

Special points of interest:

- Oct. 10 1 pm early dismissal
- Oct. 13-14 HS Play
- Oct. 30 Elementary Parent-Teacher Conferences

By Donita Joens, Iowa Valley CSD Superintendent



Thank You!

The start to the 2018-2019 school year is off to a great start. This is due, in part, to the collaborative efforts of our students, staff and community members, board members, parents, and local organizations. It takes all of us working together to be prepared for a new school year. Here’s a few highlights:

- Marengo Chamber of Commerce, Iowa Valley Foundation, and the Methodist Church women for providing a tasty meal for all of the staff members on August 20
- Iowa County EMS for implementing CPR/AED training to our staff
- Sheriff Rotter and Josh Humphrey for their school safety updates
- Custodians for their hard work over the summer months in making our buildings “glisten”
- Shannon Rabe for her meticulous painting skills
- All community members who donated school supplies for our students
- Kitchen staff for providing nutritious meals for our Summer Lunch Program and Back-to-School breakfast
- Marengo Ministerial Association for a wonderful lunch during professional development days
- Office workers and administrators for their organizational skills in making the transition from summer to the first day of school a smooth one
- Ashton Linnell for her meticulous work in making our school’s website ADA compliant
- All staff members for creating interesting lessons, organizing their rooms, and providing motivation for all students
- Parents for sharing education as a top priority to your child(ren)
- Students who come with a “thirst” for knowledge

Let’s keep the positive Tiger spirit “roaring” all year long!

Top Four Legislative Priorities for the Iowa Valley Community School District

Each school year, the IVCSD School Board determines legislative priorities for the IASB (Iowa Association of School Boards). These priorities are then shared with IASB and discussed during the Delegate Assembly at the IASB Convention in November. This protocol has served as an effective means of sharing top educational needs before the legislative session begins in January. Our delegate is Dale Slaymaker, the IVCSD School Board President. The following are the IVCSD priorities:

1. Maintain SAVE (Secure an Advanced Vision for Education), formerly called the local option sales and service tax. It provides a flexible funding stream for items such as technology, school safety updates, new buildings/additions, etc.
2. SSA (State Supplemental Aid) increases should be implemented. SSA is the building block for financing Iowa school districts which is based on enrollment and adjusted annually.
3. Special education services should be reviewed to reduce the achievement gap between the non-IEP and IEP students.
4. Standards and Accountability should be maintained to ensure career/workplace readiness.

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New Staff Members

Elementary staff:

Heather Schumacher- Part-time Custodian

Jr./Sr. High staff:

Janet Behrens- Jr./Sr. HS Principal and Head Girls Basketball Coach

Abby Gard- HS Science and FB/BB Cheerleading Coach

Mike Healy- JH Boys Basketball Coach

Ellen Young- Asst. Girls Basketball Coach

Shared staff:

Lauren Ewing- K-12 Art and JH Girls Basketball Coach

Keith Reynolds- 5-12 Band and At-Risk

Same Face/Different Place:

Stacie Christner- At-Risk

Ross Karsten- JH Boys Basketball Coach

Tom Megchelsen- TLC Model Teacher

Mindi Slaymaker- Football Cheer Coach



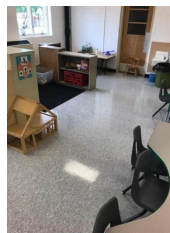
Special Summer Projects



New bench and donation board, both built by Rich Cobb, located in the Elementary. The bench is in the fitness room and made from the old bleachers at the Jr./Sr. High School.



Preschool updates- new counter tops, sinks, faucets, installation of hot water, painting, and carpet/tile



New sideline and outfield fencing and gates at the softball field



Art room updates thanks to our custodians and Lauren Ewing, our new art instructor



Fifth Grade News

The students in fifth grade are off to an exciting start to the school year. We reviewed our Tiger Pride expectations for the upcoming year. We have started our first unit in our reading series which is entitled School Spirit. As we work through this unit we will continue to practice fluency, vocabulary development and reading comprehension skills. In math we are working with our new math curriculum. The concepts we are studying include: place value, decimals, comparing and ordering numbers. In social

studies students are learning about globes and maps through hands on atlas activities dealing with longitude, direction, symbols, scales, and theme maps.

The students at Iowa Valley Elementary enjoyed a visit from Herky the Hawk and we watched the University of Iowa ROTC run the game ball for the CY-Hawk challenge through our school. Many fifth graders are showing their school spirit by cheering on the Tigers at football games and participated in the annual home-

coming festivities. We hope that the weather stays favorable for the season. Go Tigers!

Amy Jacobson

2018-2019 Professional Learning

It's one o'clock on a Wednesday in the middle of the month. The bell rings and school is out for the day...for the students at Iowa Valley. But what do the teachers do on these afternoons?

Professional Learning Time (or what a lot of schools call professional development) is a time for teacher's to collaborate with their peers, learn or share a new strategy to use in their classrooms, look at data to better instruct their students, learn how to implement technology, or understand new curriculum or standards that are required by state and national mandates.

Just like doctors, bankers, mechanics, or retail managers, teachers also need to keep learning and growing as educators. Sometimes they take classes or workshops through colleges, universities or area education associations. They also learn by sharing with their colleagues during professional learning time.

We set professional learning goals and make plans for what we need or want to learn as a building or district. The following are just a few of the many topics we will be working through during our early outs this year.

Elementary

- 1) Working to implement our new math curriculum
- 2) Looking at student data with our reading and iReady math assessments to make instruction aligned to student needs
- 3) Continue to implement new social studies standards
- 4) Continue to create and use technology to support student learning

Secondary

- 1) Writing curriculum guides that align our content and standards
- 2) Collaborate in professional learning communities (PLC) to find strategies to help with specific student needs
- 3) Continue to use technology and share what others are using effectively, such as Google Classroom or Chromebook extensions
- 4) Continue implementing visible learning (from last year's plan)

Submitted by Patty Miles (Iowa Valley K-12 Instructional Coach)

Model Teacher of the Month

Mrs. Jackye Bowlin is one of six model teachers at Iowa Valley. She has a quiet, yet respectful, demeanor as she greets her students at the door and always tries to create a positive learning environment for everyone that enters her classroom.

When you enter the room, every student gets the chance to share good things to start the class; and all students are taught to respect each other's contributions as they listen and then respond with the clap of hands.

From speech, where students are asked how the temperature feels in the classroom (a barrier that might get in the way of communication), to AP Composition, where students talk about feelings and real life events (which relate to a read aloud that builds background knowledge and practice for figurative language), she builds trust amongst her students.

As a teacher leader, Mrs. Bowlin is a role model for great strategies and brings her compassion and love of learning to all students and teachers at Iowa Valley.

Kudos to you, Mrs. Bowlin, as the Model Teacher of the Month!

Submitted by Patty Miles (Iowa Valley K-12 Instructional Coach)