

January Newsletter 2024

Happy New Year to the Amazing Happy Valley Community!

So much is going on as we move into the second half of the year. We had a fabulous 100 Day celebration, organized by our wonderful 6th grade student council. We had a whole school line up, counted together to over 100, and had fun activities on Bingo cards that all students participated in!

First of all, I really want to thank everyone for being diligent about attendance. Over the past several years our chronic absenteeism has increased, and we have had one of the highest rates of chronic absenteeism in the county. However, this year so far our attendance rate is over 94%, which is a substantial increase! Even our tardy rate has decreased, which we greatly appreciate. Please continue to call us immediately when your child is out of school, and try to schedule trips on non-school days. When we all work together, all of our students succeed!

We continue to prepare for construction and modernization. Although we don't break ground until school gets out, we will be preparing throughout the rest of the year! I give an update at each board meeting, and we talk in depth at our monthly coffee with the superintendent meetings. Our next meeting is planned for Tuesday, March 19, at 8:30 in the MPR. (If you would like to attend and the date does not work for you, please contact me as we can be flexible!) We will definitely be enlisting your help to move at the end of the school year!

Next week we will be sending out intent to return forms to our in-district families. We also will be accepting inter-district transfer requests February 1-March 1. This is **very** important information to gather, as the data helps us plan for next year. Additionally, we are looking forward to welcoming new Transitional Kindergarteners (TK) and Kindergarteners. (Anyone who will be 4 years old between September 2 and June 2 qualifies for TK.) Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about enrollment for next year.

To provide a stable source of funds to help offset the uncertainty of State funding, the District and Board of Trustees have decided to place Measure G, a local parcel tax measure, on the March 5, 2024 ballot. The parcel tax will help maintain academic programs and support classroom instruction. Please see the link to [FAQS](#) regarding Measure G. If you have any questions, please contact me or a Board member.

We have noticed that there are students who are bringing devices such as phones or smart watches to school. Please leave these at home, or be sure that your child leaves them turned off and in their backpack. They are distracting and should not be used at school. Thank you for your cooperation!

You may have noticed that we have a Board approved calendar for next year. We will be starting school with students on August 14.

Have a great weekend!

Michelle Stewart