

Quick, Shelly

From: Misner, Dennis
Sent: Monday, January 05, 2015 3:14 PM
To: Quick, Shelly
Subject: Board Report For January, 2015

Shelly, here you go for this month..... Dm

North Valley Board Report for January, 2015

With only three weeks of school in December, and the slow start to the Winter Sports seasons because of non-league play, we were able to have three solid weeks of instruction before the break. Our main goal was to get all kids to the Christmas break with all of their classes up to date and to get them ready to finish the semester strongly. It is important to me that our staff and faculty have time for periodic debriefing and we were able to do that on Friday morning, December 19 with a breakfast for all staff employees. We had many volunteers bring soups on each of the last days of the week before Christmas and that experience allows for some conversation that helps to connect to one another and strengthen the bonds we share in working with our kids. A similar lunch was put together by the North Valley maintenance crew and the custodial staff on Friday January 2. This lunch has been going on for more than 15 years and it was good to see some of our former maintenance and custodial personnel and to be able to wish them a Happy New year. Hats off to Ric Ross and Andy Andrade for making this event happen. We have a really solid team that works well together in the North Valley area.

Swimmers, bowlers, equestrian people, wrestlers and boys and girls basketball is nearing the end of the preparations for league play. I am inviting you to see our kids in action, mainly on Tuesday and Friday nights. We are looking for good things from our kids this season. On a side note, I appreciate the improvements to the movement of our bleachers with the electric motors that move them in and out. That is a huge contribution to the efficiency of our cleanup process at the conclusion of games and other events. Thank you.

Our academic work in January is focused on the completion of the first semester and seeing that our students are ready for the rigors of the final exam schedule. In our professional development time, we will be preparing our staff for the Smarter balanced assessments that will come along later on in the spring. I am asking our teachers to gradually begin to use the warm up time to introduce practice prompts for the test and to make sure that our kids have been exposed regularly to the technical tools that are part of the test. We will teach 80% of our curriculum for the year prior to the first testing period late in April. Additionally, we will make a couple of minor adjustments to our teacher assignments to accommodate the needs of our kids for second semester.

New things that are on our horizon include the Robotics team begins its construction of the 2015 version of our robot, and we will bring it to a board meeting to demonstrate what we have learned in February or March. Our second student produced play is in the earliest stages of preparation, and last but not least, we have the format and outline of our annual Free Design show structured. Students have plenty to do and we have many happy kids who get to showcase their talent.

I would like to wish all of you a Happy New Year and thank you for your service to our kids and community.

Sincerely,

Dennis Misner, Principal
January 5, 2015