# **COUGAR NATION**

#### **ILLINOIS VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL**

#### Cougar Nation

As we progress into finishing the first quarter of our school year and onto the 2nd, I have to share that I am extremely grateful to have all of our kids back in school this year. It has been such a great feeling having this energy they bring back in our building. Looking back the time has flown by.

As the year progresses I feel like it's good to cover a few things that may come up. For instance the fact that we are a Proficiency based grading school. What does that even mean? Well simply put, tests and quizzes will account for 80% of your students grade while daily work and homework will account for 20%. This can cause some major fluctuations in overall grade. So while I fully understand parents monitoring their students grades, please understand that they can change rapidly and often do. In case of any worry, please feel free to call and speak with myself or anyone on our team.

Attendance matters!!! Going through our MTSS (Multi Tiered Systems of Support) meetings we discuss each and every student in our building individually. We look at attendance, grade progress, behavior, social emotional health amongst other things. I can tell you without question that the students struggling the most are the ones who are missing a great deal of school. I don't promise much, but I will say that if you get here every single day and give great effort, we can find a way to be successful.

Talk to your student. There are many things that are going on inside of our school. We have new student government, a couple of clubs are meeting regularly, athletics, advisory, intervention etc. Our goal is for each of our students to participate in 1 club, 1 sport and 1 activity each year.

Finally, I would like to leave you with a thought. Positivity breeds positivity. I often preach to my staff that we need to have relentless positivity. Life is not easy for our students, our families, our staff, our country. We can dwell on that or choose to find the small wins, celebrate the good and focus on positivity. We have to Believe!!

Thank You for your support!

**Tanner Smith** 

## **Dates to Remember**

Conferences	November 03-05
Daylight Savings	November 07
Veterans Day (No School)	November 11
No School	November 24
Thanksgiving	November 25
No School	November 26
Christmas Break	December 20 ~ 31

### **Fall Conferences**

Wednesday and Thursday, November 3 & 4, from 5pm-8pm, and Friday, November 5, from 8am-12pm.

Wednesday and Thursday will be by phone or virtual by appointment. Friday will be in person by appointment only.

To enter the building, you must wear a mask.

Please email your students teacher(s) or call the office @ 541-592-2116 to set up an appointment.

### **Report Cards**

You can find your students report card on line. If you would like a hard copy of your student's report card please call Tara Thornhill @541-592-2116 ext. 3512 or email tara.thornhill@threerivers.k12.or.us

### **Sign Up NOW for Winter Sports**

Practice starts November 15th for Basketball, Cheerleading, Wrestling, and Equestrian Please have your physical and registration completed **BEFORE** the first day of practice Please visit **FamilyID.com** to Register

