



MARCH BOARD REPORT

By Principal Casey Alderson

MAKING IT HAPPEN AT IVHS!

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 38% 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.

SAFETY AT IVHS

IVHS staff will be trained by Officer Fields of the JOCO Sheriffs Department on March 6th for Active Shooters on Campus. Mr. Fields will explain the role of the Department and the role of school staff during these occurrences. We will have a follow-up drill in March to practice with Mr. Fields. We are experiencing issues with our fire alarms not being audible in parts of our school. As we do our assessments of child safety, this has been identified by teachers as a major concern. We look forward to working with

COUGARS

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March 1st, 2013

COUGAR PRIDE IN THE ILLINOIS VALLEY

maintenance on getting this problem fixed.

ASSEMBLIES AT IVHS

On February 22nd, IVHS had an all school assembly that helped students deal with stress. Speakers 4 Teens speaker Ryan Moran was from Indianapolis, Indiana and he travels the country speaking to teens. This was a common issue for high schools and Mr. Moran had a great presentation. It was well received by our students and perfect timing as we prepare for finals and the end of the year.

COUGAR TREK

Right now we have nearly 150 students who are eligible to go bowling for the second 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 will go to Lava Lanes in Medford.

NEW HIRES

We are excited to have Jason Davis as our new custodian. He comes to us with years of construction and custodial experience, but more importantly, years as a director at a youth church camp. He has been a great addition to our staff and students. We have also added Julie Pope to our front receptionist position and she has been phenomenal. She has an excellent background in the valley and has strong technology skills. She has taken control of the school newsletter and has it looking better than ever.

POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

With the help of College Dreams and our SMILE Program, 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. We recently had RCC on campus and they administered placement tests to roughly 50 students. 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.

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS

A new program at IVHS has been started - THE BATTLE OF THE BOOKS. Students will be invited to start reading from a list of books and compete at the state competition. Megan Brown is coaching the team this year and they have already qualified for the state competition.

COUGAR ATHLETICS

Congratulations to our Wrestling program as they have qualified seven wrestlers for the state tournament in Portland on February 22nd and 23rd. Logan Miller, Brandon Parker, TJ Hughey, Julian Northrup, Eric Miller, John Britt, and Zach Clark all punched their tickets weekend at Regionals at Coquille High School. This past weekend the guys went up to the state meet and competed real hard. The Cougars placed more wrestlers than any other Josephine or Jackson County team at the state tournament and finished higher than anyone else in Southern Oregon, 9th place. The following athletes medaled:

- Erik Miller - 5th Place
- Brandon Parker - 4th Place
- Logan Miller 3rd Place
- TJ Hughey - 4th Place
- John Britt - 4th Place

Men's basketball had a tough rebuilding year as the boys missed out on the playoffs. They were a young team but competed very well in a tough conference.

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 future. Coach Loren King was voted Coach of the Year for his efforts with the Lady Cougars and the girls had more wins this year than the previous five years combined. They missed the playoffs by one game.

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.

STATE PROFICIENCY CONFERENCE

March 7th and 8th I will be presenting with Mr. Stone from HV at the COSA State Proficiency Conference. We will have the opportunity to share the wonderful things that are going on in our district with the rest of the state. We will be sharing our bell schedules and explaining how we support kids in our district. We were requested to speak on behalf of our "Success" Wednesdays and how they help students meet proficiencies. This should be a great time for the state to see that TRSD is leading the way in helping students!

