

Work Session-Board of Education

Monday, June 23, 2025 5:30 PM

Transformation Marketing

208 Locust Street

Panama, NE 68419

District Mission:

“Together we prepare our students to successfully meet the challenges of the future.”

Strategic Goal 1: District OR-1 Public Schools will provide the facilities needed to be competitive with other area schools in athletics and fine arts programs.

Strategic Goal 2: District OR-1 Public Schools will foster a unified community.

Strategic Goal 3: District OR-1 Public Schools will continuously implement (academic) programs and the curriculum needed to remain competitive with other area schools.

Attendance Taken at 5:32 PM.

Dean Busch: Absent

Jaimi Calfee: Absent

Tim Cheney: Present

Brandon Desh: Present

Dee Moore: Present

Josh Penterman: Present

Attendance Update Taken at 5:35 PM.

Jaimi Calfee: Present

This information was posted in the following public formats:

The Voice News (weekly area newspaper)

Farmers' Merchants Bank - Palmyra

Palmyra Post Office

Palmyra High School

Bennet Post Office

Bennet Elementary School

District OR-1 Website - <https://www.districtor1.org/>

1. Call to Order

- Board President Desh called the meeting to order at **5:30 p.m.**

2. Announcement of the Open Meetings Act Posting

- Board President Desh identified the location of the Open Meetings Act Poster in the meeting room.
 - ***The changes are reflected in the currently posted materials: revised April 2024.***

3. Consent Agenda

- The discussion included questions related to the specific use of the tractor/equipment components and vehicle listed below.
 - 2022 John Deere Tractor
 - 2022 GMC Terrain
- 3.1. Approval of Board Agenda
- 3.2. Approval of minutes of previous meetings
- 3.3. Approval of Claims/Payment of Bills/Bids Motion to approve the consent agenda Passed with a motion by Josh Penterman and a second by Tim Cheney.
Jaimi Calfee: Yea, Tim Cheney: Yea, Brandon Desh: Yea, Dee Moore: Yea, Josh Penterman: Yea **Vehicle and Equipment Purchases:**
 - **Purchase Agreement Proposal for 2022 GMC Terrain:**
 - This vehicle is needed to accommodate transportation services that support increased student services (home visits, etc.) and staff development training requirements.
 - The purchase price of this vehicle is **\$23,500.**
 - **Purchase Agreement Proposal for 2022 John Deere Tractor:**
 - This vehicle is needed to support district maintenance services and repairs such as snow removal, landscaping, and other facility and grounds maintenance tasks.
 - The purchase price for this piece of equipment is **\$23,500.**
 - Additional discussion included clarifying the specific uses of each item listed above.
- 4. Public Comment
 - No public comment was presented at the meeting.
- 5. Board Retreat: Discussion Items The following items were discussed during the meeting:
 - **Upcoming Board Meeting / Public Hearings Information**
 - **A Public Hearing on Policy #6400** (Parental Involvement) is scheduled for **5:50 p.m. on Monday, July 14, 2025, at Bennet Elementary School in the main commons.**
 - **A Public Hearing on Policy # 5416** (Student Fees) is scheduled for **5:55 p.m.**(or immediately following the Parental Involvement Public Hearing) on Monday, July 14, 2025, **at Bennet Elementary School in the main commons.**
 - **The next Regular Board of Education Meeting** is scheduled for **6:00 p.m. on Monday, July 14th at Bennet Elementary School in the main commons.**
 - **Superintendent Goals Update and Review**
 - **Board Goals and Professional Development**
 - **Strategic Planning Update**
 - Guiding Principles
 - Strategic Planning Summarization Document
 - **2024-2025 Budget Overview**
 - **2025-2026 Budget Projection**
 - **Board Committees**
 - Committee Compositions and Purpose
 - Meeting Times
 - **Policy Updates**
 - **Policy #6113: Student Use of Personal Electronic Devices**

- **Summer Construction Projects Update**
 - Bennet
 - Palmyra Junior / Senior High School
 - Olson Complex
- **Technology:**
 - Committee Update
 - Staff HS Staff Survey
 - Student Personal Electronic Devices Usage at PHS.
- **District Staffing Update**

6. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at **7:39 p.m.**

Chairperson

Superintendent

Board of Education Regular Meeting

Monday, June 9, 2025 7:00 PM

Media Center at the Palmyra District OR-1 Public Schools

425 F Street

Palmyra, NE 68418

District Mission:

“Together we prepare our students to successfully meet the challenges of the future.”

Strategic Goal 1: District OR-1 Public Schools will provide the facilities needed to be competitive with other area schools in athletics and fine arts programs.

Strategic Goal 2: District OR-1 Public Schools will foster a unified community.

Strategic Goal 3: District OR-1 Public Schools will continuously implement (academic) programs and the curriculum needed to remain competitive with other area schools.

Attendance Taken at 7:00 PM.

Dean Busch: Present

Jaimi Calfee: Present

Tim Cheney: Present

Brandon Desh: Present

Dee Moore: Present

Josh Penterman: Present

This information was posted in the following public formats:

- The Voice News (weekly area newspaper)
- Farmers' Merchants Bank - Palmyra
- Palmyra Post Office
- Palmyra High School
- Bennet Post Office
- Bennet Elementary School
- District OR-1 Website - <https://www.districtor1.org/>

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

- Board President Desh called the meeting to order at **7:01 p.m.**
- Board President Desh led the board members and patrons in attendance at the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Announcement of the Open Meetings Act Posting

- Board President Desh identified the location of the Open Meetings Act Poster on the wall in the meeting room.
 - *The changes are reflected in the currently posted materials: **revised April 2024.***

3. Staff and Student Presentations

- **Special Note:** There are no staff or student presentations scheduled for the regular Board of Education meetings on **Monday, June 9th, 2025**, or **Monday, July 14th, 2025**.
- The staff and student presentations for the **2025-2026** school year will resume at our **Monday, August 11th, 2025**, regular board meeting.

4. Consent Agenda

- No further comment

4.1. Approval of Board Agenda

4.2. Approval of minutes of previous meetings

- The board summary for **Monday, May 12th 2025**, was not attached to this agenda item.

4.3. Approval of Claims/Payment of Bills and Payroll

4.4. Certificated/Classified Hire(s)/Reassignment(s)/Resignation(s) Motion to accept the consent agenda as discussed. This motion, made by Dee Moore and seconded by Tim Cheney, Passed. Dean Busch: Yea, Jaimi Calfee: Yea, Tim Cheney: Yea, Brandon Desh: Yea, Dee Moore: Yea, Josh Penterman: Yea

4.5. Financial Reports

5. Public Comment

- No public comment was presented during the meeting.

6. Administrative Reports

6.1. Superintendent's Report **A summary of topics from the Superintendent's Report is listed below:**

- **Discussion occurred about changing the regular Board of Education monthly meeting start time to 6:00 p.m. rather than 7:00 p.m.**
 - **Policy #9300:** See the attached document for more information.
- **Discussion occurred about the board meeting location change for Monday, July 14th, 2025:**
 - **The Monday, July 14h, 2025, regular Board of Education meeting will be held at Bennet Elementary School.**
 - The meeting will take place in the main commons area.

- This relocation is intended to provide an alternate location for community patrons to attend a board meeting who may not normally be able to attend at Palmyra.
 - The regular meeting start time will be **6:00 p.m.**
 - **There will be two public hearings scheduled to occur prior to the regular board meeting.**
 - The public hearing on parental involvement will begin at **5:50 p.m.** and the public hearing on student fees will begin at approximately **5:55 p.m. (or immediately following the earlier public hearing).**
- **Curriculum Update:**
 - The current Curriculum Cycle Review document is attached to this agenda item:
 - The High School Language Arts curriculum is still in the process of being ordered and finalized for delivery.
 - *More information about the High School LA curriculum will be discussed at the **July 14th** regular board meeting.*
- **"Community Unity" Project Update at PHS:**
 - The recently completed project is now displayed in the north commons area at Palmyra High School.
 - This student and community display is intended to recognize and honor the rich and storied histories of our school communities.
 - Patrons are encouraged to come and visit the project. Please call the PHS main office at **(402) 780-5327** to see the completed project.
 - Please see the attached pictures of the installation process and the completed project.
- **Proactive Coaching Presentation Reminder:**
 - All parents and students involved in activities are strongly encouraged to attend this event, which is scheduled for **Sunday, August 24th, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at PHS.**
 - This presentation will focus on the role of parents in education-related activities.
 - Please see the attached document for more information.
- **Olson Complex Update:**
 - Superintendent Hart provided an update on the following topics:
 - Baseball Field:
 - The possibility of adding a grass infield is being studied for implementation.
 - Additional Seating Capacity: Additional seating is currently being produced to meet the increased attendance numbers at the Olson Complex. Bleachers will be added to the south side of the football field.
- **Summer Board of Education "Retreat":**
 - The annual Board Retreat is scheduled for **Monday, June 23rd, 2025, beginning at 5:30 p.m. at Transformation Marketing in Panama, Nebraska.**
 - A detailed agenda for this event will be posted the week before the meeting.
 - A light dinner and refreshments will be provided.

- *This "Board Retreat" meeting notice will be posted publicly in the Voice Newspaper before the meeting.*

- **Student and Staff Kudos:**

- State Track
- Summer Weights and Activity Camps
- Summer Enrichment
- Credit Recovery
- Aspire Academy Graduation
- NEE Evaluation Training
- Curriculum and Literacy Professional Development
- CTE
- Dual Credit
- ACT Scores Highlight

- **Strategic Planning Update:**

- Brandon Desh and Superintendent Hart updated the other board members regarding recent discussions with representatives from the Nebraska Association of School Boards (NASB).

- **Legislative Summary Update:**

- See the attached document for a summary of the most recent legislative bills and requirements.

- **Staffing Update**

- We are still in the process of hiring paraprofessionals and vehicle drivers at Bennet and PHS.

- **"Summer Projects" Progress Meeting Schedule at PHS:**

- Wednesday, June 11th at 2:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 25th at 2:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, July 9th at 2:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, July 23rd at 2:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, August 6th at 2:00 p.m.
- *(If needed) Wednesday, August 13th at 2:00 p.m.

- **Summer Projects Update:**

- **Bennet Elementary School**

- Dedication Plaques
- North Playground Tree Trimming
- East Side Irrigation
- North Bus Lane Enhancement
- Playground Sod
- Additional playground "swing bay"
- "Gaga Pit" matting

- **Palmyra Junior / Senior High School**

- Dedication Plaques
- "Gaga Pit" matting
- 60 Ton Unit over Media Center
- West Lot Parking
- 2nd Floor Cabinet Repairs
- Locker Rooms

- Restrooms
- Olson Complex:
 - Baseball Dugouts
 - Grass Infield
 - Reuse of the "skinned material" to reuse on the softball field.
 - Irrigation
 - South Side Bleachers:
 - The dirt that is removed from this area can be used in the discus area for grading.
 - Recycled Rubber Grant:
 - Opens mid-June.
 - Legion Meeting Summary
 - Power to the southeast side garage:
 - Additional Discus Area:
 - This will be built to the west of the Olson Complex.
- Additional Summer Projects:
 - Trees have been cleared from the south lot at PHS
 - Extension of the southwest culvert in the PHS south bus lot (safety issue)
 - Connex Box Removal at PHS
 - CTE Equipment Garage Sale
- Vehicle Replacement
 - SPED Mini Bus
 - Passenger Car
- Adjunct Technology Meeting Follow-Up from May 13th.
- Community Early Childhood Initiative Update
- Committee Meetings:
 - Budget Committee Meeting:
 - Monday, June 9th at 6:15 p.m.
 - Policy Committee Meeting:
 - Wednesday, June 18th at 4:00 p.m. at Bennet Elementary School
 - Transportation and Facilities Committee Meeting:
 - Tuesday, July 15th from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at PHS.

6.2. Administrative Team Report

- Due to summer work requirements and professional absences approved for summer administrative professional development opportunities, the administrative report was shared by Superintendent Hart and Mr. Johnson. A summary of the highlighted topics is listed below.
 - Electronic Devices at PHS
 - Summer Enrichment and Credit Recovery
 - Power of ICU:
 - Homework completion initiative at the high school.
 - PHS Master Class Schedule at PHS:
 - Middle Level Teaming
 - Additional class offerings

- **Other items**

7. Discussion Items- Committee Reports and Updates

- No further discussion

7.1. Legislative Update The discussion focused on more specific topics and areas of interest from recent legislative session, which ended **Monday, June 2nd, 2025.**

- **Kudos:**
 - Superintendent Hart and board members acknowledged the hard work and dedication of Mr. Bryce Wilson, Nebraska Department of Education Finance Director, Mr. Michael Dulaney (NCSA Director), and Mr. Jack Moles (NCRSA Executive Director) for their extensive efforts to assist all school districts and state senators in their work to understand and communicate solutions to school finance and policy-related challenges.
- Superintendent Hart presented updated legislative summaries in alignment with information from the three entities listed below.
 - **NRSCA Update:**
 - **NASB Update**
 - **NCSA Update**
- **Additional Note:**
 - A Special Session of the Legislature may be scheduled later this summer. More information on the possibility of this happening will be communicated as more details are known.

7.2. Budget Committee Update

- The District Budget Committee is scheduled to meet again on **Monday, July 14th, at 5:15 p.m.** at Bennet Elementary School in the main conference room.

7.3. Negotiations Committee Update

- The Negotiations Committee will begin meeting again in the fall as we reach the second year of the current two-year Certified Staff Negotiated Agreement.

7.4. Strategic Planning Update

- Superintendent Hart and Board President Desh provided a summary of the discussion with representatives from the Nebraska Association of School Boards (NASB) held on **Tuesday, June 3rd.**
- More discussion on future strategic planning will be shared at the **Monday, June 23rd Board Retreat.**

7.5. Transportation and Facilities Committee

- The next meeting of the Transportation Committee is scheduled for **Tuesday, July 15th, 2025.**

7.6. Discuss Technology Committee Update

- Discussion focused on current and proposed technology policies related to student use of (and access to) personal electronic devices during the regular school day.
- This discussion also included technology integration in the classroom and the instructional uses of Chromebooks at various grade levels.
- This topic will be discussed again at the June 23rd Board Retreat.

7.7. Wellness Committee Update

- The next District Wellness Committee meeting will be scheduled for **the week of August 4th, 2025.**

8. Policy Review

8.1. Discuss Policy #9300 Board Meetings

- No further discussion.

8.2. Discuss Current Legislative Issues and Decisions Affecting Future School District Policies.

- Superintendent Hart discussed future district policy implications stemming from the most recent Nebraska State Legislative Session which ended on **Monday, June 2nd, 2025.**
 - Highlights of the discussion included the following topics.
 - Transgender Rights
 - School Psychologist Interstate Licensure
 - Student Use of Electronic Devices at School and at School Activities
 - Student Enrollment
 - Part-time, home school, and option enrollment
 - State Retirement Contribution Rates
 - School Finance Commission
 - Parental Notification
 - Social Media
 - Student Grade Retention
 - Parental Involvement in Schools
 - Open Meetings Notification
 - Upcoming "Interim" Studies

Due to the timing of these legislative requirements, staff and student handbooks for the **2025-2026** school year have been delayed for approval until the **Monday, July 14th, 2025** regular board meeting.

8.3. Discuss the addition of **Policy # 6113: Student Use of Electronic Communication Devices and Cell Phones** Board members discussed options for **Policy Number 6113: Student Use of Electronic Communication Devices and Cell Phones.** Updated **June 12, 2025 :**

- Please note: three different options are being presented for discussion:
- This policy is a result of the Legislative Policy directive (**LB 140**) which was signed into law after the last Legislative session.

9. Action Items

9.1. Presentation, discussion, and or official action to approve a new starting time for regular Board of Education meetings. Motion to approve moving the start time of the monthly regular board of education meetings to 6:00 p.m. This motion, made by Jaimi Calfee and seconded by Tim Cheney, Passed.

Dean Busch: Yea, Jaimi Calfee: Yea, Tim Cheney: Yea, Brandon Desh: Yea, Dee Moore: Yea, Josh Penterman: Yea

- No further discussion.

9.2. Presentation, discussion, and or official action to approve proposal for Dugout Covers at the Olson Complex Motion to approve proposal as discussed. This motion, made by Dean Busch and seconded by Jaimi Calfee, Passed.

Dean Busch: Yea, Jaimi Calfee: Yea, Tim Cheney: Yea, Brandon Desh: Yea, Dee Moore: Yea, Josh Penterman: Yea

- Discussion included the timing of the project, the value of local businesses, and project completion.

10. Board of Education Development

- NASB Board Quicks for June 2025 is attached to this agenda item.
- NCSA Final Legislative Report

11. Closed Session

- No closed session occurred during the meeting.

12. Topics for Next Month's Agenda

- No further discussion.

13. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at: **8:44 p.m.**

Chairperson

Superintendent