



Panther Weekly Bulletin

Breakfast Menu

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Panther Funnel Waffle Syrup Sausage Patty	Egg Patty Bacon American Cheese Bagel Potato Triangle	Pancake and Sau- sage on a Stick Syrup Egg Patty	Skillet Scramble Biscuit	Caramel Roll Yogurt Parfait

Lunch Menu

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Chicken Fried Rice Egg Roll Broccoli	Beef Tenderloin Bun French Fries Peas & Carrots	Mostaccioli Breadstick Corn	Chicken Enchilada Refried Beans Lime Cilantro Rice	Deep Dish Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza Green Beans Breadstick

Happening this week at PHS

Monday, December 8th– FFA Meeting 7:30 am.

JH Boys Basketball vs. Elmwood-Murdock @ PHS 4:00/5:00 pm. East Gym.

JH Girls Wrestling @ Weeping Water 4:00 pm. Bus leaves at 2:00 pm.

Winter Concert for grades 9th through 12th at 6:30 pm. PHS West Gym. Doors open at 6:00 pm.

Tuesday, December 9th– Girls/Boys JV/Varsity Basketball @ Johnson-Brock.

Girls JV 4:00 pm, Boys JV 5:00 pm, Girls Varsity 6:16 pm, Boys Varsity 8:00 pm.

Buses leave at 2:00/3:00 pm.

Girls/Boys Varsity Wrestling @ Freeman 5:00 pm. Bus leaves at 3:00 pm.

JH Girls Preseason Basketball Practice 6:00 pm.

Wednesday, December 10th– FCCLA Chapter Meeting 7:45 am.

FFA Ag Expo @ Sandhills Event Center. Bus leaves at 8:15 am.

Thursday, December 11th– FFA Fundraising Items Delivery.

Freshman Retreat @ Syracuse Kimmel Center 8:30 am. Bus leaves at 8:15 am.

JH Girls Preseason Basketball Practice 6:00 pm.

Winter Concert for grades 5th through 8th at 6:30 pm. PHS West Gym. Doors open at 6:00 pm.

Friday, December 12th– Quiz Bowl practice in PHS Library 7:30 am.

Girls/Boys Varsity Wrestling @ Peru State College 9:30 am. Bus leaves at 6:45 am.

Boy/Girls JV/Varsity Basketball vs. Mead @ PHS. Girls JV 4:30 pm, Boys JV 4:30 pm. Girls Varsity 5:45 pm, Boys Varsity 7:30 pm.

Saturday, December 13th– JH Boys Basketball Tournament @ PHS 8:00 am.

NHS Winter Formal at PHS East Commons 8:00-11:00 pm. Use North doors.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, December 15th– JH Boys Basketball @ Weeping Water 4:30 pm.

C Team Girls/Boys Basketball vs. Syracuse @ PHS. Girls C Team at 6:00 pm,
Boys C Team at 7:15 pm.

One Act Banquet 6:30 pm.

Tuesday, December 16th– JH Boys Basketball vs. Lincoln Christian @ PHS
4:00 pm.

Boys/Girls JV/Varsity Basketball @ Johnson County Central. Both JV games are
at 4:30 pm. Girls Varsity at 6:00 pm. Boys Varsity at 7:45 pm.

Musical Auditions 6:00 pm.

JH Girls Preseason Basketball Practice 6:00 pm.

Wednesday, December 17th– Choir/ Jazz Band Performance 12:20 pm.

Musical Auditions 5:00 pm.

Thursday, December 18th– Girls Varsity Wrestling @ Fairbury 2:00 pm.

Boys/Girls JV/Varsity Basketball vs. Weeping Water @ PHS. Both JV games at
4:30 pm. 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.

Boys Varsity Wrestling Invitational @ Johnson County Central 9:30 am.

Girls Varsity Wrestling Invitational @ Wahoo 1:00 pm.

JH Girls Wrestling Tournament @ Wahoo 1:00 pm.

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.

Saturday, December 20th– JH Boys Basketball Tournament @ Elmwood
Murdock 8:00 am.

GO PANTHERS!

Bennet Elementary - District OR-1

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



Newsletter - Dec 5th, 2025

Arrival 7:50-8:20

Dismissal 3:20

Early Dismissal Days 1:00

Principal's Update

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 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.

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Bus Changes

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

Arrival Procedures

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

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

Parent Drop Off and Pickup Procedures

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

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

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Upcoming Events

- Dec 11- 5th-8th Grade Winter Concert
- 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

What's Happening in the Classroom?

This week, Kindergarten, 1st, and 4th grade continued talking about kindness. Students learned what it means to encourage others and gave real life examples of times they have been encouraged by families, coaches, teachers, and peers. A Cup of Kindness art activity accompanied the Kindergarten and 1st grade lesson.

We also discussed the difference in how we feel when we are encouraged vs when we are put down by others. Students were challenged to encourage others and be leaders in their classes.

Focus for the School Year

- Resilience
- Kindness
- Respect
- Emotional Regulation

Strategy/Skill to reinforce at home

Encouragement

Helping others to keep trying even when things are hard.

November/December Affirmations Challenges

We had quite a few students return their November Affirmations papers.

It is not too late to begin your December affirmations with your student. These will be returned in January for a reward!

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School Counseling PROGRAM

Student Council Candy Cane Sales

Bennet Elementary Student Council will be facilitating their annual Candy Cane Sales next week, December 8th-12th. Proceeds will go toward purchasing gifts for local families in need for the holidays. We are still in need of candy canes! If you would like to donate Candy Canes, you can drop them off at the office. More details are below:

During the week, all students K-5 will have an opportunity to purchase candy canes if they wish to in a structured manner. The schedule is below:

Candy canes cost \$0.50 each and there is a max of 2.

K-2 can purchase candy canes on Monday and Wednesday.

3-5 can purchase candy canes on Tuesday and Thursday.

If we have leftovers, teachers will communicate via the Band app the plan for Friday.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of Bennet Elementary and our wonderful communities.



Austin Lahmon | School Counselor | lahmon.aus@districtor1.net

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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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CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK

DECEMBER 6TH, 2025
3:00-6:00 PM

BENNET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

FEATURING

❁ LIVE MUSIC ❁ HOT CHOCOLATE ❁ SMORES ❁ CRAFTS
❁ CHARACTER APPEARANCES ❁ GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST
❁ FOOD TRUCK ❁ SANTA & MRS. CLAUS ❁ GAMES ❁ SLEIGH RIDES



BENNET
COMMUNITY FUND

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Casey's

GINGERBREAD HOUSE

Decorating Contest

DECEMBER 6TH, 2025 @ 3:00

Get ready for a festive celebration of creativity and holiday spirit at our 3rd Annual Gingerbread House Decorating Contest during Christmas in the Park!

Divisions *Family *Youth *Adult

To Register Scan:



Prizes will be awarded for the top houses in each division. Prizes sponsored by



Nebraska
Christmas Lights Show, LLC

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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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Santa's Overflow

** Extravaganza **

For families in need, please come shop new
and used items for FREE!

12.06.2025 | 10 am - 2 pm

Ho Ho Ho

New Coats
New Toys
Canned Goods

Gently Used
clothes, coats,
shoes, toys!

Gently used
blankets, pots
and pans and more

Questions: Lillie at 402.440.2871
Bennet Legion Hall, 970 Monroe Street,
Bennet, Ne



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All
Ages

Free

Sunday
Dec 7th
2-5

Palmyra Memorial Library

Trees, Trains & Treats

*In the Former Methodist Church
Building*

• Sunday December 7th 2-5

20+ trees and
Lincoln Train Club display

Come out to our Christmas Spectacular
Other local events happening in the town same day.

Lutheran Church is hosting the Clauses 12-3 pm.

Presbyterian Church is hosting their potluck
events 5- 8 pm. Enjoy the whole day!



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Show Your *Panther* *Pride!*



**GENERIC CAR
DECALS**

\$10



PERSONALIZED CAR DECALS

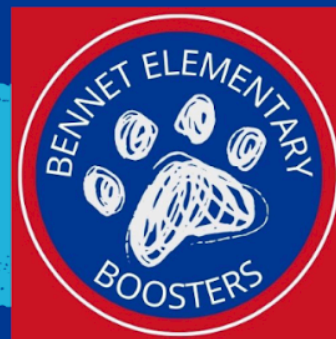
\$15



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SALES SUPPORT:



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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

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