

March 1, 2012

Dear Members of the Board,

I am always amazed at how quickly a school year unfolds. As we approach the end of the second trimester I would like to draw your attention to the things we have been doing at Hidden Valley:

Our school lockdown/evacuation drill on February 1 was very successful. The sheriff's department was complimentary about our staff and students. We were able to refine some of our procedures to better prepare us to cope with an armed intruder.

Many of our teachers, especially those in Math, Language Arts and Science have been among the leaders and high end performers in the proficiency work funded by Title II. We are beginning to see that students commonly understand that they must work hard to meet the standards and proficiencies in their classes.

We continually focus on the needs of our two most challenging programs, our Life Skills class and our ABA classroom for severely autistic boys. The intensity of that work takes its toll on our staff. Many of these students (now near 20) are happy and well-cared for by our certified and classified staff.

We were the host of the Southern Oregon Regional Wrestling Tournament to select State Qualifiers for the 4A and 5A Level. A full day of wrestling was well-organized and managed by our AD, Mike Schaefer. We got excellent family support from the Sotelo and Munoz families and the Interact Club. Like many of our events, the help of volunteers made it run smoothly. Four HVHS wrestlers qualified for the State Tourney and Seth Sotelo placed 3rd in the 152 pound weight class.

Our winter sports season played out with our least successful season in many years. We are making efforts to engage a broader spectrum of student participation in our programs. Spring sports seasons have started and we look forward to good performances in Baseball, Softball, Track and Field, and Golf.

We frequently interact with our "Yellow and Red Zone" kids to see if we can better motivate them toward academic success. We have had individual conferences multiple times with our 50-60 lowest performing students. We deal often with parents who partner with us on behalf of their kids, and more often we try to move our kids forward without the willing help of adults at home. We are definitely seeing the personal effect of the economic down turn on family well-being. Many, many kids have gotten extra food and clothing that has been donated to us.

Lots of planning and preparation for upcoming activities is being done by our students with the help of our staff. We are working to organize Mr. Mustang, Cabaret, Academic Masters, Prom, FBLA and FFA Banquets, Graduation. These are only a few of the "Spring Happenings" at Hidden Valley in the planning.

Thank you for your continued support,

Dennis Misner