



Italy Independent School District

Department Board Report

Meeting Date: December 16, 2024

MISSION: The mission of Italy ISD is to maintain a safe and caring environment by partnering with families and the community to inspire lifelong learning for intellectual and personal success for all students.

VISION: Italy ISD will be a district that sees every child and creates a diverse learning environment to prepare them for an ever-changing world.

Department: Italy High School

Name of Director or Presenter: Sharon Graves

Date: December 16, 2024

Celebrations:

- Currently have 289 students enrolled
- It is so hard to believe that the first semester is almost over!!! Oh the work we have done this semester!!
- Football and volleyball finished sooner than we would have hoped, but we have marched right into basketball season. There are weekly basketball games for Junior High, JV, and Varsity for both boys and girls. All games are noted on the website with location and times for each.
- Band has the Christmas spirit and is working on their Christmas concert. They also have students who have auditioned for and made All-Region band.
- The ag barn is full of cows, pigs, sheep, and goats!
- We did some exams a little differently this year. We used state released STAAR/EOC tests for all tested subjects. Students returned from Thanksgiving, and we immediately hit the ground with benchmarks. STUDENTS ROCKED IT!!!! Benchmarks were scored using the passing rate for last year's STAAR, and students were held accountable for only the TEKS that have been taught to date. We did not include a writing sample on the ELAR exam, but students are writing weekly in class. We had grade levels that had 100% reach the approaches level in ELAR specifically, with over 60% scoring at the meets level already in December. We know that STAAR sets many of the passing standards as low, but we celebrate student achievement in December and look forward to using data to make things even better with our sites set on Meets and Masters percentages. The goal is to build momentum as we move into the Spring semester. Some preliminary data would show the following:
 - 7th ELA
 - 100% score approaches
 - 47% score meets
 - 8th ELA
 - 100% score approaches
 - 75% score meets
 - English 1 EOC
 - 97% score approaches

- 82% score meets
- English 2 EOC
 - 100% score approaches
 - 89% score meets
- 8th Science
 - 89% score approaches
 - 34% score meets
- Biology
 - 100% score approaches
 - 68% score meets
- 8th Math
 - 78% score approaches
 - 100% Advanced 7th grade score approaches on 8th grade Math
- 7th Math
 - 39% score approaches - This is tough when all advanced students are pulled out of this test
- Algebra 1
 - 87% score approaches
 - 100% Advanced 8th grade score approaches on Algebra 1
- Final exams for other subjects will be December 16-19, with a little fun celebration in the afternoon of December 19.
- We have had Friday school just about every eligible Friday of the semester. Students use Friday school for attendance recovery, small group STAAR/EOC prep time with Dr. Asberry, and even just coming in to stay caught up on grades and assignments. Students don't seem to mind Friday school. They use it as a time to come and take care of business and then go enjoy the rest of their weekend. Students will often come early to Friday school, go lift weights for athletics, go to band sectionals, and then maybe go home or to a game or performance.
- We have had a definite Christmas spirit in the building with art students drawing fun scenes on windows of the library. This year, we have a Grinch theme on the windows of the library and office. Staff is also participating in some internal Christmas spirit games and dress up. Santa also visits their boxes nightly for a fun 12 days of Christmas gift in their boxes.
- Jostens has been to the building working with Juniors and Seniors on class rings and all things graduation. Graduation gets more real when they start ordering caps and gowns. Students are so excited when rings and tassels start showing up at school!
- We participated in Night of Wonder, where an Ellis County mission organization adopted some local families to provide Christmas for. Families receive gifts and food to help fill some gaps during the Christmas season.

Notable upcoming Gladiator Events

We have a master event calendar that is shared within the campus to know what is happening in the building and on the campus each day. This calendar includes games, practices, band competitions, CAP activities, FFA activities, and other campus events.