

**Responses to the OR-1 Youth Survey
(conducted March 25 and 26, 2015)**

Question 1: What school do you currently attend?

Answered: 227

Skipped: 1

Answer Choices –	Responses –	
	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Head Count</i>
Bennet Elementary (5-6)	26.43%	60
Palmyra Jr./Sr. High school (7-12)	73.57%	167
Total		227

Question 2: What is your gender?

Answered: 226

Skipped: 2

Answer Choices –	Responses –	
	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Head Count</i>
Female	44.69%	101
Male	55.31%	125
Total		226

Questions 3: Right now, what do you plan to do after you graduate from high school?

Answered: 228

Skipped: 0

Answer Choices	Responses –	
	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Head Count</i>
Attend a four-year college or university	56.58%	129
Attend a community college or trade school	7.89%	18
Serve in the United States Military	8.33%	19
Work for a company or for someone other than myself	3.51%	8
Self-employment	2.19%	5
Other	4.39%	10
Undecided	17.11%	39
Total		228

Question 4: What type of work or career field are you interested in right now? (Please select no more than TWO choices)

Answered: 228

Skipped: 0

Answer Choices –	Responses –		
	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Head Count</i>	<i>Rank</i>
Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources	11.40%	26	(6/7)
Architecture & Construction	10.96%	25	(8)
Arts, AV Technology & Communication	16.67%	38	(3/4)*
Business Management & Administration	11.40%	26	(6/7)
Education and Training	15.79%	36	(5)*
Finance	4.82%	11	
Government & Public Administration	2.19%	5	
Health Sciences (Medicine, Nursing, Medical Technology, etc.)	25.44%	58	(2)*
Hospitality & Tourism	4.39%	10	
Human Services	6.14%	14	(9)
Information Technology	4.39%	10	
Law, Safety, Corrections, & Security	16.67%	38	(3/4)*
Manufacturing	5.70%	13	(10)
Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics	28.51%	65	(1)*
Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics	4.82%	11	
Total Respondents:		228	

Question 5: Do you think your school is preparing you well for your next stage of life?

Answered: 228

Skipped: 0

Answer Choices –	Responses	
	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Head Count</i>
Yes	58.77%	134
No	11.40%	26
Not certain	29.89 %	68
Total		228

Question 6: What classes would you like to have added to the instructional program at Bennet Elementary or Palmyra Secondary School? (Check all that apply)

Answered: 221

Skipped: 7

Answer Choices	Responses <i>Percentage</i>	<i>Head Count</i>
Advanced Science classes	28.96%	64
Advanced math classes	24.89%	55
Classes about types of careers and career choices	41.18%	91
Business Management classes	16.29%	36
Entrepreneurship classes	14.48%	32
Study Skills classes	22.62%	50
Foreign Language classes	29.41%	65
Speech, Drama, or Debate	20.81%	46
Technology classes	31.67%	70
Construction Sciences classes	22.17%	49
Other (please specify) (*See below)	16.29%	36
Total Respondents:		221

***OTHER**

- Automotive class, Auto tech, Mechanics (4),
- Architecture classes (3),
- Writing, Advanced Writing, Journalism (3),
- Photography or media classes (2),
- Military Science (2),
- Home EC (2),
- better sex Ed, more medical classes, How to Write Books, art teacher, sign language class, Survival, If there is any art classes I'd like to do that, I don't know, Robotics, Health classes, Mechanical design or mechanics, Money management and sports managements, Wood shop, Some type of programming course, Clubs, Dance or gymnastics, Ag, Animal. Science, Welding, Goes in depth about each job,

Question 7: Overall, how do you rank your school as a place to learn?

Answered: 224

Skipped: 4

Answer Choices –	Responses – <i>Percentage</i>	<i>Head Count</i>
Excellent	20.54%	46
Above average	29.91%	67
Average	43.30%	97
Below average	3.57%	8
Poor	2.68%	6
Total		224

Question # 8: What suggestions do you have for making your school a better place to learn
***Suggestion 1 (170 responses)** (Responses were not edited; they were categorized for ease of reading)

Category 1: Suggestions related to the teaching and learning environment (63)

1. Do more hands on activities.
2. Updated books
3. Be open to other students decisions
4. No homework
5. Have a time when everybody in the class has to try to bond.
6. make learning more fun (4)
7. better grades
8. less work (2)
9. Have smaller class sizes.
10. More free time to do any homework you have
11. I Think they could ask Questions that are interesting
12. Have teachers be creative with assignments
13. Lunch before recess
14. Have on week of school off and one week of school (Repeating)
15. Study a topic for a good majority of time
16. Make longer school days
17. Fun activities
18. Classrooms with full walls so you don't hear the other class
19. Have fun things to do during school.
20. More time to get prepared in the middle of switching classes
21. Have fun and cool things in the room
22. More study time
23. Have recess and PE different things to do
24. Less homework, and more "hands on" learning.
25. making stuff
26. No school on Monday
27. Have more than one teacher in the classroom room to help you
28. By allowing gum in classrooms.
29. Keeping the i-pads
30. Make it more fun and interesting so people don't get bored
31. More fun classes, classes are dull and need to be more upbeat
32. More things to do.
33. More time to work
34. Shorter days
35. more specific notes
36. Make the classes less boring
37. More Opportunities to do music outside of the school.
38. More note taking
39. Teachers teaching to all students ability
40. Don't stay in classrooms the whole day.
41. Allow more freedom to students. (Ex. Allow us to organize our schedules and so forth)
42. Have the teachers help you more
43. Get better books and new desks
44. More understanding teachers
45. Quit pressuring kids on grades and more on them learning.
46. Take more time on lessons
47. Better teachers
48. Newer, more modern teachers
49. New teachers
50. Teachers not be mean
51. Different time starts
52. Stop 8 to Great

53. More teachers that can teach programming
54. Shorter days
55. Laptops for Everyone
56. Have teachers become more involved.
57. If teachers are stressed let them cool off then come teach.
58. To have student to pay more attention
59. Keeping down the favoritism so others have a chance to learn as well

Category 2: Suggestions related to adding more classes (57 Responses)

1. Offer more foreign languages
2. more study skills
3. We need more advanced classes for the students who can learn at a faster rate.
4. add more classes (8)
5. electives
6. More diverse classes
7. More class options
8. Provide more challenging courses.
9. have advanced classes such as science and math
10. Offer multiple foreign language courses
11. more science
12. give students more experience for some subjects
13. more math
14. longer P.E.
15. have more advanced classes in math and language arts
16. Teaching technology classes
17. Have more math than usual.
18. We need more to offer than just regular math, science, etc. Also we need more to help us in life
19. Have a German class
20. Have different foreign language class choices
21. More college classes
22. Allow a wider variety of advanced and career specific classes.
23. Have college help courses
24. Have more things available
25. Challenge us with higher level activities, make us think and work
26. More elective options
27. Challenge us with higher level activities
28. More science classes
29. Business Class
30. Add more classes you need for college
31. Offer more varieties of classes
32. More P.E
33. More classes to take
34. More language classes
35. Get more classes to teach different things
36. Offer more classes other than the required
37. More options like electives
38. Different classes
39. Offer different foreign languages
40. More hands on activities
41. More choices for electives
42. Offer more than one language class
43. Make more college prep classes
44. Offer classes for people who are better at certain subjects
45. P.E.
46. Have a wider variety of classes
47. More variety of class to help with college.

48. Computer Science classes
49. Learning more about what to do after high school

Category 3: Suggestions related to student issues/well-being (12)

1. Handle bullying better
2. having kids follow the rules
3. More diversity
4. Maybe try to like explain more about bullying and how it effects some people
5. add only healthy foods
6. Nicer classmates
7. Better lunches
8. Off campus lunch.
9. Accepting diversity
10. More free time
11. Giving more help
12. Make things more fun

Category 4: Suggestions related to facilities (24)

1. Better shop facilities
2. high jump pit
3. A better playground
4. larger gym and get to choose what to do for P.E.
5. We should have more classrooms.
6. Bigger school.
7. New basketball hoops out side
8. Better utilities
9. New weight room
10. Make the school bigger
11. Better classrooms
12. let the bond pass
13. Pass a school bond
14. Nothing. We don't need another stupid bond issue!!!
15. Better football stadium
16. Have a better track
17. Build a new school
18. Better shop
19. Better sports facilities
20. Be more organized and have updated facilities
21. Better up to date facilities
22. Get a pool
23. New facilities
24. Better sports facilities

Category 5: Suggestions related to school activities (6)

1. I Feel that not only should the Jr. high/High School should have a track team too.
2. Lifting period
3. Have more out of school activities
4. More clubs
5. More activities
6. More sports

Category 6: Other/Miscellaneous (8)

1. No suggestions
2. Tell people what's going on
3. Not enough entertainment
4. I don't have any
5. Not being to hypocritical
6. I don't know, none, don't have any (3)

Question # 8: What suggestions do you have for making your school a better place to learn?

****Suggestion 2 (114 responses)** (Responses were not edited; they were categorized for ease of reading)

Category 1: Suggestions related to the teaching and learning environment (40)

1. Make a junior high building because they are loud and annoying
2. better environment
3. More library books with lots of rental time
4. Open campus lunch
5. Engage the students more
6. Eliminate the 8 to Great program.
7. More than one teacher in a classroom to help
8. More partnerships to colleges outside of Nebraska
9. More foreign language choices
10. My own computer
11. more time studying
12. Have easier tests in Social Studies and Reading.
13. Give us more time to work
14. Have fun and exciting teachers
15. Bigger study areas or smaller classes
16. Less but longer periods
17. Get new books
18. We need to get better technology.
19. Better environment
20. Have more than one teacher in a class room to help you.
21. Start later
22. Less homework
23. Use better resources to help us learn
24. Don't cut into our class time
25. More educational films
26. Have more visitors to tell us about life
27. More educational films
28. Have the teachers explain better to me/you
29. Laptops
30. Get better teachers
31. Get new teachers
32. Grades aren't more important than gaining knowledge.
33. Don't be sarcastic with students
34. Have an actual study hall room on third floor instead of library
35. More hands on learning
36. More help with picking your career choices and college
37. Better Environment Study
38. Open Campus
39. Teachers
40. Teach Books

Category 2: Suggestions related to adding more classes (35)

1. Offer advanced placement classes
2. have non-OdysseyWare computer programming classes
3. get a cooking class
4. football in gym
5. more PE
6. PE everyday
7. Longer Advanced Gym
8. more math class
9. kids get to choose to go to block
10. More projects for science
11. Science

12. make advanced classes
13. We need classes to offer clubs, business management, etc
14. classes to teach you about real estate
15. Study hall
16. Business classes or real world studies.
17. Study Skills
18. allow more weight training for athletes
19. Have a class for different languages
20. Other foreign language classes
21. Foreign Language
22. Language Classes
23. More foreign language classes
24. Better classes
25. Have extra classes each week to know more about the career you want to pursue in
26. New classes that will help you know what college you want to go
27. More college readiness
28. Offer classes that deal with college
29. teach more stuff about actual life not just science and math
30. More community service options
31. Give more class options
32. More classes available
33. More electives
34. teach classes that I can use in the immediate future
35. Have a better teaching system

Category 3: Suggestions related to student issues/well-being (10)

1. following the teachers rules in the classroom
2. Hire better staff to handle bullying situations
3. supply all grades with snacks (if they want it)
4. More controlled students
5. Healthier foods
6. Better lunches
7. Teach overall acceptance of sexuality, color, ethnicity, Etc.
8. Do drug searches because people carry drugs on them
9. Open campus
10. Not being so picky

Category 4: Suggestions related to facilities (14)

1. paved track
2. a track for running as a sport
3. a track outside and a football field
4. better football field
5. two gyms
6. Pass a school bond
7. Better weights and wrestling room.
8. New gym
9. Expand school
10. Nothing. We don't need another stupid bond issue!!!
11. New shop
12. Football Field
13. Room
14. Track

Category 5: Suggestions related to school activities (6)

1. More after school activities
2. More activities
3. Soccer
4. Extracurricular activities (2)
5. More sports

Category 6: Other/Miscellaneous (9)

1. Only 1 or 2 recesses
 2. Make recess a bit longer so we can wake up more.
 3. recycling
 4. Take more time to see other places
 5. Lockers that only the owner can open via combination locks
 6. advanced techno guy
 7. More comfortable seats and bigger desks.
 8. Get one person From each grade and get in a group and talk about things
 9. 7th grade college scholarships
-

Question # 8: What suggestions do you have for making your school a better place to learn

*****Suggestion 3 (75 responses)** (Responses were not edited; they were categorized for ease of reading)

Category 1: Suggestions related to the teaching and learning environment (19)

1. earlier opportunities for science classes and fairs
2. Math in the morning and block in the afternoon
3. having some help if you or the whole class needs help
4. Our block should be longer.
5. make the class have no distractions
6. less homework
7. Less homework
8. Make it entertaining for kids to learn
9. Classes only 30 minutes each
10. Laptops instead of I-pads
11. better knowledge on how to act in and out of school
12. More opportunities to learn more
13. Better teachers
14. More of a hands-on-envirment
15. Offer more help to some classes
16. Advertise colleges and college visits
17. Have teachers be more interactive and fun
18. More studying time
19. Get better material or updated material

Category 2: Suggestions related to adding more classes (16)

1. More weight training classes for underclass men
2. foreign languages for classes
3. foreign languages mainly french
4. forane laungeges
5. language
6. different language classes (Spanish French German and other things)
7. Teach more about foreign
8. Classes to teach you about money management
9. Music
10. Better classes
11. Computer programming or computer sciences
12. Different foreign language
13. Lifting period
14. Diverse classes available
15. offer college classes for some students
16. Get dance class

Category 3: Suggestions related to student issues/well-being (8)

1. free breakfast every day of school
2. have fun
3. More choices for lunch

4. Better food
5. Give us more time for exercise and block
6. Be kind
7. Do not judge students by their past choices.
8. Better lunch

Category 4: Suggestions related to facilities (11)

1. A bigger classroom
2. better gym
3. better playground
4. Better gym
5. Have a nice school
6. Better lockers.
7. Build a new school
8. New school.
9. Update some classrooms
10. Expand school (2 gyms)
11. Nothing. We don't need another stupid bond issue!!!

Category 5: Suggestions related to school activities (0)

Category 6: Other/Miscellaneous (21)

1. Don't make everything about sports
2. more organized
3. Less projects
4. you are able to volunteer in the kitchen
5. Have longer recesses.
6. To pay so that could motivate us to work harder.
7. Breaks
8. Short Fridays
9. Snacks
10. Less pda
11. Better worksheets (2)
12. That's it
13. After school open gym when able
14. Nap time
15. I don't know (3)
16. None

Question 9: Overall, how do you rank your community as a place to live?

Answered: 224

Skipped: 4

Answer Choices –	Responses –	
	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Head Count</i>
Excellent	24.54%	55
Above average	25.45%	57
Average	40.63%	91
Below average	6.70%	15
Poor	2.68%	6
Total		224

Question 10: What suggestions do you have for making your community a better place to live?

Answered: 144

Skipped: 84

#1: Build a Swimming Pool	21 Responses
#2: Pick up litter – keep the community clean/Recycle	19 Responses
#3: More activities for younger people (Community and school)	15 Responses
#4: A bigger and better park (includes skate park = 4)	14 Responses
#5: Pave the roads, fix the roads, new roads/streets	06 Responses

OTHER:

- I love this community, I can't think of anything
- get rid of drugs (4)
- I don't quite know.
- (15) Related to school facilities/activities) pass the school bond , Stop tearing apart our community with another bond issue, Bigger school, New gym, New weight room, A new school, Maybe a real track, New athletic facility, Better sports facility, Two softball fields, Pass the school bond, More sport opportunities, PASS THE BOND, better athletic program, Fill the school with fun activities and bright colors, Have better facilities for sports
- Showers daily
- More diversity
- Community members need to work together more closely and lessen the "drama" that arises from insignificant things.
- a library in the town
- a police station
- stop signs
- Have a group for all ages to do things and help.
- fast food
- save energy
- more good kids
- bigger community
- Have more opportunities for kids to help out, More activities that involve students (2)
- Quit building houses
- We could work on getting along.
- No bullying
- A store in town.
- Have teenagers respectful
- No stealing community
- Livin up the place with bright colors or pictures
- More helping groups/ fundraisers
- Arrest bad people
- Apartments
- Businesses, More stores
- More security of children at the park.
- Better houses
- The school doing more community service
- More place and things to do so that kids aren't getting in trouble.
- Bowling alley
- Activities for teens during the summer
- Tell old people to grow up.
- Have fun outside school activities
- Introduce more jobs, and a convenient store.
- Update building
- Get dance classes
- Treat people nicer

- Have community projects
- Indoor activities center
- New equipment
- More community events
- More community service opportunities
- Get rid of old people against new bond
-

Question 11: Would you consider living in the Douglas/Bennet/Palmyra area as an adult?

Answered: 222

Skipped: 6

Answer Choices –	Responses –	
	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Head Count</i>
Yes	50.00%	111
No	50.00%	111
Total		222

Question 12: If your response to question 11 was YES, why would you choose to live in the Douglas/Bennet/Palmyra area? (Select all that apply or select 'other' and provide your own response.)

Answered: 113

Skipped: 115

Answer Choices –	Responses –	
	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Head Count</i>
There are jobs or business opportunities in the community or nearby.	19.47%	22
This is a good area to raise a family.	57.52%	65
I have family ties to this area.	53.98%	61
The cost of living in this area is reasonable.	31.86%	36
The schools are of good quality.	55.75%	63
Recreational and entertainment options are plentiful.	19.47%	22
Other (please specify) (* See Below)	21.24%	24
Total Respondents:		113

***OTHER:**

- I love Bennet and I want to live there all my life
- These towns are more quiet.
- fun kids
- it is where I grew up
- I wouldn't like living in a crowded place. I WANT SPACE !
- It is a safer place
- I like small towns
- Ive grown up In a small group town and I like it.
- There is a park and a soon to be sprinkler/sprayer
- This is where I'd possibly live if I didn't get to live in Colorado
- I will see my family
- The town is small and would be a great place to raise a family
- I like living in a not crowded town

- I love it here
- Closeness to Lincoln
- lived here all my life
- I love this town
- I am familiar with this area.
- Farming
- Small town, good high school experience
- This is the only place I've ever known
- I like the country life

Question 13: If your response to question 11 was NO, why would you choose NOT to live in the Douglas/Bennet/Palmyra area? (Select all that apply or select other and provide your own response)

Answered: 118

Skipped: 110

Answer Choices –

Responses –

	<i>Percentage</i>	<i>Head Count</i>
I can make more money somewhere else.	48.31%	57
There are no opportunities in this area for the type of career I want to pursue.	66.95%	79
I want to live in a larger community.	49.15%	58
There are not enough entertainment or recreational opportunities in this area.	44.07%	52
The schools are not of high quality.	19.49%	23
The cost of living is too high in this area.	4.24%	05
Other (please specify) (*See Below)	16.10%	19
Total Respondents:		118

***OTHER:**

- I want to get as far away as possible
- living in a small town or in the country
- I want to live in some place where its always warm like Florida
- family doesn't live in this area
- moving
- I want to go back to Texas
- Not enough room to build a future house
- Like north central Nebraska better because of view and cattle.
- My family is somewhere else
- More lakes
- The school has poor sport facility
- I prefer the city where I start small and become huge (hopefully)
- The people are horrible
- I didn't enjoy it.
- The distances can be money consuming.
- It's not the area, it's just that I don't like Nebraska.
- This area is stupid
- I want to go somewhere different for a change

*One unintelligible response

Question 14: If an adult leader invited you to become involved in a committee or task force to help make your school or community better, would you volunteer?

Answered: 221

Skipped: 7

Answer Choices –	Responses –	
	<i>Percentages</i>	<i>Head Count</i>
Yes	81.00%	179
No	19.00%	42
Total		221

Question 15: Have you started or do you own a small business right now? (lawn care,web design, etc.)

Answered: 219

Skipped: 9

Answer Choices –	Responses –	
	<i>Percentages</i>	<i>Head Count</i>
Yes	15.98%	35
No	84.02%	184
Total		219

Question 16: If your response to question 15 was yes, what kind of small business do you have?

Answered: 38

Skipped: 190

- Lawn mowing or lawn care (16)
- Babysitting (05)
- maintenance and construction
- I used to babysit before I got a job.
- Cows
- Tutoring
- X,Y,Z,, and I clean yards
- Fashion
- splitting wood
- Me and my dad own a firewood business.
- Work with my dad, get bank\$\$
- Trucker business Vending machine business, scooping snow, mowing lawns, and stock market
- Maybe so
- Gaming team
- Cattle related tech facility
- Lawn and farm worker
- Welding and mowing
- I work at my job and help out
- Horse lessons

Question 17: Are you interested in starting or owning a business in the Douglas/Bennet/Palmyra area as an adult??

Answered: 221

Skipped: 7

Answers	Responses – Percentage	Head Count
Yes	19.91%	44
No	80.09%	177
Total		221

Question 18: If your response to question 17 was yes, what kind of business would you like to start or own?

Answered: 44 (3 responded 'no.')

Skipped: 184

- Maintainance and construction
- Photography
- Farming (5)
- Writing books with R----
- movie theater
- Clothes store
- lawn service (3)
- a bakery would be a business i would like to start (3)
- selling split wood
- restaurants
- A food store
- I would like to start a little plant shop
- A vehicle repair shop
- Construction (building houses)
- An invention factory.
- A music teacher
- A sports store
- Fish
- An engineering or architectural building
- Engineering
- What's up?
- Car mec. Shop
- Walking dogs
- Baby sitting
- Daycare
- Gym
- Website
- Living in Colorado an make my own pipe store
- Infectious disease lab
- An auto shop
- A cattle embryos transfer and collection facility
- Welding
- housing

End of Survey