

Bennet Elementary - District OR-1

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



Newsletter - Oct 3rd, 2025

Arrival 7:50-8:20

Dismissal 3:20

Early Dismissal Days 1:00

Principal's Update

Upcoming No School Days

Please note that on Wednesday, October 8th, we will have no school for students due to hosting the Bluez Festival. We will return to school on Thursday, October 9th. Additionally, on Thursday, October 16th and 17th, we will have no school for Fall Break.

Standard Response Protocols (SRP) Protocols

On Wednesday, it was communicated that we went into a "Secure" when it was reported that a structure fire was near the school that Bennet Fire and Rescue were responding to. Most importantly, we want to thank the families for their cooperation and support as we navigated this situation so close to dismissal time. We were forced to make some last minute adjustments to our dismissal plan and were able to safely dismiss all students in a timely manner. This is a great opportunity to share more about some of our procedures that we may use throughout the year in necessary situations. These procedures are taught to students and practiced throughout the year. They provide guidance for keeping us safe for potential situations we may encounter throughout the year. More information can be found at the bottom of the newsletter.

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.

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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.

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.

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Upcoming Events

- Oct 8th- No School- Bluez Festival
- Oct 14th- Bennet Safety Action Plan Open House- 4:30-6:30
- Oct 16th&17th- No School- Fall Break
- Oct 23- 2nd Grade Field Trip
- Oct 31- Halloween Parade/ Parties- 1:45-3:00

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

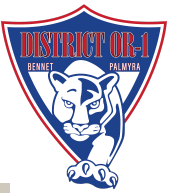
[25-26 District Calendar](#)

Transportation

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

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☀️ Panther Paw Winners ☀️



**SAFE
RESPECTFUL
RESPONSIBLE**



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PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

October 14, 2025

4:30 PM – 6:30 PM

Bennet Elementary School

50 Dogwood St, Bennet, NE 68317

Join us for the final Public Open House for the Bennet Safety Action Plan on October 14. This is an opportunity to learn more about the drafted safety recommendations, provide feedback, and speak directly with project team members.

Standard Response Protocol



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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



Panther Weekly Bulletin

Breakfast Menu

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Pancake Bites Potato Triangle	Cini Mini's Yoplait Yogurt	No School Today	Snack N Waffle Sausage Links	Fruit Turnover Yoplait Yogurt

Lunch Menu

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Pulled Pork Bun AuGratin Potatoes Broccoli	Chicken Enchilada Spanish Rice Black Beans	No School Today	Spaghetti Meat Sauce Breadstick Corn	Pizza Beef Fies- tada Carrots Breadstick

Happening this week at PHS

Monday, October 6th– Girls Golf Districts @ Hidden Valley 9:00 am. Van leaves at 7:45 am.

Volleyball C Team/JV/Varsity vs. Crete @ PHS 5:00/6:00/7:00 pm.

JH Volleyball @ Weeping Water, B team 5:00 pm/ A Team 6:00 pm. Bus leaves at 3:30 pm.

JV Football @ Milford 6:00 pm. Bus leaves at 4:00 pm.

Tuesday, October 7th– FFA Land Judging Practice 7:15 am.

JH Girls Basketball Meeting 7:45 am in the upstairs West gym @ PHS.

HS Cross Country Varsity ECNC @ Tecumseh CC 4:00/ 4:45/ 5:30 pm. Bus leaves at 1:30 pm.

Volleyball JV/Varsity @ Weeping Water 5:00/6:00 pm. Bus leaves at 3:30 pm.

One Act Rehearsal 6:00– 8:00 pm.

Wednesday, October 8th– No School. Staff Inservice.

Bluez Marching Festival @ Olson Sports Complex 8:45 am.

FFA Land Judging in Beatrice 9:00 am. Van leaves at 7:20 am.

Thursday, October 9th– Volleyball Varsity Triangular vs Johnson Brock/ Lourdes CC @ PHS 5:00/ 6:00/ 7:00 pm.

HS Football Team Meal 6:00 pm.

One Act Crew Only 6:00– 8:00 pm.

Friday, October 10th– Football Varsity vs. Lincoln Lutheran @ Olson Sports Complex 7:30 pm.

Saturday, October 11th– Elkhorn Sounds of Excellence Marching Festival @ Elkhorn High School.

JH State Cross Country– TBD.

JH Volleyball @Archbishop Bergan 9:00 am. Bus leaves at 7:15 am.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, October 13th– FFA Livestock Practice 7:30 am

Girls Golf State Championship TBA

Volleyball Varsity ECNC Tournament TBA

JH Football Game vs. Archbishop Bergan @ Olson Sports Complex 4:30 pm

Football JV vs. Conestoga @ Olson Sport Complex 6:30 pm

Tuesday, October 14th– Girls Golf State Championship TBA

Volleyball Varsity ECNC Tournament TBA

JH Volleyball @ Freeman 4:00 pm

One Act Rehearsal 6:00– 8:00 pm

Wednesday, October 15th– FFA Livestock Practice 7:30 am.

FCCLA Meeting 7:45 am.

Cross Country Varsity District Meet TBA

Thursday, October 16th– No school. Staff work day.

Volleyball Varsity ECNC TBA

One Act Rehearsal 8:30– 11:30 am

JH Volleyball vs. Conestoga @ PHS 4:00 pm

Football Varsity vs. Malcolm @ Olson Sports Complex 7:00 pm

Friday, October 17th– No School, Fall Break.

Saturday, October 18th– FFA Harvest Lunch at Palmyra and Bennet Frontier Coops 11:30– 1:30 pm.

GO PANTHERS!