

Illinois Valley High School Board Report

February Board Report

Three Rivers School District Board of Directors:

Welcome to the 2014-2015 school year, it's hard to believe that another summer is behind us. Summer always seems to be filled with so much expectation to *regroup, reflect, and refine* processes that the academic schedule doesn't allow because of the pace, as for me, it served a much needed time to do just that. This year I assumed the new role of building principal at Illinois Valley High and I'm very excited to join this community and school. My excitement grew with spending time in the high school as well as in the community meeting passionate people that love Illinois Valley.

The IVHS staff has 5 new additions this year, Derrick Hawks (music), Sarah Muniz (art), David Heritage (mathematics), Robert Wright (English) and Jennifer Vallot (SPED). All teachers returned on the 25th of August with a welcome back breakfast to start the in-service week. The in-service week brought many highlights that were productive in preparation for the return of students. These highlights included a district in-service day that out-lined Professional Learning Team functions and structures, alignment conversations between Middle and High School teachers, as well as an end of the day reflection with-in our building.

As a staff we started the student integration process with a Freshman Orientation on August 28th. During this orientation freshman students and parents were invited to meet staff, take tours of the school, collect their class schedule, and eat cookies. In the future I look forward to growing this event to better acclimate freshman to a new environment. All students returned to school on September 2nd, we hosted a welcome back assembly that encompassed necessary information around school procedures/expectations, PBIS program and fun prizes. Students from Mrs. Butler's leadership class did a great job organizing and making this first day a welcoming fun time by introducing all staff, placing treats in all lockers, and putting tags for a prize under random chairs in all classrooms. These activities assisted in establishing a fun and productive school year.

In the next few weeks IVHS staff will continue to set the tone for our focus of "**building intentional relationships to impact student achievement**". This focus has many facets that include creating a culture of learning as well as a school climate that is safe for all students. We're starting the school climate piece with hosting a series of anti-bullying assemblies that will address the entire student body as well as the staff. These assemblies will take place on September 11th, 18th and 25th. Other important events in the near future include open house on September 24th and "Day of Service" on October 3rd. We hope that your schedule lends itself to being able to attend some of these important events.

Regards,

Jamie Ongman