



# Panther Weekly Bulletin

## Breakfast Menu

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
French Toast Sticks Syrup Hard Boiled Egg	Croissant Sausage Patty Over Hard Fried Egg	Waffle Syrup Bacon Yogurt	Biscuit Ham Patty Egg Patty	NO SCHOOL for PHS

## Lunch Menu

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Chicken Patty Bun Baby Ranch Potatoes Peas	Flour Tortilla Taco Meat Shredded Cheese Refried Beans Spanish Rice	Pancake Bites Sausage Links Hashbrown Potatoes	Tomato Soup Grilled Cheese Sandwich Carrots	NO SCHOOL for PHS

# Happening this week at PHS

**Monday, April 20th -** State HS Quiz Bowl in Hastings. Van leaves at 7:15 am.  
HS Boys Baseball @ Lincoln Christian, Varsity at 4:30 pm, JV at 6:30 pm. Bus leaves at 2:45 pm.

**Tuesday, April 21st-** Boys Golf @ Crooked Creek, 9:00 am. Van leaves at 7:30 am.

HS Track @ Syracuse 9:30 am. Bus leaves at 7:45 am.

Unified Track @ Norris, 10:00 am. Van leaves at 8:45 am.

HS Boys Baseball @ Auburn, Varsity at 4:30 pm, JV at 6:30 pm. Bus leaves at 2:15 pm.

Spring Concert 5th—8th Grades, PHS West Gym, 6:30 pm.

**Wednesday, April 22nd-** JH Track Invitational @ Freeman, 10:00 am. Bus leaves at 7:45 am.

**Thursday, April 23rd-** Boys Golf @ Crooked Creek, 9:00 am. Van leaves at 7:30 am.

HS Boys Baseball @ Falls City, Varsity at 4:30 pm, JV at 6:30 pm. Bus leaves at 1:15 pm.

**Friday, April 24th-** NO SCHOOL for PHS, Bennet Elementary will have school.  
District Music Contest @ PHS.

**Saturday, April 25th-** HS Track Mudecas Tournament @ Tri County, 8:30 am.  
Bus leaves at 6:15 am.

HS Boys Baseball vs. Fairbury @ Olson Complex, Varsity at 11:00 am, JV at 1:00 pm.

**Sunday, April 26th-** FCA Event, 5:00 pm.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**Monday, April 27th**– HS Track @ Conestoga, 9:30 am.

Boys Golf vs. Multiple Schools @ Woodland Hills, 2:00 pm.

HS Boys Varsity Baseball vs. Ashland-Greenwood @ Olson Complex, 5:30 pm.

**Tuesday, April 28th**– FCCLA Seniors and Snacks, 10:00 am.

Spring Concert, 6:30 pm.

**Wednesday, April 29th**– Boys Golf vs. Multiple School @ Woodland Hills, 8:30 am.

**Thursday, April 30th**– Unified Track & Field @ Crete, 9:15 am.

JH Track Invitational @ Johnson County Central, 10:00 am.

State Quiz Bowl, 10:30 am.

Fine Arts Awards Night, 6:30 pm.

**Friday, May 1st**– HS Boys Baseball vs. Malcolm @ Olson Complex, Varsity at 4:30 pm, JV at 6:00 pm.

**Saturday, May 2nd**– HS Track Varsity ECNC Invitational @ Olson Complex, 10:00 am.

Unified Track ECNC Invitational @ Olson Complex, 10:30 am.

HS Boys Baseball @ Fort Calhoun, Varsity at 11:00 am, JV at 1:00 pm.

# GO PANTHERS!

# Bennet Elementary - District OR-1

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



## Newsletter - April 17th, 2026

---

Arrival: 7:50-8:20

Dismissal: 3:20

Early Dismissal Days: 1:00

### Principal's Update

#### **Summer Enrichment Program – Registration Open**

Bennet Elementary is excited to offer a Summer Enrichment Program from June 8 through June 25, running Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

This program is open to all District OR-1 students **entering** Kindergarten through 5th grade for the 26-27 school year and will include engaging reading, math, and writing activities designed to keep students learning in a fun and relaxed environment.

Cost: \$75

Checks payable to District OR-1, Memo: Summer Enrichment

Families with students on an IEP or participating in the free/reduced lunch program may contact the office for sliding fee options.

Transportation: Shuttle bus service will be available with pickup and drop-off locations in Bennet, Douglas, and Palmyra.

**Registration Deadline: Friday, May 1st**

Please complete the Google Form to register:

[Summer Enrichment Registration Form](#)

We look forward to a great summer of learning and growth.

#### **Janet's Jungle Fundraiser Update!**

We have already surpassed over \$20,000 in sales by week two! We still have 1 more weeks of sales! Students have earned prizes for weekly winners and have enjoyed playing our "Plinko" game. Students can still earn prizes by selling plants this next week! Our overall goal is \$40,000 in total sales!

Thank you for your continued support of Bennet Elementary!

# Bennet Elementary - District OR-1

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



## 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!

## 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.



# Bennet Elementary - District OR-1

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

- 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 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



# Bennet Elementary - District OR-1

(402) 782-3535    50 Dogwood St, Bennet, NE 68317    ostrander.mel@districtor1.net  
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 20th-24th- NSCAS Testing Week
- April 23rd- Gifford Planetarium Visit
- April 29th- 5th Grade Transition Day at PHS
- 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
- 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 18th- PreK Open House- 3:30-5:30
- 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.

# Bennet Elementary - District OR-1

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



## ● Panther Paw Winners ●



SAFE  
RESPECTFUL  
RESPONSIBLE

# Bennet Elementary - District OR-1

(402) 782-3535

50 Dogwood St, Bennet, NE 68317

ostrander.mel@districtor1.net



# School Counseling

## PROGRAM

### What's Happening in the Classroom?

NSCAS and MAPs testing season is upon us and with these big tests can come a lot of stress and pressure. Students in third and fifth grades learned about test stress in guidance this week. We talked about logical strategies they can use in the days leading up to a big test, quiz, or project, as well as those that can be used during the test to help limit stress and help them perform at their best.

Prior to Test Strategies:  
Get 8-10 hours of sleep  
Eat a healthy breakfast  
Arrive to school on time  
Use positive self-talk

During Test Strategies:  
Take 15-30 second break  
Highlight key words  
Cross out wrong answers  
Re-read questions  
Take your time  
Focus only on your work

### Focus for the School Year

- Resilience
- Kindness
- Respect
- Emotional Regulation

### Strategy/Skill to reinforce at home

#### Kindness

The quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate.

### Student Council Update

Fifth grade student council members took the opportunity today to partner with MWL and the City of Bennet to complete a community service project helping to beautify Whispering Pines Park. Students were able to help mulch around all of the trees, pick up trash, etc. to get a sense of the pride one feels when they take care of the community they live in.

We will have photos from this project in next week's newsletter!

# Bennet Elementary - District OR-1

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



**CHAMPIONS**

## WE'RE YOUR ONE-STOP SHOP FOR LEARNING AND FUN.

### Bennet Elementary



Safe and sound environments



Talented and nurturing teachers



STEM skills galore



Laughter and friends



Independent and curious



Inside (and outside!) play



Help with homework



Snacks included!

Our before-and-after school programs start when school stops so your child can extend their education in a new way every day.

**SPACE IS LIMITED...ENROLL TODAY!**

Programs	Hours	Weekly Tuition
		Part Time 1-2 days   Full Time 3-5 days
Before School	6:30am - School Start	\$30.00   \$45.00
After School	School Dismissal - 6:00pm	\$40.00   \$65.00

Enroll Here!



Area Manager: Jessica Shafer-Coburn

Phone: (682) 371-8864

Email: [jessica.shafer@discoverchampions.com](mailto:jessica.shafer@discoverchampions.com)

Call or email us for more information, or to schedule a tour today.

# Bennet Elementary - District OR-1

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



**CHAMPIONS**

## HOW TO ENROLL

Follow these steps to register your family and enroll in a Champions® program. This can only be done on the website, not in the app.

- Register once per location if your child attends more than one school.
- If you want to enroll in a program at a different school, make sure to use the same email so we can link accounts. Enroll at Multiple Locations.
- Complete registration steps for each child.!

### STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Go to [my.discoverchampions.com](https://my.discoverchampions.com).
2. Search by Zip Code or choose your location, then click "Enroll."
3. Enter your child's information. Click "Continue."
4. Fill in parent/guardian information. Select the Primary Caregiver. Click "Continue."
5. Add at least three contacts: Family Member, Authorized Pick-up, and Emergency. Click "Continue."
6. Choose your program, select attendance days, and pick your Monday start date. Click "Continue."
7. To add any discounts, click "+Add Discount," select Coupon Code or Subsidy from the drop-down options, and then enter eligibility information or coupon code.
8. Review your order and click "Continue."
9. Click "Pay Now," enter payment info, and confirm.
10. Check your email for confirmation. Follow the link to set your password, and finish setting up your account.

### WELCOME TO CHAMPIONS!



**Questions?** Email us at [ChampionsHelp@KC-Education.com](mailto:ChampionsHelp@KC-Education.com) or call 1-800-246-2154. Champions Family Support is open Monday through Friday, from 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. PST.

# Bennet Elementary - District OR-1

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



2026 PANTHER FOOTBALL

## 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!



# Bennet Elementary - District OR-1

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



## 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



# Bennet Elementary - District OR-1

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

## 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

<b>Hazard</b>	<b>Safety Strategy</b>
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



# BLITZ RESULTS

## ELIGIBILITY STATS

STEP 1

Week of April 6th



**73 kids**  
on the F list

**31** failing two  
or more

STEP 2

Week of April 13th



**31 kids**  
on the F list

**14** failing two  
or more

## ICU STATS

Wednesday, April 8th

**300**  
MISSING  
ASSIGNMENTS  
(86 students)



Friday, April 10th

**137**  
MISSING  
ASSIGNMENTS  
(46 students)



# 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 9<sup>TH</sup> AND  
JUNE 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2026  
12:00 PM- 5:00  
PM**

### **WHERE:**

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

### **TUITION**

**\$425**

### **GO TO:**

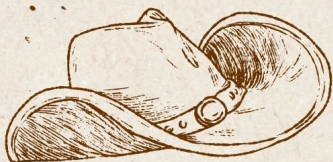
**[pathfindertss.org](http://pathfindertss.org)**

### **REGISTER FOR:**

**Palmyra**

**Contact:**

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



*Palmyra Prom 2026*

# A NIGHT IN NASHVILLE

APRIL 18TH | THE SHED

22500 s 176<sup>th</sup> St Adams, Nebraska

Pictures: 7 pm | Dance: 8:00 pm



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



Post Prom to follow @ Palmyra HS