

**PALMYRA**



**PANTHERS**

**School District OR-1**

425 F Street, Box 130  
Palmyra, NE 68418  
402-780-5327 Fax: 402-383-4008  
Superintendent: Michael Hart  
Secondary Principal: Heath Johnson  
Activities Director: Aaron Hoeft

Elementary Principal: Linde Walter  
50 Dogwood Street  
Bennet, NE 68317  
402-782-3535 Fax: 402-383-4008

[www.districtor1.org](http://www.districtor1.org) Twitter: @OR1\_Panthers

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District OR-1 Newsletter  
District OR-1 Public Schools  
August, 2023

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*\*\*

**Local  
Postal Customer**

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

# Foundation For Knowledge, District OR-1

## Since our beginning in December of 1998 -

**\$567,000 – Contributions - you have contributed to The Foundation For Knowledge.**

**\$192,650 – Scholarships – 165 students from your community have been assisted with their post-secondary educations.**

**\$74,550 – Staff Development – helping to make District OR-1 one of the highest ranked and best trained teaching Staff's in the state of Nebraska.**

**Graduation Rate – District OR-1 has achieved one of the highest graduation rates in the State.**

**Post-secondary Education – the vast majority of District OR-1's students go on for further education that will help them for the rest of their lives.**

**\$12,600 – School Support – Assisting school programs, and support for students representing District OR-1.**

**\$326,000 – Invested Market Value – For endowed commitments.**

**With your help The Foundation For Knowledge's investment account ensures that your contributions will be available for the future of your community.**

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

**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

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

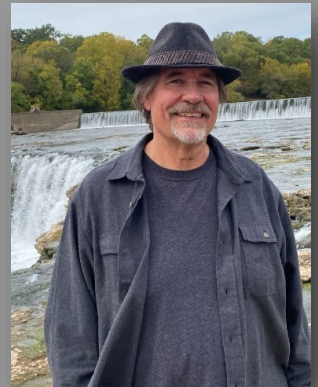
August, 2023

Follow District OR1 news and activities by downloading our iOS or Android app, follow us on twitter @ OR1\_Panthers, or at [www.districtor1.org](http://www.districtor1.org).

- Superintendent Notes
- Changes in Facilities
- Tips for a successful year
- Foundation for Knowledge
- New Teachers
- 2023-2024 Calendar

## Welcome New Staff!

My name is Mike Davidson. I teach high school math - the coolest subject ever! I have taught in several locations over the years starting at Bakersfield Community College in California.



In Nebraska I have taught at LPS, Prague, and Nebraska City. I have had many other careers prior to teaching, including applications engineer, route business manager for Frito Lay, general manager of non-profit, and aircraft structural assembler for Lockheed.

I am married to the most awesome woman on the planet and have two adult children ages 23 and 25.

I love to travel, ride motorcycles and scooters, read on my deck, and attend Lincoln Stars Hockey games.

I have heard many good things about Palmyra and I am excited to be part of a wonderful education community. I am especially excited to teach upper level courses including dual credit.

...Welcome continued and following pages.



Foundation Night: August 15

## Superintendent Notes...by Michael Hart

Panther Families and Community Patrons,

I hope all of you are having a safe and relaxing summer! As we move into the latter stages of July, there are many things happening in the school district that we want to share with all of you before school begins in August. Please use this newsletter as a guide for organizing information relative to the start of the 2023-2024 school year.



### "New to the District" Teaching Staff

Included below is the list of the "New to the District" teachers hired for the 2023-2024 school year.

We are very excited to welcome our new teachers to the district, and I am confident they are going to do a fantastic job working with our students.

More specific information about each of these staff members is contained later in the newsletter and a document with more information about our "new to the district" teaching staff is also listed on our school website at [www.districtor1.org](http://www.districtor1.org).

Please welcome these outstanding educators to our district and our community!

### Central Office Personnel Changes:

There have also been a few changes to our Central Office staff at the high school since the end of the school year. These changes are listed below:

Mrs. Karen Hatcher recently retired from the district after 31 years of dedicated service to our district. Karen most recently served as our district Business Manager. Karen did an excellent job during her time in the district and, we wish her well in her future endeavors!

Mrs. Lisa Phillips is now our school Business Manager. Lisa has successfully served in many areas during her time in the district, and she will do an outstanding job in this new role.

Mrs. Cassie Wemhoff has been hired as our Human Resources and Payroll/ Benefits Specialist. Cassie has done a great job since joining us at the end of the school year, and she has been an excellent addition to our Panther team.

...Continued on next page.

Superintendent: Michael Hart  
Palmyra Principal: Heath Johnson  
Bennet Principal: Linde Walter

### **Food Service Changes:**

- \* Mrs. Elli Lamprecht has been selected to serve as our new Food Service Director for the district. Mrs. Lamprecht has worked in the elementary kitchen in the past, and she will continue to be stationed at the elementary school building during the school year.
- \* Mrs. Carolyn Smith has been selected to be the Food Service Supervisor at the high school building. She has worked in the high school kitchen in the past and has experience in our district.

All of these individuals are additional examples of the high quality staff we have working here in the district.

### **Construction Update Information:**

- \* Construction has been in full swing since school got out in May, and both campuses have had some dramatic changes occur so far this summer.
- \* At the high school, excavation has continued on the east side of the school for the additional classrooms, CTE area, and expanded commons and office space that will be coming in that area.
- \* At the elementary school, the east parking lot is being prepared for additional paving, excavation has continued on the west side of the building, and the playground has been under renovation as some of the equipment is being relocated to other areas of the playground.
- \* In the coming weeks, priority work will include installing the precast concrete for the foundations at both buildings, paving the east parking lot at Bennet, preparing the elementary playground for the opening of school, installing fence around the east end of the playground at the elementary, and ensuring that all student entrances and pathways remain safe and efficient for staff, students, and our families at both sites.
- \* Pictures of construction progress at both sites is also posted on our school website.

### **Palmyra High School:**

#### **List below is a quick reminder of the changes happening at the high school:**

- \* Adding additional classrooms on the northeast side of the building.
- \* Expanding the current “commons area” space near the main office, adding extra restrooms, and expanding the main office area.
- \* Expanding the current Career Technical Education (CTE) areas to the southeast side of the building.
- \* Relocating the current music area into the current shop area.
- \* Relocating the current weight room /fitness center and adding increased community access to this area.
- \* Repurposing the current weight deck area in the auxiliary gym.

### **Other high school related information to know for the beginning of the school year:**

#### **Main Entrance:**

- Just a reminder that the east entrance to the building will be closed for the entirety of the 2023-2024 school year. This means that the main entrance will now be on the west side of the building near the old football field.

- \* There will be limited parking spots available on the west side for parents needing to stop in during the school day.

### **Traffic Flow and Parking:**

- \* In terms of traffic flow, bus transportation, and parking at the high school, Mr. Johnson has created a video that contains information about how we plan to handle student and staff parking, pedestrian, bus, and other vehicle traffic in the area.
- \* The link for this video is attached here, or visit our web page:  
[Parking 23/24.mp4](#)
- \* Please also note that the parking lots located on the east side of the high school will not be in use all school year.
- \* Please also visit our school website for more information.

### **Bennet Elementary:**

#### **Listed below is a quick reminder of the changes happening at the elementary building:**

- \* Adding additional classrooms on the southwest side of the building.
- \* Expanding the current kitchen and student commons area to the east side of the building.
- \* Expanding the current office area to the east side of the building.
- \* Adding additional commons/multipurpose space near the southeast edge of the gym.
- \* Enhancing the current gymnasium and repurposing the current stage area in the gym.
- \* Upgrading / renovating outdoor playground spaces and adding fencing to the southeast side of the playground.
- \* Redesigning the east parking lot and pedestrian paths.

### **Elementary School Main Entrance:**

- \* Because the east main entrance will be closed during the entirety of the 2023-2024 school year, the main entrance for students and parents will be the southeast doors at the pre-school entrance.
- \* We will send more specific information about this as we get closer to the start of the school year.

### **Elementary Traffic Flow and Parking:**

- \* Patience will be the name of the game as we begin school at the elementary building. Due to the timing of the recent rains, the schedule for completion of the east parking lot was delayed a bit longer than initially anticipated. The parking lot is scheduled to be poured the week of July 17th and the lot needs to fully “cure” before we can safely drive vehicles on it, and this may be a week or so after school begins.
- \* Because of the uncertainty involving the east parking lot, more specific information will be sent out to all parents detailing the traffic patterns and parking for the beginning of school sometime the first week of August. Please note: Parking at the elementary will be very limited until the east lot is finished.
- \* Cathy Fick will be contacting all parents with students who ride our buses at the end of July to discuss specific pick up and drop off times.

**Please let us know if you have any additional questions or concerns.**



### **Elementary Open House:**

Currently, the elementary school Open House is scheduled for **Thursday, August 10th from 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.**

*Please note: Given the current state of the east parking lot, this event may be rescheduled to another time to alleviate parking issues associated with the south lot being closed off and not quite being ready for vehicle traffic.*

Please stay tuned for more specific information regarding the first day of school traffic as we get closer to that day.

### **Bennet Elementary Playground Renovation:**

Another of the areas currently under renovation at the elementary school is the playground. This area is currently under renovation because we are trying to address potential water issues that may have impacted our gymnasium floor at the site.

Currently, our main playground equipment is being moved, and it is scheduled to be reassembled further to the east side of the current playground.

The current soccer/ football area is being regraded to level out the activity space, and the football soccer area will be moved to be more parallel to the concrete basketball court.

Flexibility will also be paramount in terms of playground space as we continue to work towards making this area safer and more efficient for our students.

### **Senior High School Technology Changes:**

As we continue to evolve and learn how to best integrate the ever changing technology that continues to be present in our schools, we are making some changes with technology at the high school that will impact student cell phone usage and access at school.

In response to challenges related to information security, artificial intelligence, privacy concerns, student engagement, and the impact of social media on students, we will be looking at changing our procedures regarding student cell phone access and usage at school this year.

While we understand and appreciate that technology can be an integral part of everyday life (especially with our students), and we want to effectively integrate technology whenever possible, we also have to be cognizant of our students (and our own needs) to achieve balance with technology.

More specific information will be communicated to parents and students regarding these changes as we get closer to the beginning of the school year.

### **Student and Staff Kudos:**

Even though our teachers and students have not been in school since the end of May, there still has been a lot of activity in and out of the district facilities this summer. Aside from sports camps, community events, summer school, field trips, high school weightlifting and conditioning, staff curriculum, technology and classroom management training, lesson planning, room preparation, and committee work; our staff and students continue to stay busy working to be ready when school starts up again in the fall. Keep up the good work!

Additionally, I would also like to spotlight the hard work of our office support staff, administrators, custodians, technology support staff, food service, and maintenance/

transportation personnel. The “behind the scenes” work these individuals do throughout the summer is critical in facilitating efficient and effective operations throughout the school year.

Special congratulations also goes out to our students for their continued participation in our camps, clinics, and “team based” activities this summer and to our coaches and sponsors for organizing these activities. Events like basketball, football, volleyball, cheerleading, and other camps (as well as students attending leadership and extracurricular specific events like FFA and FCCLA conferences) are shining examples of our students and staff giving extra effort to enhance their skills throughout the year.

Our students and coaches have also participated in summer weightlifting and sport specific conditioning activities, and they have also been involved in community events like the Old Settlers Picnic in Palmyra and the 4th of July celebration and parade in Bennet.

Our students also continue to participate in a variety of community activities throughout the summer months, and many of them are also busy helping families at home or working at various jobs throughout the area. We are proud of all of their accomplishments and service.

Finally, strong community support for our district and advocating for high quality public schools is critical for success. District OR-1 is an excellent school system filled with great students and outstanding staff members, but we simply could not do what we do as a district without the continued support of our community patrons and local businesses. There are a myriad of patrons and businesses who contribute their time and talents to helping our students, staff, and programs thrive, and we are grateful to all of them. Thank you for supporting our students, staff, and the district!

In summary, we are very fortunate to serve in a growing and progressive school district with a solid commitment to continued excellence and a “kids first” approach to education. District OR-1 is a great place to be!

### **School Newsletter:**

In this issue of the school newsletter will be information relative to school meals, activities information, construction updates, information, school supply lists, “beginning of the school year” activities and events, lunch applications, physical forms, and other information that will help our families prepare for the new school year.

***Please note:*** Subsequent newsletters throughout the 2023-2024 school year will only be distributed ***electronically*** through our school website and social media channels. Listed below is the link for the district Facebook page and school website:

<https://www.facebook.com/District-OR-1-School>

[www.districtor1.org](http://www.districtor1.org)

Any community patron or organization wanting to receive “hard copies” of any newsletter can call our school offices during regular school hours and our staff will make copies for those requesting the “hard” copies.

Additional “hard copies” of the district newsletters will also be available at designated local business and community gathering spots like the banks, post office, etc. in the Palmyra and Bennet communities.

In order to ensure you receive all district information in a timely manner, **please make sure you update all family contact information before the start of the school year.** If you have questions about updating your information, please contact our school offices.

### School Lunch Program and Student Meals Reminder:

If your family qualifies for free or reduced meal pricing, please ensure that you have all paperwork completed and turned in on time.

Please call our school offices if you have any more questions regarding school meals for next year. Please remember to fill out your forms for school meals (breakfast and lunch).

We have worked with our food service staff to keep costs as low as possible for our school lunch and breakfast programs. This year, there will not be any increase to lunch or breakfast prices at either building. A second entree will increase from \$1.25 to \$1.75 per item. This option is not available in the elementary school building.

A flyer explaining how to sign up and complete paperwork for our free and reduced lunch program is included in the newsletter.

Families should contact our school office as soon as possible for information on free and reduced school meal guidelines, income parameters, and application procedures.

### Upcoming 2023-2024 District OR-1 Board of Education Regular Board Meeting Dates and Times:

**Monday, August 14th, 2023:**

School Board Meeting at 7:00 pm at PHS

**Monday, September 11th, 2023:**

School Board Meeting at 7:00 pm at PHS

**Monday, October 9th, 2023:**

School Board Meeting at 7:00 pm at PHS

**Monday, November 13th, 2023 :**

School Board Meeting at 7:00 pm at PHS

**Monday, December 11th, 2023:**

School Board Meeting at 7:00 pm at PHS

**Monday, January 15th, 2024:**

School Board Meeting at 7:00 pm at PHS

*Please note that this board meeting will be on the third Monday of the month instead of the second Monday due to the holiday break.*

**Monday, February 12th, 2024:**

School Board Meeting at 7:00 pm at PHS

**Monday, March 11th, 2024:**

School Board Meeting at 7:00 pm at PHS

**Monday, April 8th, 2024:**

School Board Meeting at 7:00 pm at PHS

**Monday, May 13th, 2024**

School Board Meeting at 7:00 pm at PHS

**More information about our board meetings is available at:**

[Palmyra District OR-1 Board Meetings and Minutes](#)

### Beginning of School Information:

- \* Due to the current construction progress and additional training requirements for our district staff, the district calendar was adjusted at the June 12th regular Board of Education meeting.
- \* The first day of school for students (K-12) will now be **Monday, August 14th, 2023.**
- \* The first day of preschool will now be **Tuesday, August 15th.**

- \* The updated calendar is attached in this month's newsletter.

### "Beginning of School" Events and Important Reminders

#### Monday, August 7th - Friday, August 11th, 2023

- \* All staff return to the district for staff training and beginning of school orientation.

#### Monday August 7th, 2023:

- \* Fall sports practices begin Monday, August 7th.

*Board of Education Regular Board meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Palmyra High School in the Media Center*

#### Thursday, August 10th, 2023:

- \* Open House for Elementary Students from 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. at Bennet Elementary School

#### Monday, August 14th:

- \* First Day of School for students: K-12

#### Tuesday, August 15th, 2023

- \* First Day of Preschool at Bennet Elementary School

#### Thursday, August 17th:

- \* Panther Booster Bash at the Olson Complex beginning at 6:00 p.m.

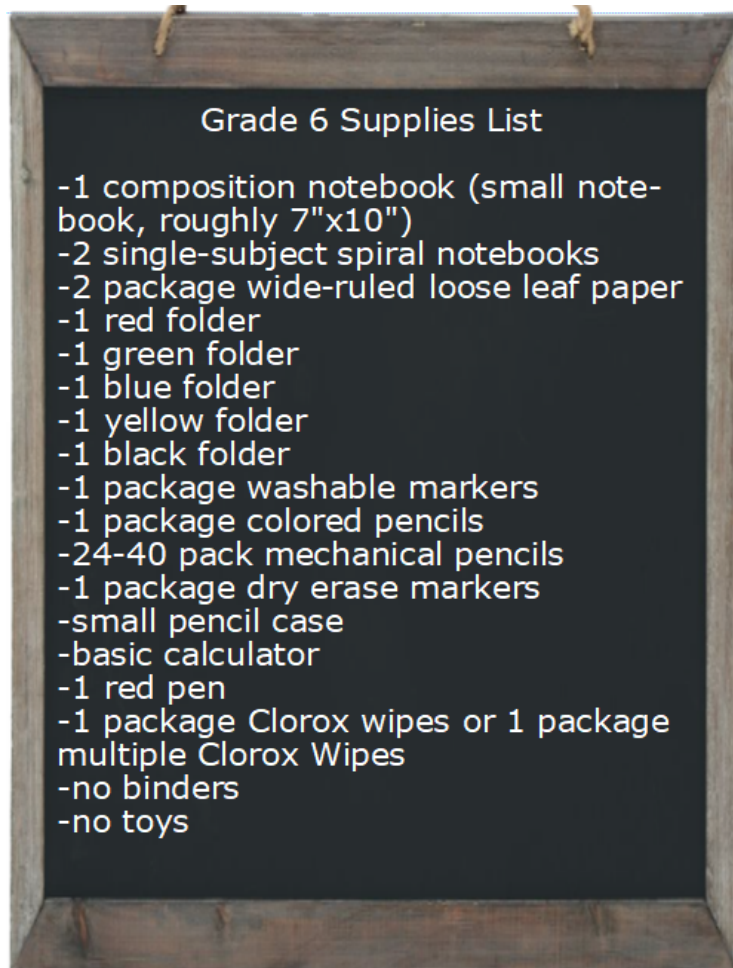
Thank you again for supporting our school district!

If you have any additional questions, please call our school offices.

Enjoy the rest of your summer break!

**Go Panthers!**

Mike



## ACTIVITIES NEWS:

***“Preseason Sports Information: If you don’t see your fall sport/activity information in this newsletter, your coach will be reaching out to you at a later date with information.”***

HS practices can officially begin on Monday, August 7<sup>th</sup>.

All players need to have a physical completed prior to the start of practice. If you are unable to get one by the first day of practice, you may attend, but only watch.

### Concussion Testing at Palmyra High School

This will be located in the downstairs computer lab (Mr. Conn’s Room). Please enter through the south glass doors. If you can’t make it due to other conflicts there will be opportunities for testing when school begins. Please only attend your scheduled time slot due to limited seating. Each testing session is about 40 mins in length.

**Testing is good for 2 years so please read the instructions for each testing date carefully.**

August 1<sup>st</sup> 8am—**HS Girls (9-12<sup>th</sup>)** participating in Volleyball, Basketball, Wrestling or Cheerleading **only if you didn’t test last year.**

August 1<sup>st</sup> 9am—**HS Boys (9-12<sup>th</sup>)** participating in Football, Basketball or Wrestling **only if you didn’t test last year.**

August 2<sup>nd</sup> 8am—**JH Girls (7-8<sup>th</sup>)** participating in Volleyball, Basketball or Wrestling--**All 7<sup>th</sup> grade girl participants will test and only 8<sup>th</sup> grader girls that didn’t test last year.**

August 2<sup>nd</sup> 9am—**JH Boys (7-8<sup>th</sup>)** participating in Football, Basketball, or Wrestling—**All 7<sup>th</sup> grade boy participants will test and only 8<sup>th</sup> grader boys that didn’t test last year.**

### Sports Physicals

If you are in grades 7-12th and plan to participate in a sport for the upcoming 23-24 school year, you must have a current physical on file, dated after May 1, 2023, at (or submitted into) the office prior to the first practice. An NSAA permission form is also needed on file prior to the first contest. Both the physical form and NSAA form can be found and printed from the school website under the [HS Athletics tab](#).

### 2023-24 Activity Passes/Fees

For those wanting to purchase single or family passes, which are good for all athletic events at the school (exceptions; One Act, Main Stage, District and Conference contests), may do so at the Booster Bash scheduled for August 17th. Otherwise, passes may be purchased in the east downstairs office during normal school hours. Pass fees are as follows:

Senior Citizen Pass (60+): \$5

Single Pass: \$65

Family Pass: \$140

Regular daily event admission

JH Contest: Adults \$5, Students (K-12) \$3

HS Contest: Adults \$6, Students (K-12) \$4

Student Activity Fee (7-12<sup>th</sup>): \$40

Prom Fee: (New this year)—Starting in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and through their junior year, each student will pay a \$15 fee that will go towards their senior prom. This will eliminate the need for class fundraising and ensure that funds are available for the cost of the facility rental, deco-

rations, DJ and snack food. Additional leftover money from the prom fees will go towards the costs of cap and gown. Graduating classes of 2025, 2026 and 2027 will need to continue fundraising when they are juniors to make up the difference that was not collected from the beginning of their 7<sup>th</sup> grade year. Graduating classes of 2028 and beyond should have enough money from fees to cover prom expenses.

### Activities Calendar

The Activities Calendar for the 2023-24 school year is linkable to Google Calendar starting July 8th by using the [school website](#) and clicking on the calendar icon on the main page. At the top of the calendar you can click the “Subscribe” tab to add it to your personal calendar. Another option is to download the “rSchool” app from your app store. Do a search for “Activity Scheduler” and follow the set up options for viewing our school’s calendar. A final option is to use the [www.eastcentralnebraskaconf.org](http://www.eastcentralnebraskaconf.org) link to view the school’s events and activities through the summer and next school year.

### 2023-24 Booster Bash

This will be held at the Olson Complex on Thursday August 17<sup>th</sup>. Food and various booths selling apparel, activity passes and other activity information will be set up and ready by 5pm. The program portion will begin at 7pm.

### Facilities use requests for 2023-24

Facility use requests for youth teams will be accepted starting Monday August 14th. Requests for volleyball and youth football will be processed first and then basketball and wrestling. Elementary gym requests can be made by emailing [walter.lin@districtor1.net](mailto:walter.lin@districtor1.net). High School gym requests can be made by emailing [hoeft.aar@districtor1.net](mailto:hoeft.aar@districtor1.net). Gym requests will be processed in the order received based on the email time stamp. Please indicate a first and second choice in your email with your preferred day and time. Due to the large number of requests in the past, teams are limited to one practice slot a week at either the elementary or high school. Due to construction, we have not established a starting date for these practices for either building, and some dates/times may be limited. Once we receive the requests we will coordinate with the construction contractors and communicate a starting date.

## Important Dates

Friday, August 11 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Grades 7 through 12 students can pick  
up schedules, Chromebooks, and  
parking passes in the

WEST COMMONS of PHS



## News You Can Use

### WELCOME BACK!

The 2023-2024 School Year will kick off on **Monday, August 14th** for students in grades K– 12<sup>th</sup> grade. This 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, all students in K-5** may report to their classrooms beginning at 8:00 a.m. Parents will not be able to walk their child into the school or classroom.

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.

If your child has not registered, please call the school office at 402-782-3535.

### BUSING INFORMATION:

Bus routes are in the process of being created. Parents of students who are on country bus routes will be receiving a call from their bus drivers during the first week of August. 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 or have bus questions, please contact Cathy Fick at 402-540-2879.**

### PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATIONS REQUIRED:

Nebraska State law requires that all students entering kindergarten, grade seven, and 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 online at [www.districtor1.org](http://www.districtor1.org). Search for "Activity Physical and NSAA Participation Forms". **[Or, click here if you are online.](#)**

### IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION

2023-24 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, **ALL** treats brought into the elementary classrooms need to be store-bought and individually wrapped with the ingredients clearly labeled. Thank you for your cooperation with this safety/wellness procedure.

### The Breakfast Schedule

The Breakfast program will start on Tuesday, August 15th. **No breakfast will be served on the first day of school.**

Breakfast will start at 7:30 a.m. at Palmyra High School and 7:45 a.m. at Bennet for those students who ride the morning bus routes to school. Please note that District OR-1 school buildings open at 7:30 a.m. for HS students and 7:50 a.m. for Elementary Students not in the Rec. Program. Please do not arrive prior to that time.

### 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.

Parents 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 their child's education records should contact either the custodian of records at the school or the office of the superintendent.

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

Parents of the student, and or eligible student, have the right not to permit the foregoing designation of any, or all, of the categories of personally-identifiable information, with respect to that student, as directory information, by informing District OR-1 Public Schools in writing, within four weeks after the commencement of the school year. If you have questions about the records policy of the school, please contact the office of the Superintendent at 402-780-5327.

### PARENT NOTIFICATION OF TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

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 402-780-5327. Please give the office at least five school days to contact you with information about the credentials referenced.

### DISCLOSURE OF STUDENT RECRUITING INFORMATION

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: Michael Hart, Superintendent, Palmyra District OR1, 425 F Street, Palmyra, NE 68418-0130, (402) 780-5327.

## BENNET ELEMENTARY INFORMATION

WELCOME BACK to the 2023-24 school year. This is an exciting time and I am anxious for students to be back in the school for an amazing year! I am looking forward to working with everyone to ensure the children at District OR-1 Bennet Elementary achieve their highest potential.

If you have been to Bennet Elementary, you have seen a lot of changes happening on the playground and parking lots. Please note any changes throughout the year on parking, student drop off and pick up will be communicated through the weekly newsletter. We will be sending out communication at the beginning of August on student drop-off, pick-up, and entering and exiting the school building.

Bennet Elementary uses a school wide positive behavior plan that allows staff to use common language and consistent expectations within the school environment. This summer there was a committee of staff members who worked hard on updating our school plan, and this will be introduced/implemented to the students on the first day of school. We believe that children need to learn in a caring and safe environment that is free from

distraction and disruption. Be looking for more information from your child's teacher.

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, Linde Walter

## CLASS LISTS POSTED:

Class lists will be posted on the windows of the front doors at Palmyra High School and South Doors at Bennet Elementary on Wednesday, August 9th 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 10<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-6:30 p.m. Students/families can meet their classroom teacher, bring school supplies, and take a tour of the school. Please note due to construction parking will be limited.

## 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 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.  
Students not pre-registered will not be allowed to take part in the program.

Cost: \$3.50/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 15<sup>th</sup>. An Open House will be held on Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-6:30 p.m. The pre-school is for 3 and 4 year old students in the school district. There are four class sessions. Two morning sessions will run from 8:00 –11:30 a.m., with two afternoon sessions 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.

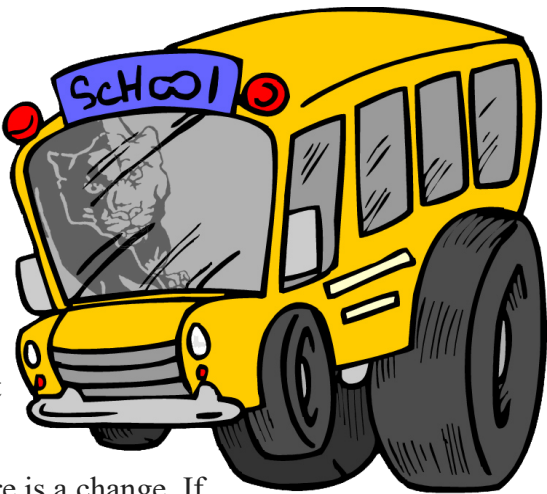
## Open House for Grade Six and New Students

August 10th from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

PHS West Entrance

To parents of school bus route children:

School will be starting on Monday, August 14th. We have been busy working on bus routes for this year. Cathy will contact you approximately one week before school starts with your pick up time. If you are new to the district and requesting bus service or are returning and wish to continue with service for the 2023-24 school year, please call or text Cathy Fick at 402-540-2879 or email her at [fick.cat@districtor1.net](mailto:fick.cat@districtor1.net) immediately, so that your name can be added to the routes.



These routes and times may need to be adjusted until we get everyone needing bus service registered. Pick up and drop off times will vary the first week of school, depending on who is riding, so please be patient. You should start to see some consistency starting with the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of school. Please make every attempt to call the night before if possible if there is a change. If not, please call at least 15 minutes before your scheduled pick up time so drivers have time to adjust their route. It is important that the school and driver both have this information. If no call or text was received, your child will be picked up and/or dropped off on the normal schedule.

Please note that the bus drivers are allowed a maximum of **one minute wait time** during pickup times for students to get on the bus, so please have your child ready and waiting outside at their scheduled time.

In addition, if your child will be going home with another student, or if they are having a friend go home with them, please call/text or send a note to Cathy Fick at 402-540-2879 or the school. If no communication is made from an adult by phone or in writing, the normal transportation plan will be utilized. Any change of plans communicated after 3 p.m. on a normal school day or 12:45 p.m. on an early dismissal, will not be guaranteed due to buses already in route.

**Please note: A late start means school will begin at 10:00am. This will make your pick up time approximately one hour and 45 minutes later than normal. For example, a 7:00 a.m. pick up time will change to 8:45am. The Bennet shuttle leave time will be 9:30 a.m. and the Palmyra shuttle leave time will be 9:45 a.m.**

There is to be no food or drinks on the bus except for plastic bottled water.

If your child has a health issue that you feel the bus driver should be aware of, please let Cathy know.

Please observe parking restrictions and times in the drop off areas at both school buildings. Please note that the north side at Bennet is 7:30-8:30am and 2:30-4:15pm. At PHS it is 7:30-8:15am and 3:00-4:00pm. No vehicles are permitted in the loading/unloading zones when buses are present.

Thank you for your help and patience.  
Cathy Fick cell: 540-2879 (call or text) email [fick.cat@districtor1.net](mailto:fick.cat@districtor1.net)

Load times at Bennet for shuttle are 7:30am, 7:40am and leave at 7:45am.  
Load times at PHS for shuttle are 7:55am, 8:00am and leave at 8:05am  
Load times at Legion are at 7:35am and leave at 7:40am.  
Drop off at the Legion Hall is 3:10pm.  
Drop off at PHS is 3:20pm.  
Drop off at Bennet is 3:55 pm.



YOUR BUS DRIVERS ARE: \_\_\_\_\_  
PICK UP TIMES ARE: \_\_\_\_\_  
BUS DRIVERS' PHONE NUMBERS \_\_\_\_\_

# New Faces at District OR1

Staff	Primary Building	Primary Assignment
Elli Lamprecht	Bennet	Food Services Director
Rachel Bohling	Bennet	Grade 1
Caroline Reed	Bennet	Grade 3
Katherine Anderson	Bennet	Grade 3
Cody Pester	Bennet	Grade 5
Taylor Black	Bennet	Preschool
Kori Vodicka	Palmyra	Counseling
Elise Stoike	Palmyra	Student Teacher
Grant Fritsch	Palmyra	Industrial Technology
Carolyn Smith	Palmyra	Kitchen Manager at the HS
Julie Hendricks	Palmyra	Long-term Substitute
Robert Fuller	Palmyra	Long-term Substitute
Kari Lottman	Palmyra	Math
Michael Davidson	Palmyra	Math
Travis Reed	Palmyra	Social Studies
Cassie Wemhoff	Palmyra	Superintendent Secretary



**Rachel Bohling:** I am originally from Auburn, NE, and am so excited to relocate to the Bennet area as I begin my teaching career! I will be teaching First Grade at Bennet Elementary. I will be graduating from Northwest Missouri State University in May with a degree in Elementary Education and a concentration in Language Arts.

I will be a first year teacher, but I have had lots of experience with children throughout my college years of working at a preschool and my year-long student teaching experience in 1st grade!

One of the most important things to me is my family! I have two older sisters and the most amazing parents! However, my niece, Haizley, and two nephews, Brodie, and Colvin have me completely wrapped around their fingers! Fun fact: I am half Honduran/American! My mom is from Honduras, and my dad is American...so I am a little bit of both!

In the summer, you can find me outdoors! I love being in the sun and especially love to travel to new places and try new things out!

I am so excited to join the district because of the welcoming environment that I have already felt! I can't wait to get to know everyone and start the career that I've always dreamed about!



**Katie Anderson:**

Hello! My name is Katie Anderson, and I am so excited to be teaching 3rd grade at Bennet Elementary this year. This will be my 19th year of teaching. I have spent my whole career in Lincoln Public Schools, where I have taught kindergarten, 1st, and 3rd grade. I graduated from the University of Nebraska- Lincoln with a degree in Elementary Education and a concentration in Special Education. I received my masters in Curriculum and Education from Doane University.

I have two daughters, Ellie and Olivia, who will be in 9th and 4th grade this coming year. My husband, Tyler, is the owner and operator of Anderson Custom Construction. We love to spend time cheering on the Panthers, Huskers, and Green Bay Packers. This will be my second year co-coaching the Varsity Cheerleading Team. I can't wait to become more immersed in our amazing community and school system.





**Cody Pester:** I was raised on a farm in Unadilla, Nebraska. I have never lived anywhere farther than thirty minutes away from the farm. I went to Syracuse for my middle school and high school career. I ran Cross Country, track, and wrestled. I then went to Nebraska Wesleyan University for my education, where I also wrestled for three years.

My family is a farming and teaching family. My mother, fiancée, and I are teachers for our main jobs and my sister and father are farmers for theirs.

Fun Facts about me are that I played soccer until I was 17, played basketball until I was 14, currently play tennis, and I have recently gotten into playing spikeball in my spare time.

My favorite things are coaching, playing video games, and spending time with my family.

I am very excited to be in the OR-1 district because my mother's second teaching job was in this district as a high school math teacher. I am following in her footsteps, and this will be the second district I have taught at as well.



**Taylor Black:** My name is Taylor Black and I am excited to be starting my 1st year teaching Preschool at Bennet.

I grew up in Waverly, Nebraska and graduated from Waverly High School. I have a younger brother, Garrett, and two dogs, Reggie and Gordo.

I attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and graduated with a degree in Elementary Education and Early Childhood Education.

In my free time, I enjoy crafting, being outside, and spending time with friends and family.

I am looking forward to a great year and being a part of District OR-1!



**Kori Vodicka:** My name is Kori Vodicka, and I will be the new 6-12 school counselor. I could not be more excited to join this district. As a Syracuse native, I grew up in the area and am familiar with the community. I am thrilled to be in this progressive district and look forward to getting to know the staff and students about whom I have heard so many positive things.

I am currently the high school counselor in Nebraska City, the district that I have loved being a part of for the last seven years. Prior to my work as a counselor, I taught English in Weeping Water and Beatrice. My post-graduate education comes from Chadron State College, and my undergraduate is from Nebraska Wesleyan University.

I have been married for almost 13 years to my husband Brad, and we have a beautiful two-year-old daughter, Belle, who is absolutely the joy of our lives. These people, especially my energetic toddler, consume the majority of my free time. I'm sure I will have time for hobbies again by the time Belle goes to college.

When I do have toddler-free time, I enjoy reading, baking and running (not too far...no marathons or anything). My favorite color is yellow, because I believe it is the happiest of all the colors, and I am a fan of old country music, Conway Twitty and Patsy Cline being among my favorites.

I am incredibly excited to be in a district that is so embraced by the community. I look forward to working as a team with all those invested in educating the district's youth.



**Grant Fritsch:**

**Position and Building:** Skilled Technical Sciences Student Teacher

**Educational Training:** Wayne State College

**Work / Teaching Experience:** Substitute Teacher (2 years)

**Family Information:** Recently engaged to my fiancé and going to be married in June 2024

Family of 5 and youngest of 3 (2 brothers)

**Hobbies:** Traveling, Hunting, Fishing

**Favorites:** Food—Enchiladas, Restaurant—Panda Express, Sport—Football, Favorite thing to teach: Woodworking

**Why are you excited to be in our district?** Coming from a larger high school, I am most excited to have the opportunity to teach at a school in a smaller community with smaller class sizes and build more relationships with students and the community. Go panthers!



**Robert Fuller: Position/Building:** Senior High School Study Hall Monitor & Weight Conditioning Class

**Coaching Assignments:** - Head Football, Assistant Track, MS Assistant Girls Basketball

**Educational Training:** B.A. Midland University - M.A. University of Nebraska @ Kearney - Specialist Fort Hays State University

**Teaching Experience:** Have worked at every School Classification in Nebraska Classes A-B-C-1- C- 2-D-1- D-2 and also in Kansas Classes 3A-4A-5A

**Coaching Background:** Both 8 & 11 Man Football with 3 State Champions & 3 State Runner Ups in 6 Different School Systems. In Track 5 State Champions & 1 State Runner Up in 4 Different School Systems.

**Family Information:** Wife Cindy- Kids Chad, Bobbie Jo, Rusty and Stepson Jared along with 7 Grandson's & 2 Granddaughters

**Hobbies:** Golfing, Hunting, Bowling & Collecting Guns

**Favorite Things:** Watching the Grandkids different Sporting Events & Watching College Football

**Why I'm excited to be in the District?:** To pursue my last Rodeo at a well respected growing District!





**Kari Lottman:** High school Math Teacher

**Educational Background:** I have had a career in education for the past 24 years. I graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics Education from the University of Nebraska at Kearney. My first teaching position was at Chambers Public School where I taught all the 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade math classes. After a year there, I moved to Aurora, NE and taught 8<sup>th</sup> graders General Math, Pre-Algebra and Algebra at Aurora Middle School. While in Aurora, I obtained my Administrative Degree from Doane College which allowed me to become a principal at Humboldt-Table Rock-Steinauer (HTRS) Public Schools. I have been in an administrative role for the past 16 years at HTRS. I look forward to starting a new journey at Palmyra High School!

**Personal information:** I was born and raised in Kearney, Nebraska, by two educators. My father is a retired high school business teacher, and my mother is a retired Kindergarten teacher. In addition to being a passionate educator, I am a wife and mother. I am married to my best friend and husband, Brent. We have two sons, Caleb (13) and Calvin (3). My family and I live in Peru, NE, which is where we will remain living for my husband's career.

**Favorite Things / Hobbies:** A few of my favorite things, besides spending time with my three boys, are watching Husker football and volleyball, enjoying Scooter's coffee and anything chocolate or eating Mexican at El Portal. Some of my most favorite memories are when I spent time with my family and extended family. I love spending time with my 5 nieces and 1 nephew. Whether it be vacationing together, spending time at the zoo, or celebrating holidays and birthdays together we always have a fun time. Currently my free time is spent playing with my youngest and cheering on my oldest in all his activities. Caleb is very involved in baseball, football, basketball, and shooting sports through 4-H.

**Why District OR-1?:** I am excited to begin a new adventure at Palmyra. Getting back into the classroom to teach math; meeting all the students, parents, and patrons of District OR-1; and building lasting relationships. Go Panthers!



**Travis Reed: Personal Information:** I am originally from Hickman, Nebraska where I attended Norris Public Schools.

**Teaching Position:** I will be joining the district as a Social Studies teacher at Palmyra Jr/Sr High School. However, I have spent the last school year as a full time substitute teacher within the district, and was a student teacher the spring prior to that. With that being said, I am very excited to be joining the certified staff at District OR-1!

**Educational Information:** After high school I attended Peru State College, where I majored in secondary Social Science education. I was also a member of the football team. While at Peru State, I completed a variety of Social Science courses in the areas of history, geography, civics, and psychology, among others. I also gained experience within the classroom, having worked with students and educators at Ashland-Greenwood, Nebraska City, and Bellevue West schools.

I was grateful to have the opportunity to coach Panther athletics during the 2022-23 school year. I was a member of the football and wrestling coaching staffs, as well as a volunteer coach for the track and field team. Working with our student athletes is something I take great pride in, and I look forward to continuing coaching duties into the future.

**Hobbies / Interests:** In my free time I enjoy fishing, being active, and spending time with friends and family.

**Why District OR-1?** I am excited to be joining the district because of the supportive community, the excellent staff, and the wonderful students that make District OR-1 great.



**Caroline Reed: Personal Information:** I grew up near Hickman, NE where I attended Norris Public Schools. After highschool I went to the University of Nebraska at Kearney. All of my family lives in the Lincoln/ Bennet area, so I am very thankful for the opportunity to be closer after spending the past 5 years in Kearney.

**Teaching Position:** I will be teaching 3rd grade in Bennet Elementary. This will be my first year teaching. However, I have a lot of experience working with kids from helping out with my mom's daycare, college practicum hours, and this past semester of student teaching.

**Education:** I will be graduating in May 2023 with a double major in K-6 Elementary Education and K-12 Special Education. I have a brother who will also be teaching in the district, and a niece and two nephews who attend Bennet Elementary.

**Hobbies / Interests:** I enjoy spending my free time with friends/family, being outside, and working out.

**Why District OR-1?** I am excited to join this district because of the welcoming feel and support that I have already seen from the staff and community!



**Cassie Wemhoff:** Hi there! I was born and raised in Florida and now call Bennet home with my husband and two kiddos (Will who will be going into first grade and Avery who will be going into Kindergarten). Fun fact, we all work in/attend this school district!

**District Position:** I am so excited to be the new Human Resources/Payroll specialist for District OR-1 Schools!

**Educational Information:** I graduated from University of Central Florida with my degree in Hospitality Management and moved to Nebraska shortly after (I was sick of Florida and wanted to try something different) in 2012. Since graduating college, I've ventured from working in and managing sports bars to owning an in-home daycare - now taking my talents to the Central Office!

**Hobbies / Interests:** In my free time I enjoy checking out new-to-us restaurants (I judge all restaurants by their fries and wings HAHA), following my kids and husband to their sporting events, catching up with friends, golfing, and reading books!

**Why District OR-1?** I have grown to know so many of the teachers, staff, and families in the district within the past 5 years, so I know that this opportunity would be a great fit for me! You'll catch our family at alot of panthers sporting events - GO BIG BLUE!

# New Faces at District OR1




### Julie Hendricks:

I'm excited to join this year's staff at Palmyra-Bennet schools. I will be working as a full-time substitute teacher in Palmyra.

I enjoy all sports, especially everything Husker!! Additionally, I like to travel, read, and golf.

My husband is a retired superintendent of schools. My daughter graduated from Colorado Statue University and is now stationed at Aviano, Italy. My son is a senior at UNL and is persuing a physical therapy degree.

GO PANTHERS!!



## Mark Your Calendars!

August 15

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 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

**Patrons are now able to pay lunch balances when it's most convenient for you with a computer or mobile device at <https://districtor1.revtrak.net/>. The District OR1 Web Store even integrates with PowerSchool! Save time and be confident that your payments will make it where they need to go. You will be able to pay online with an eCheck, debit card, or credit card. The first step in setting this up, though, is to make sure you can log into PowerSchool to see your student's grades and lunch balance at [districtor1.nebps.org](https://districtor1.nebps.org). If not, please contact your school's office to request credentials. Bennet Elementary is 402-782-3535 x1 and Palmyra High School is 402-780-5327 x2.**



The screenshot shows a web interface for the "LUNCH October Edition" menu. It includes tabs for "Daily Milk" and "Alternates". The menu is organized by day: Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Each day's menu lists items like Chicken Tenders, Baked Potato, Broccoli, Fruit and Salad Bar, Breaded pork patty, Hamburger Bun, Mixed Vegetables, WG chips, Terriyaki Chicken, Seasoned Rice, Broccoli, Dinner Roll, and Margarine spread. There are also icons for "Daily Milk" and "Alternates" for each day.

**Food and Nutrition!**

Visit our nutrition web page at ...

[districtor1nutrition.org](https://districtor1nutrition.org)

to view upcoming breakfast and lunch menus. More importantly, click on each food item to learn how that food relates to USDA nutritional guidelines.



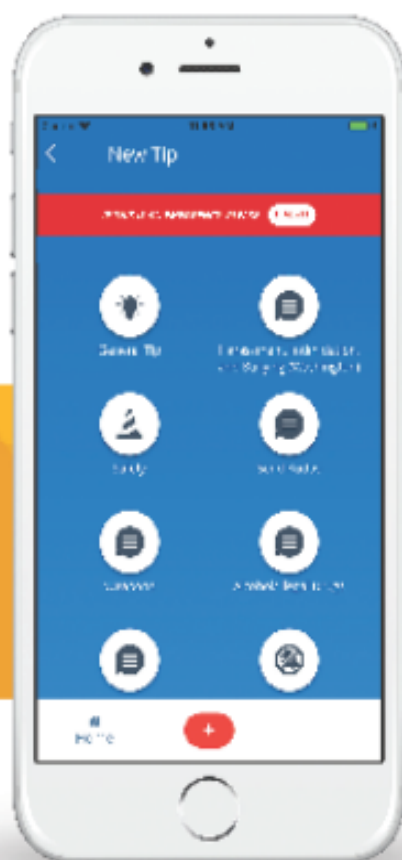


Palmyra District OR-1

# Report It

SafeSchools Alert is our district's tip reporting service. If you have information about a threat to our safety, do your part and report it! And remember, you can remain anonymous.

**SUBMIT USING OUR APP**



## FOR EMERGENCIES, PLEASE CALL 911

### EASY WAYS TO REPORT



Visit the website  
<http://1795.alert1.us>



Email your Tip to  
[1795@alert1.us](mailto:1795@alert1.us)



Call to report your tip  
**402.858.9423**



Text your Tip to  
**402.858.9423**

### REPORT ON:

- BULLYING
- INTIMIDATION
- HARASSMENT
- WEAPONS
- DRUGS
- OTHER



**Our District Code is: 1795**

All tips submitted are taken seriously and will be acted upon. Please be responsible with your submissions.



## PALMYRA PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES

### New Programs from Food & Nutrition Services!



District OR1 created a team to research and implement a plan to better ensure food and nutrition information is available to our students, as we continue to be dedicated to students' health, well-being, and their ability to learn. As a result, we are creating a web portal to keep the information needed to empower our students to take the lead to develop healthy Nutrition and Fitness practices for life. Check out our district's interactive and user friendly School Nutrition website at [www.DistrictOR1nutrition.org](http://www.DistrictOR1nutrition.org) and learn how you can eat right and stay fit! **Scan QR Code at left for School Nutrition Website...**

Good nutrition leads to great academic performance. When your nutritional needs are met, it is easier to focus and learn. When you are physically fit, you are more alert, more positive and enjoy a better quality of life. Combine good nutrition with physical activity and you will have a winning combination to succeed in school.

Food and Nutrition Director Karen Skinner and her team are ***Educating and Inspiring Excellence*** for our students by promoting health and fitness as well as our district's Wellness Policy. Along with information about meal components, menus, and meal applications, you will find interactive nutrition lesson plans, nutrition videos, nutrition games, fitness calculators, fun activities, and healthy recipes...and it is all updated quarterly!

Now Nutrition Information right from our menus is a cinch! Hovering over menu items reveals an individual item's nutritional information, allergens, and allows students to rate menu items... our goal is a 5 Star rating for our 5 star meals focused on meeting and exceeding USDA guidelines.

### Check out nutritional information and our School Nutrition Mobile App on the go!

Download our NEW- FREE Mobile App for Interactive Nutritional Menus at your fingertips and more!



Eating healthy is a serious concern. The incidence of overweight children, Type II Diabetes and other health concerns are on the rise and are directly related to poor eating habits and lack of exercise. Learn what you should be doing about it on our website or check out parent newsletters, nutritional information, and more on our Mobile App!

At District OR-1 Palmyra Public Schools it is ***Cool to Eat at School*** and School Nutrition Services is committed to helping you form the healthy habits today that will last a lifetime!

# GO PANTHERS!



# FUNDRAISING NIGHT!



Foundation For Knowledge

**Tuesday, August 15**

**4PM - 10PM**

**10% Donation Night**

Support this cause by  
presenting this invitation to  
the listed Texas Roadhouse®  
location and Texas Roadhouse®  
will donate 10% of your total food  
purchases to the fundraiser!



**(402) 420-0155**

6301 Apple's Way

## 2023-24 Bennet Elementary School Supply List:

All students need a book bag, gym shoes, and headphones

<b>Kindergarten</b>	<b>Must Have</b> Large backpack that will fit a folder and library book 12 Large glue sticks 2 inch, 3-ring binder with clear sleeve on front cover Box of 24 crayons Headphones Gym Shoes (velcro or slip-on if they do not tie shoes independently)	<b>May Not Bring</b>
<b>First Grade</b>	<b>Must Have</b> 12 large glue sticks Small, plastic pencil box 4 boxes of 24 crayons #2 pencils, 24 total, Ticonderoga brand 4 black fine-tip dry erase markers 4 pink erasers 4 red ball point pens	<b>May Not Bring</b> mechanical pencils pencil sharpeners
<b>Second Grade</b>	<b>Must Have</b> #2 yellow pencils (a package of 12) 12 Crayola Classic Washable markers Box of 8 crayons 2 Spiral wide rule notebook 1 pack of skinny dry erase markers Small plastic crayon box (5.5 x 8 inch) 2 pink erasers	<b>May Not Bring</b> pencil sharpeners mechanical pencils
<b>Third Grade</b>	<b>Must Have</b> #2 pencils Glue sticks (4 small or 2 large) 1 pack of dry erase markers (large or skinny) Box of 24 crayons 2 large erasers 2- Spiral 1 subject notebooks (college ruled) Scissors 1 inch 3 ring binder with clear front	<b>May Not Bring</b> large pencil boxes markers pencil sharpeners mechanical pencils
<b>Fourth Grade</b>	<b>Must Have</b> #2 pencils 1 pkg. wide ruled notebook paper 1 pack of 5 tab dividers for binders 1- 1 inch 3 ring binder with clear front 1- 2 inch 3 ring binder with clear front 1 pkg. of highlighters 1 pkg. of 12 markers 2 large glue sticks Box of 24 crayons Clorox wipes	<b>May Not Bring</b> gel pens/ multicolored toys pencil boxes over 8 x 10 inch
<b>Fifth Grade</b>	<b>Must Have</b> #2 pencils White board eraser Dry erase markers 2 -two pocket folders Colored pencils, box of 12	<b>May Not Bring</b> large pencil boxes multicolored pens toys mechanical pencils

Please note, all students will need their own headphones, as they will be stored in the home-room desks of the students. Families can no longer share.

# Get Connected!

## TEXT MESSAGES:

If you currently receive our Emergency and Weather notifications, you will definitely want to **opt-in** to the text messages that go along with the notifications. Moreover, District OR1 plans to send “text only” messages to further support notices that do not require a fully-launched voice message.

On your phone, send **Y** or **yes** to our short code number 67587



## VOICE, E-Mail, & Text:

If you currently do not receive our Emergency and Weather notifications, please call your school secretary and let them know the below information prior to opting-in to text message:

Primary Phone 1	<input type="text"/>
Primary Phone 2	<input type="text"/>
Primary Phone 3	<input type="text"/>
Emergency Phone 1	<input type="text"/>
Emergency Phone 2	<input type="text"/>
Emergency Phone 3	<input type="text"/>
Primary Email 1	<input type="text"/>
Primary Email 2	<input type="text"/>
Emergency Email 1	<input type="text"/>
Emergency Email 2	<input type="text"/>



## POWERSCHOOL:

If you currently cannot check your students’ grades on PowerSchool, please call your school secretary and let them know the email address you want to use to log into our PowerSchool Portal. Once you are linked, you can also sign up to pay your students’ food services online.

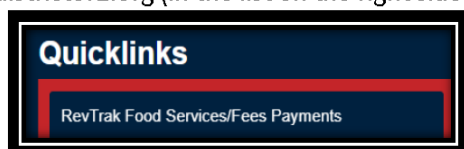


## REVTRAK:

If you currently are linked to your student’ grades on PowerSchool, you can create a RevTrak account by going to the following link:

<https://districtor1.revtrak.net/>

This RevTrak link can also be found on [districtor1.org](http://districtor1.org) (in the list on the right side of the page).



## Phone Numbers:

Bennet--402-782-3535 x1

Palmyra—402-780-5327 x2





*Libbie Ball*



*Chandler Berry*



*Kris Brekel*



*Evan Bryan-Aldrich*



*Maddie Busch*



*Bobby Buzby*



*Noah Carpenter*



*Jackson Dillon*



*Zach Fitzpatrick*



*Saryah Briscoe-Freeman*



*Rylie Hale-Keller*



*Brooke Halstead*



*Ryann Hanger*



*Alex Hatcher*



*Luna Hinkley*



*Cloe Hopkins*



*Bautisa Isola*



*Samuel Iwan*



*Luke Johnson*

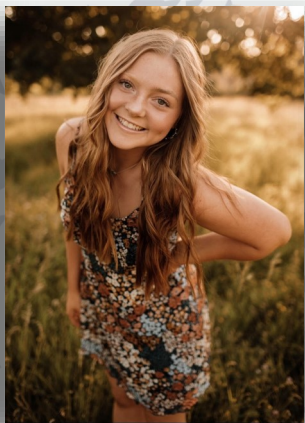


*Elli Jung*





*Slade Lamp*



*Charlee Luff*



*Anjali Malhotra*



*McKenna Martin*



*Kailyn McMann*



*Andrew Moyer*



*Tasa Petersen*



*Benjamin Phillips*



*Hunter Pope*



*Jenna Rempel*



*Katelyn Roath*



*Haileigh Sabatka*



*Hannah Shera*



*Ethan Steiner*



*Nicholas Sweney*



*Oscar Thomas*

**Flower:** White Rose

**Motto:** Miles may separate us, but memories will always bind us.

**Color:** Black and Silver

CLASS  
OF  
2023



**DISTRICT OR-1 PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**CALENDAR 2023-2024. Updated 6.12.2023**

August 2023						
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		
19 Teacher Days						
14 Student Days						

September 2023						
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
20 Teacher Days						
19 Student Days						

October 2023						
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 Teacher Days						
21 Student Days						

November 2023						
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		
19 Teacher Days						
18 Student Days						

December 2023						
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						
14 Teacher Days						
14 Student Days						
93 Teacher Days First Semester						
86 Student Days First Semester						

8-Aug Start of Fall Practice  
 Aug 7-11 District Staff Development: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
**14-Aug** First Day of School (Grades K-12)  
**15-Aug** First Day of Preschool

**September 2023**  
 4-Sep NO SCHOOL -Labor Day  
 19-Sep Dismiss @ 1:00 P.M. P-T conf. 2:00-8:00 P.M.  
 20-Sep Collab. PD/WD - No School for students

**October 2023**  
**13-Oct** End of First quarter  
**16-Oct** Start 2nd Quarter  
 20-Oct Fall Break; NO SCHOOL

**November 2023**  
 13-Nov Start Winter Practice  
 14-Nov Teacher Inservice No School  
 22-Nov NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break  
 23-Nov NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break  
 24-Nov NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break

**December 2023**  
**20-Dec** End of Second Quarter: Dismiss @ 1:00 P.M.  
 21-Dec Winter Vacation December 21-January 3  
 22-26-Dec Five day moratorium period est. by NSAA

**January 2024**  
 1-3-Jan Winter Vacation  
 3-Jan Collab PD/WD - No School for Students  
**4-Jan** School Resumes, Start 3rd Quarter  
 15-Jan No School - Martin Luther King Day

**February 2024**  
 6-Feb Dismiss @ 1:00 P.M. P-T conf. 2:00-8:00 P.M.  
 9-Feb NO SCHOOL Winter Break  
 21-Feb Collab PD/WD - No School for Students  
 29-Feb Start of Spring Practice

**March 2024**  
 1-Mar NO SCHOOL Spring Break  
**7-Mar** End of Third Quarter  
 8-Mar NO SCHOOL Spring Break  
 11-Mar Collab PD/WD - No School for Students  
**12-Mar** Start 4th Quarter  
 28-Mar Dismiss @ 1:00 P.M. Begin Easter Break  
 29-Mar NO SCHOOL: Easter Break

**April 2024**  
 1-Apr NO SCHOOL: Easter Break  
 17-Apr Collab PD/WD - No School for Students

**May 2024**  
 11-May High School Graduation  
 15-May Elementary End of 2nd Semester Reg. Dismissal  
**16-May** End 2nd Sem. -1:00 Dismissal H.S. :HS: Elem. Transition Day  
 17-May Teacher Work Day  
 Note: Early dismissal times are 1:00 p.m. Elementary  
 students riding the buses will be dismissed at 12:45 p.m.

173 Student Days
185 Teacher Days
<b>Legend for Colors</b>
Regular Dismissal for High School Students
Elementary Students: End of Second Semester
Vacation Days
Parent Teacher Conferences
Early Dismissal: 1:00 p.m. HS / No School for elementary
Professional Development Day for Staff: No school for students
Board Approved: 6.12.2023

January 2024						
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			
20 Teacher Days						
19 Student Days						

February 2024						
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		
20 Teacher Days						
19 Student Days						

March 2024						
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						
18 Teacher Days						
17 Student Days						

April 2024						
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				
21 Teacher Days						
20 Student Days						

May 2024						
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	
13 Teacher Days						
11 Elem/12 HS Student Days						
92 Teacher Days Second Semester						
87 Student Days Second Semester						

**Additional notes:**

Due to construction at the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year, the first day of school has been moved to **Monday, August 14th.**

The first day of preschool will be **Tuesday, August 15th.**