

Illinois Valley High School Board Report

February Board Report

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world”

– Nelson Mandela

Teaching and Learning: Starting the second semester the admin. at Illinois Valley will be spending a minimum of 2 full days out in classrooms. The use of this time will be to interact with teachers and students multiple times through-out the day. Teaching and learning are at the top of our priorities and this schedule will allow us to better support both teachers and students. These days are devoted solely to the classroom and not in our offices working on clerical duties or meetings. We’re looking forward to the impact these days have on our student’s achievement as well as our discipline referrals.

End of 1st Semester: It’s incredible to believe that we’re halfway through the school year. As a staff we work diligently before the semester end to provide students with extra intervention time in order to re-assess or be re-taught. All staff devoted a least one day in the afternoon where students could come in and receive the help that they needed. With-out these opportunities we would not have been able to increase our passing thresholds and meet student needs.

21st Century Afterschool Program: The after-school program continues to grow and provide opportunities for students to partake in an enrichment class or receive extra academic help. Scott Thornhill and Sarah Creek are the co- coordinators and have given the program a mission and vision that supports student interests. Recently, we were able to provide a hunter safety course to more than 20 individuals. This class included students from Lorna Byrne, Illinois Valley and community members. We will be offering another course in March for those that could not attend this month. With help from Debbie Breckner and Brian Hersey we’re on the path to being able to provide a hot dinner for students that are here at the school afterschool, this will be available for any student that is at the high, not just after-school students.

Senior Extended learning Time (ELT): During Tuesday’s and Thursday’s in the second semester we will be offering an extra 2 hour block of time for seniors that are in need of recovering credit in order to graduate. This time will be with a teacher in a specific content area that will be able to assist them. In an effort to assist seniors in meeting their graduation goals this time will be extremely valuable.