



# Italy Independent School District

Department Board Report

Meeting Date: January 26, 2026

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**MISSION:** The mission of Italy ISD is to maintain a safe and caring environment by partnering with families and the community to inspire lifelong learning for intellectual and personal success for all students.

**VISION:** Italy ISD will be a district that sees every child and creates a diverse learning environment to prepare them for an ever-changing world.

Department: Italy High School

Name of Director or Presenter: Sharon Graves

Date: January 26, 2026

## Celebrations:

- ☐ Currently have 298 students enrolled
- ☐ Spring semester has begun! Report cards have gone out, and we are back into the rhythm of school. We have had a few students withdraw and a few students enroll as we get started in the spring semester.
- ☐ As we began the new semester, we had a couple of early finishers make decisions to begin their college journey. It is exciting to see students who struggled with traditional high school be successful through Finish Line, and step out to make decisions that no one in their family has ever done. Staff here continue to support these students as they move in to dorms and set a college spring semester of classes.
- ☐ Safety week was a success as we look to make Italy JH/HS a safe place for all. The focus was not only on the drills, but the accountability side of it as we focus to know where all students and staff are in the building.
- ☐ Jostens will be in the building often as our Seniors make preparations for graduation. Jostens, Heath Hall, is so easy to work with and very accommodating to our students.
- ☐ Professional Development as we returned from the holiday centered around re establishing our culture, re establishing our policies, re establishing our instructional expectations, re connecting with our people, and taking a look at how we are spending our time. We all understand how packed full of activities that come with the spring semester and the importance of being intentional about our instructional time in our classrooms. I asked staff to put on the calendar all the time that they know in advance that they will be gone somewhere in an effort to plan ahead and make intentional instructional decisions. A high school calendar in the spring is quite packed and quite overwhelming.
- ☐ We also discussed things they would hear and see more about this semester, which includes Teacher Incentive Allotment activities and Rural Pathway discussions. These two topics bring excitement and anxiety for all.
- ☐ We continue to press on in UIL competitions with students competing in UIL Academics, Cheer, Band, Basketball, and Powerlifting, which is well underway. Softball and baseball have

hit the date where they can begin practice. They use their time wisely as the rest of their teammates continue on in basketball.

- ❑ Spring also is bringing a packed schedule for students showing animals in FFA. This is definitely show season, with students showing at Ft. Worth, San Antonio, San Angelo, Houston, and preparing for Ellis County.
- ❑ Scholarships are rolling out for students. Students must be attentive to information rolled out in their Google Classroom. We encourage everyone to apply!! There are opportunities out there for all students.
- ❑ Seniors have earned the opportunity to have lunch off campus on Thursday's each week if they meet the requirements of grades, attendance, behavior, and completion of FAFSA. They seem to enjoy the added opportunities.
- ❑ Beginning conversations with Tour D'Italia Bike Race
- ❑ Planning for the next school year has already begun. We have begun taking a look at the course guide, the dual credit handbook, and other policies and procedures to make next year even better than this current one.

### **Notable upcoming Gladiator Events**

We have a master event calendar that is shared within the campus to know what is happening in the building and on the campus each day. This calendar includes games, practices, band competitions, CAP activities, FFA activities, and other campus events.

- Softball Hamburger Dinner - February 6, 2026
- Junior class dessert auction - February 6, 2026