



# Custodial Department

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Sept 8, 2014

## **Jerome Prairie / T.R.A.C.T Projects**

With T.R.A.C.T moving from the District Office to Jerome Prairie and due to the building being closed for a year there was some work that needed to be done prior to them occupying the building.

**Library** – Remaining books and furniture were removed, carpet vacuumed and extracted, tile floor scrubbed and new finish laid. Entire area high dusted to remove cobwebs and spiders. Supply air duct vents were removed and duct work vacuumed.

**Main Office Building** – Cleaned, carpets extracted. Remaining furniture and trash removed.

**Restrooms** – Toilets and sinks needed some heavy duty scrubbing due to water the water that had been sitting in them for some time. The walls, floor and toilet stalls all scrubbed.

**Café/Kitchen** – Both were cleaned from top to bottom to remove the dust, cobweb and spiders.

**Grounds** – Weeds, leaves and trash were removed from around the buildings that will be occupied.

All the above work was completed by Lori Purves and Cynthia Smith. Lori is a full time custodian for the district and covers the Merlin Alt Center, Maintenance/Food Service building and will now maintain custodial at Jerome Prairie. Cynthia is in her second year of subbing for the district and has done a fantastic job. Please join me in thanking them both for doing such a great job on short notice.

## **Sept Moving Projects**

We had two moving project last month the benefits students of the district. First was the move of T.R.A.C.T. This was done in three phases and was completed on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The second moving project was done at Fruitdale. The schools book storage room needed to be moved to make way for a classroom. But prior to that the schools custodial storage and laundry room needed to be transformed into the book storage room. With a little planning and a lot of hard work both were done simultaneously. Thank you goes out to our head custodian Greg Rodgers for his planning and leadership during this move and to our two sub custodians Ron Murphy and Vernon Albro. Their hard work will help benefit the students at Fruitdale.

## **Safety**

The custodial staff did a great job focusing on safety throughout the month. I am very happy to report that custodial did not have any incidents or injuries in the month of September. Weekly safety topics covered in September were:.

- **Struck/injured by” injury prevention** – This topic was review due to the injury we had the last month of August. While moving a desk one of our custodians caught his ankle while walking beside the moving cart. This topic help show how to prevent this type of injury
- **Cuts and Lacerations** – When it comes to this topic allot of staff think of the kitchen and how it pertains the use of knives, slicers and other kitchen equipment. But the same can be said about custodial as well. Custodians come in contact with and use a verity of equipment that can cause this type of injury. Such as scrapers, razors, knives and box cutters. Sharp or rough edges on

desks while cleaning. So it important that we review and look out for items that can cause this injury not just for custodian but staff and students as well.

- **Bodily motion injury prevention** – This topic and safety brief is important year round. But we understand that the beginning of the school year is a very busy and fast pace time. This is when this type of injury rate is at one of its highest. This injury occurs when we start to rush and don't pay attention to our surrounding or don't follow safe workplace practices and behaviors because we are in a hurry to get things done.

### **Our Custodian: In The Spot Light**

Starting this year I would like to introduce each month a member of our custodial staff. Each month we will highlight one custodian so you can learn a little about our districts hard working custodial staff. Our First custodian in the spot light is:

John Johann, Head Custodian Illinois Valley H.S. John starting working for the district back in December of 2007 he is married to Leona and has 4 son's Jordon, Jonathan, Jeremy and Justin. Who better to tell his story then John himself.

Hello, my name is John Johann I am the head custodian at IVHS. I started working for the three rivers school district in December of 2007. I was working for Rogue Truck body in Kirby Oregon as a fabricator when the housing economy took a huge hit. I was one of the last 6 people to be let go, I went to Evergreen elementary to visit my wife a volunteer at the time. As I was waiting for her in the office Billy the office receptionist informed me they were looking to hire a custodian. She gave me a number to call.

The number was Jim Bunge's number; I called, filled out paper work and apply for the EV / IV Split shift position. I went through the interview and was offered the job. I had never subbed before but Mr. Bunge and Mr. Valenzuela told me the job was mine if I wanted it. I gladly said yes. I cannot express how glad I am that I applied. I was able to see all the kids from my Sunday children's church classes each day. The elementary schools are very special places to work, what a great experience.

That following September Mr. Valenzuela and Mr. Thornhill from the Boys and Girls club, they said we have a situation as the Football coach for the 2nd 3rd grade team left the state without notice, it was like the 2nd week of school. I told them I have never coached football but I would give it a try for the kids, we went over the details and I have coached or been an assistant every year up to last year when my youngest son Justin was born. Those boys are now 8th graders and will be up here at IV next year.

I have enjoyed watching so many of the kids I have worked with grow up and graduate. I am now the head custodian at IV were Teaching the advanced welding and Vocational skills classes at IV were I have also taken on the job of striping the football and soccer fields for both IV and LB as there was a need for someone to stripe. I am thankful and honored to work in such a place that allows you to make a difference in so many peoples life. I have watched my oldest son Jordan graduate and next year Jonathan will be a senior as Jeremy becomes a freshman, it is my intention to still be here at IV when Justin and his friends graduate in 2030. Thank you all for your time and services.

Respectfully Submitted  
James Bunge  
Aaramark Custodial Manager