRT STD

ECRWSS U.S.POSTAGE PAID EDDM Retail District OR-1 Newsletter
District OR-1 Public Schools
August, 2014

**********ECRWSS****

Local Postal Customer

Together, we prepare our students to successfully meet the challenges of the future.

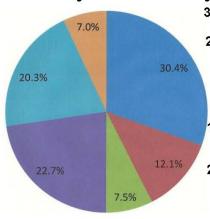
Foundation For Knowledge, District OR-1

2013

Compare the Foundation For Knowledge with other charities you may be considering What is your contribution worth?

11196

That is right – since our beginning, in 1999, your contribution of \$100 has been worth \$111 toward your investment in your community, after paying all administrative and operating expenses.



- 30% Sch<mark>ol</mark>arships for graduating seniors \$177,700 146 Scholarships have been awarded
- 23% Endowment fund for single and multiyear scholarships \$132,500
 4 Multiyear endowed scholarship funds, and
 - 5 Single year endowed scholarship funds have been established
 - 8% Educational Requests and Special Needs \$44,000
 You have provided support for general and special educational requests, needs, and recognition
- 12% Staff Tuition Loans \$70,600

 With your support your staff has continued their education so that they may bring their knowledge back to the classroom for all OR-1 students
- 20% Foundation Endowment \$118,700

 We continue to set aside funds to ensure that your Foundation For Knowledge will be here for generations to come
- 7% Program Expenses \$40,800

 Administrative expenses, investment expenses, filling, and accounting fees

With your support we will continue our work for the future of your community

We want to give a special thanks to all of you who have supported the Foundation For Knowledge – District OR-1 each year for the last 14 years.

Additionally we would like to thank the following for their significant support over the last several years:

- The Leland Olson Foundation
- The Beecham Family The John and Laura Beecham Memorial Scholarships
- The Rood Family The Deb Rood Memorial Scholarship
- The Penterman/Reed Family Reed/Penterman Scholarship Fund
- The Cheney Family Dale Cheney Scholarship Fund
- Alexis Calfee Memorial Scholarship
- Annual Alumni Golf Outing, program support and scholarship fund
- Learn to Dream Scholarship partnership with Southeast Community College
- Countryside Bank of Unadilla
- The Randy Vollertsen Memorial Scholarship Fund

	dation For Knowledge District OR-1 - P. O. Box 130, Palmyra, NE 6841	8
Enciosea is	my/ourindividual giftcorporate gift(corporate contact person)	
of \$	to the Foundation For Knowledge District OR-1	
I//\	e pledge \$ Enclosed is my/our payment of \$	
	Balance paid by, 20	
To validate Name	your pledge, your signature is required	
Address	Phone	
City	State Zip	
-	an alumni of Palmyra/Bennet School, please list year Please make checks payable to - Foundation For Knowledge District OR-1 Thank you for your investment in the future.	



PANTHER

District OR-1 Public Schools 425 F Street Palmyra, NE 68418 http://www.districtor1.org

Serving the Communities of Bennet, Palmyra, and Douglas, NE

August, 2014

- Superintendent Notes
- Teammates
- Tips for a successful year

- Foundation for Knowledge
- Developmental Assets
- 2014-2015 Calendar

Superintendent Notes...by Robert Hanger

NOTES FROM MR. HANGER

It is hard to believe that the summer of 2014 will quickly draw to a close as we prepare to open the doors for the 2014-2015 school year. The building has been very busy with an array of maintenance projects, improvements, and sports camps. I would like



to thank our staff that have been active with Drivers Education, FFA, basketball, summer conditioning activities, and a variety of in-service work to improve instruction at District OR-1. I would also point out the summer enrichment program more than doubled in size again this year as a group of dedicated teachers and support staff successfully designed and implemented a challenging and entertaining curriculum for our students. As I begin my 29th year in education, I can say with confidence that District OR-1 is endowed with a caring, committed, and professional staff of educators and support personnel that make this among the best K-12 systems in Nebraska. I encourage you to thank our staff and let them know how much you appreciate their efforts as we begin a year that will be academically challenging and exciting for our students. I wish everyone the best in 2014-2015.

GO PANTHERS!

New instructional staff additions this year include Carrie Wusk in Grade 1 and Jessica Cerny as K-12 Special Education, Please take some time to welcome our new staff to District OR-1.

In addition to numerous repairs, several large scale building improvements occurred over the course of the summer months.

Superintendent: Rob Hanger Palmyra Principal: David Bottrell Bennet Principal: Linde Walter Activities Director: Aaron Hoeft

...Continued on next page.

Palmyra-Bennet-Douglas Team Mates Mentoring Program board of directors met this summer for a strategic planning session for the next three years. They set a goal of 30 mentor/mentee matches by 2017. The second part of that goal is for mentors/mentees to meet a minimum of 24 times during the school year. Data shows the positive impact these one hour weekly meetings have on the youth. Attendance and behavior improve as well as grade reports.

Palmyra-Bennet-Douglas TeamMates Mentoring Program is kicking off the year with a cookout for mentors, mentees, board of directors, and their families to be held on Saturday, August 9 at 5:30 p.m. at Dave and Becky Hall's home at 1297 G Road, Palmyra, NE. RSVP to Becky at 402-560-5231 or Sally at 402-430-3687 by August 6 if you plan to attend

On Sunday, September 28 TeamMates will host a One Hour Walk. Mark your calendars and come walk for one hour to support Palmyra-Bennet-Douglas TeamMates Mentoring Program.

If you have any questions regarding TeamMates please contact:
Mr. Chaffee at 402-780-5327 ext. 315 or chaffee.mic@districtor1.net

Palmyra-Bennet-Douglas



Together We Transform Lives

The Bennet building has been upgraded with the addition of mechanical equipment including a new hot water heater, new circulation pumps, and general maintenance on the heating and cooling system made possible by the 2011 boiler/chiller work. In Palmyra improvement efforts have upgraded the building HVAC control/management system as well as sidewalk replacement on the northwest corner of the building. Community information meetings regarding facilities took place on June 24th in Bennet and June 25th in Palmyra. An additional meeting was held at the

High School on July 16th. These discussions follow a six month study by the Board in eight separate work sessions reviewing, updating, and prioritizing information from the 2012-2013 facilities study and the failed bond issue in September 2013. The Board spent time reviewing and af-

firming building and program needs as well as reviewing the schools options to prioritize maintenance and code issues with the help of Clark Enersen Partners. The next community meeting is scheduled for August 6th at Bennet Elementary to begin at 7:00 p.m. You can also join in the discussion online at http://bennetpalmyraschools.mindmixer.com/ Building drawings and information can also be found at www.districtor1.org

The high school continues to augment dual credit courses in our partnerships with Northeast Community College, Southeast Community College, and Peru State College. Courses include, but are not limited to the following: Composition 150, Health Sciences, Business and Informational Technology, and introductory education courses. This partnership allows students to begin coursework in a post-secondary setting prior to graduating from Palmyra Senior High School. The program also provides the opportunity to engage students with online asynchronous coursework while they have the support of personnel on our campus.

The District remains focused on technology as we enter our third year of a 1:1 iPad initiative in the secondary building with the addition of eBackpack. Staff and students will now be able to assign, share, collaborate, collect, and review assignments across any

internet connected device including the iPad. Parents will also be able to log into the system and check the status of student work.

Our students will continue to benefit from Character education as three additional staff members attended 8 to Great training in June of 2013. District OR-1 now has 15 trained instructors delivering an advisory curriculum focusing on the 8 to Great Fundamentals. The curriculum is a step-by-step instructional process that systematically provides students with knowledge related to self-confidence/self-respect, respect for others/compassion, responsibility/no excuses as well as communication skills, perseverance/resilience, positive attitude, resourcefulness, and goal setting. The second component to

our Character Education program will continue through a research-based program titled Second Step. The curriculum places an emphasis on educating elementary and middle grade students to help them make good choices, avoid temptations to bully other students, and understand peer pressure. Grades K-8 focus on specific character traits

such as skills related to empathy, managing anger, developing problem solving skills, increasing attention spans, and distraction avoidance. This curriculum augments the Character Counts program at Bennet Elementary for grades K-6. Our partnership with Partners with Otoe County continues to benefit District OR-1 students as this year will see the addition of the Second Step focused Bullying Prevention curriculum for grades 3 through 6. This program includes teaching staff and students how to recognize, respond to, and report bullying. The

Bennet Elementary team is also excited to implement a school-wide positive behavior plan for the 2014-2015 school year that allows staff to use common language and consistent expectations within the school environment. The school will follow the 4 B's of Learning: Be an Active Learner, Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Safe.

Finally, we will implement a new math series this fall for grades K-5. The new math series is Pearson En-Vision and provides alignment to Nebraska standards. I applaud the efforts of our staff in developing a meaningful curriculum and for engaging our students in exciting and up to date materials and mechanisms.

Returning to school after the busy summer season means that our thoughts turn to beginning of new daily routines that includes a fresh start in courses and activities. Students and staff are always invigorated to begin anew with energy and enthusiasm each academic year. Students should also renew their focus on organizational skills in order to ensure success. In most small schools our students are busy managing course

work, study time, and a busy activity schedule. I am reminded of the "Seven Habits of Highly Responsible Students" as published in a brochure outlining tips for student success. They include the following of our students:

- 1. They set goals.
- 2. They Plan their time.
- 3. They study every day.
- 4. They take notes in class.
- 5. They have the tools they need (paper, pencils, etc.).
- 6. They keep their commitments.
- 7. They get ready ahead of time.

WELCOME BACK TIPS FOR THE NEW YEAR!

The 2014-2015 School Year will kick off on **Thursday**, **August 14**th for students in grades K–12. The first day will be a full day of school.

BENNET ELEMENTARY:

Elementary School hours will continue to be from 8:20 a.m. - 3:20 p.m. On the first day, parents and students in kindergarten will report to the school cafeteria.

Parents and students in grades one through six will report to the school gym at 8:30 a.m. for a short assembly. Following the assembly, students will report to their classrooms with their teachers.

PALMYRA JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL:

High School hours will continue to be from 8:10 a.m. – 3:37 p.m. On the first day, all 7-12 students will report to the high school gym. Stu-

dents should pick up their schedules and locker assignments from staff members. Following a short assembly, students will report to their first-period class.

PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL:

Please Contact the School if your child has been attending Bennet Elementary or Palmyra Jr/Sr High School and will not be attending this year. Also, if you have moved into the district this summer and your child has not registered, please call as soon as possible at the phone numbers listed above.

GETTING OFF TO A GOOD START:

Summer is nearly over and the beginning of a new school year is in sight. The beginning of a new school year is an exciting time for students and teachers alike. It is an opportunity to get a fresh start and to take advantage of the educational opportunities that are available. Nearly everyone looks forward to the challenge of the new year, and nearly everyone comes prepared to give it their best and

improve upon any shortcomings they may have had from the previous year. Please encourage your favorite student to make the most of this opportunity.

BUSING INFORMATION:

Bus routes are in the process of being finalized. This year we will be adding a stop to pick up elementary students before school from the Bennet Church. The approximate pick-up time at the Bennet Church will be 8:10 a.m. Parents of students who are on country bus routes will be receiving a call from their bus drivers during the week before the start of school. Drivers will give you approximate pick-up and drop off times for your children. If you are new to the district and desire bus transportation, please contact Cathy Fick at 402-540-2879 or 402-780-5636.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS/IMMUNIZATIONS:

Nebraska State law requires that all students entering kindergarten, grade seven, and all new students from out-of-state show evidence of having received a physical examination by a qualified physician within six months prior to enrollment. Evidence of this examination must be presented within 30 days of beginning enrollment unless the parent/guardian declares in writing his/her objection to the physical examination. The cost of the examination shall be borne by the parent. All students in grades 7-12 who are out for any sport must show evidence of a physical examination before they may participate in the sport. Physical examination forms are available at the office or on line at www.districtor1.org.

ACTIVITY PASSES:

Activity pass are available for students and families. These passes will get you entrance to all PHS activities except Main Stage Play and Musical. Activity pass prices are the following:

\$ 125 for a family pass

\$ 50 for an adult pass

\$ 30 for student passes

Students 7-12 are required to pay the \$30 activity fee to participate in activities at PHS.

(The family pass does not cover this fee)

IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION

Students must show proof of immunization upon enrollment in Palmyra High School. Any student who does not comply with the immunization requirements will not be permitted to continue in school. Students with medical conditions or sincerely held religious beliefs which do not allow immunizations may complete a waiver statement which is available in school health offices. Students with a signed waiver statement may be excluded from school in the event of a disease outbreak.

SCHOOL LUNCH/BREAKFAST:

Our lunch accounting system is set up so that each family has a single-family account. Parents are expected to send money to be deposited in this account similar to a bank account. Their child/children in both the elementary school and the high school will be able to spend that money for lunches or ala carte items. Expenditures will be deducted from the balance of the family account. The accounting system records when kids eat and how much was spent. When the account gets low, the school will notify parents so that they can maintain a balance in their family account. Should the family account be exhausted, students will be expected to pay for their lunches prior to consumption.

Lunch & Breakfast Information

- * A carton of milk will be \$.35 for K-3 recess milk or for milk to accompany a sack lunch.
- * Breakfast prices will cost \$1.55 for students in grades K-6.
- * Breakfast prices will cost \$1.80 for students in grades 7-12.
- * Lunch prices will be \$2.20 for students in grades K-6.
- * Lunch prices will be \$2.30 for students in grades 7-12.

It will be very important to talk about the menu with your children each day so they are prepared with the decisions they have to make when going through the serving line.

Recess Milk Prices and Payments

The cost of recess milk will be \$.35. The cost of recess milk will continue to be included with your family lunch bill. Each day your child has milk after recess, we will charge it to your family lunch account. You will no longer have to pay for recess milk separately. It is very important that you notify us if you do not want your child to have recess milk; otherwise, they will receive milk.

The Breakfast Schedule

The Breakfast program will start on Friday, August 15th. **No breakfast will be served on the first day of school**. If you have any questions about the school breakfast program, please contact either school.

In order to serve more students in an efficient manner, we are going to have students from elementary and high school eating in both buildings. Breakfast will start at 7:30 a.m. at both schools. Please note that school buildings do not open until 7:30 a.m. for students not in the Rec. Program. Please do not arrive prior to that time.

Bennet country bus students, junior high students, and high school students will be able to start eating breakfast at 7:30 a.m. in Bennet. High school and junior high students will be served first so they may eat and get on the bus. Elementary students from the Bennet country buses will be served immediately after the high school students.

Palmyra town students and country students may start eating breakfast in Palmyra at 7:30 a.m. Palmyra town students must eat in Palmyra and be finished in time for the shuttle bus departing for Bennet at 8:05 a.m.

Elementary students from Douglas and Palmyra country bus students will eat at Bennet when they get off of the shuttle at 8:25a m

The Lunch Schedule

Students will be told what time they go to lunch on the first day of school. Both Bennet Elementary and Palmyra Jr/Sr High School campuses are closed. Simply, students may not leave for lunch.

STUDENT RECORD POLICY

District OR-1 Public Schools is required by Federal law to notify parents of students and eligible students (a student who has attained eighteen years of age) that the

school does maintain personally identifiable data on students enrolled in District OR-1 Public Schools. Parents of students and eligible students have the right to inspect and review the educational records of their child or children and to challenge the contents of the records as inaccurate or misleading.

Any parent of a child or an eligible student who is or has been in attendance at District OR-1 Public Schools who desires to inspect and review his/her child's education records should contact either the custodian of records at the school or the office of the superintendent.

Notice is hereby given to parents of students and eligible students that the personally-identifiable information designated by District OR-1 Public Schools as directory information is as follows: the student's name, grade, address, email address, telephone number, date and place of birth, dates of attendance, the image or likeness of students in pictures, video or other film or medium, height, weight, most recent school attended, position in the group, experience in the group, candidacy for graduation, and/or the list of academic and/or activities achievement including, without limitations, honor rolls, scholarships earned, activity honors, and awards earned in connection with current school activities or class work which may be published onto the internet.

Parents of the student and/or eligible student have the right not to permit the foregoing designation of any, or all, of the categories of personally-identifiable information, with

respect to that student, as directory information, by informing District OR-1 Public Schools in writing within four weeks after the commencement of the school year. If you have questions about the records policy of the school, please contact the office of the Superintendent at 402-780-5327.

PARENT NOTIFICATION OF TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

On January 8, 2002, President Bush signed into law the "No Child Left Behind" Act designed to

improve student achievement in public schools at both the state and local levels. Under NCLB, school districts that receive Title I funding are required to inform

parents that they have a right to know the professional qualifications of their children's teacher(s).

Therefore, parents in the District OR-1 School District may request to know the qualifications of their child's teacher(s). As a parent, if you would like to receive specific teaching credential information about your child's teacher(s), please contact the office of the Superintendent at 402-780-5327. Please give the office at least five school days to contact you with information about the credentials referenced

DISCLOSURE OF STUDENT RECRUITING INFORMATION

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 requires schools to provide military recruiters and institutions of higher education access to secondary school students' names, addresses, and telephone listings. Parents and secondary students have the right to request that District OR-1 not provide this information to military recruiters or institutions of higher education without their prior written parental consent.

FEDERAL HANDICAPPED CHILDREN'S ACT

District OR-1 requests your help in locating handicapped children. The school implements the Federal Handicapped Children's Act (PL-94-142 which guarantees a free, appropriate educational program for all children between the ages of 0 and 21 years of age). If you have a student or know of any young person with special needs between 0-21 years of age that is not enrolled in an appropriate education program, please contact either school at the numbers listed above.

ANNUAL ASBESTOS NOTIFICATION:

Federal regulations require all schools to inventory asbestos containing materials (AMC) in their buildings and annually inform patrons and employees of the existing management plan.

The plan for District OR-1 is available for inspection to the general public, teachers, and other school personnel. The plan is available for anyone to inspect. If you wish to have a copy, though, you may have one within 5 days of your request for the cost of duplication.

The plan for District OR-1 has also been submitted to the Nebraska Department of Health, Divisions of Environmental Health & Housing Surveillance, in accordance with Federal Regulations.

NOTICE OF NON-

DISCRIMINATION: NONDISCRIMINATION IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Palmyra District OR1 does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, sex or gender, disability, marital status, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Robert L. Hanger, Superintendent, Palmyra District OR1, 425 F Street, Palmyra, NE 68418, 402-780-5327.

PALMYRA JR/SR HIGH INFORMATION

NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION & 7th GRADE SCHEDULES:

All students new to Palmyra Jr./Sr. High School and any incoming 7th grader who has not registered should plan to do so on Thursday, August 7th from 1-3 p.m. at the high school. Seventh– graders who attended orientation last spring are also welcome to come to school from 1-3 p.m. on Friday, August 8th to pick up schedules, locker numbers/combinations, and get reacquainted with the building.

STUDENT SCHEDULE CHANGES:

For students that need to make changes to their class schedules (aside from study halls), advisors will be available to make needed changes during the following available times:

Monday, August 4th – 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 5th - 9:00 a.m. – Noon. Wednesday, August 6th - 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SPORTS:

In order to participate in sports programs, students are required to have a physical before they may participate. Parents will want to be sure that this step is taken care of before the first day of practice. Students must also have a NSAA (Nebraska School Activities Association) Student and Parent Consent Form. This form will be distributed the first day of school.

BENNET ELEMENTARY INFORMATION

WELCOME BACK to a new and exciting 2014-2015 school year. I hope you all had a wonderful and restful summer, and are all ready for another collaborative



year with the staff at Bennet Elementary. I am looking forward to working with everyone to ensure the children at District OR-1 Bennet Elementary achieve their highest potential.

Bennet Elemen-

tary is excited to implement a school-wide positive behavior plan for the 2014-15 school year that allows staff to use common language and consistent expectations within the school environment. The school will follow the 4 B's of Learning: Be an Active Learner, Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Safe. A Behavior Matrix has been created that lists specific expectations for behaviors throughout the school day. We believe that children need to learn in a caring and safe environment that is free from distraction and disruption. More information will be handed out at Open House and at the first day of school.

We are currently at 50 first graders. With this in mind, the district has made the decision to split the first grade classrooms into three sections. For this coming year, one first-grade classroom will be in our former work room. This classroom will have approximately fourteen students. Mrs. Wusk will be the classroom teacher in this classroom. She is very excited about joining the staff at Bennet Elementary. This classroom will provide an excellent teacher-student ratio, in addition to helping decrease the class size in the other two first grade classrooms. The new classroom space is remodeled and ready for a new group of students.

I hope you all enjoy the rest of your summer, and I will see everyone in August. If there is anything I can assist you with, please feel free to let me know.

-Mrs. Walter

BENNET ELEMENTARY SUMMER ENRICHMENT:

Bennet Elementary had a wonderful turnout for the 2014 Summer Enrichment program. Our numbers were up this year with 104 students attending the summer session. The theme for the summer was, "Under the Sea." All grade levels participated in math, reading, writing, and science activities that focused on sea life and the ocean. To end our Summer Enrichment Session, the students enjoyed touring the Omaha Zoo aquarium.

CLASS LISTS POSTED:

Class lists will be posted on the windows of the Bennet Elementary gym door and the front doors at Palmyra High School on Tuesday, August 12th after 3:00 p.m. Students and parents may come up to the school and check to see whom their child's teacher will be. On Thursday, August 14th when students arrive for the first day, they will check to see who their teacher is, if they have not done so, and then enter the gym to go sit on the bleachers where their class is gathered. Signs for each teacher's class will be posted on the east wall of the gym above the bleachers. Staff members will be at the entry of the gym to help direct students to their correct class. There will also be a section in the west bleachers for parents to sit. Just a reminder, parents of students in kindergarten will report to the cafeteria.

BENNET ELEMENTARY OPEN HOUSE:

Bennet Elementary will be hosting an Open House on Tuesday, August 12th from 5:30-7:00 p.m. The school will be open for everyone in the community to come and visit or tour the building. The Bennet Boosters, District OR1 Palmyra Athletic Boosters, Girl and Boy Scouts, and the Teammates Mentoring Program will be at the Open House to provide information regarding registration and sign up. There will also be a table set up to register school volunteers and for registration for parent-teacher conferences. If you want to have a booth or table at the open house, contact Mrs. Walter at 402-782-3535. Mark your calendar for Tuesday, August 12th, and make plans to attend the Bennet Elementary open house.

KINDERGARTEN CLASS LISTS:

Parents of Kindergarten students should receive a letter from Mrs. Nitzsche or Mrs. Dvorak by Friday, August 8th letting them know of their class assignments and other information. If you do not receive a letter by August 8th, please contact the school as soon as possible so we may get the information to you. *If you have not turned in your child's paperwork for Kindergarten, please drop it off at the elementary or mail it to the school by Friday, August 8th.

Classes begin on THURSDAY, August 14TH

KIDS CONNECTION PROGRAM:

Kids Connection is a health insurance program developed by the State of Nebraska as an extension of Medicaid. Its purpose is to provide coverage to uninsured children across the state.

Kids Connection provides wellness care for your child in helping to prevent diseases, finding and treating problems early, and maintaining good health and development.

Regular check-ups include:

- * baby check-ups and baby immunizations
- yearly check-ups for school-age children, including school/sports physicals
- * immunizations for school-age children
- * dental check-ups and dental sealants
- * vision and hearing tests.

Kids Connection also provides medical care for injuries and illnesses as early as possible. This is essential in treating or correcting health problems.

Treatments include doctor's visits, lab tests/x-rays, counseling, medications, dental treatment, hospital care, eyeglasses, and specialty service for children with disabilities or chronic health conditions.

Your child's eligibility to have health coverage through Kids Connection is based on your family's income and citizenship. Children can be eligible:

- * if they are under age 19.
- * if they were born in the United States or are legally admitted aliens.
- * even if both parents live at home.
- * even if one or both parents work full-time.
- * even if their family already has some type of health insurance.

Applications for Kids Connection are located in the school office. Please call the school if you have any questions regarding Kids Connection.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM:

Bennet Elementary will continue to offer a before and after school recreation program. Starting on the afternoon of Thursday, August 14th (for a fee) school-age children attending Bennet Elementary may take part in this program. An evening registration will be held on Thursday, August 7th at Bennet Elementary from 6:00-7:00 P.M. If your child will be attending the before or after school care program, please stop by the school to register your child.

Times: 7:00 - 8:20 a.m. and 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

We will also offer drop-in service for those students that are pre-registered. Students that are not pre-registered will not be allowed to take part in the program.

- * Cost: \$2.65/hr per child. Time kept to the nearest 15 min. increment. A minimum of one hour's time will be charged for after school participation.
- * Payment: Prepayment in blocks of \$25.00 or more. There will also be a \$25 non-refundable registration fee at the beginning of the year.
- * Families buying a block of \$100.00 will receive 6 additional hours for free. (\$15.90 value)
- * Supervision: Students will be supervised by at least one adult. Additional help will be hired if needed so student to supervisor ratio doesn't exceed 15 to 1.
- * Structure: Activities will be offered such as board games, gym games, computer lab time, crafts, and playground fun. Study time and help for those that desire it will also be available. In addition, students will be offered an after school snack and be eligible for school breakfast in the morning.
- * The cost of breakfast will be additional.

LITTLE PANTHERS PRE-SCHOOL:

Classes for Little Panthers Pre-School will start on Monday, August 18th. An Open House will be held on Friday, August 15th from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. The pre-school is for 3 and 4 year old students in the school district. There are two class sessions. The morning session runs from 8:00 –11:30 a.m., and an afternoon session runs from 12:00 – 3:30 p.m. Each class session will receive a meal and a snack as part of the program. Ms. Brittany Draeger is the head teacher this year. Currently, the pre-school is full. Contact Bennet Elementary School at 402-782-3535 for more information.



Mark Your Calendars!

Tuesday, August 26th, 2014

Gather family and friends to enjoy Texas Roadhouse atmosphere and food. District OR1 Foundation for Knowledge will hold its annual Foundation Family Night. Between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., the Foundation will receive 10 percent of the total receipt from Panther Supporters.

To Parents of School Bus Route Children: ...Cathy Fick

School will be starting on Thursday, August 14. We have been busy working on bus routes for this year. Your bus driver will contact you approximately 1 week before school starts with your pick up time. If you are new to the district and requesting bus service, please contact Cathy Fick right away, so that your name can be added to the routes.

These routes and times may not be permanent until we get everyone needing bus service registered. Times will vary the first week of school, depending on who is riding, etc. Please be patient with us.

After the first week, times should be the same. The bus drivers can only wait one minute for students to get on the bus, so please have your student ready and waiting at their scheduled time. This will ensure that the bus will not be late to their next pickup or be late to school.

We ask that if your child will not be riding the bus at any time to please call your bus driver, or you may also call Cathy Fick 402-780-5636 or 402-540-2879. If you call my cell, please leave a message as it doesn't always ring in certain areas, or you can send me a text, and I will let your bus driver know. Please try to call the night before if possible. If not, please call at least 15 minutes before your scheduled pick up time. Even when you call the school, please call the driver as well. Phones are answered at school from approximately 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Please note that when school begins at 10:00 a.m. due to inclement weather, your pickup time will be approximately 1 hour and 45 minutes later than normal, i.e. an 8:00 a.m. pickup time will change to 9:45. Cathy will be providing those adjusted times as we finalize schedules.

If you are on Vicki/Dallas's route, we request that you always contact Cathy, as they have alternating schedules and do not drive every day. This way I can get the message to the driver assigned that day.

We ask that you send a note with your child for any alternate plans for the

bus e.g. if they are not riding home, if

they are going home with another student, or if they are having a friend go home with them. If they don't have a note, the change will not be allowed. We have too many students to manage alternate plans safely and confirm that parents are aware of where children are being dropped off. Parents may call Cathy or their school office prior to 3:00 p.m. to make a change in afternoon plans. No calls will be accepted after that as buses may be in route and calls cannot be taken.

There is to be no food or drinks on the bus except for plastic bottled water. No suckers, sunflower seeds or gum as they create a mess that is difficult to clean. No skateboards, no spray deodorant or perfume. No calls on their cell phones, unless it is from their parents, as it distracts the bus driver and becomes a safety issue. If they need to call their parents, they need to let the bus driver know.

Drop off times after school can vary, depending on who is riding the bus that afternoon so we ask that you are flexible after school.

If you have any questions, problems, or if your childe has a health issue that warrants your driver's attention, please call Cathy. If your child experiences any trouble, please call. We try to watch as close as we can, but we can't always see everything as we are driving and providing safe transportation for every child.

Thank you for your help and patience. Cathy Fick home: 780-5636 cell: 540-2879 (call or text)

YOUR BUS DRIVER(S) IS(ARE)
PICK UP TIME IS
BUS DRIVER PHONE NUMBER

Newsletter article from Guidance Counselor *Career Readiness*

It is hard to imagine that summer is over and you are reading this! Did you have a good summer? For many of us summer is a great time to rest, regroup, and rethink some priorities. That has been my summer. It started as I attended the Nebraska Career Education Conference in Kearney, June 2-5. This is one to the top conferences I have been to in my life! One presentation in particular was very helpful. The Nebraska Department of Education shared its recent work on Career Readiness. "A Career Ready person capitalizes on personal strengths, talents, education and experiences to bring value to the workplace and the community through his / her performance, skill, diligence, ethics and responsible behavior." (Definition of Career Readiness adopted by the Nebraska State Board of Education on May 5, 2010)

You may have sensed, as I did, that this is exactly what we are about in District OR-1. Every student in District OR-1; regardless of background, interests, or intent after graduating from high school; can, and should be, Career Ready. Here is what I learned:

Career Readiness is about the basics—a strong academic foundation and personal ethics. It's about speaking and writing effectively, analyzing situations and solving problems, and understanding fundamental concepts in math and science. It is also about being where you are expected to be when you are expected to be there, meeting deadlines, and conducting yourself professionally.

Career Readiness is about knowing your stuff, understanding available technology, and identifying when to use it appropriately. It's about using what you know to address new challenges and new opportunities. It is also about knowing what you <u>don't</u> know, and being enthusiastic about learning more and getting even better! It can also mean having the knowledge, drive, determination, and confidence to start your own business.

Career Readiness is about relationships, collaborating with co-workers, respecting the opinions, privacy and cultures of others. It's about working well on your own and as a member of a team. It is also about accepting responsibility and understanding the consequences of your decisions, making healthy choices, and understanding

your role in the bigger picture of your community, state, nation and world.

I think you will agree that what we are about as students, parents, stakeholders, teachers, staff, and administration



in District OR 1 is Career Readiness. We each have our part to play.

40 Developmental Assets of Search Institute

Towards that end, I also had another epiphany. Last spring I was awarded funding to share the work of Search Institute with our community. Search Institute is the non-profit research organization that has given us bedrock resources like 40 Developmental Assets to create strong and vibrant communities where families, schools, businesses, churches, sports organizations, and neighborhoods interact with our youth to keep them safe and well directed. This coming year I will be working with students, teachers, staff, and administrators to carefully and incrementally introduce 40 Developmental Assets into our school and greater community. Look for handouts, posters, emails, and future newsletter articles from me to help guide you in creating a kind, caring, and supportive community for all of our youth. Interested? For more information please go to http://www.search-institute.org/

Summer is soon to be over, but the quest to create a community where our youth are safe, supported, and equipped to be Career Ready is ongoing and exciting at District OR-1. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can help you and/or your family in any way. As the K-12 Guidance Counselor, I am always looking for ways to be helpful with academic concerns, personal, social, emotional issues, and college/career planning.

RESPECT

Jen Hanger, Second Step teacher Michael G. Chaffee, K-12 Guidance Counselor

District OR-1, along with United Against Violence, is excited to inform you of our upcoming presentation of RESPECT. The RE-SPECT organization will be performing August 26th for Kindergarten -12th grade. There will be four different performances designed for specific grade levels.

Over the past decade, RESPECT has helped to decrease violence and abuse in our communities. This work is done with the use of interactive theatre programs and focuses on the prevention of abusive relationship dynamics (those found in bullying, child abuse, dating violence, relational aggression, domestic violence, animal abuse, and sexual harassment) among children and youth. Short educational theater presentations are paired with panel or group discussions led by community professionals and our actoreducators. RESPECT is the only organization of its kind in the

state of Nebraska, and even travels into Iowa and South Dakota. While we use theater, we do not teach it as an art, but rather as a tool for problem-solving and communication while capturing the attention of all ages. (RESPECT website).

Here is an idea of what each group will viewing.

RESPECT programs consist of educational theatre presentations paired with panel or group discussions led by community professionals and our actor-educators. In talk-back sessions for elementary students, participants have the opportunity to try out their own solutions through role-playing. Programs for middle and high school students allow participants to submit questions anonymously for discussion during the talk-back session. Each adult training is 60 or 90 minutes and combines a research-based presentation with the use of theatre and role-play.

- **K-3 Fun & Games:** This play helps students identify bullying behaviors and prevention techniques. Students will learn about the importance and power of the bystander. Students are encouraged to respond respectfully to bullying behaviors as the target or bystander and to realize that what is "fun and games" for one person may be painful for another
- **4th-6th Teaming Up:** This play explores how bullying escalates over time and how it can affect not only the targets, but the bystanders who see bullying in their school. It also explores the different types of bullying and how bullying back can often cause more problems than it solves. During the talkback, students have the opportunity to practice techniques to stop and prevent bullying during a fun and safe role-play.
- 7th-8th Scraps: Developed at the request of students, this play focuses on social bullying, the bullying that can occur within friendships, or when relationships are used to hurt other people. Students will learn how to identify these subversive bullying behaviors and how to respond as the target or bystander.
- 9th -12th Cracked, But Not Broken: This play focuses on teen dating violence. Students will learn how to identify warning signs of abusive relationships and how to use local resources to help themselves or their peers. A local professional with expertise in the area of domestic violence will sit on the panel for the talkback session as a physical representation of who they can go to for help. (information taken from the RESPECT website)

Parents are welcome to attend. Please contact Jane or Laura if you would like to attend. The times of each performance will be given at a later date. For more information check out their website- http://respect2all.org/

Steps to Respect:

Jen Hanger, Second Step teacher Michael G. Chaffee, K-12 Guidance Counselor



Children learn best when they feel safe, respected, and cared for. In District OR-1s' continuing effort to create a safe and positive learning environment, our school along with the other schools in Otoe County have decided to launch a bullying prevention curriculum called *Steps to Respect*. Partners for Otoe County and United Against Violence worked together to make this curriculum available for each school district. This program is designed to help prevent bullying and promote responsible, respectful student behavior. These lessons are specifically written to be paired with *Second Step* in Bennet Elementary.

The program will focus on 3rd-6th grades and implementing the *Steps to Respect* lessons in combination with our *Second Step* lessons. They will learn:

- * How to recognize bullying (to understand disagreements and arguments with classmates is not bullying), refuse and report bulling when it happens.
- * Friendship skills that reduce the risk of being bullied, and/or becoming a bully. These lessons will include how to make friends, join in group activities, and manage conflicts.
- * Emotional skills such as understanding the feelings of other and managing emotions.
- * How to use positive values (responsibility, respect, and caring for others) as a guide for behavior.

There will be more information at the Bennet Elementary open house in August. If you do have any questions, please contact us at school.



ANGERISNORMAL. VIOLENCEISNOT.

LOCAL DATA:

- In Otoe County, 70% of students have stated that bullying is seen as a large problem at their school or 72% of students nationally.
- Eighty-five out of 668 students or 12.7% have reported they have attacked someone to hurt them between the age of 10-17.
- When asked the question if it is OK to beat someone up if they start the fight: 256 of 652 (39.3%) students said yes it is OK to beat up someone if they started the fight.

All four Otoe County schools are working with United Against Violence in Southeast Nebraska (UAV) to reduce reported incidents of youth violence including bullying, assault and physical aggression among youth.

The goal is to teach students skills that strengthen their ability to manage emotions, have empathy and solve problems to reduce youth violence in Otoe County. We are using the Second Step - Student Success through Prevention Curriculum in your child's classroom to teach these critical lifelong skills. The Second Step program works with students from Kindergarten to 8th grade and focuses on the following four areas:

Skills for Learning: Students gain skills to help themselves learn, including how to focus their attention, listen carefully, use self-talk to stay on task and be assertive when asking for help with schoolwork.

Emotion Management: Students learn specific skills for calming down when experiencing strong feelings, such as anxiety or anger.

How to Calm Down

- *STOP- use your signal
- *NAME your FEELING
- *CALM DOWN: breathe, count, use positive self-talk

Empathy: Students learn to identify and understand their own and others' feelings. Students also learn how to take another's perspective and how to show compassion.

Problem Solving: Students learn a process for solving problems with others in a positive way.

Problem-Solving Steps

- S-Say the problem (without blame)
- T-Think of solutions (safe & respectful)
- E- Explore Consequences (what could happen if ...)
- P- Pick the best solution (make your plan)

For more information on bullying or



cyber bullying visit www.P4OC.org or contact your school.









United Against Violence



What Are

Developmental Assets?

o you ever wonder why some kids seem to grow up with ease while others struggle? Are you surprised that some kids thrive in spite of difficult circumstances? Search Institute is a nonprofit research organization in Minneapolis, Minnesota, that has been asking these same questions since 1958. Through studies involving

hundreds of thousands of young people across the country, Search Institute has found 40 factors that are essential to young people's success. They call these 40 factors Developmental Assets. These assets aren't financial. Instead, they are opportunities, skills, relationships, values, and self-perceptions that all young people

need in their lives.

The assets are both external (things that other people provide for youth) and internal (things that young people develop within themselves). There are four categories of external assets and four categories of internal assets.

EXTERNAL ASSETS

Support

Young people need to be supported, cared for, and loved by their families and many others. They also need organizations and institutions, such as schools and faith-based organizations, that provide positive, supportive environments. There are six Support assets:

Asset I— Family Support

Asset 2— Positive Family Communication

Asset 3— Other Adult Relationships

Asset 4— Caring Neighborhood

Asset 5— Caring School Climate

Asset 6— Parent Involvement in Schooling

Empowerment

Young people need to feel that their community values them and that they have important ways to contribute. They must also feel safe. There are four Empowerment assets:

Asset 7— Community Values Youth

Asset 8— Youth as Resources

Asset 9— Service to Others

Asset 10— Safety

Boundaries and Expectations

Young people need to know what is expected of them and whether activities and behaviors are acceptable or not acceptable. There are six Boundaries-and-Expectations assets:

Asset II — Family Boundaries

Asset 12— School Boundaries

Asset 13— Neighborhood Boundaries

Asset 14— Adult Role Models

Asset 15— Positive Peer Influence

Asset 16— High Expectations



Constructive Use of Time

Young people need to spend their time in positive, healthy ways. This includes doing activities in youth programs, in faith-based institutions, and at home. There are four Constructive-Use-of-Time assets:

Asset 17— Creative Activities Asset 18— Youth Programs Asset 19-Religious Community Asset 20-Time at Home

INTERNAL ASSETS

Commitment to Learning

Young people do best when they develop a strong interest in and commitment to education and learning. There are five Commitment-to-Learning assets:

Asset 21— Achievement Motivation Asset 22-School Engagement Asset 23— Homework Asset 24— Bonding to School Asset 25— Reading for Pleasure

Positive Values

Asset 26-

Young people thrive when they develop strong values that guide their choices. There are six Positive-Values assets:

Caring Asset 27— Equality and Social Justice Asset 28-Integrity Asset 29— Honesty Asset 30-Responsibility Asset 3 I— Restraint

Social Competencies

Young people benefit from having skills and competencies that equip them to make positive choices, to build relationships, and to deal with difficult situations. Five assets make up the category of Social Competencies:

Asset 32-Planning and Decision Making Asset 33— Interpersonal Competence Asset 34— Cultural Competence Asset 35— Resistance Skills Asset 36— Peaceful Conflict Resolution

Positive Identity

Young people need to develop a strong sense of their own power, purpose, worth, and promise. There are four Positive-Identity assets:

Personal Power Asset 37— Asset 38— Self-Esteem Asset 39-Sense of Purpose

Asset 40— Positive View of Personal Future

Developmental Assets® are positive factors within young people, families, communities, schools, and other settings that research has found to be important in promoting the healthy development of young people. From Pass It Onl Ready-to-Use Handouts for Asset Builders, Second Edition. Copyright @ 2006 by Search Institute®; 612-376-8955; 800-888-7828; www.search-institute.org. This handout may be reproduced for educational, noncommercial uses only (with this copyright line). All rights reserved.



The Bennet BackPack Program begins its seventh full year of service to the students of Bennet Elementary. The Bennet BackPack Program provides a backpack of food to qualifying families each week during the school year. Qualifying families are those who participate in the free and reduced lunch program.

This year we have 18 backpacks of food to send home each week. To receive a backpack of food from the Bennet BackPack Program, families who qualify for free or reduced lunch program can mark the attached sheet that states that you are willing to have the school share information with the Bennet BackPack Program. The first distribution will be Friday, September 5, 2014. Along with the backpack of food we purchase from the Food Bank of Lincoln, the Bennet BackPack program also includes two pieces of fresh fruit weekly and a milk voucher twice a month in each backpack.

Thank you to those of you who contributed to the spring fundraiser, the Extra Mile Walk. We raised \$1,950. Our goal was \$3600. The \$3600 is the cost for food for 18 backpacks. Donations can be mailed to Food Bank of Lincoln, 4840 Doris Bair Cr, Suite A, Lincoln, NE 68504 with a notation in the memo to Bennet BackPack Program.

Another way to support the Bennet BackPack Program is by signing up to pack food. Individuals or organizations can meet at the Bennet Community Church, where the backpack food is stored, and pack a month's worth of food. This process takes about thirty minutes to complete. You can sign up for a time at the Bennet Elementary Open House on August 12th.

Bennet BackPack Program



iPad News:

Our school has purchased a subscription to a leading online classroom product, eBackpack. eBackpack makes it easier to move files between the school and home and also lets your children turn in their homework electronically to their teachers. The teachers can review the work and send it back to your child.

Your child can access eBackpack free of charge anywhere that internet access is available. Inside eBackpack, your child can only communicate with teachers and administrators and has their own, private "My Files" storage area. eBackpack has site-wide security features in place to provide peace of mind, and all the activities that are performed inside of eBackpack can be reviewed by the school.

We are excited about the benefits this program can bring to our students, and we encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity and be involved in your child's use of eBackpack. Please feel free to contact eBackpack at questions@eBackpack.com or the school if you have any questions. You may also learn more about eBackpack at http://www.eBackpack.com.



National Honor Society

The National Honor Society of Palmyra High School celebrated the induction of three new members with a cake and

punch reception for everyone attending Awards Night on April 28th. NHS is a school-based organization that emphasizes scholarship, leadership, character, and service. At Palmyra, members provide after school tutoring for all district students two nights a week, and partners with the student body to raise funds for charitable causes. The newest members are FrankieJo Dowding, Houston Hornby, and Olivia Versaw. Fifteen senior members graduated on May 9th including the following: Jordyn Bottrell, Carly Frazee, Jami Hillman, Kaylee Hoover, Paige Huxoll, Kourtney Kempkes, Grace Patton, Caitlin Peterson, Jessie Poskochil, Dallas Ringland, Megan Royal, Victoria Talcott, Tara Timmerman, Danielle Vlcek, and Ciera Wendt.



Front from left to right: Jordyn Bottrell,

Haley Furtwangler, Carly Frazee, Megan Royal, Kaylee Hoover, Caitlin Peterson, Ciera Wendt, and Vanessa Knutson. Middle: Alex Cough, Klaire Pillips, FrankiJo Dowding, Kourtney Kemkes, Jami Hillman, Victoria Talcott, and Danieele Vlcek. Back: Dallas Ringland, Houston Hornby, Ross Bartels, Paige Huxoll, Grace Patton, and Jessie Poskochil. Not pictured: Tara Timmerman and Olivia Versaw.



In support and recognition of Ag and FFA students for their accomplishments of representing Palmyra and qualifying for State Contests during the year and for the State Contests April 9-11...CONGRATULATIONS.

- * October State Land Judging- 8th place
- * State FFA Degrees- Kourtney Kempkes, Shelby Bruss, Victoria Talcott
- * Two American FFA Degrees:
- * Top 9 Finalist FFA Star Ag Production- Victoria Talcott
- * First Place State Diversified Grain Production Proficiency- Victoria Talcott
- * FFA State Officer Candidate, Selected as one of top 31 for 1st round interviews- Victoria Talcott
- * 8th Place State FFA Cooperative speaking- Victoria Talcott, alternate Marissa Kinney
- * Public Speaking- alternate Jordyn Bottrell
- * Ag Issues Academy- Victoria Talcott
- * 10th Place in State Livestock Management Team
- * Livestock Judging Senior Division- 3rd place qualify for state
- * Livestock Judging Junior Division- 3rd Place qualify for state-
- * Welding- 3rd place qualify for state-
- * Mr. Malone- Nebraska Farm Bureau Chapter Advisor of the Year

Community Service Projects *Harvest Lunch for Farmers *Wellness Walk *Ag Elementary Day *Sr. Center Flower Project *Sand Volleyball Court at Park *Rural Trash Pick up *Plat Maps for the Fire and Rescue Dept. of Palmyra and Douglas.

Summary of the School Immunization Rules and Regulations 2014-2015

Student Age Group	Required Vaccines
Ages 2 through 5 years enrolled in a school based program not licensed as a child care provider	4 doses of DTaP, DTP, or DT vaccine, 3 doses of Polio vaccine, 3 doses of Hib vaccine or 1 dose of Hib given at or after 15 months of age, *Hib not required after child reaches 5 yrs of age 3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine, 1 dose of MMR or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age, 1 dose of varicella (chickenpox) or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age. written documentation (including year) of varicella disease from parent, guardian, or health care provider will be accepted. 4 doses of pneumococcal or 1 dose of pneumococcal given on or after 15 months of age. *Pneumococcal not required after child reaches 5 yrs of age
Students from Kindergarten through 12 th Grade, including all transfer students from outside the State of Nebraska and any foreign students	3 doses of DTaP, DTP, DT, or Td vaccine, one given on or after the 4 th birthday, 3 doses of Polio vaccine, 3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine or 2 doses of adolescent vaccine if student is 11-15 years of age. 2 doses of MMR or MMRV vaccine, given on or after 12 months of age and separated by at least one month, 2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age. Written documentation (including year) of varicella disease from parent, guardian, or health care provider will be accepted. If the child has had varicella disease, they do not need any varicella shots.
Additionally, for 7th Grade Only	1 dose of Tdap (must contain Pertussis booster)

Source: Nebraska Immunization Program, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, 2011. For additional information, call 402-471-6423

The School Rules & Regulations are available on the internet: http://www.hhs.state.ne.us/reg/t173.htm (Title 173: Control of Communicable Diseases - Chapter 3; revised and implemented 2011)

Updated 1/2014



School District OR-1

425 F Street, Box 130
Palmyra, Nebraska 68418
(402) 780-5327 Fax: (402) 780-5349
Superintendent – Rob Hanger
Secondary Principal – David Bottrell
Athletic Director. – Aaron Hoeft
Elementary Principal – Linde Walter
50 Dogwood St
Bennet, NE 68317
(402) 782-3535 Fax: (402) 782-3545

www.districtor1.org

July, 2014

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. **District OR-1** offers healthy meals every school day.Bennet Elementary Breakfast costs \$1.55; lunch costs \$2.20 and at Palmyra Jr. Sr. High Breakfast costs \$1.80 and lunch costs \$2.30. Milk prices are \$.35 cents at both schools. Your children may qualify for free meals or for reduced-price meals. Reduced-price is \$.30 for breakfast and \$.40 for lunch.

If your child(ren) qualified for free or reduced-price meals at the end of last school year, you must submit a new application by September 26, 2014 in order to avoid an interruption in meal benefits.

Frequently asked questions and answers:

1. Do I need to fill out an application for each child?

No. Complete the application to apply for free or reduced-price meals. *Use one Free and Reduced-Price School Meals Application for all students in your household.* We cannot approve an application that is not complete, so be sure to fill out all required information. Return the completed application to: Karen Hatcher P.O. Box 130 Palmyra, NE 68418.

2. Who can get free meals?

All children in households receiving benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) or Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) can get free meals regardless of your income. Also, your children can get free meals if your household's gross income is within the free limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines.

3. Can foster children get free meals?

Yes, foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals. Any foster child in the household is eligible for free meals regardless of income.

4. Can homeless, runaway and migrant children get free meals?

Yes, children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway or migrant qualify for free meals. If you haven't been told your children will get free meals, please call [school, homeless liaison or migrant coordinator information] to see if they qualify.

5. Who can get reduced price meals?

Your children can get low cost meals if your household income is within the reduced price limits on the Federal Eligibility Income Chart shown with this application.

6. Should I fill out an application if I received a letter this school year saying my children are approved for free meals?

Please read the letter carefully and follow the instructions. Call the school at 402-780-5327 if you have questions.

- 7. My child's application was approved last year for meal benefits. Do I need to fill out another one? Yes, your child's application is only good for that school year and for the first few days of this school year. You must send in a new application unless the school told you that your child is eligible for the new school year.
- I receive WIC. Can my child(ren) get free meals?
 Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please fill out an application.
- Will the information I give be checked? Yes, we may ask you to send written proof.
- 10. If I don't qualify now, may I apply later? Yes, you may apply at any time during the school year. For example, children with a parent or guardian who becomes unemployed may become eligible for free or reduced price meals if the
- household income drops below the income limit.

 11. What if I disagree with the school's decision about my application?

 You should talk to school officials. You also may ask for a hearing by calling or writing to:Rob

Hanger,425 F Street, Palmyra, NE 68418 402-780-5327 ext. 303 Hanger.Rob@districtor1.net

- 12. May I apply if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen?

 Yes. You or your child(ren) do not have to be U.S. citizens to qualify for free or reduced price meals.
- 13. Who should I include as members of my household?

You must include all people living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives or friends) who share income and expenses. You must include yourself and all children living with you. If you live with other people who are economically independent (for example, people who you do not support, who do not share income with you or your children and who pay a pro-rated share of expenses), do not include them.

14. What if my income is not always the same?

List the amount that you normally receive. For example, if you normally make \$1000 each month, but you missed some work last month and only made \$900, put down that you make \$1000 per month. If you normally get overtime, include it, but do not include it if you only work overtime sometimes. If you have lost a job or had your hours or wages reduced, use your current income.

- 15. We are in the military. Do we include our housing allowance as income?
 If you get an off-base housing allowance, it must be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income.
- 16. My spouse is deployed to a combat zone. Is his combat pay counted as income? No, if the combat pay is received in addition to his basic pay because of his deployment and it wasn't received before he was deployed, combat pay is not included as income. Contact your school for more information.
- 17. My family needs more help. Are there other programs we might apply for? To find out how to apply for SNAP or other economic assistance benefits, please go online to ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov or call 1-800-383-4278.Sincerely,

Karen Hatcher

Instructions for Completing the Free & Reduced Priced School Meals Family Application

If your household receives benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) or the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), follow these instructions:

- Part 1: List each child's name, the school they attend and their grade.
- Part 2: Enter household's Master Case Number if the household qualifies for SNAP, TANF or FDPIR.
- Part 3: Skip this part.
- Part 4: Sign the form. The last four digits of a Social Security Number do not need to be reported.
- Part 5: Answer this question if you choose to.

If you are applying for a FOSTER CHILD, follow these instructions:

If all children in the household are foster children:

- Part 1: List all foster children, the school they attend and their grade. Check the box indicating the child is a foster child.
- Part 2: Skip this part.
- Part 3: Skip this part.
- Part 4: Sign the form. The last four digits of a Social Security Number do not need to be reported.
- Part 5: Answer this question if you choose to.

If some of the children in the household are foster children:

- Part 1: List all children, including foster children, the school they attend and their grade. Check the box if the child is a foster child.
- Part 2: If the household does not have a Master Case Number, skip this part.
- Part 3: Follow these instructions to report total household income from last month.

Column 1 – Household Names: List the first and last name of **each** person living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives or friends) who share income and expenses. Attach another sheet of paper if necessary.

Column 2 - Gross Income and How Often it was Received: For each household member, list each type of income received for the month. You must also report how often the money is received — weekly, every other week, twice a month, or monthly. For earnings, be sure to list the gross income, not the take-home pay. Gross income is the amount earned before taxes and other deductions. You should be able to find it on your pay stub or your boss can tell you. For other income, list the amount each person received for the month from welfare, child support, alimony, pensions, retirement, Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Veteran's benefits (VA benefits) and disability benefits. Under All Other Income, list Worker's Compensation, unemployment or strike benefits, regular contributions from people who do not live in your household and any other income. For individuals who are self-employed, report income after expenses from business, farm or rental property. Do not include income from SNAP, FDPIR, WIC, Federal education benefits and foster payments received by the family from the placing agency. If you are in the Military Privatization Housing Initiative or receive combat pay, do not include these allowances as income.

- Column 3-Check if NO income: If the person does not have any income, check this box.
- Part 4: An adult household member must sign the form and list the last four digits of their Social Security Number OR mark the box if he/she doesn't have one.
- Part 5: Answer this question if you choose to.

For ALL OTHER HOUSEHOLDS, including WIC households, follow these instructions:

- Part 1: List all children, including foster children, the school they attend and their grade. Check the box if the child is a foster child.
- Part 2: If the household does not have a Master Case Number, skip this part.
- Part 3: Follow these instructions to report total household income from last month.

Column 1 – Household Names: List the first and last name of each person living in your household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives or friends) who share income and expenses. Attach another sheet of paper if necessary.

Column 2 - Gross Income and How Often it was Received: For each household member, list each type of income received for the month. You must also report how often the money is received — weekly, every other week, twice a month, or monthly. For earnings, be sure to list the gross income, not the take-home pay. Gross income is the amount earned before taxes and other deductions. You should be able to find it on your pay stub or your boss can tell you. For other income, list the amount each person received for the month from welfare, child support, alimony, pensions, retirement, Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Veteran's benefits (VA benefits) and disability benefits. Under All Other Income, list Worker's Compensation, unemployment or strike benefits, regular contributions from people who do not live in your household and any other income. For individuals who are self-employed, report income after expenses from business, farm or rental property. Do not include income from SNAP, FDPIR, WIC, Federal education benefits and foster payments received by the family from the placing agency. If you are in the Military Privatization Housing Initiative or receive combat pay, do not include these allowances as income.

Column 3-Check if NO income: If the person does not have any income, check this box.

- Part 4: An adult household member must sign the form and list the last four digits of their Social Security Number OR mark the box if he/she doesn't have one.
- Part 5: Answer this question if you choose to.

Nebraska Department of Education – Nutrition Services National School Lunch Program

Page 4 of 4

Attachment A: 2014-15

NUTRITION SERVICES INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES JULY 1, 2014 - JUNE 30, 2015

Household Size			Free Meals		955 <u>(</u>	Reduced Price Meals				
	Annual	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly	Annual	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	15,171	1,265	633	584	292	21,590	1,800	900	831	416
2	20,449	1,705	853	787	394	29,101	2,426	1,213	1,120	560
3	25,727	2,144	1,072	990	495	36,612	3,051	1,526	1,409	705
4	31,005	2,584	1,292	1,193	597	44,123	3,677	1,839	1,698	849
5	36,283	3,024	1,512	1,396	698	51,634	4,303	2,152	1,986	993
6	41,561	3,464	1,732	1,599	800	59,145	4,929	2,465	2,275	1,138
7	46,839	3,904	1,952	1,802	901	66,656	5,555	2,778	2,564	1,282
8	52,117	4,344	2,172	2,005	1,003	74,167	6,181	3,091	2,853	1,427
For each additional amily nember add:	5,278	440	220	203	102	7,511	626	313	289	145

If households report multiple frequencies of pay, total income must be calculated on an annual basis. Use the following conversions: Annual Income Conversion: Weekly X 52; Every 2 Weeks X 26; Twice a Month X 24; Monthly X 12

Part 1: Children in School List names of all children, including fo If all children listed are foster, skip to (First, Middle Initial, Last Name)	oster childre Part 4 to sig	n, in school. In the form.	Check I below if foster c	а	lam	e of School	Child Attend	ds	(Grade
										•
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	1 100-0 13				1000		27			
							11000		NAME OF THE PARTY	
Part 2: SNAP, TANF or FDPIR	Benefits									
Enter MASTER CASE NUMBER (Social Security numbers, Medicaid n	if househo	ld qualifies I EBT numb	for SNAF	, TANF accepte	or d.)	FDPIR: Skip to Part	4			
Part 3: Total Household Gross										
1. Household Names						s Received			C.350,000 a a con a constant	3.
List everyone in household <u>and</u> the income each earns & how often OR check the box at the right if they have	Earnings f		Welfare, C			Pensions, F Social Secu VA Benefits	urity, SSI,	All Other II (Self Empl		Check if NO income
no income. A foster child's personal use income must be listed.	Income	How often	Income	How oft	en	Income	How often	Income	How often	
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Part 4: Signature and Social Social Social Security Number or mark the locatify (promise) that all information funds based on the information I give give false information, my children me	gn the applic I do not hav on this app o. I understa	cation. If Pa ye a Social S lication is tro nd that school al benefits a	ort 3 is com Security Nu ue and that sool officials and I may be	pleted, the mber" be all incon may ven prosect	ox. (ne i: ify (utec	(See Use of is reported. I check) the i	Information I understand Information.	i Statement If that the so I understar	t on page 2) chool will gel nd that if I pu	t Federal
Sign here:		Prin	t name:			Ph		D	ate:	
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Part 5: Children's Ethnic and F Mark one Ethnic Identity:a ☐ Hispanic or Latino ☐ Not Hispanic or Latino	nd <u>Ma</u> □ □	irk one or Asian White	more Rad Bla Am	ck or Af erican I	rica ndi	ies: an America an or Alasl ool Use Or	ka Native		ve Hawaila er Pacific Is	
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Total Income \$			Redu	iced 🗆				Date With		
☐ Year ☐ Month ☐ 2 X Mo. ☐ Every 2 Categorically Eligible: SNAP/TANF, Foster Child	/FDPIR 🗆	•	Deni			Reason for De Incomplete		from Scho	ool:	
Signature of Determining Official							Da	ate Approve	d:	
Signature of Confirming Official (Veril				- 248			2,000	te Confirme		

Your children may qualify for free or reduced price meals if your household income falls at or below the limits on this chart.

		NCOME C	SCHOOL STATE OF THE STATE OF TH	38 80	
Household size	Yearly	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	21,590	1,800	900	831	416
2	29,101	2,426	1,213	1,120	560
3	36,612	3,051	1,526	1,409	705
4	44,123	3,677	1,839	1,698	849
5	51,634	4,303	2,152	1,986	993
6	59,145	4,929	2,465	2,275	1,138
7	66,656	5,555	2,778	2,564	1,282
8	74,167	6,181	3,091	2,853	1,427
Each additional person:	7,511	626	313	289	145

Use of Information Statement: This explains how we will use the information you give us.

The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act requires the information on this application. You do not have to give the information, but if you do not, we cannot approve your child for free or reduced price meals. You must include the last four digits of the social security number of the adult household member who signs the application. The last four digits of the social security number are not required when you apply on behalf of a foster child or you list a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) case number or other FDPIR identifier for your child or when you indicate that the adult household member signing the application does not have a social security number. We will use your information to determine if your child is eligible for free or reduced price meals and for administration and enforcement of the lunch and breakfast programs. We MAY share your eligibility information with education, health and nutrition programs to help them evaluate, fund or determine benefits for their programs, auditors for program reviews and law enforcement officials to help them look into violations of program rules.

Non-Discrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov

Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339 or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

As stated above, all protected bases do not apply to all programs. The first six protected bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability and sex are the six protected bases for all applicants and recipients of the Child Nutrition Programs.

Attachment L: 2014-15

Sharing Information with Other Programs - Optional Dear Parent/Guardian: To save you time and effort, the information you gave on your Free and Reduced-Price School Meals Application may be shared with other programs for which your children may qualify. For the following programs, we must have your permission to share your information. Sending in this form will not change whether your children get free or reduced price meals. Yes! I DO want school officials to share information from my Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application with Bennet, Elementary Back Pack Program. Yes! I DO want school officials to share information from my Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application with Palmyra High School Activity Fees. If you checked "yes" to any or all of the boxes above, complete the following form to ensure that your information is shared for the child(ren) listed below. Your information will be shared only with the programs you checked. Child's Name: School: Child's Name: School: Child's Name: School: Child's Name: School: Signature of Parent/Guardian: Date: Printed Name:

For more information, you may call Dave Bottrell at 402-780-5327 or email at Bottrell.Dav@districtor1.net

Return this form to: P.O. 130 Palmyra, NE 68418

Address:

Bennet Elementary School REPORT OF PROPERTY Items To Bring For School Year 2014-15 Every Student Must Have A Book Bag and Gym Shoes Class **Must Have** May Bring May Not Bring <u>Kindergarten</u> Large book bag Mrs. Dvorak 2 large glue sticks Mrs. Nitzsche 24 pack of crayons plastic pencil box 2 pack erasers 11/2 inch binder with clear sleeve on front cover First Grade 2 glue sticks pencil sharpeners Mrs. Hall small, plastic crayon box Mrs. Dowding 24 crayons Mrs. Wusk #2 pencils 4 black dry erase markers **Second Grade** 12 Yellow #2 pencils pencil boxes Mrs. Christensen Crayola Classic Washable markers pencil sharpeners Mrs. Schauer mechanical pencils scissors Third Grade #2 pencils large pencil boxes Ms. Struebing crayons mechanical pencils Mrs. McIntosh erasers Colored pencils 2 glue sticks Spiral notebook Scissors A-M Large Ziplock bags N-Z Small Ziplock bags Antibacterial wipes Fourth Grade Mrs. Ourada #2 pencils gel pens/ multicolored Mrs. Sullivan 1 Spiral Notebook mechanical pencils 1 Pkg. Wide Ruled notebook paper no toys 1- 1 inch 3 ring binder w/ clear front pencil boxes over 8x10 Antibacterial Wipes A-M Large Ziplock bags N-Z Ziplock Bags

Fifth Grade Mrs. Wolfgang Mr. McChristian #2 pencils (1 box) White board eraser Dry erase markers

#2 pencils

1 Pkg. of wide ruled notebook paper

Sixth Grade Mr. Goodrich Mr. McElfresh

small pencil box spiral notebooks/notepaper colored pencils

Head phones or ear buds

large pencil boxes mechanical pencils

multicolored pens

no toys

gel/multicolored pens large pencil boxes no toys

Computer Mrs. Hanger





Calculators



Let's talk about our School Buildings!

Our school district has more information to share about options for improving our schools in Bennet & Palmyra

Here are some opportunities to learn about ideas under consideration and share your thoughts!

Next Public Meeting:

7 p.m. August 6
Bennet Elementary School

Please join the online community discussion at:

http://bennetpalmyraschools.mindmixer.com

Activities Information: —Mr. Hoeft

Below you will find information pertaining to Fall sports as the school year begins. It is important that all athletes contact their coaches if they are unsure of any practice times related to their activity. Junior high activities will be informed of the sign up process and meetings prior to their first practice in the first week or two of school. Additional information on junior high sports will be made available in the weekly bulletins.

HS Football:

Practice will begin on August 11th. Additional practice/conditioning information will be available from your coaches. Contact Coach Maas at maas.tyl@districtor1.net if additional information is needed.

HS Girls Golf:

All girls interested in golf should plan to attend a team meeting on August 11th at 3:45pm at the high school. The meeting will cover rules, expectations and a practice schedule.



HS Boys/Girls Cross Country:

Practice will begin on August 18th. Additional practice/conditioning information will be available from your coaches. Contact Coach Trausch at trausch.mik@districtor1.net if additional information is needed.

HS Volleyball:

Practice for Volleyball will begin on August 18th. Additional information is available from your coaches. Contact Coach Swartzendruber at swartzendruber.sar@districtor1.net if additional information is needed.

Sports Physicals/Consent Form

Students wanting to participate in an activity at PHS for the 2014-15 school years will need to have a physical turned in to the office prior to the first day of practice. Physicals obtained after May 1st will be accepted for the 2014-15 school year, however not before that date. A link to an NSAA approved physical form as well as the NSAA Student/Parent Consent form is located on the school website under the High School Athletics tab or search "physical".

Athletic Booster Bash

Monday August 25th the Athletic Boosters have scheduled the annual "Booster Bash". The festivities will begin at 6pm. Additional information to follow.

DISTRICT OR-1 PUBLIC SCHOOL

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	CALENDAR 2014-2015
	<u>August 2014</u>
11-Aug	Football Practice begins. Faculty Inservice
12-Aug	Faculty Inservice-8:00-4:00 .
13-Aug	Faculty Inservice-8:00-4:00 .
14-Aug	First Day of School
18-Aug	Start of Fall Practice
10-Aug	10-14 Otoe County Fair
September 2014	
1-Sep	NO SCHOOL -LABOR DAY
23-Sep	Dismiss @ 1:30 P.M. P-T conf. 2:00-8:00 P.M.
October 2014	
20-0 ct	Start 2nd Quarter
23-Oct	1:30 Dismissal Fall Break
24-0ct	Fall Break; NO SCHOOL

17-Nov	Start Winter Practice
26-Nov	NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break
27-Nov	NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break
28-Nov	NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break
	December 2014

November 2014

	December 2014
19-Dec	End of Second Quarter
19-Dec	Dismiss at 1:30 for Christmas
22-Dec	Winter Vacation December 22-January 2
24-28 Dec.	Five day moratorium period est. by NSA

	February 2015
19-Jan	Martin Luther King Day Teacher Inservice No School
5-Jan	School Resumes, Start 3rd Quarter
1-2 Jan	Winter Vacation

January 2015

9-Feb	Teacher In-Service No School
10-Feb	Dismiss @ 1:30 P.M. P-T conf. 2:00-8:00 P.M.
13-Feb	NO SCHOOL Winter Break
	<u>March 2015</u>
2-Mar	Start of Spring Practice
6-Mar	NO SCHOOL Spring Break
12-Mar	End of third quarter-1:30 Dismiss al

16-Mar	Start 4th Quarter
24-Mar	MUDECUS Music Staff In-Service No School
	<u>April 2015</u>
2-Apr	Everyone Dismissed at 1:30pm for Easter Brea
2 Apr	NO CCHOOL: Factor Prook

13-Mar NO SCHOOL Spring Break

9-May	Graduation
	<u>May 2015</u>
6-Apr	NO SCHOOL; Easter Break
3-Apr	NU SCHUUL; Easter Break

22-May	Teacher Work Day
Note:	Early dismissal times of 1:30 will
	result in an elementary dismissal
	time of 1:10.

21-May End of Second Semester-1:30 Dismissal

May 2015 SU M Т W TH

178 student days 185 total for teachers

Teacher days Vacation Days Parent Teacher conf. Early Dismissal

January 2015

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