

Third Trimester Board Report from Hidden Valley, June 9, 2010

Dear Superintendent Huber Kantola, Chairman Jim Weaver and Members of the Board,

The final trimester of the year at Hidden Valley was overall a pleasing end to the year. We were able to celebrate the retirement of Wayne Brown, Ann Sakraida, and Tracey Raggi. We were also able to celebrate the graduation of more than 180 members of the Class of 2010. Prior to the high notes at the end of the year, we were also able to accomplish the following:

OAKS testing results were our very best in many years. Our English, Math and Science teachers cooperated well with Don Farmer to provide excellent results.

We were able to have two separate events that provided PBS rewards for kids with exceptional attendance and noteworthy accomplishments for outstanding effort and academic performance. In addition we honored 83 students at our Night of Excellence in front of a very full house of parents and friends. We had more than 80 scholar athletes in our Spring Sports programs. We honored our three valedictorians and our salutatorian at the district luncheon. Our senior students were granted several thousands of dollars of scholarships, including the appointment to the Air Force Academy of Lauren Clisby.

Several of our teachers participated in peer observations and gave feedback to one another as they taught one another about a variety of teaching and engagement strategies. We plan to continue the work of three or four professional learning communities next year with a focus on classroom planning and delivery of instruction, connection assessment to teaching as needed, the use of technology for the improvement and refinement of class presentations, and one on school wide agreements for expected student and staff conduct (PBS for kids and adults). I have been very pleased with the level of growth in our faculty and their willingness and effort to learn from one another. The focus on the learning communities may have been our best accomplishment of the year.

We conducted ARENA scheduling on the last day of the year and have all currently enrolled students placed in classes and ready for the fall. We have taken the recommendations of teachers at Lincoln Savage for correct placement of freshmen and have their schedules ready for fall as well. When we complete the cleanup this next week, we will be ready to open school with a balanced set of classes. Much organizational work by Mike Schaefer and Amy Lieser made for a very smooth operation throughout the day. The faculty did banner work to advise more than 600 kids and get them registered.

The students at Hidden Valley continue to enjoy a safe and pleasant school. I am daily amazed at how many of our kids make the daily effort to get a long well, treat one another and our staff with respect and continue their growth as healthy young people. Our classified staff supports the daily activities of our school. We continue to be a very busy place as we strive to meet the diverse needs of our kids and their families.

I appreciate the opportunity to be the principal at Hidden Valley. I appreciate the support from our district office and we will continue to do our best to meet the expectations of the board. I am looking forward to the next school year and the joys and challenges it will present.

Sincerely,

Dennis Misner, Principal