

PALMYRA



PANTHERS

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

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S.POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM Retail

District OR-1 Newsletter
District OR-1 Public Schools
August, 2017

*****ECRWSS*****

**Local
Postal Customer**

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

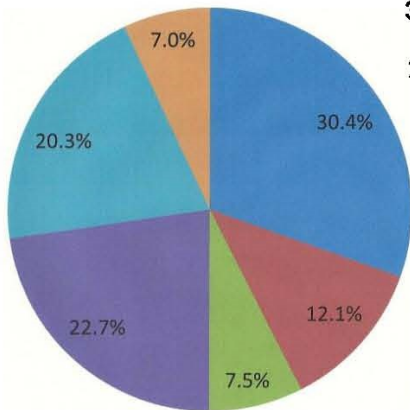
Foundation For Knowledge District OR-1

Compare the Foundation For Knowledge to other charities you may be considering

What is your contribution worth?

111%

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% - Scholarships 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, filing, 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

Foundation For Knowledge District OR-1 - P. O. Box 130, Palmyra, NE 68418

Enclosed is my/our individual gift corporate gift _____

(corporate contact person)

of \$ _____ to the Foundation For Knowledge District OR-1

-OR-

I/We pledge \$ _____. Enclosed is my/our payment of \$ _____.

Balance paid by _____, 20____.

To validate your pledge, your signature is required _____

Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

If 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 PANTHER

NEWS

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, 2017

- Superintendent Notes
- Teammates
- Tips for a successful year
- Foundation for Knowledge
- Cross Country News
- 2017-2018 Calendar

Superintendent Notes...by Robert Hanger

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year. As the excitement of the new school year builds our focus has been fixed on a number of facility improvements and upgrades taking place throughout the summer months. The primary focus has been on work to renovate classroom space at Palmyra Junior/Senior High School, as well as completing the career classroom addition and commons expansion on the east side of the current building. We have also begun the process of constructing the addition that will add the new competition gym and music and computer rooms on the southwest corner of the campus. In Bennet the focus has been on completing some final items related to the expansion and renovation of that building. We are in the process of replacing the roof and associated materials on the elementary gym including gutters, windows and painting both the interior and exterior portions of that structure. The Board has spent countless hours of managing these projects in order to make all of this possible. If you see a Board of Education member or a member of our maintenance staff please take time to thank them for their efforts to bring the project closer to completion.



In addition to preparing buildings for the upcoming school year the Board and staff have been busy completing or initiating a number of projects. Our staff have had the opportunity to engage in professional development including but not limited to attending the Google summit and work in a variety of curricular content areas that will provide exciting and innovative instructional upgrades for our students. Additionally, I am extremely

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

...Continued on next page.

The Palmyra-Bennet-Douglas chapter of TeamMates took a trip to the SAC Museum in Ashland on Wednesday, July 19th. This summer-time event allowed mentors and mentees to get together and have some fun. They went through the exhibit: Black Holes: Space Warps and Time Twists, immerses visitors in the modern search for black holes—the most mysterious and powerful objects in the universe— through a variety of interactive and multimedia experiences. After the Black Holes experience, the TeamMates took a guided tour and explored various WWII and Cold War aircraft. Aircraft simulators were available for fun; all participants were given a box to round out the visit.



TeamMates is a school-based mentoring program. Youth are paired with a kind, compassionate and caring adult who offers an encouraging relationship. Mentees and mentors form a match that meets for an hour each week during the school year and occasionally goes off campus for trips and other fun events. For more information concerning The Palmyra-Bennet-Douglas chapter of TeamMates contact: Mr. Michael Chaffee at Chaffee.Mic@districtor1.net or 402.780.5327.



proud of our summer school staff who spent many hours working to provide instruction to our largest ever group of students who took part in the three week session in June. Mrs. Walter and our summer school staff at Bennet Elementary are to be commended for designing an exceptional program while construction was taking place. Also, during 2017-2018 the curriculum committee will begin the review process for several curricular areas including FCS and Industrial Arts. The upcoming year will also be significant as the district prepares for an external accreditation team visit. Staff and administration will be working to complete a myriad of tasks associated with that process. The Board of Education has completed a review of policy and transition to a new policy service offered by the Perry Law firm. That has been an arduous task and the district will benefit greatly from the efforts of our Board. Additionally the Board approved an agreement with Emilsson LLC. to guide the Board in developing the next strategic plan. Thank you to our Board and staff for maintaining a district that is maintaining a "Commitment to Excellence" in keeping with our District mission and Vision.

I would like to take time to introduce our new instructional staff for 2017-2018 school year. New staff include Shannon Ruzicka, O.T., Jennifer Whyman K-12 Special Education, John Miller K6 Physical Education, Erin Formanek Early Childhood, Amanda Malone K-6, Emily Buddenberg Speech Language and Deaf Educator, and Lexus Kleeb K-6. We will also be welcoming Sandy Miller as the Library supervisor at Palmyra High School. Please take some time to welcome our new staff to the District OR-1 family.

The high school remains committed to offering

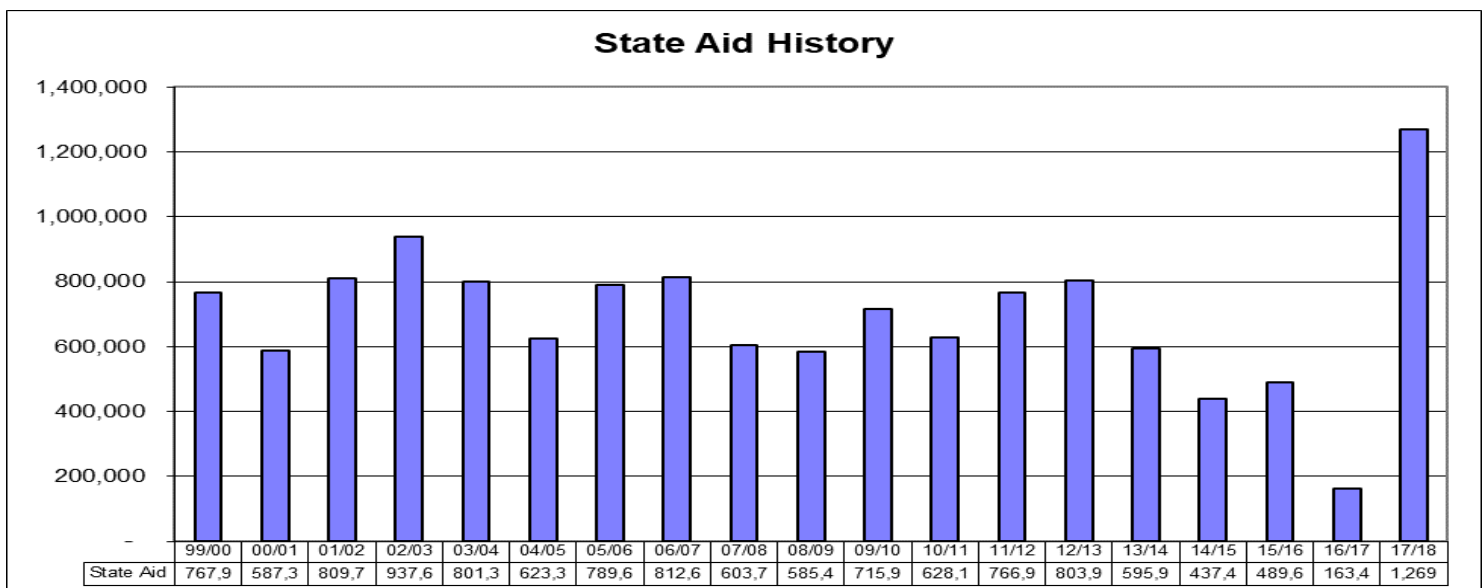
dual credit courses in our partnerships with Northeast Community College, Southeast Community College and Peru State College. Courses include but are not limited to: Composition 150, academy courses in the areas of Health Science, Business and Informational Technology and introductory education courses and Algebra. It is unfortunate that we will be losing some instructors due to changes impacting the certification process for dual credit instructors in a negative manner. The current landscape requires teachers to obtain additional credit hours in order to maintain their dual credit teaching status. We are fortunate that our staff has gone the extra mile to do that for the benefit of our students allowing us to continue offering dual credit algebra, thanks Mr. Maas for your efforts!

The District remains focused on technology as we our second school year with the chrome book platform. They offer excellent functionality, price and ease of use in a 7-12 setting. We are continuing to augment their use and will be introducing them to grade 5 students this fall. I would like to thank our staff who attended the Google summit this July in a continued effort to provide the latest information and skills to our students. The conference was attended by Rebecca Gill-Rose, Michael Chaffee, Rebecca Cunningham, Sandy Murphy, Cassidy Buescher, Burke Brown, Amanda Malone and Thomas McChristian

During the July BOE meeting the District OR-1 Board of Education reviewed the policy relate to bullying. In that effort we continue to place a high level of importance on character education as a backbone of our effort to instruct staff and students how to recognize, respond and report bullying in order to reduce the negative impact it can have on our students and building culture.

The Department of Education has certified state aid for schools for FY 2017 (based on needs/resources). State Aid for District OR-1 has increased significantly due primarily to the New School and Student Growth adjustments. The chart below re-

State Aid History



flects state aid as certified in the amount of \$1,269,640.

These changes in the aid formula also serves to move the district budget authority calculation from budget based to needs based for the foreseeable future. Budget authority for FY 2017 has been certified at \$7,166,324.

As I begin my 32nd year in education I would like to wish everyone the best in 2017-2018. Continue to take advantage of the many opportunities available at District OR-1, be productive and positive in your relationships and studies. Working together we will continue to move the district forward, GO PANTHERS!

TIPS for a GREAT START!

As we start the school year Education Corner offers the following tips for success:

1. Don't attempt to cram all your studying into one session.

Ever find yourself up late at night expending more energy trying to keep your eyelids open than you are studying?

2. Plan when you're going to study.

Successful students schedule specific times throughout the week when they are going to study -- and then they stick with their schedule.

3. Study at the same time.

Not only is it important that you plan when you're going to study, it's important you create a consistent, daily study routine. When you study at the same time each day and each week, you're studying will become a regular part of your life.

4. Each study time should have a specific goal.

Simply studying without direction is not effective. You need to know exactly what you need to accomplish during each study session.

5. Never procrastinate your planned study session.

It's very easy, and common, to put off your study session because of lack of interest in the subject, because you have other things you need to get done, or just because the assignment is hard. Successful students DO NOT procrastinate studying.

6. Start with the most difficult subject first.

As your most difficult assignment or subject will require the most effort and mental energy, you should start with it first. Once you've completed the most difficult work, it will be much easier to complete the rest of your work.

7. Always review your notes before starting an assignment.

Obviously, before you can review your notes you must first have

notes to review. Always make sure to take good notes in class. Before you start each study session, and before you start a particular assignment, review your notes thoroughly to make sure you know how to complete the assignment correctly.

8. Make sure you're not distracted while you're studying.

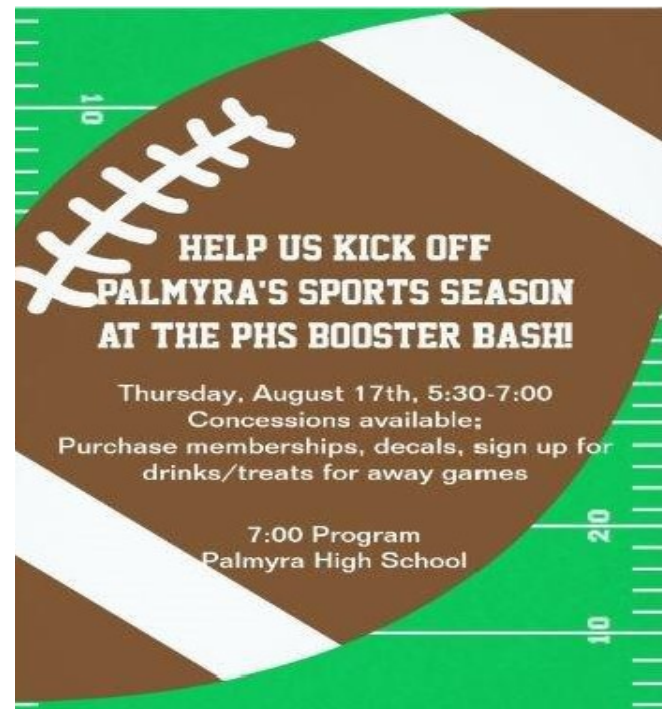
Everyone gets distracted by something. Maybe it's the TV. Or maybe it's your family. Or maybe it's just too quite. Some people actually study better with a little background noise.

9. Use study groups effectively.

Ever heard the phrase "two heads are better than one?" Well this can be especially true when it comes to studying. Working in groups enables you to (1) get help from others when you're struggling to understand a concept, (2) complete assignments more quickly, and (3) teach others, whereby helping both the other students and yourself to internalize the subject matter.

10. Review your notes, schoolwork and other class materials over the weekend.

Successful students review what they've learned during the week over the weekend. This way



Mark Your Calendars!

August 15, 2017

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



Cross Country ..Mr. Trausch

During the dog days of the summer, the current and future members of the Palmyra Cross Country team have been hard at work. Runners participated in team runs on Friday mornings at Holmes Lake in Lincoln, peer lead runs in the mornings before weights, as well as team camps in June. Three elementary students (Bettie Chambers, Ava Palm, and Kayley Thompson) joined the nine high school runners at the camps.

On June 7th, Jeremiah Bair, an ACSM certified personal trainer spoke to our runners about the importance of strength training, proper nutrition, and demonstrated a few static and dynamic stretching techniques. Strength training is a supplement to a runner's road work because it strengthens muscles and joints, which can improve race times and decrease injury risk. If runners want to perform at their full potential, they need to target areas of fitness not normally focused on, like flexibility, balance, mobility, and strength.

The next week, Stacy Mangers-Shaw, a local marathon runner, recapped many of her running highlights for the young campers. She shared the story of finishing the Boston Marathon moments before the tragic terrorist attack in 2013. The runners really enjoyed hearing how running has been a part of Stacy's life for many years, and it helps her overall lifestyle focused on health and wellness.



Left to Right Stacy Shaw, Bettie Chambers, Kayley Thompson, Ava Palm, and Abby Lewis



Left to Right Kayley Thompson, Ava Palm, Sarah Vorderstrasse, and Danny Versaw

During the final cross country camp, Eddie Walters of Fleet Feet Running of Lincoln stopped by camp and demonstrated how proper footwear benefits runners, as well as why it is important to invest in shoes that support each runner's needs. He also quizzed the campers on proper running form. Each correct answer from the campers was rewarded with 15% discount certificate to Fleet Feet. He also awarded a Brooks Bag and running sunglasses!

Following camp training and active learning with speakers, runners got to have some fun playing "capture the flag", selfie scavenger hunt, and Russian tag. The students had lots of fun and enjoyed building relationships with other runners. The cross country team also participated in individual running throughout the summer, in addition to the team runs and summer camp. With the hard work and determination already seen throughout the summer, the Panthers are gearing up for a great cross country season!

All HS runners meet at Palmyra HS North Entrance.

Monday, Aug 7th - 8am | Tuesday, Aug 8th - 8am | Wednesday, Aug 9th- 6am | Thursday, Aug 10th- 6am | Friday, Aug 11th - 6am

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

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. Please be patient.

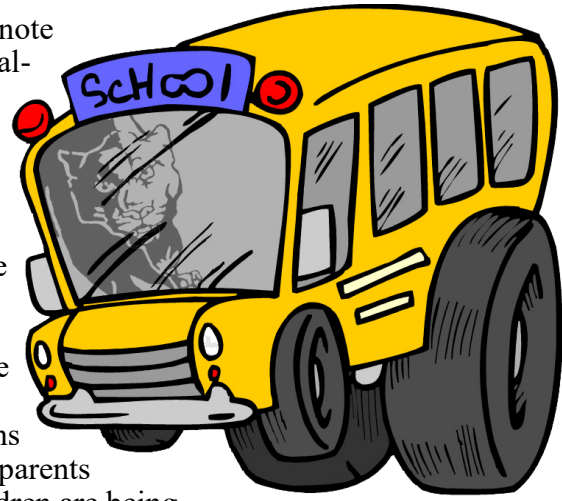
After the first week, times should be the same. The bus drivers can only wait one minute for students to get on the bus, so please have your student ready and waiting at their scheduled time. This will ensure that the bus will not be late to their next pickup or be late to school.

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 child 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 _____

CLASS BUNDL

Bennet Elementary School has again partnered with ClassBundl to help you with your school shopping! No lines, no shipping fees, and no hassle. Get class bundling from June 1st through the first week of school by following three simple steps:

1. Go to ClassBundl.com and search for our school.
2. Order the classroom-specific bundle.
3. Supplies are shipped directly to your door with no fees.

BONUS: BENNET ELEMENTARY RECEIVES FIVE PERCENT CASH BACK FROM CLASS-BUNDL.COM Purchase at ClassBundl.com and you skip the checkout lines!

Total Solar Eclipse in Nebraska – August 21, 2017

Grab your solar eclipse viewing glasses and plan to view this super celestial event in August. If you haven't heard by now Nebraska will have some of the best viewing of a total solar eclipse on Monday, August 21, 2017. This event provides wonderful teaching moments and District OR1 staff and students will take advantage of this opportunity with planned projects and activities in the classroom to learn about solar eclipses. Bennet Elementary students will have a themed lunch at Taggart Park in Palmyra on August 21st. Then the entire student body will gather on the football field in Palmyra ahead of the 1:03 p.m. eclipse, don their viewing glasses (donated by the Palmyra Memorial Library) and lay back and experience the eclipse. The eclipse will last 1-2 minutes in our area. The next total solar eclipse that can be viewed in Nebraska will be May 3, 2106. That total solar eclipse will only be seen in the Nebraska panhandle. Don't miss this (nearly) once in a lifetime event!

Below is a list of events and sites that you can visit to learn more about the total eclipse of the sun in the United States and especially here in Nebraska.

Palmyra Memorial Library Hosts Speaker on the Solar Eclipse

On Monday, August 21, 2017, a total eclipse of the Sun will be visible in the continental United States for the first time in almost 40 years. There will be a lot of public interest in seeing the eclipse and therefore the Palmyra Memorial Library is excited to host Professor Emeritus, Edward G. Schmidt, at the Palmyra Activities Center on Sunday, August 6th at 2:00 P.M.

Professor Schmidt has taught astronomy courses for over 30 years. He is currently Associate Dean, of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Nebraska, with about 350 full-time faculty and more than 100 adjunct faculty. He has served as Program Director of the Stellar Astronomy and Astrophysics Program for the National Science Foundation and was responsible for a budget of \$6,000,000.00 per year. He has visited observatories around the world. He brings a wealth of information about the upcoming solar eclipse to the Palmyra community. To help you prepare for the eclipse, each attendee will receive a free pair of solar glasses to use when viewing the eclipse.

NASA - <https://eclipse.gsfc.nasa.gov/SEgoogle/SEgoogle2001/SE2017Aug21Tgoogle.html>

Hyde Observatory, Lincoln, NE - <http://www.hydeobservatory.info/eclipse/>





When you are preparing to go on vacation, planning a party or preparing for a new school year it's always good to make a checklist. The checklist helps to organize the details and prioritize what must be completed for the vacation, party or school year to go well.

Here is the Bennet Backpack Program checklist for the 2017-18 school year!

- ✓ For the past nine years the Bennet Backpack Program has provided backpacks of food for qualifying families each Friday during the school year. This year the Bennet Backpack Program has eighteen backpacks of food to distribute. Families who participate in the free and reduced lunch program are eligible for a backpack of food. Please mark the "sharing information with other programs" attachment if you want to participate in the Bennet Backpack Program. Check.
- ✓ The Bennet Backpack Program is fully funded for the 2017-18 school year. A big thank you goes out to the communities that make up District OR1. Our focus now turns to raising support for the 2018-19 school year. For eighteen backpacks of food purchased from the Food Bank of Lincoln we need \$4500 (18 backpacks @\$250). We need another \$900 for the milk vouchers and fresh fruit. Donations can be mailed to Palmyra Presbyterian Church, 1297 G Rd, Palmyra, NE 68418 with a notation in the memo to Bennet Backpack Program. Check.
- ✓ Food for the backpacks is delivered to the Bennet Community Church. Our first delivery date is Monday, August 14, 2017 at 2:30 p.m. If you could help unload the truck and place the food on shelves in the church basement please come to the Bennet Community Church located at 350 Monroe, Bennet. If you have questions about that process contact Pastor Darin Corder 402-782-2385. Check.
- ✓ The food is stored by menus at the Bennet Community Church and must be packed in eighteen individual bags for each week. You, your church, or civic organization can sign up for a time to help pack the food bags. It is done a month at a time. A sign-up sheet will be available at the Bennet Elementary open house Thursday, August 10, 2017 from 5:30-7:30. If you are unable to attend the open house you can contact Pastor Darin Corder to sign up for a time. He can be reached at 402-782-2385. Check.

This checklist will get the Bennet Backpack Program off to a great start. Please consider how you will support the Bennet Backpack Program this year. If you have questions about the Bennet Backpack Program you can contact Becky Hall, 402-560-5231.

Bennet Elementary School Supply List (all students need a Book Bag, Gym Shoes and Headphones)

Class	Must Have:	May Not Bring
Kindergarten Mrs. Dvorak Mrs. Nitzsche	Small plastic pencil box 12 large glue sticks A-M 1 box of quart size ziplock slider bags N-Z 1 box of gallon size ziplock slider bags 2 inch binder with clear sleeve on front cover 2 black dry erase markers	scissors pencil sharpener crayons markers
First Grade Mrs. Hall Mrs. Dowding Mrs. Wusk	12 Large glue sticks Small, plastic pencil box 24 crayons #2 pencils (a package of 12) 4 black fine tip dry erase markers	pencil sharpeners
Second Grade Mrs. Christensen Mrs. Schauer	#2 pencils (a package of 12) 12 Crayola Classic Washable markers Box of 24 crayons 1 Spiral college rule notebook 4 large glue sticks Small plastic crayon box (5 ½ x 8) Clorox wipes 1- 1 inch 3 ring binder w/ clear front pocket 2 Pink Erasers	pencil sharpeners mechanical pencils
Third Grade Ms. Keppler Ms. Kleeb Ms. Struebing	#2 pencils (a package of 24) Box of 24 crayons 2 Large erasers 8 Large glue sticks 2 Spiral notebooks (70 page College Ruled) Scissors 1- 1 inch 3 ring binder w/ clear front	large pencil boxes markers
Fourth Grade Mrs. Ourada Mrs. Sullivan	#2 pencils 3 Spiral Notebooks 1 Pkg. Wide Ruled notebook paper 1- 1 inch 3 ring binder w/ clear front 1- 2 inch 3ring binder w/clear front 2 red pens 1 package of highlighters 1 package of 12 markers 4 Large glue sticks 5 inch Scissors Clorox Wipes	gel pens/ multicolored mechanical pencils no toys pencil boxes over 8x10
Fifth Grade Mrs. Malone Mr. McChristian	#2 pencils (a package of 24) White board eraser Dry erase markers 1 Pkg. of wide ruled notebook paper Clorox Wipes	large pencil boxes multicolored pens no toys
Sixth Grade Mr. Goodrich Ms. Wolfgang	# 2 pencils Small pencil box Spiral notebooks/notepaper Colored pencils Crayola Washable markers Calculator (Optional)	gel/multicolored pens large pencil boxes no toys

2017-18 Summer Newsletter...Mr. Hoeft

Gym reservations for the 2017-18 school year at Bennet and Palmyra will be available starting August 21st. To reserve a spot at the Bennet Gym you will need to contact Linde Walter at Walter.lin@districtor1.net or Aaron Hoeft for the Palmyra Gym at hoeft.aar@districtor1.net with your contact info, activity, preferred practice dates, time, grade level and expected number of kids. Groups will need to pick one location as doubling up at both gyms will not be accepted due to the large number of requests and availability. **Requests will be taken starting August 7th and no earlier by email only to the above individuals on a first come first serve basis.**

New this year! District OR-1 will offer Senior Citizen passes to those 62 years and older for just \$5. They are good for admission to any home contest excluding home hosted ECNC Tournament contests as well as the One Act/Main Stage Plays. Anyone living in the district can purchase one from Jane in the high school office or they will be sold at the Booster Bash on August 17th.

The 2017-18 Activities Calendar is live and viewable by scrolling to the bottom of the www.districtor1.org school webpage to the google calendar. There you can view upcoming events as well as use the "+google calendar" to add it to your mobile device.

Sports Physicals

If you are in grades 7-12 and plan to participate in a fall sport for the upcoming 2017-18 school year you must have a current physical on file in the office prior to first day of scheduled practice. An NSAA form is also needed on file prior to the first contest. Both the Physical and NSAA forms can be found on the school website under the HS Athletics tab.

The NSAA official start for fall sport practices is August 7th for football, cross country, volleyball and girls golf. Coaches of each sport will contact athletes with details on official dates and times of those practices. Information on these dates and times may also be posted on the @OR1_Panthers Twitter page.



Above: Palmyra FFA celebrates the support of Culvers.



Right: Palmyra FFA received a Hyvee Stores One Step grant to purchase Tower Gardens for the high school and elementary classrooms. The FFA members will work with Elementary students to promote agriculture science skills, healthy lifestyles and nutrition.

One Step Community Garden Grants may be awarded to organizations whose core focus teaches those in need about health and nutrition through the process of planting, tending and harvesting their own fruits and vegetables. One step products that consumers can purchase to help fund the program are One Step: potatoes for gardens, shredded wheat for meals, towels for trees and water to provide drinking water. Palmyra FFA supports Hyvee for their community projects.

DISTRICT OR-1 PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BENNET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PALMYRA JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
Rob Hanger, Superintendent
Linde Walter, Elementary Principal
David Bottrell, 7-12 Principal
Aaron Hoeft, 7-12 Activities Director

Palmyra Jr/Sr High School
P.O. Box 130
Palmyra, NE 68418
402-780-5327

Bennet Elementary School
50 Dogwood Street
Bennet, NE 68317
402-782-3535

WELCOME BACK!

The 2017-2018 School Year will kick off on **Monday, August 14th** for students in grades K–12th grade. 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.** Students in 1st-6th grade will report to their classrooms beginning at 8:00 AM.

Preschool parents and students will report to the preschool on Tuesday, August 15th for their first day. Morning session will begin at 8:00 a.m. and the afternoon session will begin at 12:00 p.m.

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

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 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. 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. They 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 AND IMMUNIZATIONS REQUIRED:

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 kind of 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 into all PHS activities except Main Stage Play and Musical. Activity pass prices are:

\$125 for a family pass

\$50 for an adult pass

\$30 for student passes

\$5.00 Senior Citizen Pass for those 62 years and older

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 for 2017-18 is included in this mailing.

Students must show proof of immunization upon enrollment in District OR 1 Public Schools. 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.

ALLERGIES:

Due to various student allergies, any treats brought into the elementary classroom need to be store bought with the ingredients clearly labeled. Thank you for your cooperation with this safety/wellness procedure.

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 Jr.-Sr. 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 \$1.80 for students in grades K-6.

Breakfast prices will cost \$2.05 for students in grades 7-12.

Lunch prices will be \$2.45 for students in grades K-6.

Lunch prices will be \$2.55 for students in grades 7-12.

Lunch prices will be \$3.60 for visitors.

It will be very important to talk about the menu with your child 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 this year. Again this year we will include the cost of recess milk in 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 the school 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 Tuesday, August 15th. **No breakfast will be served on the first day of school.** If you have any questions about the school breakfast program please feel free to contact either school at the numbers listed above.

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 Palmyra High School and 7:45 a.m. at Bennet. Please note that District OR 1 school buildings open at 7:30 a.m. for HS students and 7:50 for Elementary Students not in the Rec. Program. Please do not arrive prior to that time.

Bennet country bus students and junior high 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 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 to 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 the Bennet Elementary and Palmyra Jr/Sr High School campuses are closed, 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 780-5327.

PARENT NOTIFICATION OF TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

School districts that receive Title I funding are required to inform parents 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 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

Federal Law 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 look at, or if you wish to have a copy, 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, pregnancy, or childbirth or related medical condition 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 68418-0130, (402) 780-5327.

PALMYRA JR/SR HIGH INFORMATION

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 Friday, August 11th from 1-3 pm at the high school. 7TH graders who attended orientation last spring are also welcome to come to school from 1-3 pm on Friday, August 11th to pick up schedules and locker numbers/combinations and get reacquainted with the building.

STUDENT SCHEDULE CHANGES:

For any student that needs to make changes to their class schedule aside from study halls. Study Halls are not put into the schedule at this time. Students do not need to come in to schedule their study halls. If any other changes are needed, the following times are available:

Monday, August 7th – 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Tuesday, August 8th - 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Wednesday, August 9th - 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 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 the 2017-2018 school year. This is an exciting time and I am anxious for students to be back in the building! I am looking forward to working with everyone to ensure the children at District OR 1 Bennet Elementary achieve their highest potential.

Bennet Elementary uses a school wide positive behavior plan that allows staff to use common language and consistent expectations within the school environment. The school will continue to follow the 4 B's of Learning: Be an Active Learner, Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Safe. Behavior Matrix's are posted throughout the school 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 on the first day of school or at open house.

I hope you 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. Thank you, Mrs. Walter

BENNET ELEMENTARY SUMMER ENRICHMENT:

Bennet Elementary had a wonderful turnout for the 2017 Summer Enrichment program. Our numbers this year were at 118 students attending the summer school session. The theme for the summer was, "Camping and Nebraska History." All grade levels participated in math, reading, and writing activities. A special THANK YOU to Julie VanMeter and Miki Montgomery for being guest speakers during our summer program. Mrs. VanMeter discussed with the students Nebraska Bugs and even brought in bugs to look at. Mrs. Montgomery shared information on gardening and healthy foods.



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 entryway on Thursday, August 10th 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.

BENNET ELEMENTARY OPEN HOUSE:

Bennet Elementary will be hosting an Open House on Thursday, August 10th from 5:30-7:30 PM. Students/families can meet their classroom teacher, bring school supplies, and take a tour of the school.

KINDERGARTEN CLASS LISTS:

Parents of Kindergarten students should receive a letter from Mrs. Nitzsche or Mrs. Dvorak by Thursday, August 10th letting them know of their class assignments and other information. If you do not receive a letter by August 10th, 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 office beginning August 7th or mail it to the school.

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 well 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.

Treatment includes 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 RECREATION PROGRAM:

Bennet Elementary will continue to offer a before and after school recreation program. Starting on Monday, August 14th, for a fee, school age children attending Bennet Elementary may take part in this program. **There will be a table at Open House on Thursday, August 10th for you to register your child.** If your child will be attending the before or after school care program, please stop by 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 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.
- 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 be available also. 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 begin on Tuesday, August 15th. An Open House will be held on Thursday, August 10th from 5:30-7:30 PM. The pre-school is for 3 and 4 year old students in the school district. This year the Little Panthers preschool was awarded an expansion grant to offer a second additional morning session. We are very excited for this expansion. Mrs. Brittany Draeger and Ms. Erin Formanek will be the preschool teachers. There are three class sessions. Two morning sessions will run from 8:00 –11:30 a.m., with an afternoon session running from 12:00 – 3:30 p.m. Each class session will receive a meal and a snack as part of the program. Please contact Bennet Elementary School at 402-782-3535 for more information.

School Wellness Policy

District OR-1 is committed to providing a school environment that enhances learning and the development of lifelong wellness. The goals outlined in this policy were selected by members of the Board of Education and a committee convened to develop them after reviewing and considering a number of evidence-based strategies. The policy will be available on our website as we complete the process of posting the new Board of Education policy manual and also available upon request from your building administrator. Thanks committee members.



Summary of the School Immunization Rules and Regulations 2017-2018

Student Age Group	Required Vaccines
Ages 2 through 5 years enrolled in a school based program not licensed as a child care provider	<p>4 doses of DTaP, DTP, or DT vaccine</p> <p>3 doses of Polio vaccine</p> <p>3 doses of Hib vaccine or 1 dose of Hib given at or after 15 months of age</p> <p>3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine</p> <p>1 dose of MMR or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age</p> <p>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.</p> <p>4 doses of pneumococcal or 1 dose of pneumococcal given on or after 15 months of age</p>
Students entering school (Kindergarten or 1 st Grade depending on the school district's entering grade)	<p>3 doses of DTaP, DTP, DT, or Td vaccine, one given on or after the 4th birthday</p> <p>3 doses of Polio vaccine</p> <p>3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine or 2 doses of adolescent vaccine if student is 11-15 years of age</p> <p>2 doses of MMR or MMRV vaccine, given on or after 12 months of age and separated by at least one month</p> <p>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.</p>
Students entering 7 th grade	<p>Must be current with the above vaccinations</p> <p>AND receive</p> <p>1 dose of Tdap (contain Pertussis booster)</p>
Students transferring from outside the state at any grade	<p>Must be immunized appropriately according to the grade entered.</p>

Source: Nebraska Immunization Program, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. . 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 1/25/2017

Meal Charge Policy

It is the policy of the District to comply with the National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program and all other federal grant programs that provide free or reduced meals to qualifying students.

Student Eligibility

Families of students who may be eligible for free or reduced price school meals should submit an application to determine their eligibility. Applications are available through the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee. As long as an application is submitted on or after July 1, the application will be considered current for the new school year. A student may become eligible for free or reduced meals at any time during the school year if the household experiences a change in financial circumstances.

Meal Account Balances

The District will ensure that families can check their meal account balances in a manner other than exclusively online. The District will ensure that at least one form of meal account payment is free of charge.

The District encourages families to pre-pay without charge for free or reduced price meals. Notwithstanding the option to pre-pay, students and families will have a method to add funds during the school day. Any balance remaining in a pre-paid account shall carry over into the next month. Households approved for free or reduced price meals with funds remaining in their meal account at the end of the school year shall receive a refund. When a student leaves the District or graduates, the District shall attempt to contact the student's household to return any funds remaining in the student's meal account.

Unpaid meal charges may be carried over at the end of the school year as a delinquent debt and the District shall undertake reasonable collection efforts to collect unpaid meal charges classified as delinquent debt, pursuant to and in compliance with state and federal law. The District shall maintain records of its collection efforts and, once delinquent meal charges are converted to bad debt, its documentation establishing and handling of the bad debt.

Student Confidentiality

The District will disclose individual student eligibility information only to those persons (and organizations) who require the information in order to carry out an activity specifically authorized by the National School Lunch Act, subject to applicable legal exceptions.

The District shall not use or implement any colored or coded meal cards, tickets, tokens, or other methods of payment that would overtly identify a student as being eligible for free or reduced price meals.

Distribution Annually

This policy shall be provided in writing to all students' households at the start of each school year and to households transferring to the District during the school year.

This policy shall also be provided annually to District staff members responsible for the enforcement of this policy, including food service professionals.

The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall maintain documentation of the annual distribution of this policy to students' households and District staff.

Legal Reference: Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. § 1751); U.S.D.A. Memorandum SP 57-2016.

Date of Adoption: April 10, 2017



DISTRICT OR-1

PALMYRA JUNIOR-SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL--BENNET ELEMENTARY
P.O. BOX 130 PALMYRA, NE 68418 402-780-5327 www.districtor1.org

Robert Hanger
Superintendent

David Bottrell
Secondary Principal

Linde Walter
Elementary Principal

Aaron Hoefft
Activities Director

August 1, 2017

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Children need healthy meals to learn. District OR1 offers healthy meals every school day. Bennet Elementary Breakfast costs \$1.80; lunch costs \$2.45. Palmyra High School Breakfast costs \$2.05; lunch costs \$2.55. Milk costs \$.35 and Juice costs \$.30. Your children may qualify for free or 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 27, 2017 in order to avoid an interruption in meal benefits.

This packet includes an application for free or reduced price meal benefits and a set of detailed instructions. Below are some common questions and answers to help you with the application process.

1. WHO CAN GET FREE OR REDUCED PRICE MEALS?

- All children in households receiving benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) are eligible for free meals.
- Foster children that are under the legal responsibility of a foster care agency or court are eligible for free meals.
- Children participating in their school's Head Start program are eligible for free meals.
- Children who meet the definition of homeless, runaway, or migrant are eligible for free meals.
- Children may receive free or reduced price meals if your household's income is within the limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines. Your children may qualify for free or reduced price meals if your household income falls at or below the limits on this chart.

2. HOW DO I KNOW IF MY CHILDREN QUALIFY AS HOMELESS, MIGRANT, OR RUNAWAY? Do the members of your household lack a permanent address? Are you staying together in a shelter, hotel, or other temporary housing arrangement? Does your family relocate on a seasonal basis? Are any children living with you who have chosen to leave their prior family or household? If you believe children in your household meet these descriptions and haven't been told your children will get free meals, please call or e-mail Robert Hanger, PO Box 130, Palmyra, NE 68418 or 402-780-5327.

3. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION FOR EACH CHILD? No. *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, PO Box 130, Palmyra, NE 68418 or 402-780-5327.*

4. SHOULD I FILL OUT AN APPLICATION IF I RECEIVED A LETTER THIS SCHOOL YEAR SAYING MY CHILDREN ARE ALREADY APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS? No, but please read the letter you got

carefully and follow the instructions. If any children in your household were missing from your eligibility notification, contact Karen Hatcher, PO Box 130, Palmyra, NE 68418 or 402-780-5327 immediately.

5. **CAN I APPLY ONLINE?** You are encouraged to complete an online application instead of a paper application if your school district makes this option available. The online application has the same requirements and will ask you for the same information as the paper application. Visit www.districtor1.org to begin or to learn more about the online application process. Karen Hatcher, PO Box 130, Palmyra, NE 68418 or 402-780-5327 if you have any questions about the online application.
6. **MY CHILD'S APPLICATION WAS APPROVED LAST YEAR. DO I NEED TO FILL OUT A NEW 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. If you do not send in a new application that is approved by the school or you have not been notified that your child is eligible for free meals, your child will be charged the full price for meals.
7. **I GET WIC. CAN MY CHILDREN GET FREE MEALS?** Children in households participating in WIC may be eligible for free or reduced price meals. Please send in an application.
8. **WILL THE INFORMATION I GIVE BE CHECKED?** Yes. We may also ask you to send written proof of the household income you report.
9. **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 and reduced price meals if the household income drops below the income limit.
10. **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 Robert Hanger, PO Box 130, Palmyra, NE 68418 or 402-780-5327.
11. **MAY I APPLY IF SOMEONE IN MY HOUSEHOLD IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN?** Yes. You, your children, or other household members do not have to be U.S. citizens to apply for free or reduced price meals.
12. **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 made \$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.
13. **WHAT IF SOME HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS HAVE NO INCOME TO REPORT?** Household members may not receive some types of income we ask you to report on the application, or may not receive income at all. Whenever this happens, please write a 0 in the field. However, if any income fields are left empty or blank, those will also be counted as zeroes. Please be careful when leaving income fields blank, as we will assume you meant to do so.
14. **WE ARE IN THE MILITARY. DO WE REPORT OUR INCOME DIFFERENTLY?** Your basic pay and cash bonuses must be reported as income. If you get any cash value allowances for off-base housing, food, or clothing, it must also be included as income. However, if your housing is part of the Military Housing Privatization Initiative, do not include your housing allowance as income. Any additional combat pay resulting from deployment is also excluded from income.
15. **WHAT IF THERE ISN'T ENOUGH SPACE ON THE APPLICATION FOR MY FAMILY?** List any additional household members on a separate piece of paper, and attach it to your application. Contact Karen Hatcher, PO Box 130, Palmyra, NE 68418 or 402-780-5327 to receive a second application.
16. **MY FAMILY NEEDS MORE HELP. ARE THERE OTHER PROGRAMS WE MIGHT APPLY FOR?**
To find out how to apply for SNAP or other assistance benefits, please go online to ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov or call 1-800-383-4278.

If you have other questions or need help, call 402-780-5327.

Karen Hatcher

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

For households receiving benefits from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for 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: Complete this part. An adult must sign the form.
Part 5: This part is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals.

For households with FOSTER CHILDREN, 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: Complete this part. An adult must sign the form.
Part 5: This part is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals.

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 Members: 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: Gross income is the amount earned **before taxes and other deductions**; it is not your take-home pay. 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.

Earnings from Work includes the following:

- Salary, wages, cash bonuses
- Net income from self-employment (farm or business)

If you are in the U.S. Military, include:

- Basic pay and cash bonuses (do not include combat pay, Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance (FSSA) payments or privatized housing allowances)
- Allowances for off-base housing, food and clothing

Do not include income from SNAP, FDPIR, WIC, Federal education benefits and foster care payments.

Public Assistance/Child Support/Alimony includes the following:

- Unemployment benefits, Worker's compensation
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Cash assistance from state or local government
- Veteran's benefits (VA benefits), Strike benefits
- Child support payments, Alimony payments

Pensions/Retirement/All Other Income includes the following:

- Social Security payments (including railroad retirement and black lung benefits)

- Private pensions or Disability benefits
- Regular income from trusts or estates, Annuities, Investment income, Earned interest, Rental income and *Regular* cash payments received from outside the household.

If you have no income, write "0" or leave the income field blank. If you do this, you are certifying there is no income to report.

Household Size: Enter the total number of people in your household.

Social Security Number: The adult signing the form must list the last four digits of their Social Security Number (SSN) or check the box to the right labeled "Check if no SSN."

Part 4: Complete this part. An adult must sign the form.

Part 5: This part is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals.

For ALL other households, follow these instructions:

Part 1: List all children, the school they attend and their grade.

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 Members: 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: Gross income is the amount earned **before taxes and other deductions**; it is not your take-home pay. 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.

Earnings from Work includes the following:

- Salary, wages, cash bonuses
- Net income from self-employment (farm or business)

If you are in the U.S. Military, include:

- Basic pay and cash bonuses (do not include combat pay, Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance (FSSA) payments or privatized housing allowances)
- Allowances for off-base housing, food and clothing

Do not include income from SNAP, FDPIR, WIC, Federal education benefits and foster care payments.

Public Assistance/Child Support/Alimony includes the following:

- Unemployment benefits, Worker's compensation
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Cash assistance from state or local government
- Veteran's benefits (VA benefits), Strike benefits
- Child support payments, Alimony payments

Pensions/Retirement/All Other Income includes the following:

- Social Security payments (including railroad retirement and black lung benefits)
- Private pensions or Disability benefits
- Regular income from trusts or estates, Annuities, Investment income, Earned interest, Rental income and *Regular* cash payments received from outside the household.

If you have no income, write "0" or leave the income field blank. If you do this, you are certifying there is no income to report.

Household Size: Enter the total number of people in your household.

Social Security Number: The adult signing the form must list the last four digits of their Social Security Number (SSN) or check the box to the right labeled "Check if no SSN."

Part 4: Complete this part. An adult must sign the form.

Part 5: This part is optional and does not affect your children's eligibility for free or reduced price meals.

Free & Reduced Price School Meals Family Application – complete one application per household Attachment C: 2017-18

Return Completed Application to:		(Insert School name, mailing address here)							
Part 1: Children in School									
List names of all children, including foster children, in school. If all children listed are foster, skip to Part 4 to sign the form. (First, Middle Initial, Last Name)	Check box below if a foster child	Name of School Child Attends		Grade					
	<input type="checkbox"/>								
	<input type="checkbox"/>								
	<input type="checkbox"/>								
	<input type="checkbox"/>								
	<input type="checkbox"/>								
Part 2: Assistance Programs – SNAP, TANF or FDPIR Benefits									
Enter MASTER CASE NUMBER if household qualifies for SNAP, TANF or FDPIR: (Social Security numbers, Medicaid numbers and EBT numbers are not accepted.) Skip to Part 4 									
Part 3: Total Household Gross Income – You must tell us how much and how often.									
1. Household Members		2. Gross Income (before taxes) and How Often it was Received							
List everyone in the household, current income each person earns in whole dollars (no cents) & how often. Entering "0" or leaving the income field blank certifies no income to report. A foster child's personal use income must be listed.		Earnings from Work before deductions		Public Assistance, Child Support, Alimony		Pensions, Retirement and All Other Income			
		Income	How often	Income	How often	Income	How often		
Total Number of Household Members: _____ (Children and Adults)		Last four digits of Social Security Number (SSN) of the adult signing this form: XXX – XXX – _____				Check if no SSN <input type="checkbox"/>			
Part 4: Adult Signature and Contact Information – An adult household member must sign the application.									
<i>"I certify (promise) that all information on this application is true and that all income is reported. I understand that this information is given in connection with the receipt of Federal funds and that school officials may verify (check) the information. I am aware that if I purposely give false information, my children may lose meal benefits and I may be prosecuted under applicable State and Federal laws."</i>									
Sign here: _____		Print name: _____		Date: _____					
Street Address (if available): _____			Zip: _____		Daytime Phone: _____				
Part 5: Children's Ethnic and Racial Identities – Optional									
Check one Ethnic Identity: – and – Check one or more Racial Identities:									
<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino		<input type="checkbox"/> Asian		<input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American		<input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander			
<input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino		<input type="checkbox"/> White		<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaskan Native					
Do Not Fill Out the Section Below - For School Use Only									
Annual Income Conversion:		Weekly X 52;		Every 2 weeks X 26;		Twice a month X 24;		Monthly X 12	
Total Household Size: _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Free		<input type="checkbox"/> Reduced		<input type="checkbox"/> Denied			
Total Income: _____ per		<input type="checkbox"/> Income				Reason for denial:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Year <input type="checkbox"/> Month <input type="checkbox"/> 2 X Mo <input type="checkbox"/> Every 2 Wks <input type="checkbox"/> Week		<input type="checkbox"/> Categorically eligible:				<input type="checkbox"/> Income too high			
		<input type="checkbox"/> SNAP/TANF/FDPIR				<input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete application			
		<input type="checkbox"/> Foster Child							
Signature of Determining Official: _____				Date Approved: _____					
FOR THE VERIFICATION PROCESS ONLY:									
Signature of Confirming Official: _____			Date Confirmed: _____			Date Withdrawn From School: _____			
Signature of Verifying Official: _____			Date Verified: _____						

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

FEDERAL INCOME CHART for School Year 2017-18					
Household size	Yearly	Monthly	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly
1	22,311	1,860	930	859	430
2	30,044	2,504	1,252	1,156	578
3	37,777	3,149	1,575	1,453	727
4	45,510	3,793	1,897	1,751	876
5	53,243	4,437	2,219	2,048	1,024
6	60,976	5,082	2,541	2,346	1,173
7	68,709	5,726	2,863	2,643	1,322
8	76,442	6,371	3,186	2,941	1,471
Each additional person:	7,733	645	323	298	149

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.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
- (2) Fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) Email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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 BackPack Program**.
- Yes! I **DO** want school officials to share information from my Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application with **Bennet Elementary BackPack Program**.
- Yes! I **DO** want school officials to share information from my Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application with **Bennet Elementary BackPack Program**.

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: _____

Address: _____

For more information, you may call Rob Hanger at 402-780-5327 or email at hanger.rob@districtor1.net

Return this form to: **PO Box 130, Palmyra, NE by August 31, 2017**



What Are Developmental Assets?

Do 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 1—** 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 11—** Family Boundaries
- Asset 12—** School Boundaries
- Asset 13—** Neighborhood Boundaries
- Asset 14—** Adult Role Models
- Asset 15—** Positive Peer Influence
- Asset 16—** High Expectations



Pass It On!

Handout 1



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

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

- Asset 26—** Caring
- Asset 27—** Equality and Social Justice
- Asset 28—** Integrity
- Asset 29—** Honesty
- Asset 30—** Responsibility
- Asset 31—** 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:

- Asset 37—** Personal Power
- Asset 38—** Self-Esteem
- Asset 39—** Sense of Purpose
- Asset 40—** Positive View of Personal Future

DISTRICT OR-1 PUBLIC SCHOOL CALENDAR 2017-2018 Adopted

August 2017

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

- 7-Aug Start of Fall Practice
- 9-Aug Faculty In-service-8:00-4:00 .
- 10-Aug Faculty In-service-8:00-4:00 .
- 11-Aug Faculty In-service-8:00-4:00 .
- 14-Aug First Day of School

September 2017

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

- 4-Sep NO SCHOOL -Labor Day
- 19-Sep Dismiss @ 1:30 P.M. P-T conf. 2:00-8:00 P.M.

October 2017

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

- 16-Oct Start 2nd Quarter
- 19-Oct 1:30 Dismissal Fall Break
- 20-Oct Fall Break; NO SCHOOL

November 2017

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

- 13-Nov Start Winter Practice
- 22-Nov NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break
- 23-Nov NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break
- 24-Nov NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break

December 2017

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

- 21-Dec End of Second Quarter
- 21-Dec Dismiss at 1:30 for Christmas
- 22-Dec Winter Vacation December 22-January 2
- 23-27 Dec Five day moratorium period est. by NSAA

January 2018

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA

- 1,2 Jan Winter Vacation
- 3-Jan School Resumes, Start 3rd Quarter
- 15-Jan Martin Luther King Day Teacher In-service No School

February 2018

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA

- 5-Feb Teacher In-Service No School
- 6-Feb Dismiss @ 1:30 P.M. P-T conf. 2:00-8:00 P.M.
- 9-Feb NO SCHOOL Winter Break
- 21-Feb NO SCHOOL ECNC Speech
- 26-Feb Start of Spring Practice

March 2018

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA

- 2-Mar NO SCHOOL Spring Break
- 8-Mar End of Third Quarter 1:30 Dismissal
- 9-Mar NO SCHOOL Spring Break
- 12-Mar Start 4th Quarter
- 29-Mar Everyone Dismissed at 1:30pm for Easter Break
- 30-Mar NO SCHOOL; Easter Break

April 2018

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA

- 2-Apr NO SCHOOL; Easter Break
- 12-May Graduation
- 16-May Elementary End of 2nd Semester Reg. Dis. 178
- 17-May End of Second Semester-1:30 Dismissal H.S. 185 total for teachers
- 18-May Teacher Work Day

May 2018

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA

- Note: Early dismissal times of 1:30 will result in an elementary dismissal time of 1:10.

January 2018

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

February 2018

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

March 2018

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

April 2018

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

May 2018

SU	M	T	W	TH	F	SA
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

No School Bennet Elementary

Teacher days

Vacation Days

Parent Teacher conf.

Early Dismissal