



SECOND TRIMESTER 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

Although we continue to struggle to find ways to get the parents of high school students to conferences, we did see an increase in attendance for the second trimester. I made phone calls to 159 parents of students that were failing. We saw an 8%

increase from last year for second trimester. We had about 45% of the students represented by a parent during the two days of conferences. While it was the highest of the three high schools in the district, it is not as high as we would like. Increasing parent involvement will always be something we will look to increase.

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.

COUGARS

IV

March 1st, 2014

COUGAR PRIDE IN THE ILLINOIS VALLEY

21st Century Classes

Illinois Valley High School is currently offering our students seven different options for after school classes as well as Homework Help, Tutoring, and Academic Support as part of our after school 21st Century Program. Student attendance at after school programs is increasing as students become familiar with the program.

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.

JOB COUNCIL CONNECTION

Illinois Valley High School is beginning a partnership with the Southern Oregon Job Council to help provide our students career readiness training and job skills. During the third trimester, a group of students will be working during and after school on projects with local businesses and agencies. We are excited to open the door to possible careers with these students and get them a jump start on learning the skills necessary to succeed in the workforce.

NEW HIRES

We are excited to have Petra Turner and Megan Miner as part of our kitchen staff. They come to us with years of experience in the food industry. They are a great addition to our staff!

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 competing this month at regionals.

COUGAR ATHLETICS

Congratulations to our Wrestling program as they have qualified ten wrestlers for the state tournament in Portland on February 28th and 29th. Logan Miller, Brandon Parker, TJ Hughey, Julian Northrup, Eric Miller, John Britt, and Zach Clark all punched their tickets weekend at Regionals at Lakeview 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:

- 170 -TJ hughey - 2nd place
- 182 - John Britt - 2nd place
- 126 - Eric Miller - 4th Place
- 145 - Logan Miller - 3rd Place
- 182 - James Jarrett - 4th Place
- 195 - Julian Northrup - 5th Place

Here are the other state qualifiers:
Zac Lindell
Zac Clark
Manny Pimental
Brandon Perez

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. They missed the playoffs by one game.

The following student athletes were recognized as All Conference Basketball players:

Girls:

2nd Team

Kim Crow

Honorable Mention:

Alex Laflamme

Theresa Frederick

Naviya Dixon

Boys:

2nd Team

Zach Welch

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.

