

Iowa Valley Tiger Tracks

Education: A Community Partnership

www.iowa-valley.k12.ia.us

By Mark Olmstead, Superintendent

Special points of interest:

- Jan. 1 No School Winter Break
- Jan. 2 Back to School
- Jan. 10 1 pm Early Dismissal
- Jan. 19 Speech Friends & Family Preview

Notice to all parents/guardians.

The Iowa Application for Free & Reduced Price School Meals/Milk is available for you to pick up from the following locations: Elementary Principals office, Jr.-Sr. High School Principals office, the Central Office or print from the school's website.

If you have completed and been approved already this year you do not need to do anything.

Dear Friends,

It's hard to believe that the school year is more than half over. But with all that we have going on in our schools, time flies. This has been an exciting and rewarding year for Iowa Valley Schools, we have many families reaching out inquiring about our great schools and community. We are very proud of our school district, the programs it offers for our students, the hardworking staff and students, caring environment, strong community support, and great facilities.

Let's keep working diligently to make Iowa Valley Community School District a learning community where everyone works together for

the betterment of our students.

As we begin a new year, I find myself reflecting upon my career in education and the changes that have taken place over the long haul. I entered the teaching profession, a fresh enthusiastic young graduate, ready to embrace all things under the big umbrella of "school." I am in my twenty-fifth year as an educator and I continue with that same enthusiasm, but the lens with which I see things has changed over time. The roles of teachers and principals have evolved to include much more than curriculum and instruction. One thing does remain constant. Teachers love their work. In fact, they love it so much that

they sacrifice a lot to love, serve and care for the students in their classrooms. Teachers work to overcome daily challenges presented by constantly growing demands. They meet our students at the door with open arms, ready to spend the day, learning and growing together. So, as 2020 begins, and I marvel at the work we do here, I wish for continued successes for our students and staff. I am thankful for the professionals I work with and appreciate their commitment to kids. Thank you for the opportunity to love, serve and care for your students! We are the lucky ones!

Go Tigers!

Elementary News

Happy New Year!

Welcome back to everyone and hope your holiday break went well. We are into the new semester and have reviewed our Tiger Pride expectations. We are working for another great semester of Tiger Pride.

I would like to thank again the Iowa Valley PTO and the Friends of Marengo for

their generous donations for our Movies day at Belle Plaine.

The end of the semester is January 10, with an early dismissal that day.

Report cards will be going home on January 15th, Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions.

Please remember to dress your child for the cold. Weather can change during the day and not always for the better!!

Welcome back!

Mrs. Miller

2019-2020 Hard Surface/Emergency Bus Routes

BUS #14 – Carrie Usher

	<u>PICK-UP</u>	<u>DROP-OFF</u>
N Ave & Hwy 6	7:05	3:25
Iowa Valley Trailer Court	7:10	3:30
190 th St & M Ave	7:25	3:40
210 th St & M Ave	7:35	3:45
160 th St. & M Ave	7:45	3:50
Plus all regular stops on these roads only		

BUS #3 – RICK FRIMML

190 th St & M Ave (see bus #8)	7:25	3:40
Junction of Hwy 6 & H Ave	7:50	3:30
Junction of Hwy 6 & HH Ave	7:52	3:28
Junction of Hwy 6 & KK Ave	7:57	3:25
Plus all regular stops on these roads only		

BUS #12 – NAOMI WARD

Junction of 212 & E Ave	7:30	3:45
Junction of 212 & F Ave	7:35	3:40
Junction of 212 & G Ave (V52)	7:40	3:35
Junction of 212 & H Ave	7:45	3:30
Car Wash Stop	7:55	3:20
Plus all regular stops on these roads only		

BUS #17 – DARRELL HAACK

F15 Blvd & L Ave	7:35	3:30
Junction of L Ave & 107 th St (PM Only)		3:35
Junction of F15 & PP Ave	7:50	3:40
Junction of F15 & O Ave	7:55	3:45
Junction of F15 & MM Ave	8:00	3:50
Plus all regular stops on these roads only		

Spotlight on Model Teachers as Part of the Teacher Leadership Team



Model teachers are one of six teacher leadership roles at Iowa Valley. We will spotlight these inspiring teachers this month. These teachers have taken on the Model Teacher role in addition to their teaching duties. They are responsible for:

- Having an “open door” policy to allow others to observe their classrooms
- Providing relevant and meaningful learning opportunities that enable teachers to successfully implement instructional practices that impact student achievement
- Meeting with teachers as needed (before/after school or during preparation/PLC time) to discuss pre/post observations and/or effective strategies
- Remaining current and shares best practices on district initiatives



Model Teachers (left to right) Jackye Bowlin (HS English), Ashton Linnell (Jr-Sr High Business/TAG), Marcia Kilgard (Jr-Sr High Agriculture), Debra Henry (3rd Grade), Ross Karsten (5th Grade), Courtney Weaks (6th Grade)

We encourage teachers to reach out and share learning with these Model Teachers. They bring insights into our professional learning and model great strategies in their classrooms. All of our teachers at Iowa Valley are inspirational and strive to help students achieve; it’s just he Model Teachers that took on extra responsibilities and to open their classrooms to share with all at any time.

For more information about the Teacher Leadership & Compensation system you can contact Iowa Valley Schools or you can go to the Iowa Department of Education.

Submitted by Patty Miles (Instructional & Curriculum Coach)

6th Grade Reading

This year we have added various novels to our reading curriculum. During the fall, we have completed two different whole group novels. They were *Freak the Mighty* by Rodman Philbrick and *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park. Both of these novels were read together as a whole class. While reading, students worked on various comprehension skills such as point of view, vocabulary, and understanding characters. Students also used their Chromebooks at different times to answer questions and listen to chapters from the book. In January, we will begin our next novels from the author Jerry Spinelli. These novels will be read as a whole class, as well as in literature circles. Students have been really enjoying this new change and are excited to begin the next set of novels!

Courtney Weaks