



Panther Weekly Bulletin

Breakfast Menu

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Egg Patty Sausage Patty Cheese Croissant Potato Triangle	Whole Grain Waffle Syrup Bacon	Ham & Cheese Omelet Wheat Toast	Pancake Sandwich Syrup Egg Patty	Long John Yogurt Parfait

Lunch Menu

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Grilled Cheese Tomato Soup Broccoli	Burger Day Baked Beans Potato Chips	Popcorn Chicken Mashed Potatoes White Gravy Corn Biscuit	Asian Hamburger Steak Carrots	Cooks Choice Green Beans

Happening this week at PHS

Monday, December 15th– FFA Leadership Development @ Weeping Water 8:00 am. Bus leaves at 7:00 am.

JH Boys Basketball @ Weeping Water 4:30 pm. B/4:30 pm, C/5:30. Bus leaves at 3.

C Team Boys Basketball vs. Syracuse @ PHS, West Gym 6:00 pm. No concessions.

C Team Girls Basketball vs. Syracuse CANCELLED.

One Act Banquet in the East Commons 6:30 pm. Use north doors.

Tuesday, December 16th– JH Boys Basketball vs. Lincoln Christian @ PHS West Gym C /4:00 pm, B /5:00 pm, A /6:00 pm.

Boys/Girls JV/Varsity Basketball @ JCC. Girls JV 4:30 @ JCC. Boys JV 4:30 @ Cook.

Girls Varsity at 6:00 pm. Boys Varsity at 7:45 pm. Buses leave at 2:45/ 3:45 pm.

Musical Auditions 6:00– 8:00 pm in the Choir Room.

JH Girls Preseason Basketball Practice 6:00 pm.

Wednesday, December 17th– Choir/ Jazz Band Performance for Senior Center 12:20 pm, PHS West Gym.

Musical Auditions after school for basketball players in the Choir Room.

Thursday, December 18th– Girls Varsity Wrestling @ Fairbury 2:00 pm. Bus leaves at 11:15 am.

Boys/Girls JV/Varsity Basketball vs. Weeping Water @ PHS. Boys JV at 4:30 pm. Girls JV Cancelled. Girls Varsity at 5:45 pm. Boys Varsity at 7:15 pm.

Friday, December 19th– Early Dismissal at 1:00. Winter Vacation Dec. 22nd through Jan. 5th.

Quiz Bowl Practice in PHS Library 7:30 am.

Boys Varsity Wrestling Invitational @ Cook 9:30 am. Vans leave at 6:45 am.

Girls Varsity and JH Girls Wrestling @ Wahoo 1:00 pm. Bus leaves at 10:15 am.

Boys/Girls JV/Varsity Basketball @ Falls City. Girls JV at 4:15 pm. Boys JV at 4:50 pm. Girls Varsity at 6:15 pm. Boys Varsity at 7:45 pm. Buses leave at 1:30/ 2:45 pm.

Saturday, December 20th– JH Boys Basketball Tournament @ Elmwood Murdock 9:00 am. Bus leaves at 7:45 am.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, December 22– January 5th– Winter Vacation

December 24th– 28th– NSAA Moratorium

Monday, December 29th– Boys Varsity Basketball Holiday Tournament @ David City 3:30 pm. Bus leaves at 12:30 pm.

Girls Varsity Basketball Holiday Tournament @ David City 5:15 pm. Bus leaves at 2:15 pm.

Tuesday, December 30th– Girls Varsity Wrestling Invitational @ Conestoga Cougars 9:00 am.

Girls Varsity Basketball Holiday Tournament. See bracket.

Boys Varsity Basketball Holiday Tournament. See bracket.

Friday, January 2nd– Girls Varsity Wrestling Invitational @ Fillmore Central 9:00 am.

Saturday, January 3rd– Boys Varsity Wrestling Invitational @ Fillmore Central 9:00 am.

Girls Varsity Wrestling Dual @ Tekamah-Herman 10:00 am.

Boys/Girls JV/Varsity Basketball vs. Wilber Clatonia @ PHS. Girls JV 12:00 pm.

Boys JV 12:00 pm. Girls Varsity 1:15 pm. Boys Varsity 3:00 pm.

Monday, January 5th– Staff Development. No school for students.

Boys C Team Basketball vs. Freeman @ PHS 6:00 pm.

GO PANTHERS!

Bennet Elementary - District OR-1

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Newsletter - Dec 12th, 2025

Arrival 7:50-8:20

Dismissal 3:20

Early Dismissal Days 1:00

Principal's Update

Friday, December 19th - 1:00 Early Dismissal

Please note that we will be dismissing school early next Friday, December 19th. I hope you have a great break with your families!

Car Lane Dismissal Process

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

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

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

Special Education Parent Survey

The Nebraska Department of Education is inviting parents of students who are age 3-21 and currently receiving special education services to take part in a parent survey for District OR-1. This survey is confidential and will be used to facilitate improving services for students with disabilities. This survey link is open until April 27, 2026. If you have



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questions please contact Linde Walter at walter.lin@districtor1.net. Thank you for your time.

[Parent Survey Link District OR1](#)

Winter Weather Clothing

As we transition from fall to winter weather, please help your child come to school prepared for the day's temperatures. Students go outside for recess as long as the weather allows, so be sure they have appropriate jackets, hats, and gloves when needed. Guidance for jackets and recess wear as well as indoor recess can be found below. We strongly recommend labeling your child's jackets and coats with their name. This helps ensure that their items are returned to them instead of sitting unclaimed in the lost and found. Our lost and found is located by the entryway. Please take a moment to visit the lost and found if your child is missing any items.

Dismissal Changes

Coordinating the dismissal plans for 350 students each day is extremely challenging and time consuming for the office staff. If you have a change request, we ask that these are communicated to the office by 2:00 each day. Ideally, the transportation plan is consistent day to day. We understand that some days a change is needed. However, receiving these requests within an hour of dismissal is a challenge for ensuring timely communication to staff to ensure these students get to where they need to go. Please assist in helping make this process smooth and effective.

Bus Changes

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

Arrival Procedures

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



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

Parent Drop Off and Pickup Procedures

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

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

Upcoming Events

- Dec 15-19- Bennet Holiday Dress Up Days
 - Monday- Dress up like your favorite holiday character
 - Tuesday- Wear Green and Red Day
 - Wednesday- Holiday Lights
 - Thursday- Winter Wonderland (Wear white with holiday socks and a holiday hat)
 - Friday- Pajama Day
- Dec 19- Early Dismissal- 1:00

PowerSchool

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

District Calendar

[25-26 District Calendar](#)

Transportation

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

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● Panther Paw Winners ●



SAFE
RESPECTFUL
RESPONSIBLE

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School Counseling PROGRAM

November/December Affirmations Challenges

We had 51 students who returned their November Affirmations Family Challenge. I am so impressed! Great work to those families and students who participated! These students will be receiving a special prize next week!

The December affirmations challenge is underway. It is not too late to go back and talk through affirmations for the first part of the month and get back on track.

Focus for the School Year

- Resilience
- Kindness
- Respect
- Emotional Regulation

Strategy/Skill to reinforce at home

Gratitude

The feeling of being thankful for the good in our lives.

How to Teach and Reinforce Gratitude at Home

- 1) Have consistent, open conversations regarding what you are thankful for. Having an emphasis on the little things can help change our perspectives and remind us of all of the good.
- 2) Write thank you letters or draw thank you cards for those whom you are thankful for in your life

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Student Council Candy Cane Sales

Our student council did a wonderful job of running the annual Candy Cane Sales. It was fun to see them interacting with all students in the building in such a positive, caring way. They were able to raise over \$265 that will be used to purchase gifts for families in need this Holiday season.

Next up, the annual Bennet Caring Project!



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SOUP *With Santa*

Join us for our Soup with Santa event! We'll be serving delicious chili, chicken noodle & cheeseburger soup, hot dogs, and cinnamon rolls for a free will donation that will benefit Palmyra Community Foundation & Palmyra Youth Group. Bring the kids to visit with Santa, make fun holiday crafts, and write letters to Santa to drop in his special mailbox! It's a festive afternoon full of food, fun, and Christmas cheer for the whole family!

DELICIOUS FOOD | FESTIVE CRAFTS | PHOTO WITH SANTA

SUNDAY DECEMBER 14TH
THE PALMYRA COMMUNITY CENTER
LUNCH - 11:00AM-1:00PM
SANTA - 11:30AM-12:30PM



Presented by The Palmyra Community Foundation

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Western Otoe County Food Pantry

Located at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

955 C Street, Palmyra, Nebraska

Enter at the dedicated north entrance

*Neighbors Serving Neighbors:
Many Hands Lighten the Load*

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

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

For more information or an appointment contact:

All seasons:

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

Times other than winter:

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

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Weather Protocols



**NO RECESS WHEN IT
"FEELS LIKE" 15 OR BELOW,
OR ANY PRECIPITATION**



**60 OR BELOW: NEED LONG
SLEEVES OR JACKET**



**50 OR BELOW: NEED
JACKET OR COAT**



**40 OR BELOW: NEED COAT,
HAT & GLOVES**





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Standard Response Protocol

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

These protocols provide actions for the following situations:

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

IN AN EMERGENCY TAKE ACTION



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

STUDENTS

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

ADULTS

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



SECURE! Get inside. Lock outside doors.

STUDENTS

Return to inside of building
Do business as usual

TEACHERS

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



LOCKDOWN! Locks, lights, out of sight.

STUDENTS

Move away from sight
Maintain silence
Do not open the door

ADULTS

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



EVACUATE! (A location may be specified)

STUDENTS

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

ADULTS

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



SHELTER! Hazard and safety strategy.

STUDENTS

Use appropriate safety strategy for the hazard

Hazard

Tornado
Hazmat
Earthquake
Tsunami

Safety Strategy

Evacuate to shelter area
Seal the room
Drop, cover and hold
Get to high ground

ADULTS

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