

PALMYRA



PANTHERS

School District OR-1

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Secondary Principal: Heath Johnson
Activities Director: Aaron Hoeft

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District OR-1 Newsletter
District OR-1 Public Schools
November, 2021

*****ECRWSS*****

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*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

November, 2021

- Follow District OR1 at www.districtor1.org
- Download the app for iOS and Android
- Follow student progress on PowerSchool
- Superintendent Notes
- Complete Connectivity Survey
- District Student VOTE
- Follow District OR1 on Twitter @OR1_Panthers
- Make sure your school has your e-mail and phone
- Follow official weather at www.1011now.com
- District OR1 E-Book News
- Veteran's Day News
- Anti-Bullying Month is November

Superintendent Notes

...by Michael Hart

Panther Families, Welcome to November!

As I get to know more about our community, I continue to be impressed by the wonderful things that our parents and patrons contribute to our school district. We are blessed to have outstanding students and staff, but we are also very fortunate to have a community that strongly supports education.

Although I enjoy all the seasons here in Nebraska (okay, the 105 degree heat and -25 degree temps are a bit hard to love when they are actually happening), there is just something about fall (especially late October, early November) that makes it a great time of year. The weather turning cooler (sweatshirts and shorts are always a great combination), Husker football in full swing (although optimism in this area has been difficult recently), the sights and sounds of harvest, leaves shifting to their autumn shades, the warmth of a backyard campfire, the anticipation of the holiday season, and the hustle and bustle of active school days and student activities makes this time of year extra special.

The month of November also brings with it a season of gratitude (especially with Veterans Day and Thanksgiving occurring in the same month). Much work has been done to demonstrate the benefits of gratitude. While gratitude is an expression of thanks which seems unidirectional, it is actually equally beneficial to the individual receiving the expression of thanks as it is to the person offering it. Ultimately, gratitude leads to a more positive mindset, and it develops enhanced empathy. Both of these are critical components to a student's overall well-being. Listed below is a great quote about gratitude:

"Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it." William Arthur Ward

With that quote in mind, I would like to express my sincere gratitude and say "Thanks" to our students for inspiring us to do our best work for you. You are our future leaders and we believe in you!

Superintendent: Michael Hart
Palmyra Principal: Heath Johnson
Bennet Principal: Linde Walter
Activities Director: Aaron Hoeft

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Industrial Technology: Brad Gabriel

Hello to everyone in district OR1. I would like to first say the year has started off very well for the Industrial Technology department. The students are working hard and doing some quality work on their projects. The seventh grade students are building their stools again this year, and most have completed them and are waiting to start the candy machine.

The drafting students are doing a very good job at drawing in the Mechanical drawing field. Second semester they will be working on house design and drawings.

My Woods I and Woods II classes have been combined this year. These students are working on individual projects, and they are being very creative. We are excited to see some of their projects complete.

The welding students are coming along very nicely with their welding samples and different types of welding joints. As normal some days are better than others, but they are prevailing.

The eight grade students have been given more freedom this year and are working on some slightly larger projects than normal. Hopefully this all goes well.

The Construction students are working on planning and possibly building a small shed for the Knutson family.
...Continued to page 2

...Continued Industrial Technology

I would like to thank Mr. Hart in the process of getting the Carl Perkins funds for the purchase of a new table saw for the shop. I would like to add that this machine has some awesome safety features. Hopefully, this will help keep all of our students safe throughout the year in the shop. Another thank you to the Edwards family for donating some special types of woods to the shop for kids to use.

...Continued Hart

Additionally, I say "Thanks" to our teachers, administrative team, health and school office staff, bus drivers, food service workers, custodians, and paraprofessionals who give their best efforts everyday to help our students find success and learn in a safe and clean environment. Our staff works hard each day to make sure we are preparing our students for not only the rigors, successes, challenges, and opportunities of school, but also of life. An excellent education is a lifelong gift that can never be taken away.

Also, "Thanks" to the many school volunteers, local businesses, and organizations who support our students through their investments of time, treasure, and talent! We appreciate all of you providing that extra something that makes our district even more special.

Finally, "Thanks" to our parents and families for your support of our district. Please know that you are our number one partner in education, and we are very thankful for all you do to support your child's educational journey. Keep up the good work!

In summary, please know that all of you all make a difference in our students' lives each day, and your hard work and support of our school district, no matter your role, is recognized and truly appreciated. Now more than ever, our students need everyone's collective efforts to help them make good choices, promote academic success and hard work, provide positive learning and life experiences, and nurture their own unique gifts and talents.

Moving forward, I would encourage each of us to take some time to reflect on our current circumstances and find ways to express gratitude to those around us for the gifts in our lives. As a nation, we are going through a challenging period of time, and even if we are experiencing difficult times ourselves, we can look for ways to be grateful for even the smallest of things. Expressing our gratitude for the things we are thankful for and sharing that gratitude with others helps our community and our own personal well-being.

Have a very Happy Thanksgiving and a safe and wonderful holiday season,

Go Panthers!

GET YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS!

The prize is a restored 1965 Buick LeSabre, 2-door red convertible valued at \$28,000.

Tickets are available from James Waltke, [Dan Cummings](#) or the Athletic Boosters and are \$20 each. The Buick (weather permitting) will be on display along with ticket sales at HOME Varsity Contests for the duration of the raffle.

The raffle runs through April 23, 2022. The drawing will be at the Olson Field Complex in Palmyra. The winner does not have to be present to claim the prize.

Net proceeds go to the [Foundation For Knowledge, District OR-1](#) Endowment Fund for the benefit of the Palmyra Athletic Boosters.

For more information about the car please contact: James Waltke at (402) 423-9477 (office) or (402) 430-1681 (cell) or [Dan Cummings\(Bombers Garage\)](#) at (402) 805-0507 or go to [District OR-1 School](#) at www.districtor1.org or www.bombersgarage.com



It's almost time for our fall FFA Blood Drive. Date: Wednesday November 10, 2021. Time: 1 PM - 6 PM, appointment required. Place: PHS Parking Lot, NCBB Blood Bus. Check out our web site at www.districtor1.org, or Email truax.sha@districtor1.net for more details.

The Rewards of Public Speaking!

By Cassidy Buescher

Sophomores at PHS are required to take a Speech and Communications course for a semester before they graduate. Many PHS students also join the competitive speech team. Envato Tuts+, an online teaching and learning platform, outlines perfectly some of the many benefits of learning public speaking skills. Each semester, I share these reasons to practice public speaking with my students. I thought I might share them with you as well!

- It builds their **confidence**. While students are often nervous before their first few speeches, they usually find themselves becoming much more comfortable as the semester progresses. With feedback from both their classmates and from me, the sense of accomplishment and relief after each speech grows.
- It improves their **research skills**. To write successful speeches, the students learn how to research reliable sources, cite them, and avoid plagiarism.
- It strengthens their **deductive reasoning** skills. To write a speech, students must work from a premise and draw conclusions based on their research. Students utilize these deductive reasoning skills across the curriculum.
- It helps them **market themselves**. By sophomore year, students are beginning to complete college and scholarship applications. It is often difficult without practice for students to articulate their strengths, accomplishments, and goals. Public speaking can give them that confidence.
- It strengthens their **oral communication** skills. In this day and age, students do a majority of their communicating online, through short phrases and abbreviations and photos with captions. Giving speeches forces them to practice those oral communication skills that can carry over into everyday conversation.
- It increases their chances of **getting hired**. Employers consistently demand both oral and written communication and listening skills in new hires. A 2017 study from talent acquisition software provider, iCMIS, found that over a third of all employers list oral communication as one of the skills they value most in a job candidate.

- It give them a chance to **connect with others** with similar interests. Students in my class give speeches about activities they are interested in, talents they have, and knowledge they have built over the years. Often their classmates have no idea they have these talents. Sharing this knowledge gives them a chance to connect over similar interests.
- It helps them **overcome a fear** of public speaking. Many adults fear speaking in public more than they fear death. Students are facing that fear early!
- It makes them more **aware of how others perceive** them. They watch each other, and they even themselves on video presenting speeches. This requires them to pay attention to their physical presence: posture, tone of voice, gestures, pacing, vocalized pauses like “um” and “like,” even their choices of clothing. Students learn to recognize how much these nonverbal cues make us shape our understanding of others. Being aware of physical habits can make students attempt more positive body language!



- It helps them develop their **writing skills**. They can use this practice on other reports, articles, and classroom activities.
- It teaches them to be calm in **stressful situations**. The ability to deal with the nerves and stress of public speaking can carry over to many aspects of their lives.
- It teaches them to **advocate for causes** they care about. They even get a chance to motivate their classmates to change or strengthen their beliefs! What better way to make the world a better place!

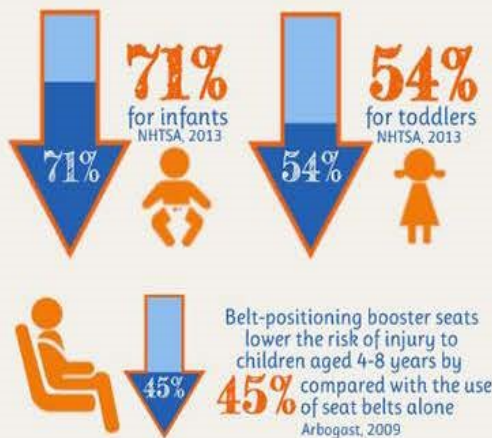


Buckle Up for Winter

- ❄ Motor vehicle crashes are leading cause of death in 5-24 year olds
- ❄ Proper use of child safety seats significantly reduces risk of death
- ❄ Unbelted vehicle occupant fatalities (77%) were more likely to occur in rural areas

THE GOOD NEWS

Child safety seats can reduce fatalities by



Nebraska Child Safety Laws

- ☐ ALL CHILDREN (8 and under) **MUST** be correctly secured in child safety seat
- ☐ 2 and under: Required to be in REAR facing seat or until they reach upper weight or height limit allowed by the car seat
- ☐ 8 and under: Must ride in the back seat, as long as there is a back seat equipped with a seatbelt and is not already occupied by other children under eight years of age.
- ☐ 8-18 years old: must wear a seat belt or use child safety seat (booster seat).

❄ Buckle then Bundle

Remember your child car seat's harness **CAN NOT** be tightened correctly when your child is wearing a thick jacket. In the event of an accident or even harsh braking, the winter jacket is compressed and the harnesses are not close enough to your child to keep them safe.

❄ Keeping Warm:

1. Secure child, wear coat backwards
2. Use car blankets over buckle
3. Wear thin fleece/sweater in the car seat instead

❄ More Information:

- <https://www.safekidsnebraska.org/>
- Liz Pohlen, OTR/L, CPST @ pohlen.eli@district01.net



Elementary News

First Grade:

First grade celebrated John Chapman's (a.k.a. Johnny Appleseed) birthday on Wednesday, September 26th with an apple tasting party! It was a fun day with birthday hats and all things apple to taste!

First, students were given a red, green, and yellow apple slice to taste. They needed to decide which flavor of apple was their favorite. Once they made their decision, they graphed them. And the winner was ... the yellow apple! Students liked it because it was sweet and softer than the red and green apples.

Next, they lined up to fill their plates with delicious apple pie, apple cake, apple bread, apple muffins and apple cookies. There were apple chips, apple straws, and apple Cheerios to taste. Apple butter on bread and applesauce were available to sample, too. First graders sipped on apple juice and apple cider. One of the favorites this year was caramel apple candy corn! Yum!

First graders are so thankful for Johnny Appleseed telling the pioneers about the benefits of apples and for planting so many apple trees!



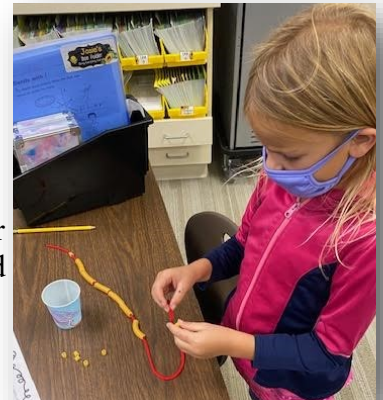
First Graders Jumped on the Sound Wave

Bang, Boom, Clack! These are all sounds first graders have been exploring the last couple weeks in Science. Our new science curriculum provides many hands-on manipulatives allowing the first graders to do some wonderful exploration of what sound making sound, and describing sound.

Our first experiment looked at how sound makes vibrations. We took a cup, put rubber bands around it, and plucked them to watch them vibrate. We also covered the cup and then put sand on top while we plucked the rubber bands to watch the sand dance from vibrations. It was a great way to show the students just how much motion sound can make!

The next experiment really let the students use their creativity as they were given kitchen utensils and asked to find a variety of ways to make sound with them. The students really enjoyed this activity, and they came up with some creative ways to make some noise!

Our last activity led us to learning about Morse Code and how that is used to communicate. Students used it to write out their names and then created a necklace with their name in code. We used different types of pasta to symbolize the dots and dashes. First graders had a ton of fun learning and experimenting with sound!



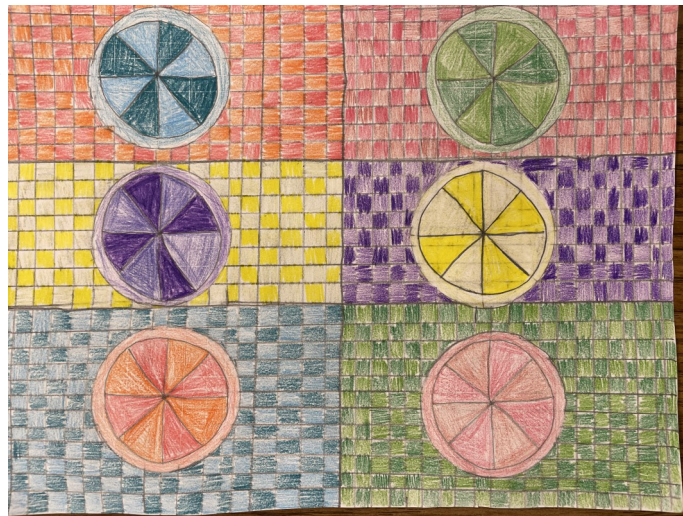
Life Cycles in 2nd Grade

This fall, second graders had an opportunity, along with the Otoe County Extension Office to do a mini-unit on the Butterfly life cycle. Erin Steinhoff from the Extension Office came to Bennet Elementary three times to do activities with the students. They had the opportunity to learn the stages of the life cycle and the parts of a butterfly, and then each classroom got five painted lady caterpillars to care for! We were able to observe them eat and multiply in size, wrap themselves in chrysalises, and hatch into a beautiful butterfly! The students loved letting them go into the trees behind the school on release day! We can't wait to do it again next year!



Elementary Art

The first quarter flew by! We have been very busy in art as our time together always goes by so quickly. We have been focusing on the element of color. Kindergarten did two projects during the first quarter. The first one was a color wheel caterpillar, and the second one was a complementary-color bird house. First grade made a color wheel fish, and we just finished our rainbow watercolor chameleons. They were all so excited to paint! Second grade students also made watercolor chameleons, but their first project was a color wheel turtle. Third grade worked on a color wheel turtle as well. They just finished their complementary color 3D hand project. Fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students worked super hard on their first project which was a color wheel umbrella. They used watercolor, and they all turned out amazing! Now, fifth and sixth graders have been working on a project that has taken them a bit more time. It is a complementary color grid.



All of the elementary students worked so hard this first quarter. I am proud of all of them and their excellent work. Above is an example of the art work students have completed. We are using Artsonia again this year, where you will be able to see all of your students work. I am excited to see what the rest of the year brings with our art projects.

Greetings District OR-1!

This is Mr. Wemhoff with the Elementary PE report. We started the year getting back into a little bit of shape with some different versions of tag. We then jumped right into our fitness testing to get our baseline scores for the year. Some of these tests include the standing broad jump, vertical jump, and a shuttle run as well as a couple others. The thing that we focus on with these tests is improvement throughout the year and working to have better scores at the end of the year than at the beginning. We then moved into our throwing and catching unit. Obviously these activities changed from each grade level but carried the same concepts. We are also trying to get outdoors and enjoy some of the fresh air when the weather cooperates. We have had a great first quarter of PE and have seen great improvements through our first few units, and we look forward to the rest of the year.

Go Panthers! Mr. Wemhoff

Skills To Work On To Best Prepare Your Child For Preschool

Exposure to their written name

Anytime you write your child's name, show them and tell them that is your name.

Feeding themselves and drinking from an open cup

Encourage your child to feed themselves (even with fingers) and drink from an open cup without sitting in a highchair at mealtimes.

Answering simple questions

When someone asks your child their name or how old they are, let them respond before you. If they don't, whisper it to them so they are able to answer the question. Using fingers to represent age is appropriate.

Putting on and taking off their coat and shoes

This skill takes a lot of practice and patience from their adult. Anytime you leave the house, plan for extra time and give your child the opportunity to practice. It's okay for your child not to be able to tie, zip, or button items yet.

Helping you clean up

Encourage your child with your assistance to put away toys they play with, wipe up spills, and clear the table after meals.

Toilet Learning

Plan a regular toilet routine and let your child observe you use the restroom, so they learn it's a natural thing. If accidents occur have your child assist with clean-up and changing their clothes. When your child enters preschool, they will need to be wearing underwear during all waking hours with limited accidents.

--Casandra Hohensee and Brittany Eisenhauer, Little Panthers Preschool

Fire Prevention Week

The Week of October 4th was National Fire Prevention Week. On October 7th the Bennet Volunteer Fire Department presented fire safety tips to the Bennet Elementary students. Thank you ,Bennet Fire and Rescue, for supporting District OR1.



Fifth Grade Gets Their Touchscreens

A highly anticipated and exciting event has occurred in the Fifth Grade. We got our brand new, ginormous, touchscreens installed over Fall Break! This means some dedicated and hard-working staff did not get much of a break because they wanted us to have these to use for the 2nd Quarter. Thank you to all that made this addition to our classroom become a reality!

Mr. McChristian and Mrs. Malone are just as excited to use them as our students are to learn from them. Mrs. Malone will be using hers primarily for Social Studies since that is what she is teaching this year, and Mr. McChristian will be using his primarily for Science since that is what he is teaching. If you hadn't heard yet, our Fifth and Sixth grade teachers departmentalized this year and are teaching one core subject to both Fifth and Sixth grades. This has been an exciting transition that will become a more memorable, engaging, and fun learning experience thanks to the use of our touchscreens!

Among many other things, Mrs. Malone has been wanting to use her touchscreen as an interactive map to show students the geography of the locations students are learning about – a way to make a better connection to the curriculum. Mr. McChristian has been wanting to use his to demonstrate the relationship between distance, time, direction, and acceleration in objects. We want to give a HUGE thanks again for those that made this dream a reality!



Mr. McChristian & Mrs. Malone

On late starts, buses will run 1 3/4 hour later on routes and shuttles. Also, they will run accordingly depending on road conditions. -Cathy Fick

Needed: Bus Substitutes. A CDL would be nice. Or, the mini bus driver no CDL needed—just level one class. Call 402-780-5327 x3

PURPLE HAND PLEDGE

October is National Bullying Prevention Month. At Bennet Elementary, we take a strong stance against bullying to create a safe environment for everyone. The students participated in the Purple Hand Pledge.

"I will not use my hands or my words to hurt myself or others. I Promise!"

The Purple Hand Pledge is posted in all classrooms and is a reminder to the students and staff that Bennet Elementary is "Bully Free."

Some information shared with students about bullying:

Bullying can make someone feel hurt, afraid, or uncomfortable. When someone does this to another person **more than once and usually over and over again for a period of time; this is called Bullying.**

There are many different types of bullying that can be experienced by children and adults.

Physical bullying:

Physical bullying includes hitting, kicking, tripping, pinching and pushing or damaging property. Physical bullying causes both short term and long term damage.

Verbal bullying:

Verbal bullying includes name calling, insults, teasing, intimidation, or verbal abuse. While verbal bullying can start off harmless, it can escalate to levels which start affecting the individual target.

Social bullying:

Social bullying is designed to harm someone's social reputation and/or cause humiliation.



Cyber bullying:

Cyber bullying uses digital technologies, including hardware such as computers and smartphones, and software such as social media, instant messaging, texts, websites and other online platforms.

What to do if you are being bullied: talk to someone about it. Find a staff member or family member to talk to. Hang around friends who respect, encourage and support you. These friends should care about you and be fun to hang around.

What bullying is not
single episodes of social rejection or dislike
single episode acts of nastiness or spite
random acts of aggression or intimidation
mutual arguments, disagreements or fights.



What is NSCAS?

The Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS) tests are given each

Spring. NSCAS provides valuable information to educators and policy makers as they work to improve the educational system. The COVID-19 Pandemic caused many educational disruptions, the Spring 2021 tests were shortened to preserve as much instructional time as possible.



What do the NSCAS scores mean?

The scores from the Spring 2021 test provide information on where the student is located along the test scale that represents the progression of knowledge and skills that should be mastered for their grade level. For each content area, you will see the student's Achievement Level.

What does the RIT Score mean?

The student's linked RIT score represents their expected achievement on a MAP Growth test taken the same day.

What are the Achievement Levels?

Each score corresponds to an Achievement Level. There are three Achievement Levels for NSCAS. On Track and CCR (College and Career Ready Benchmark) represent the grade-level targets for all students based on Nebraska's rigorous content area standards. Developing is used where students still have growth opportunity for those grade-level targets.



District OR-1 School
Education Website

Following

District OR-1 Student Assistance Team (SAT)

Supporting students, teachers, and parents

What is the SAT team?

The SAT is a school team, which includes the parents and teachers in a positive, problem solving, intervention process. It assists students by ensuring that the school and community are doing everything possible to make students' school lives successful. Students are most successful when there is a strong cooperation between home, school, and community. Based on this shared responsibility, the SAT meets to explore possibilities and strategies that will best meet the educational needs of the students and support teachers and parents. The SAT may include parents or caregivers, teachers, school psychologist, counselor, support staff, and school administrator who can all provide support for the student.

How does the SAT Process work?

Students are typically referred by the classroom teacher, but any member of the school staff and/or parent may request support from the SAT for a student whose learning, behavior or emotional needs are not being met under existing circumstances. The classroom teacher(s) should have notified you, as the parent, regarding these issues.

Prior to the first SAT meeting, teachers would have implemented some classroom accommodations that enhance learning for students. An accommodation may be as simple as a change in seating location, a daily assignment sheet, or an increase in the use of visual teaching aids. Sometimes a simple change can make a big difference for a student.

Any strategy that has been tried or is currently in place will be discussed with you at the SAT meeting. Using this information, the team can suggest further steps to help the student.

What happens at the SAT meeting?

1. Parents/caregivers meet with the SAT team. The meeting takes approximately 20 to 30 minutes, depending on the individual student.
2. The SAT leader will facilitate the group through a process discussing the student's strengths and concerns, gather pertinent history and information, and discusses present interventions and outcomes. The team then brainstorms interventions and chooses actions to complete a plan of action for student success, while determining what data will be collected to monitor effectiveness of the interventions.
4. As the parent, you will also be asked to contribute information regarding your child's learning needs and help with the development of an intervention plan. The plan is then implemented and reviewed in six weeks.

Who can I contact for more information regarding the SAT process?

If you have questions regarding the SAT team process, please contact a District OR-1 School Psychologist or an administrator. The School Psychologist can be reached via phone at **402-782-3535 ext. 1002** or email at linke.klo@districtor1.net.

Panther Football Individual Career Records Broken in 2021

Dedrick Dowding breaks Landon Hornby's record for most tackles in a career. Dedrick finished his career with 423 tackles.

Andrew Waltke now holds virtually every receiving record at Palmyra High School. Andrew finished his career with 260 receptions for 3408 yards and 46 TD's. His mark of 260 catches is not only a PHS record, but also a STATE RECORD!

Congratulations to both players, as well as every player who played with these two guys during the last 4 seasons. Football is a team sport, and without good people around you – records do not get broken.

Go Panthers!



Vocal Music – Beth McCreight

Our choirs at District OR-1 are singing in full force this fall. On October 9th, 5 of our high school choir members attended the Midland University a cappella honor choir, directed by Joel Johnston. They sang three songs: *Don't You Worry Child*, *When the Earth Stands Still*, and *Three African Songs*. For *Three African Songs*, they were joined by the A Cappella choirs of Midland, and let me tell you – it was fantastic! The whole auditorium was booming with sound that will not soon be forgotten!

Pictured from left to right: Nima Faunce; Savannah Phillips; Luna Hinkley; Katie Roath & Madison Dvorak.



On October 21st Palmyra bands and choirs presented their fall 'pops' concert. The show choir sang: *I'm Still Standing* and *Be A Light*. The junior high choir sang: *I Just Wanna Shine*, *You Say* – featuring soloists: Grace Green, Emberlin Johnson, Rachael Krumwiede, Mason Meehan & Owen Raemakers, and for their final piece *The River*, the high school choir joined them mid-song to add additional voices and impact. Accompanying the combined choir were Lincoln Johnson and Rheanna Priel on guitar. The high school choir sang three selections: *Lovely*, *One More Light*, and *The Wellerman*. For the *Wellerman*, the low voices of the junior high choir joined them for additional oomph.

Pictured are the combined junior high and high school choirs singing *The River*.



Upcoming dates for vocal music:

November 8th – JH & HS ECNC Honor Choir @ Elmwood-Murdock

November 11th – Veteran's Day assembly @ the high school. High school choir and Bennet Singers.

November 29th – Kindergarten – 4th grade winter concert @ PHS. K-2 @ 6:15 pm; 3rd & 4th @ 7:30 pm.

December 6th – Elementary band & Bennet Singers winter concert 6:30 pm @ Bennet.

December 9th – JH & HS winter concert 7:00 pm @ PHS.

Plus caroling by all vocal groups in December. Dates and times TBA.



School Closing Due to Inclement Weather

Each winter we have school days when we are faced with the dilemma as to whether school will start on time, start late, or should be cancelled altogether. This decision is never easy to make, but I want you to know that we have our students' safety foremost in mind. With that said, be aware that we will monitor road conditions closely and will use that information to make the determination about a school closing or late start.

We will check roads beginning at 4:30 a.m. so that we can arrive at a decision by 6:15 a.m. If a decision is made to close school or to have a late start, we will notify families as quickly as we can. If the snow begins in the evening and is only a light accumulation, then a decision will not be made until the next morning. When the snow is heavy and the wind is a factor in terms of drifting, then the decision may be made that evening. If snow begins during the school day, the administrative staff will monitor road conditions and watch to make sure we can get stu-

dents home safely. If road conditions deteriorate during the school day and we are to dismiss early, we will again notify radio and television contacts with closing information, and we will attempt to contact parents with the School Messenger system to let them know we are dismissing early, as we understand that closing school early when it was not planned requires some parents to make arrangements for the care of their children.

When school does start late due to road conditions, school will begin at 10:00 a.m., but we ask that students do not arrive prior to 9:30 a.m. The late start is designed to serve several purposes: —to allow the buses to go out when it is light and they can more safely see the road, —to allow you to have more time to clear driveways, and allow adequate time for students who drive to school to arrive safely.

On late start days the buses will run later than normal, and pickup times will be adjusted accordingly. Your drivers will provide you with the adjusted time for late start days. We appreciate your cooperation and patience.

With all of that said, I would remind you to update your contact information with the school. This includes your email, home phone, and mobile phone information. If our information is incorrect or missing, we will be unable to contact you via the District Notification system in case of a weather closure. You may also want to download our mobile App from the App store by searching for District OR-1.

American Education Week happens the week prior to the week of Thanksgiving. Each day of the week has its own theme celebrated by the District OR1 community, as festivities honor the team of people who work in our District OR1 students—everyone from the bus driver and classroom teacher to the cafeteria worker and administrative staff, plus countless others.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15: Board of Education and Administration

Across Nebraska, schools will celebrate excellence in education facilitated by the work of boards of education and administration. This close partnership is especially important, as the Nebraska Unicameral promotes “local control” of education.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16: FAMILY DAY

According to experts, students excel as parents take an active and assertive role in their children's education on a daily basis.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17: EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS DAY

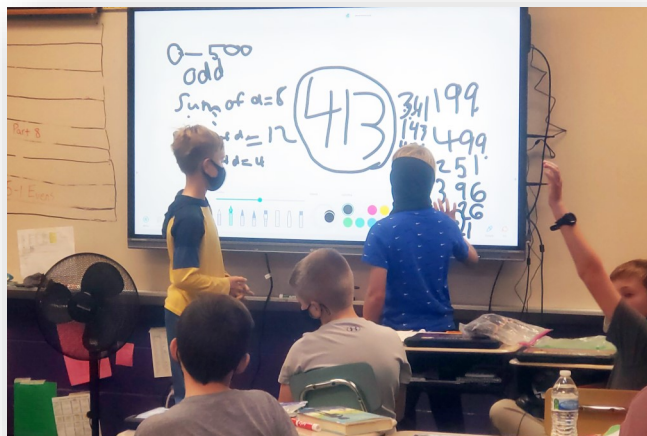
Education Support Professionals play a key role in preparing District OR1 students to meet the challenges of the future. Moreover, ESPs continue to go above and beyond in keeping students safe, healthy, and ready to learn.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18: EDUCATOR DAY

Education Professionals inspire, motivate, and educate all students wishing to attend District OR1. On this day, we will celebrate the impact of the classroom teacher.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19: SUBSTITUTE EDUCATORS DAY

Substitute educators play a vital role in the maintenance and continuity of daily education. Particularly in this time of pandemic, our substitute teachers have been essential.



Mr. Maibaum's class utilizes ClearTouch technology during math.

Elementary Student Council...By Jen Hanger

This year Bennet Elementary is happy to announce our new 6th grade Student Council members. The 6th grade Student Council consists of 11 students that have volunteered their time to help plan events within the elementary. Each student is responsible for two events. They help plan the event and work during it. Students can at times spend recesses and free time helping prepare for these elementary activities.

Over the past nine years, the 6th grade has been in charge of the Caring Project in February. However, there are many more activities at Bennet that require assistance. Some of these projects are Homecoming, Red Ribbon Week, Kindness Week, and Accelerated Reader Awards. We finished Homecoming Week in September and are celebrating Red Ribbon week this week.

If you see any of these hard-working Student Council members, please tell them thank you for their hard work!
Below are our 6th grade Student Council Members.

Top left: Lillie W. Braeden T. Lydia V. Finley L. Trinity J. Barrett H. and Jacob H.

Bottom left: Alice H. Maci S. Kade K. Xylie B. and Samantha S.



District OR 1 Bennet Elementary and Palmyra High School staff and students would like to invite our area Veterans to a special breakfast on Thursday, November 11th, 2021 at Palmyra High School West Gym at 8:15 AM. Please enter through the west doors. Patriotic Program begins at 9:00 AM with Bennet Singers and PHS Choir performing.

Elementary Students may attend with parent permission and have an excused absence. Transportation for students attending the assembly with a Veteran will not be provided by District OR1 and is the parent responsibility.

District OR 1 will have a live stream beginning at 9:30 a.m. at <https://striv.tv/channel/palmyra/>

THE BENNET COMMUNITY FUND

Presents the 2nd Annual

Christmas in the Park

Join us for a festive evening in the Bennet Park
Saturday, December 4th
3:00-6:00 pm

***Santa & Mrs. Claus**

***Food Trucks**

***Christkindl Market**

***Kids Crafts**

***Caroling by Palmyra & Bennet
Choirs & Band**

***Hot Chocolate & Cookies**

provided by the Bennet Builders

Find us on Facebook to stay updated about the event
[@bennetareacommunityfoundationfund](#)



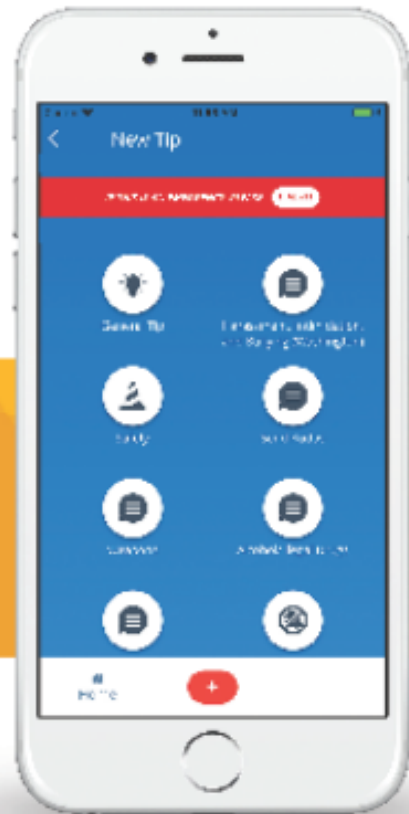


Palmyra District OR-1

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



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.

"Together, we prepare our students to successfully meet the challenges of the fu"ture.

Staff Calendar

DISTRICT OR-1 PUBLIC SCHOOL CALENDAR: 2021-2022: Staff Calendar

August 2021						
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				
17 teacher days						
15 student days						
September 2021						
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						
October 2021						
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						
20 student days						
November 2021						
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 2021						
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	
15 teacher days						
15 student days						
92 days first semester						

August 2021	
9-Aug	Start of Fall Practice
9-Aug	Faculty Inservice-8:00-4:00
10-Aug	Teacher Workday
11-Aug	First Day of School for Students
September 2021	
6-Sep	NO SCHOOL -Labor Day
21-Sep	Dismiss @ 1:30 P.M. P-T conf. 2:00-8:00 P.M.
22-Sept	Collab. PD/WD -No school for students
October 2021	
15-Oct	End of First quarter
18-Oct	Start 2nd Quarter
22-Oct	Fall Break: NO SCHOOL
November 2021	
15-Nov	Start Winter Practice
16-Nov	Collab. PD/WD: One Act Host: Students: No school
24-Nov	NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break
25-Nov	NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break
26-Nov	NO SCHOOL Thanksgiving Break
December 2021	
21-Dec	End of Second Quarter
22-Dec	Winter Vacation: December 22- January 4
22-26-Dec	Activity moratorium period est. by NSAA
January 2022	
3-4-Jan	Winter Vacation
4-Jan	Collab. PD/WD -No school for students
5-Jan	School Resumes: Start 3rd Quarter
17-Jan	Martin Luther King Day: No school
February 2022	
2-Feb	Collab. PD/WD -No school for students
8-Feb	Dismiss @ 1:30 P.M. P-T conf. 2:00-8:00 P.M.
11-Feb	No school - winter break
March 2022	
1-Mar	Start of Spring Practice
4-Mar	NO SCHOOL Spring Break
10-Mar	End of Third Quarter
11-Mar	NO SCHOOL: Spring Break
14-Mar	Collab. PD/WD -No school for students
April 2022	
14-Apr	Dismiss at 1:30 P.M. for Easter Break
15-Apr	NO SCHOOL: Easter Break
18-Apr	NO SCHOOL: Easter Break
May 2022	
7-May	Graduation
9-May	HS: No school (ECNC Host): Elementary: Full day
19-May	End 2nd Sem.-1:30 Dismissal H.S. / No school: elem
20-May	Teacher workday
Notes:	Early dismissal times will result in elementary dismissal time of 1:10 p.m.
	177 Student days (88-1st, 89-2nd)
	185 Teacher Days (92-1st, 93-2nd)

January 2022						
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						
18 student days						
February 2022						
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					
19 teacher days						
18 student days						
March 2022						
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						
20 student days						
April 2022						
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						
19 student days						
May 2022						
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				
15 teacher days						
14 student days						
93 days second semester						
Teacher Days						
Vacation Days						
Parent Teacher Conferences						
1:30 p.m. dismissal all students						
Full Day: Elementary/ HS: ECNC Host						

Board Approved: February 8.2021

HAPPY THANKSGIVING