

**Public Hearing on Parental Involvement Policy # 6400:**

Monday, July 14, 2025 5:50 PM

Bennet Elementary Commons Area

50 Dogwood

Bennet, NE 68317

**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 5:51 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

- Board President Desh opened the public meeting at **5:50 p.m.**

2. Announcement of the Open Meetings Act Posting

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

3. Open Public Hearing on Parental Involvement Policy #6400 Motion to Open Hearing.  
Passed with a motion by Jaimi Calfee and a second by Dee Moore.

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

- The public hearing was opened **at 5:52 p.m.**

4. In compliance with the provisions of State Statute Section 79-2,531 79-532, 79-533, the Board of Education provides this time for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, suggestions or observations regarding **Policy #6400** Parental / Community Involvement in Schools.

- Policy #6400 (Parental / Community Involvement in Schools) is listed below.
- No public comment was presented during the hearing.

5. Close Public Hearing on Parental/ Community Involvement in Schools: Policy #6400 Motion to close the public hearing on Policy #6400 Parental Involvement in Schools. Passed with a motion by Josh Penterman and a second by Jaimi Calfee.

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

- The public hearing was closed at **5:54 p.m.**

6. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned **at 5:54 p.m.**

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Chairperson

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Superintendent

InstructionParental/Community Involvement in Schools

District OR-1 Public Schools, after having conducted a public hearing concerning parental involvement and participation, declares that it shall be the policy of the District:

1. In the event any parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker of a student has a complaint or objection to textbooks, tests, curriculum materials, activities, digital materials, websites or applications used for learning, training materials for teachers, administrators, or staff, and any other instructional materials, the parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker may request a personal conference with appropriate school personnel to discuss such concerns. The Superintendent or designee shall prepare a complaint form that may be used by a parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker to express objections to any such instructional material. Such complaint forms shall seek information, including, but not limited to, the specific instructional material complained of, the reason for the complaint, and a proposed resolution of the complaint by the parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker.
2. Upon reasonable advance request, a parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker will be permitted to attend and monitor courses, assemblies, counseling sessions, and other instructional activities unless the school determines that such attendance would substantially interfere with a legitimate school interest, which includes the interests of the child, other students, and the educational staff.
3. Parents, guardians, and educational decisionmakers are encouraged to communicate to school staff when the parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker believes it to be appropriate for their child to be excused from testing, classroom instruction, learning materials, activities, guest speaker events, and other school experiences that the parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker finds objectionable. The Superintendent or designee shall make a provision on the complaint form hereinabove referenced for receiving information from a parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker concerning what specific testing, classroom instruction, or other school experience the parent finds objectionable, the basis for the objection, and a proposed solution for dealing with the objection that would be satisfactory to the parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker and consistent with the mission of the District and legitimate school interests. Parents, guardians, and educational decision-makers are encouraged to contact the building principal with any questions about any test, curriculum, or surveys.
4. Upon request of a parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker, the District will provide access to the education records of their child consistent with applicable law. Access will be provided during regular business hours of the school.

5. The District will notify parents, guardians, and educational decision-makers when their child may be subjected to a standard norm-referenced or criterion-referenced test or standardized tests. When reasonable to do so or required by law, the parents, guardians, or educational decision-makers will be notified of where a sample of such test might be observed and the date upon which such test will be administered. As to all testing by the District, experimental evaluation methodologies, experimental testing instruments and any testing instrument which would tend to inquire into the values, beliefs, or privacy rights of any student, or parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker of such student shall be prohibited unless a parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker requests in writing that such tests be administered to their child.
6. Parents, guardians, and educational decision-makers will be notified in advance of any school-sponsored survey administered to students of the District when the survey concerns one or more of the following areas:
  - Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker;
  - Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family;
  - Sex behavior or attitudes;
  - Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
  - Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;
  - Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
  - Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or student's parent, guardian, or educational decisionmaker; or
  - Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program).

Any survey administered by the District that asks a student to disclose any of the aforementioned topics, including any non-anonymous survey requesting a student provide information relating to drug, vape, alcohol, or tobacco use, then the District will, at least fifteen days prior to the administration of the survey, notify parents, guardians, and educational decisionmakers that their students will receive the survey. This notice must describe the nature and types of questions included in the survey, the purposes and age-appropriateness of the survey, how information collected by the survey will be used, who will have access to such information, the steps that will be taken to protect student privacy, and whether and how any findings or results of such survey will be disclosed. After receiving such notice, parents, guardians, and educational decision-makers may request a copy of the survey, review the survey, and/or exempt their student from participating in the survey.

No survey requesting sexual information of a student shall be administered to any student in kindergarten through grade six.

No personally identifiable information of any student survey shall be disclosed unless permitted or required by state and federal law.

7. As a general matter substantive decision-making processes will be left to the judgment of the professional staff, administration and the Board of Education, subject to an effort to receive information from parents, guardians, or educational decisionmakers as to any concerns, objections, or other information such parents, guardians, or educational decisionmakers would wish to provide to the school district concerning a parent's, guardian's, or educational decisionmaker's access, involvement, and participation in activities of the school.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 79-530 to 79-533  
Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g  
Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment, 20 U.S.C. 1232h

Date of Adoption: February 13, 2017

Date of Review: July 14, 2025