



Illinois Valley High School
Second Trimester Board Report
School Year 2011 – 2012
Submitted by Jo Ann Bethany



As we approach the two-thirds mark in this school year, and the job ahead for the final third seems overwhelming, I am reminded of a statement by Teddy Roosevelt: *“Far and away the best prize that life has to offer is the chance to work hard at work worth doing.”* What we are doing is worth doing and we have a school full of staff who is working hard to accomplish it. I am blessed to be leading an amazing group of folks who care so much about our students. As always, we are a busy place with lots going on. Some highlights of the 2nd trimester are as follows:

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

We continue to struggle to find ways to get the parents of high school students to conferences. We had about 42% of the students represented by a parent during the two days of conferences. That is similar to the average but not what we would like to see. Increasing that attendance will always be something we will look to do and it will remain one of our goals.

SENIOR PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

The majority of our seniors have now successfully completed their senior projects. The few students who have not attempted a presentation and the few students who did not pass their first try will have the opportunity to complete at the end of April. The final round of presentations this last week was impressive. It is so rewarding to see how mature and thoughtful these students have become over their high school careers.

ENTRANCE GATES AT IVHS

One of the exciting projects that two senior boys have taken on is designing and welding new gates for the entrance of the school. They are so invested in the project and are being mentored by some community members. We are planning a big unveiling ceremony when they are complete and ready to be installed. I am personally thrilled with the work that has been done and is being done to improve the “curb appeal” of the school. Just need to replace the barbwire fencing in the front. All the powers to be know it is on my wish list☺

SERVICE LEARNING and SPARROW CLUB

On March 14 at an all school assembly, the students at IVHS will officially adopt the first ever “Sparrow” at our school. Little four-year old Cave Junction resident, Keira, will meet the student body for the first time. Keira has cystic fibrosis. She has previously been introduced to the Service Club. Sparrow Clubs say that they exist to set the stage for simple yet heroic acts of kindness in schools and youth culture by empowering kids to help kids in medical need. Students are anxious to begin volunteering their time to help this little girl and her family with medical bills and other needs. The assembly was originally scheduled for the 29th of February but had to be changed because of the snow day.

COUGAR TREK

Nearly 150 students went bowling for the first Cougar Trek this year. The Trek is a way to honor the students who have maintained 92% attendance and above, three or fewer tardies, and zero office referrals. The students and chaperones went to Lava Lanes and had a great time. The owners of the lanes said our students were the nicest, best-behaved that they had ever seen. We were proud!

LIBRARY MANAGER

We are excited to have Trudy Stehelin as our new library manager. She comes to us with years of teaching experience, but more importantly, she brings a love of books and learning to our students. She has been busy these last few weeks getting organized and putting her special touches about the library.

POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

With the help of College Dreams, we work hard to get as many kids as possible onto college campuses. Students have visited the University of Oregon, Oregon State, Lane Community College, George Fox, and OIT. Most recently we took about 30 students to the Table Rock Campus where they not only had a tour of the school, but also took the placement tests. We strongly believe that exposing students to these possibilities will increase the likelihood that they will see post-secondary education as a part of their futures.

The 100 CLUB

A new program at IVHS has been started - The 100 CLUB. Students will be invited to start reading from a list of books that college bound students should read. An incentive program is attached with students who read all 100 during high school able to earn a \$100 gift certificate to a book store of their choice. We are excited to begin this program and to encourage students to read award winning and classic literature.

COUGAR ATHLETICS - Submitted by Casey Alderson

It was another great season on the mat and hardwood for the IV Cougar's. The Cougar Wrestling team sent 9 kids to state this year and finished second in their region as a team. At the state tournament, six out of nine athletes placed in the top 5 in their weight class. Erik Miller, Brandon Parker, Logan Miller, Jon Britt, Danny Hill all finished fifth in their weight classes while Gabe Miller placed 3rd. Our team finished in 5th place out of the 26 teams and will return all State Tournament participants next year. 2013 could be the year the Cougars bring home a state title!

Men's basketball had another trip to the playoffs after another very successful season. This team was led by seniors Tyler Robbins, Fred Hults, Andrew MacLaughlin, and Josh Free. The team finished third in the regular season and won their game in the Southern Cascade League playoffs to advance to state. They lost to the number one team in the state and ended their season. We enjoyed the support from our community all season and are proud of our boys for another trip to the playoffs!

Women's basketball made tremendous strides this season and they were peaking at the end of the season. The girls have put in a lot of work in the off season and are looking forward to a successful 2012-13 season.

The Cougar cheer squad provided that home court advantage along with our pep band this year and made a huge difference for our league games.