



Panther Weekly Bulletin

Breakfast Menu

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
NO SCHOOL	Wheat Toast Egg Patty Bacon	Mini Waffles Syrup Sausage Links Hard Boiled Egg	Croissant Ham Patty Egg Patty	Panther Funnel Waffle Syrup Yogurt

Lunch Menu

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
NO SCHOOL	Walking Taco Doritos Taco Meat Shredded Cheese Mexicali Corn Refried Beans	Cheeseburger Mac Green Beans Dinner Roll	Chicken Fried Rice Roasted Broccoli	Build Your Own Sub Potato Chips

Happening this week at PHS

Monday, April 6th - No School, Easter Break.

Tuesday, April 7th- HS JV Track @ Yutan, 3:00 pm. Bus leaves at 12:30 pm.

Varsity Boys Golf @ Thornridge GC, 4:00 pm. Van leaves at 2:15 pm.

HS Boys Baseball vs. Raymond Central @ Olson Complex, Varsity at 4:30 pm, JV at 6:30 pm.

Wednesday, April 8th- FCCLA Meeting, 7:45 am.

ESU 4 JH Quiz Bowl @ Peru State College, 9:00 am. Van leaves at 7:30 am.

Thursday, April 9th- PHS Varsity Track Invite vs. multiple schools @ Olson Complex, 10:00 am.

Varsity Boys Golf @ Grandpa's Woods, 4:00 pm (rescheduled date). Bus leaves at 3:00 pm.

Friday, April 10th- NSBA State Jazz Band Festival @ Elkhorn South HS, 9:30 am. Bus leaves at 7:30 am.

Unified Track @ Waverly, 11:30 am. Van leaves at 10:00 am.

HS Boys Baseball vs. Concordia @ Olson Complex, Varsity at 4:30 pm, JV at 6:30 pm.

Fiddler on the Roof Musical Production, PHS West Gym, 6:30 pm.

Saturday, April 11th- National Honor Society Induction, PHS West Gym, 3:00 pm.

Fiddler on the Roof Musical Production, PHS West Gym, 6:30 pm.

Sunday, April 12th- Fiddler on the Roof Musical Production, PHS West Gym, 2:00 pm.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, April 13th– FFA Meeting 7:30 am.

Mudecas HS Quiz Bowl, 10:00 am.

HS Boys Baseball @ Louisville, Varsity at 4:30 pm, JV at 6:00 pm.

Tuesday, April 14th– NO SCHOOL, Staff work day.

HS Varsity Track @ Yutan, 12:00 pm.

Mudecas Quiz Bowl @ PHS, 1:00 pm.

Wednesday, April 15th– Boy's Golf @ Milford, 9:30 am.

FFA Blood Drive @ PHS, 10:00 am– 2:00 pm. Contact Ms. Beach with questions.

Thursday, April 16th– JH Track @ PHS, 10:00 am.

Boys HS Baseball vs. Adams Central @ PHS, Varsity at 4:30 pm, JV at 6:30 pm.

Friday, April 17th– JV Track @ PHS, 2:00 pm.

Dodgeball Tournament, 6:30 pm.

Saturday, April 18th– JH Track @ PHS, Mudecas Tournament, 8:30 am.

Prom, 7:00 pm. Post Prom 11:00 pm.

Sunday, April 19th– Teammates End of Year Celebration.

GO PANTHERS!

Bennet Elementary - District OR-1

(402) 782-3535 50 Dogwood St, Bennet, NE 68317 ostrander.mel@districtor1.net



Newsletter - April 1st, 2026

Arrival: 7:50-8:20

Dismissal: 3:20

Early Dismissal Days: 1:00

Principal's Update

Janet's Jungle Fundraiser – Kicks Off Today!

Janet's Jungle sales starts today!!!! Forms are going home today with your child. Please keep an eye out for this and let the Bennet Boosters know if you have any questions!

For those new to Bennet Elementary, Janet's Jungle is our primary fundraiser of the year. Students have the opportunity to sell a variety of plants and flowers, earning prizes and fun incentives along the way by sharing with family and friends. This is a great chance to purchase flowers and plants for the spring and summer season while supporting our school. Proceeds from this fundraiser go directly toward funding student field trips.

Thank you for your continued support of Bennet Elementary!

Preschool Open House – May 18

We invite families to join us for a Preschool Open House on Monday, May 18 from 3:30–5:30 PM at Bennet Elementary.

This is a great opportunity for interested families to visit our program, meet our preschool staff, and connect with district administration. We'll be available to answer questions and share important information to help you feel prepared for the upcoming school year. We look forward to welcoming you and your future learners!

Kindergarten Roundup

Please mark your calendars for Kindergarten Round Up 2026 on Friday, May 1st! If you have an upcoming Kindergarten student, please call the office and provide information about your child so we can prepare for their attendance.



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Lost and Found Reminder

Our lost and found is overflowing! We have collected jackets, water bottles, and other items over the past weeks. Please take a moment to stop by by the entryway and see if anything belongs to your child. Don't miss the chance to reunite them with their things!

Bus Changes

Due to limited bus drivers and seating, we are unable to support students riding to a friend's house. Students can be bused home according to their regular route, and we are unable to provide transportation to other locations. We will continue to have daily shuttles from the elementary school and high school. Thank you for understanding.

Car Lane Dismissal Process

To keep our dismissal line safe, smooth, and efficient, please follow the expectations below:

- Continue pulling all the way forward until you reach the front cone or the staff member directing traffic.
- If there is a gap in the car line, please keep moving up. This helps us load more students at the same time and prevents the line from backing up onto the street.
- Only stop directly in front of where your child is waiting **if there is no gap in the lane**. Otherwise, continue pulling forward and your child will walk up to meet you.
- Students will be directed to walk forward to your vehicle, which allows us to load multiple cars simultaneously.
- Once your child is safely in the vehicle, please signal and exit the lane carefully.

Thank you for helping us keep dismissal running safely and efficiently for all families.

Dismissal Changes

Coordinating the dismissal plans for 350 students each day is extremely challenging and time consuming for the office staff. If you have a change request, we ask that these are communicated to the office by 2:00 each day. Ideally, the transportation plan is consistent day to day. We understand that some days a change is needed. However, receiving these requests within an hour of dismissal is a challenge for ensuring timely



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communication to staff to ensure these students get to where they need to go. Please assist in helping make this process smooth and effective.

Arrival Procedures

Students in the Rec Program may be dropped off starting at 7:00. All other students should arrive no earlier than 7:50 unless they are riding the bus or attending the Rec Program. The front doors will open at 7:50, and staff will begin monitoring the drop-off line at that time. Students dropped off before 7:50 will be unsupervised and the doors will be locked. Breakfast will be served from 7:50 to 8:20 daily. During arrival, students will gather in the Bennet Commons until 8:20 and then be escorted to classrooms. The school day starts at 8:20, and the tardy bell rings at 8:25.

If you are dropping a student off to ride the morning bus shuttles to PHS and have elementary students with them, we cannot provide supervision for students prior to 7:30. Please have students wait in the car until this time as the buses do not arrive until 7:30.

Parent Drop Off and Pickup Procedures

A few reminders that I would like to share to help everyone get in and out quickly:

- Please have students enter and exit your vehicle on the passenger side of your vehicle. The drop off lane is extremely effective and the safety of your student is our top priority. By doing this, we can ensure that students are not in zones of traffic and are not in harm's way.
- If you are using the parent drop/pick up lanes, please stay in your vehicles. If you would like to park and walk up, please utilize the parking spaces in the interior of the parent pickup/dropoff lane.
- In the afternoon **only**, Kindergarten parents may utilize the bus drop off lane for pickup for Kindergarten students and older siblings. Grades 1-5 will continue to use the primary pickup/dropoff lane. Teachers have now been assigned zones to help aid in the location of your students to help you get in and out quickly.

Upcoming Events

- April 2nd-6th- No School
- April 14th- No School- Teacher PD/ Mudecas Quiz Bowl
- April 17th- First Grade Field Trip
- May 1st- Kindergarten Roundup (No School for Current Kindergarteners)
- May 7th- 4th Grade Field Trip (Maibaum)
- May 11th- 4th Grade Field Trip (Dowding)
- May 12th- 4th Grade Field Trip (Sullivan)
- May 13th- Fifth Grade Field Trip



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- May 15th- K-5 Track and Field Day @ Olson Complex- 9-2
- May 18th- Fifth Grade Graduation @ PHS West Gym- 1:30-2:30
- May 19th- Last Day of School K-5
- June 8th-25th- Summer Enrichment

PowerSchool

Please check PowerSchool to view grades, missing assignments, and lunch balances. If you need to set up your account, please call Melissa in the office.

District Calendar

[25-26 District Calendar](#)

[26-27 District Calendar](#)

Transportation

If you have any questions regarding busing, please contact Cathy Fick at 402-540-2879.

School Directory

The Bennet Boosters have compiled a [school directory](#) for families.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 27, 2026 (Lincoln, Neb.) – Weather permitting, work will begin April 6 on Nebraska Highway 2 (N-2), from reference post 475.41 to reference post 476.91, according to the Nebraska Department of Transportation.

Paulsen, Inc., of Cozad, is the contractor for this project. Work includes grading, culverts, concrete pavement and lighting. Traffic will be maintained with single lane closures. A 12-foot width restriction will be in effect. Anticipated completion is fall 2026.

Motorists are reminded to drive cautiously in and near work zones, to buckle up, and put phones down.

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● Panther Paw Winners ●



SAFE
RESPECTFUL
RESPONSIBLE

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School Counseling

PROGRAM

What's Happening in the Classroom?

Students in Kindergarten and First Grade continued to discuss kindness this week in guidance class. Students learned all about good problem solving. We discussed the "Stop, Think, Choose" method again and practiced applying these skills to real problem that might arise as elementary students.

Students practiced stopping to slow their brains down, taking deep breaths to regulate their emotions, thinking about positive and negative consequences of potential responses, and analyzing whether or not the problem is solved after making a decision.

Focus for the School Year

- Resilience
- Kindness
- Respect
- Emotional Regulation

Strategy/Skill to reinforce at home

Compromise

Making a deal or agreement so everyone can participate and have fun together.

4th Grade Kindness Retreat

Next week, on April 1st, we will be hosting our second annual Kindness Retreat for our 4th grade students. This event, put on by Youth Frontiers, allows students to reflect, learn, and grow in regards to showing kindness to others.

Keep an eye out for photos in next week's newsletter!

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Quarter 3

Specialist Team Newsletter

Computer

📧 Bennet Computer Room Update! We've had a busy 3rd quarter in computer class! Each grade level has accomplished so much, and I'm excited to share their progress.

Kindergarten students have been doing an amazing job exploring the new learning websites we've been using. They have worked hard to develop their mouse skills, and every student has now mastered using the mouse. Most importantly, they are learning that computers can be a fun and exciting tool for learning!

First graders have been working hard as well. They are learning how to find important facts from stories on our classroom websites. We have also been practicing the difference between facts and opinions and identifying different parts of a story. In addition, students are continuing to build their computer vocabulary.

Second graders are continuing to learn about the different parts of a computer and how each part works together. We also discussed input and output devices on the desktop computers we use in class. Recently, students have begun focusing on how to find important information on a website that can help with research. Next quarter, they will begin a larger research project!

- Mrs. Hanger

Upcoming

March 12 - Palmyra Middle Level Music Contest
Band & Bennet Singers

April 21 - 5th - 8th Grade Spring Concert
Band & Bennet Singers only
6:30 pm at PHS

May 15 - Elementary Track Day

May 18 - 5th Grade Graduation
Band & Bennet Singers

Music

Greetings! In music we have been going over many of the fundamentals. For kindergarten and first grade we have been going over the difference between beat and rhythm; high vs low; loud vs soft and introducing the quarter note rest. In second grade, we introduced the half note and are starting to read rhythms with words at the same time - yes - we can read music! Third graders have been staying active by adding games and dances to our songs. Fourth grade learned about sharps, flats and natural signs, and have recently started singing in rounds. Fifth grade learned about some highly influential musicians as part of Black History month, plus we've focused on rhythms that include mixed 8th and 16th notes.

- Mrs. McCreight

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Quarter 3

Library

Kindergarten and first grade students spent the third quarter reviewing the parts of a book and practicing alphabetical order. We also began reading several nominees for the Golden Sower Award, Nebraska's children's choice book award, which students will vote on later this year.

Fourth grade learned about the ten main sections of the nonfiction collection and discussed media balance—making thoughtful choices about time spent online and with family and friends. Fifth grade created online ocean trading cards in a collaboration project with their classroom teachers, and also explored advertising around the time of the Super Bowl, learning why companies advertise and the different types of ads they see every day.

– Mr. Smidt

Art

Throughout third quarter, kindergarten and first grade students were busy creating self-portraits. Students learned how portraits can capture the likeness of a person's face, feelings or personality, and express thoughts, ideas, and stories.

Kindergarten focused on the elements of line, shape, and color to create realistic self-portrait collages. First grade used their imagination and creativity to express their future career goals. Students also used a variety of techniques to develop craftsmanship and improve art skills.

– Mrs. Garris



Physical Education

Since the last newsletter, the PE department has finished our basketball unit with grades K-5. We spent a short amount of time with "Flying 10s" which is a speed test that we can run with a laser timing system that the high school department was gracious enough to lend us. The kids enjoyed seeing their times and we will be able to run these a couple of more times this year to hopefully see improvement.

We are now nearing the end of our hockey unit with grades 3-5. They learned passing and receiving and had to pass a scoring test in order to graduate to hockey games, which each class is now competing in.

As we move to the spring, we will run another Flying 10 test day and move to kickball, soccer, and relays in preparation for our track and field day in May!

– Mr. Wemhoff

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SUMMER CAMP DATES



JULY 14-16 & 20-23

HS CAMP

8:30-11:00 am

OLSON FIELD

JULY 27-29TH

JH CAMP

7:00-8:30 pm

OLSON FIELD

JULY 27-29TH

YOUTH CAMP

5:30-6:30pm

ENTERING 3RD THROUGH 6TH GRADE

OLSON FIELD

INTERESTED OR HAVE
QUESTIONS?

CONTACT COACH BAUMERT
BAUMERT.TAY@DISTRICTOR1.NET

CAMP FLYERS WILL BE SENT
HOME SOON!



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PATHFINDER TRAFFIC SAFETY SERVICE

Teen Driver Education

PROVISIONAL OPERATOR'S PERMIT PROGRAM (POP)

20 hours hybrid course work:
10 hours online course work
10 hours in the classroom

**5 hours behind the wheel training
with an instructor**

WHEN:

**JUNE 9TH AND
JUNE 10TH, 2026
12:00 PM- 5:00
PM**

WHERE:

**PALMYRA HIGH
SCHOOL
425 F ST.
PALMYRA, NE**

TUITION

\$425

GO TO:

pathfindertss.org

REGISTER

FOR:

Palmyra

Contact:

**Liz Cunningham
402-719-5481 or at
[pathfindertss@gmail
.com](mailto:pathfindertss@gmail.com)**

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Western Otoe County Food Pantry

Located at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
955 C Street, Palmyra, Nebraska
Enter at the dedicated north entrance

*Neighbors Serving Neighbors:
Many Hands Lighten the Load*

- Confidential help when you need it
- Select your own items
- Private visits by appointment only
- No Paperwork

Supported locally by the Bennet Community Church,
Palmyra community churches (Catholic, Lutheran,
Presbyterian), and Douglas Catholic church.

For more information or an appointment contact:

All seasons:

Brooke Hay	402/992-0130
Diana Poskochil	402/580-1234
Molly Hall	402/560-2229
Melissa Carpenter	402/817-3958

Times other than winter:

Sheila Lienau	402/499-3865
Charlie Lienau	402/429-8918



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Standard Response Protocol

Bennet Elementary’s adoption of the Standard Response Protocol (SRP) provides a standardized approach to managing various events, both threatening and non-threatening, that may happen in or around our school.

These protocols provide actions for the following situations:

- Hold (stay in classrooms due to a non-threatening event)
- Secure (danger is outside the school)
- Lockdown (danger is inside the school)
- Evacuate (leave the school building, often referred to as fire drill)
- Shelter (tornado or severe weather)

IN AN EMERGENCY TAKE ACTION



HOLD! In your room or area. Clear the halls.

STUDENTS

Clear the hallways and remain in room or area until the "All Clear" is announced
Do business as usual

ADULTS

Close and lock the door
Account for students and adults
Do business as usual



SECURE! Get inside. Lock outside doors.

STUDENTS

Return to inside of building
Do business as usual

TEACHERS

Bring everyone indoors
Lock outside doors
Increase situational awareness
Do business as usual
Take attendance



LOCKDOWN! Locks, lights, out of sight.

STUDENTS

Move away from sight
Maintain silence
Do not open the door

ADULTS

Recover students from hallway if possible
Lock the classroom door
Turn out the lights
Move away from sight
Maintain silence
Do not open the door
Prepare to evade or defend



EVACUATE! (A location may be specified)

STUDENTS

Leave stuff behind if required to
If possible, bring your phone
Follow instructions

ADULTS

Lead students to Evacuation location
Account for students and adults
Notify if missing, extra or injured students or adults



SHELTER! Hazard and safety strategy.

STUDENTS

Use appropriate safety strategy for the hazard

Hazard	Safety Strategy
Tornado	Evacuate to shelter area
Hazmat	Seal the room
Earthquake	Drop, cover and hold
Tsunami	Get to high ground

ADULTS

Lead safety strategy
Account for students and adults
Notify if missing, extra or injured students or adults

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<http://iloveugys.org>





IT'S GIVING GREEN FLAG

Join us to give and help **save lives.**

Palmyra High School Blood Drive

Held on the Bloodmobile

**Wednesday, April 15
10:00AM – 2:00PM**

Appointments Recommended

Visit ncbb.org/searchdrives

Use sponsor code: **PHS**

*You can also scan the QR code
to access the schedule*

Or call **402.486.9414**

For questions, Contact **Ms. Beach**



Prepare to donate



Eat well
and hydrate



Bring a
photo ID



Feel good and
symptom free



Must be 17+ or
16 with parental
consent form



Meet minimum
weight requirements

For full eligibility requirements
and COVID-19 information, visit
ncbb.org/eligibility.

Are you 16 years old?

Please have your parent
permission form complete &
with you at donation
(Must be completed each time
you donate while you are 16)



GET DRIP

Earn your Green Flag shirt
when you join us to give.

While supplies last.

PATHFINDER TRAFFIC SAFETY SERVICE

Teen Driver Education

PROVISIONAL OPERATOR'S PERMIT PROGRAM (POP)

20 hours hybrid course work:
10 hours online course work
10 hours in the classroom

**5 hours behind the wheel training
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WHERE:

**PALMYRA HIGH
SCHOOL
425 F ST.
PALMYRA, NE**

TUITION

\$425

GO TO:

pathfindertss.org

REGISTER FOR:

Palmyra

Contact:

**Liz Cunningham
402-719-5481 or at
[pathfindertss@gmail
.com](mailto:pathfindertss@gmail.com)**

PALMYRA FFA

FIELD FUEL

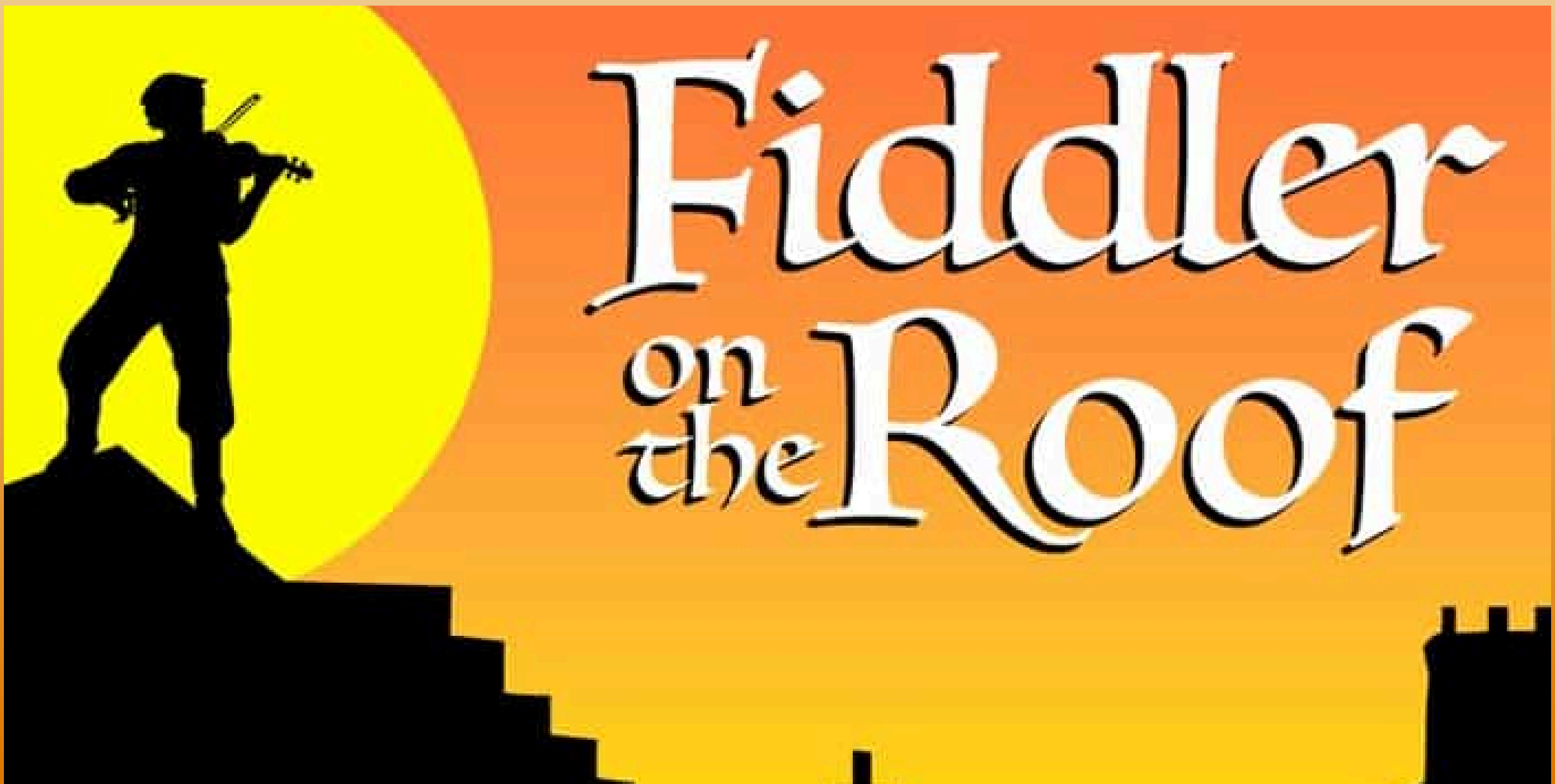
PLANTING POWER PACKS

SPONSOR A FARMER THIS PLANTING SEASON

SCAN THIS CODE AND FILL
OUT THE FORM TO SPONSOR



Palmyra Music & Drama Departments
Proudly Present



April 10th & 11th, 2026

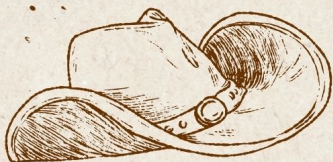
at 6:30 pm

April 12th at 2:00 pm

Palmyra High School - west gym

Tickets are \$5 at the door

Cupcakes, flowers, basket raffle tickets
are available for purchase.



Palmyra Prom 2026

A NIGHT IN NASHVILLE

APRIL 18TH | THE SHED

22500 s 176th St Adams, Nebraska

Pictures: 7 pm | Dance: 8:00 pm



Juniors: \$20
Seniors: Free
Outside Date: \$25



Post Prom to follow @ Palmyra HS