



Illinois Valley High School **3rd Trimester Report 2009 – 2010**



Graduation 2010

We had 86 students who were classified as seniors at the end of the school year. Seventy-three of them walked at graduation on June 1, 2010, eligible to receive a diploma, honorary diploma, or a modified diploma. One of the students receiving a diploma was a 5th year senior. We had one foreign exchange student who received an honorary diploma. Three were students who were special education and received modified diplomas. An additional three students did not walk but completed their requirements after graduation. One student is at the TRACT program and will be continuing there next year. This leaves us with nine students who will be 5th year seniors next year. This is a huge increase over the one we had last year which is disappointing. The number of kids that we lost from this class to dropping out or enrolling in the GED program is large as well.

Graduation itself went very smoothly. The students were well-behaved and the ceremony was filled with lots of tender moments and heartfelt emotions. The high point of the evening was watching the Bridges Program student walk across the stage. He has been in the Bridges program since its inception and actually received his certificate of completion three years ago but was not ready at that time to participate in a graduation ceremony. His mother came by this spring and we worked out a plan for him to participate this year – his final year in TRSD. The growth in this young man was a testament to the work of countless people both in and out of the district. It was simply joyous to see him participate in the program.

The All-Night Grad Committee was held at the school for the second year in a row. It was a huge success with no problems. They had computer football and Rock Band set up with large screens in the hallways, a photo booth with silly hats and accessories, Sumo Wrestling (they rented the air-filled costumes for that) and a boxing ring using the air filled bouncy cages with huge boxing gloves. They also had a poker table and dancing as well as the normal prize and money give-aways and tons of food. The kids had a great time and it was good to know that those kids had a drug and alcohol free graduation night. The students and parents worked hard to have the commons school-ready by 7:00 AM.

SENIOR PROJECTS

We had 100% participation in our final Senior Project presentation night in mid May. Each senior was scheduled to present to a committee of judges – IV staff, LBMS staff, and community members. They had nearly all made a beautiful tri-fold board presentation and used that as the focal of their presentation. All other parts of the senior project had been previously turned and scored. At the end of the evening all projects were brought to the commons and displayed for everyone to enjoy. The majority of the projects were meaningfully and solidly represented the career related learning standards. It was special to see both another side to the students and to also see the impact of the education that they have received at IVHS.

SCHEDULING AND CLASSES FOR NEXT YEAR

We have a schedule ready to go and students did arena-scheduling on June the 9th. It was a great day and nearly all the students showed up and got a schedule that works for them. Teachers loved being able to talk directly to students and problem solve schedule issues with them. We are very hopeful that doing this will mean fewer schedule changes in the fall – as students were vested in the process.

Using our Title I money, we are excited to be offering two new classes for next year that could have a profound impact on student success and school climate and culture. We will be placing all incoming 9th graders in a **Freshman Forum** class during the first trimester where they will work on things like textbook reading skills and strategies, study skills, test taking strategies, creating a properly formatted word document and a power presentation, building a personal portfolio on CIS, doing self-interest activities, career searches, and beginning to prepare for CRLS and extended applications (senior project). The other class we are calling **Positive Communication and Intervention with PRIDE**. This class has been formed to get students involved in improving school culture and climate. This course is designed to plan,

implement, and evaluate Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports programs, awards, assemblies, activities, trips and lesson plans, as well as create a tolerant and positive school environment through many forms of communication, student positive examples and outstanding leadership qualities. Students will create and implement PBIS lesson plans to be used in CREW classes, help plan and implement PBIS awards, assemblies, activities and trips, communicate positively through news productions, posters, PowerPoints, skits, and assemblies. They will teach PBIS expectations through a variety of media and use PBIS non-confidential data to drive decisions and planning.

ECMC SCHOLARS

We were able to pick our 5th and final round of ECMC Scholars this year. These are ten students from the sophomore class. These students are not supposed to be the “top of the class” but students who are capable of postsecondary education but may not view it as a possibility. We had a welcome to the new scholars’ dinner and also had our Scholars ‘10 and their families there to congratulate them on a successful completion of the program.

BRING YOUR PARENT TO SCHOOL DAY – April 30th

We were very pleased to have nearly 100 parents come to our 1st Annual Bring Your Parents to School Day. It was so successful that the Site Council has suggested we do it once a trimester! It was a wonderful day. Many parents talked about what a great time they had and teachers who had been somewhat skeptical when we first talked about it indicated they loved it and can’t wait to do it again. Our custodian, Dennis Powell, barbequed hamburgers and the lunch ladies worked hard to put out a nice lunch for everyone.

COUGAR TREKS

Each trimester we do a COUGAR TREK as a PBIS award for students with no referrals and limited absences and tardies. Each trimester the criteria got a little more stringent. This school year we took 171 students to a movie in Grants Pass during the 1st trimester, 149 students to the Wildlife Safari in Winston, and 118 students to the beach in Brookings. The students and staff who go on the TREKS have a great time. Students report that they are very intentional in their efforts to make sure they can meet the qualifications for these trips.

1st ANNUAL MUSIC FESTIVAL

What a wonderful time was had by the students and the audience at the 1st Annual TRSD Music Festival. It was impressive to see the skills of young people across the district. Our IV kids did a wonderful job – orchestra, band, and both choirs performed.