



## **Board Report for December- 2012**

### **Thank You Board Members!**

First of all I thank each and every one of you for serving as members of the TRSD School Board. I recognize the huge personal commitment that you make without compensation to see that students in our district get the education they need. Your job is made more difficult by the incredible shortage of resources to do our work well so I double thank you for the stress that reality puts on your decision making.

### **Proficiencies**

As we approached the end of our first trimester we were able to provide opportunity for students to meet proficiencies in all classes. Our teachers have worked hard to get as many students as possible to 70% proficiency on standards in each class. The breakdown of our grades (5 grades for about 516 students) showed that A's represented 40.8% of all grades, B's were 27% and C's were 15.2%. Of the 2580 given, we had 132 failing grades and 238 incompletes. On the Wednesday schedules for Dec. 5 and Dec. 12, students were given 4 opportunities to go back to their teachers to clear their incompletes. We have high expectations that most incomplete grades will be cleared by students who earn a C or better.

The emphasis on getting more students to minimum levels of achievement (70% proficiency) has created two problems that need to be addressed:

1. Teachers generally report that the amount of reassessment prevents them from providing the entire curriculum that students need to have.
2. Academic opportunities that demand higher order thinking skills for our best and brightest students prevent deep engagement in our curricula across the spectrum of the classes.

North Valley is in the process of adapting our Enrichment and Intervention days so that we look similar to the offerings at Illinois Valley. We are clearing incompletes before Christmas and providing a small set of classes, study halls, computer usage, and board games in the library. These offerings will grow after the New Year and we will be able to have several places for students to be entertained while we focus on getting all students to proficiency.



## Sports

Our Winter sports programs are well in progress. Our boys and girls basketball teams are playing an up-tempo, ball pressure game. They are fun to watch. Wrestling is also going well. Our swimmers, bowlers and equestrian riders are in the early season preparation. We had a pretty satisfying fall sports season. Our boys cross country team was 2<sup>nd</sup> in State and our Skyline Champs Football team lost in the first round of the playoff. McKenzie Schmall, our senior setter in Volleyball, was recently selected to 2<sup>nd</sup> team All-State. We had many individual players recognized for all league honors.

I would like to wish all of you a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and extend my hopes for a satisfying and abundant New Year.

Dennis Misner, Principal