



# **Illinois Valley High School**

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester Report 2010 – 2011**

*Submitted by JoAnn Bethany, principal*



### **Graduation 2011**

We had **89** students who were classified as seniors (including 5<sup>th</sup> year seniors) at the end of the school year. **79** of them were eligible to walk at graduation. Two had modified diplomas and one had a Certificate of Completion. Of the 9 who did not walk:

- ❖ Two students were expected to complete but did not – one of them is likely to finish before the end of June.
- ❖ One student was expelled and unable to walk. He has completed as of 6/10/2011.
- ❖ One student is at the TRACT program and will be continuing there next year.
- ❖ Two students were 5<sup>th</sup> year seniors who did not complete. One of them is coming back in the fall.
- ❖ Four additional students will be 5<sup>th</sup> year seniors in the fall. One of those is an ELL student who may not return.

Graduation itself went very smoothly. Except for a couple of wind gusts, the weather was perfect and it was a joy to be outside. The students and audience were well-behaved and the ceremony was filled with lots of tender moments and heartfelt emotions. We were able to honor our retiring teachers, Steve Morgan and Jay Grosenbach, as well as our office manager, Janie Pope.

The All-Night Grad Committee was held at the school for the third year in a row. It was a huge success with no problems. They had computer football and Rock Band set up with large screens in the hallways, a photo booth with silly hats and accessories. They also had a game area and the ping pong table was set up. Sights and Sounds DJ'd the event and students were dancing all night. The All Night Grad Parent Committee has raised many thousands of dollars and the students received many prizes – both gifts and money. The kids had a great time and it was good to know that they had a drug and alcohol free graduation night. The students and parents worked hard to have the commons school-ready by 6:30 AM.

### **SCHEDULING AND CLASSES FOR NEXT YEAR**

We have a schedule ready to go and students did arena-scheduling on June the 9<sup>th</sup>. It was a good day and the majority of the students showed up and most were able to get a schedule that works for them. It is a challenge for many of them because of the cuts to the teaching staff. There are just fewer places for them to go – especially seniors.

Jaime Szijarto has agreed to take on the **Positive Communication and Intervention with PRIDE** class that we started this year. Kirsten Valenzuela designed the curriculum and taught it this year. It has been a huge success and has added great value to the culture of our school. Students created and implemented PBIS lesson plans that were used in CREW classes, helped plan and implement PBIS awards, assemblies, activities and trips, communicated positively through news productions, posters, PowerPoints, skits, and assemblies. They taught the PBIS expectations through a variety of media and used PBIS non-confidential data to drive decisions and planning. With Kirsten leaving the school, we were concerned about the leadership for this class but we are thrilled that Jaime has the passion to carry it forward.

### **ECMC SCHOLARS**

We were able to pick our 6<sup>th</sup> round of ECMC Scholars this year. These are ten students from the sophomore class – class of 2013. We had thought that the class of 2012 was the final round but received word this spring that the foundation was funding another year of scholarships. ECMC students are not supposed to be the “top of the class” but intended to be students who are capable of postsecondary education but may not view it as a possibility. We had a ‘welcome to the new scholars’ dinner’ and also had our 2011 Scholars and their families and mentors there to congratulate them on a successful completion of the program.

## **BRING YOUR PARENT TO SCHOOL DAY – May 20<sup>th</sup>**

We were once again pleased to have nearly 100 parents come to our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Bring Your Parents to School Day. Though the number was about the same as last year, it was actually an improvement as we found out that May 20<sup>th</sup> was “senior skip day” so about half the seniors were missing that day. Once again, it was a wonderful day. Michael Morris was out manning the barbeque. I had many parents come up to me to express how much they love this day.

## **COUGAR TREKS**

Each trimester we do a COUGAR TREK as a PBIS award for students with no referrals and limited absences and tardies. Each trimester the criteria got a little more stringent. This school year we had 176 students eligible the 1<sup>st</sup> trimester and they went ice-skating in Medford. The 2<sup>nd</sup> trimester, there were 157 students eligible and they went roller skating in Medford. The final trimester, we had 119 students eligible for a trip to the beach. The students and staff who go on the TREKS have a great time. Students report that they are very intentional in their efforts to make sure they can meet the qualifications for these trips.

## **ACADEMIC MASTERS**

We were honored to host the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Academic Masters Competition on April the 27<sup>th</sup>. The staff really pulled together to make sure that we put on an event that would make the school and the district proud. We were especially thrilled that Three Rivers School District took three of the five first place awards and that IVHS took one of those – Marissa Litak in social studies. We also took third place in math, English, and science.

## **NORTHWEST ACCREDITATION SITE VISIT**

On May 13<sup>th</sup>, we had our 6-year visit from Northwest Accreditation. It was a wonderful day and the team had many accolades for the school. We “passed” with flying colors as the report that was received from them indicated. It was a great experience for our students and staff and a wonderful opportunity to see what we do through other people’s eyes. It really validated and energized us.

## **END OF THE YEAR COMMENTS**

In many ways this has been a very challenging year where staff and students have been called on to deal with shortened time frames for planning and work. The cut days seemed to compress everything and we often felt the effects of lack of time. As the principal of IVHS, I would tell you that for the most part the staff rose to the occasion and came every day willing to do what needed to be done to make this school year good for the students. I am proud to be in leadership at this wonderful school. Though I know there will be many changes next year, I am confident that everyone will continue to work hard to make it great place for students.