

Valley Newsletter

November 2020

UN BOLETÍN IMPRESO ESPAÑOL ESTARÁ DISPONIBLE EN LAS OFICINAS

Superintendent Notes— Mr. Anderson

COVID-19 UPDATE

Covid-19 cases continue to grow in the Magic Valley. According to South Central Public Health Department, Jerome County and other surrounding counties have moved into a higher risk category. At this category public health recommends exploring alternative learning options as well as stronger mitigation strategies. At Valley School District we have implemented strict cleaning and hygiene practices as well as consistent wearing of face coverings. We believe these practices are working. We also believe keeping our school open remains the best learning option for our students. We know this could change at any time due to staff or student illnesses but will make every effort to keep our doors open and our students/staff safe. Valley School District will continue to follow the guidelines that have come from local, state, and federal health agencies and the Idaho High School Activities Association.

VALLEY SD COVID -19 STATISTICS:

- We have had roughly a dozen confirmed positive COVID-19 virus cases in the district, after 10 weeks of school.
- We have quarantined nearly 100 students after 10 weeks of school due to either a school contact or family contact.
- The average number of students who are sent home daily due to our screening process is 3.
- We have had NO in-school spread of the virus at this time.

KUDOS TO OUR COMMUNITY

Valley School District and our Board would like to thank our parents and community for their commitment and support. It should be noted that our school has been open for face-to-face instruction longer than other school districts at this point in time. Our doors have remained open and the spread of the virus has remained minimal within our school because of the community's adherence to our health & safety protocols. We are fully aware of the sacrifices that have been made. This has been no easy feat because we can only control what goes on within our buildings. The bottom line is, we're doing our best to keep our students and staff safe, and our school open. We realize this is a day to day, week to week, situation but we appreciate your unwavering support and thank you all.

WINTER SPORTS & COVID

We are quickly approaching our winter sports activities. This will present our district with some challenges as virus cases increase and we move sporting events inside. We understand extracurricular activities are important for many students. We also understand the importance of keeping players, coaches, and fans safe. We will continue to mandate face coverings and distancing requirements for all indoor activities. Due to the governor's announcement, we will not be allowing spectators from the visiting team at our home contests. We will also limit attendance to 2 guests for each player at home games. More information will be available. This is in effect as long as we stay in Stage 3 at the state level. I will keep everyone posted if anything changes.

VIRTUAL LEARNING DAY – NOVEMBER 3RD

All K-12 students will remain at home on Tuesday, November 3rd for a virtual learning day. Students will have mobile devices and instruction will be delivered remotely. If your student has technical issues we ask that you call the school first before coming to campus. (208) 829-5333 or (208) 829-5353.

MONDAY TUTORING for 6th through 12th grade will be conducted on November 9th & November 16th, from 9:00 to noon.

STRONG FAMILIES, STRONG STUDENTS GRANT / BECA FAMILIAS FUERTES, ESTUDIANTES FUERTES

The *Strong Families, Strong Students* program empowers eligible families to securely access Idaho Coronavirus Relief funds that can be used for their children's educational purposes. Eligible purchases include computer hardware, software, and other devices including adaptive learning technology, internet connectivity, instructional materials, fees for courses, tutoring services, educational services and therapies, and licensed daycare during work hours. Please apply at: strongfamilies.idaho.gov

El programa Familias Fuertes, Estudiantes Fuertes permite a las familias elegibles acceder de manera segura a los fondos de Idaho Coronavirus Relief que pueden usarse para los propósitos educativos de sus hijos. Las compras elegibles incluyen hardware, software y otros dispositivos, incluida la tecnología de aprendizaje adaptativo, la conectividad a Internet, los materiales de instrucción, las tarifas de los cursos, los servicios de tutoría, los servicios educativos y las terapias, y la guardería con licencia durante el horario laboral. Por favor aplique en: strongfamilies.idaho.gov

SCHOOL BOARD

ZONE 1: Kortney Romer
ZONE 2: Dusty Standlee
ZONE 3: Jim Ritchie Jr.
ZONE 4: Matthew Kimmel
ZONE 5: Kattie Carlquist

CONTACT NUMBERS

Superintendent: 829-5333
High School: 829-5353
Middle School: 829-5961
Elementary: 829-5961
Food Service: 829-4107
Special Service: 829-5961
Technology : 829-4165
District Fax: 829-5548

ON THE WEB

valleyvikings.org

College and Career Prep—Mrs. Elorrieta

Individuals attending college during the 2021-2022 school year should complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) before December 1, 2020. Priority deadlines are quickly approaching. Remind students to get a jump start on scholarships! Did you know that there are many scholarships available for students in lower grades in addition to those for graduating seniors? Visit <https://nextsteps.idaho.gov> Join me for a Q & A session about FAFSA, financial aid, and scholarships on Monday, November 9 at 6:00 pm in Room #126 (please wear a face covering). All parents in the Valley School District are invited to attend but the information will be most pertinent for parents of students in grades 8 - 12. If you can't make it to the meeting but have questions, please email me at elorrieta@valley262.org. I am available to meet with students and families individually in the evening or during the weekend. Opportunity for adult learners: The state of Idaho offers postsecondary scholarship valued at up to \$3,500 per year and is renewable for four years. Last year, 100% of the qualified applicants received the scholarship. For details, please contact Toni Elorrieta or visit <https://boardofed.idaho.gov/scholarships/idaho-opportunity-scholarship-for-adult-learners/>

Valley Child Nutrition Department—Mrs. Kelso

We firmly believe that nutritious school meals are valuable to the ongoing success and well-being of all children. Some parents are opting out of school meals in fear of taking away meals from needy children. Their misconception is that their participation is an added financial strain on the school nutrition operation when just opposite is the case.

- You are not “taking this benefit away” from anyone else. Meals are funded by USDA.
- Free meals will help you stretch your own household food budget. Think of the money you'll save.
- School meals are time-saving and convenient.
- School meals deliver nutrition, taste and fun.

Every meal counts! Your family's participation is crucial to helping keep our program financially solvent, which will allow us to continue to provide meals to your children, as well as those who need them most. If you have a home schooled student and want them to receive school lunch simply drop by the school from 12:30-1:00 p.m. Go to the back door between the gyms and pick up your meals. A call to the food service department 208-829-4107 would be helpful but is not necessary. Whether your student is home schooled or at school everyone eats free! This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Homecoming / Booster Club Membership—Mrs. Lukes

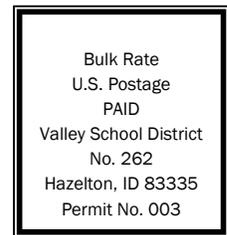
Thank you once again for making our Annual Booster Club Dinner a great success! We live in such a wonderful community where the members are willing to help and support our teams! Thank you to Kathy Marshall, Jaime Grigsby, Matt Lukes, Brenda Rice, Marcia Mussmann, Brian Hardy, Brianne Schilz, Beckie Lewis, Susana Chaires, Hilary Stubbs, Barb Black, Lynn Godfrey, Naomi Wethern, Jacob and Paulette Shobe, Alex Raney, Andrea Huettig, Katie Clark, Carrie Morgan, Jessica Bean, Tara Gordon, Christi Lamun, Eden Dimond and Katie Christensen for donating your time and energy. Thank you to Brenda Rice for making chili, Jamie Madson for baking the yummy cookies, and Hilary Stubbs for giving candy and hand warmers.

If you have a high school student who participates in football, volleyball, cross country, cheerleading, band, basketball, wrestling, track and field, golf, BPA, or FCCLA, please consider joining the Booster Club. The Booster Club provides meals to the extra curricular activities and meals or money for food if they attend State in their sport or activity. Along with meals, they also provide support to the coaches in purchasing equipment as needed. A family membership is \$25.00. Thank you for your support and Go Vikings!

Community Baskets and the Giving Tree—Mrs. Elorrieta

“Trick or Treat for Community Baskets” will look a little different this year. Instead of going door-to-door for change, FCCLA is fundraising with a Change War between K-5 and 6-12. Valley students are encouraged to collect loose change from their homes and family members, then bring the change to their classrooms between November 4th-13th. If you have been saving change for the Trick or Treat initiative, you can drop off your donation in the high school office (please wear a face covering) or call Toni Elorrieta (208) 731-6570 to coordinate a pickup time. If you would like to make a donation with a personal or business check, please make the check payable to FCCLA and send to the school. All donations will be used exclusively for buying gifts for the children in the Eden-Hazleton community. The annual Giving Tree toy drive will run from December 1st-11th. If your family has a need for a basket, applications can be picked up at the Elementary Office or Lakeview Apartments. Please contact Diane Hohnhorst (208) 539-6967, Lana Black (208) 420-5390, Carolyn Lee (208) 562-7550, or Toni Elorrieta if you have application questions or would like to make a monetary or toy donation. The deadline for applications is December 4, 2020.

Valley School District No. 262
882 Valley Road S.
Hazelton, Idaho 83335



Postal Patron Local

ECRWSS

Middle School Volleyball—Coach Juker and Coach Tinoco

We started the season with a total of 12 7th and 8th grade girls. This forced us to share players. By the end of the season we had 14 players and 2 managers. The A-team consisted of Jordyn Salveson, Allie Delgado, Lexi Heuttig, Emma Allen, Journey Fenton, Ashlynn Olson-Roche, Zandie Bourne, Arellie Juarez, and Laney Morgan. We ended the season with 3 wins and 6 losses. Even though the record doesn't show it, the girls played very well. Most of the games we lost were within 2-5 points, showing the fight and effort they put in even when they were asked to do things they were not confident doing. This was definitely a favorite season. I look forward to watching their success through high school! Stay safe and stay HEALTHY! LOVE YA!

Middle School Wrestling—Mr. Ayers

Middle school wrestling is underway once again. We are excited for the upcoming season and are working hard to make ourselves better. I am writing to petition for some lightly used wrestling shoes some of our previous wrestling families might have lying around. I know how fast our kids grow and how quickly they outgrow their shoes. So, any willingness to donate some shoes to the program would be greatly appreciated..

High School Cross Country — Mr. Hunter

Both teams won the Canyon Conference District Meet. The girls race was a close one with Valley winning by two positions over Xavier and four over Declo. The boys beat Declo and Wendell for the title. We'd like to thank the cooks for making us a nice lunch, the booster club for cookies and Mr. Hardy for the milk shakes. We had a fun day.

High School Boys Basketball—Coach Hardy

The first day of boys basketball practice is on November 13th. All boys must have a current physical on file before they can begin practice. Students in grades 9th & 11th must have a physical after May 1, 2020. Students in grades 10th & 12th can use one from last year. There will be a mandatory family night for coaches, players, and parents on November 18th at 7:30pm. I am excited for the upcoming season and looking forward to a fun year.

NFHS Network—Mr. Hardy

We have been able to install automated cameras at the football field and new gym that can record events we hold in those locations. We can record games, assemblies, graduation, and other events that happen throughout the year. Parents, relatives, or any interested patrons anywhere in the world can watch the events live or watch them over and over at a later time on-demand. This is a great opportunity to follow the teams & school activities without leaving home. It will also help us give families the ability to watch if crowds have to be limited or if we ever have to play without fans. To sign up, you need to go to www.nfhsnetwork.com and create an account. You can subscribe monthly for \$10.99 or an annual pass is \$69.99. This gives you access to every school in the nation that has signed up to be a part of the NFHS Network. So, if you have grandkids at Valley and some in Texas, Florida, or Indiana and all schools are a part of the network, you can watch them all with one subscription. If you need help or have any questions, please contact me at the school. Thank you.

Volleyball—Coach Clark

Congratulations to the Valley Varsity Volleyball Team for making it to State after beating both Wendell and Declo. They will play on October 30-31 in Buhl. I want to thank all of the parents who made team dinner for the girls this season. The girls were fed very well for all away games. Thank you to the Booster Club for the snacks for the Jerome Tournament and the cookies for Districts. Thank you to all the fans for the support this year. The JV and Varsity Teams faced some challenges this year with COVID, but I am really proud of how they worked through all of the challenges. This year was definitely a year of change, but their dedication and work ethic never suffered. Thank you girls for coming to practice and games and trying your best. Thank you to the eight seniors who have dedicated a lot more than four years to volleyball. They spent numerous summer nights playing volleyball, going to camps, watching film, working hard to get better, and making a lot of memories throughout the years. You all have left an imprint in the Valley Volleyball Program and will be missed.