

# Valley Newsletter



## October 2017

### State Report Card - Mr. Anderson

The State Department of Education has released its annual assessment results for school districts around Idaho. A link to this information can be found on our website, under the tab "Report Card". The new state assessment (ISAT 2.0), has been in place for two years now and the results are mixed. Districts are beginning to show increases in proficiency percentages but do not show the proficiency rates reflected from the old ISAT test. There are a few reasons for this. First, the old ISAT was a multiple choice test and many students perform well under this format. Second, the new state assessment (ISAT 2.0), is more difficult with its problem solving format and short answer responses. Valley School District is working to address these concerns by testing students in a similar format with Interim assessments, and by analyzing assessment results through our Milepost program. Both Interim testing and Milepost are new to the district. As tools to increase student achievement our staff believes these two strategies will help along with aligned curriculum and solid instructional strategies. These strategies and others can be found in our Valley School District Continuous Improvement Plan, on our website under the tab "Valley Improvement Plan". We know we have work to do but having a plan provides the framework and a path for success.

*The Value in Assessments (Provided by the State Department of Education):*

- Provides information to students, teachers, and parents with information about student progress that can be used to improve instruction and support in the classroom.
- Identifies strengths and areas of growth for students.
- Identifies achievement gaps to help ensure all students receive the support and resources they need to succeed.
- Serves as an academic check-up to make sure students are on track for the next grade.

### SCHOOL BOARD

ZONE 1: Elizabeth Jones  
ZONE 2: Dusty Standlee  
ZONE 3: Jim Ritchie Jr.  
ZONE 4: Mark Okelberry  
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 Services: 829-4165  
District Fax: 829-5548

### ON THE WEB

[valleyvikings.org](http://valleyvikings.org)

### Parent Teacher Conferences- Mrs. Kohtz

Parent teacher conferences are coming up on October 23rd Please call the elementary school at 829-5961 to schedule your conference. We look forward to seeing you!

### Wounded Warriors—Mr. Hardy

The athletic department will once again be joining the 4th District Coaches Association drive to help raise funds for the Wounded Warrior Project. The past 3 years we have raised money that has been pooled with other schools in the Magic Valley. Last year the coaches association donated over \$13,000 to veterans and families affected by military service. If a family would like to make a \$10 donation we will create a sign to put up on our display board at the school and during the football game on Oct. 6th against Raft River. We will also be taking donations that night to help in this worthy cause. Thank you for your support.

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## Txt Wire

Valley School District has joined with Txt Wire to send out messages to parents and students for important information. We will send out messages periodically, primarily emergency messages such as school closures or bus delays but also other important school announcements. If you are interested in receiving these text messages, please follow these directions: 1. Open up text/messages, 2. to: 91011 (phone may place a - in the number which is fine), 3. In the message type: Valley, 4. Click Send. If you would like to stop receiving messages, text "Stop" to 91011.

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## From the Lunch Room

Parents: Remember to get your free and reduced lunch applications in now! Anyone who was free or reduced last year and has NOT returned a form for this year will be changed to paid lunches. Don't delay! Free Breakfast is available to all students. Make sure your student starts the day fueled up and ready to go. We encourage all students to try our hot lunch meals. They are a great price. We offer a wide variety of fruits and vegetables as well as tasty entrees and baked bread items. What better way to keep your child ready for an afternoon of super learning than with a healthy lunch! If you have any questions about the Valley Lunch Program please call 208-829-4107, between the hours of 6:30 - 1:30 Tuesday through Friday. Thank you.

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## Cross Country—Coach Hunter

Thank you to all the faculty and parents who helped at our home meet. Sugar Salem brought their timing system down with them and chip timed all four races. We had 456 total runners. Our middle school teams both placed 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 8 teams. The high school boys were also 3<sup>rd</sup> and the girls 7<sup>th</sup>. All four teams had good races and know they have room for improvement. The middle school teams went to Kimberly on Sept 6<sup>th</sup>. Both teams placed 2<sup>nd</sup>. The high school team raced in the Community School/Wood River meet on the 7<sup>th</sup>. We were very impressed with our finish sprints. If there was a competitor within reaching distance we won the footrace to the finish. We also brought Tex Godfrey, Kyle Christensen and Alejandro Recendez. They finished 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>.

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## Introduction—Mr. Spencer

I am an Idahoan and have lived most of my life here in the Magic Valley. My father is a graduate of Valley High School, class of 1957. His picture is in the cafeteria. Several of my other family members are graduates of Valley High. I am a graduate of Idaho State, with a degree in English and Education. For five years, I taught school in Hawaii where I lived on Molokai and the Big Island of Hawaii. While I was there, I met my wife, Gina. We have been married for twenty years and have two daughters. Jenna is going to school at CSI, and Jade is a student at Jerome High School. I have worked most of my life in education, or education related areas. I enjoy working with teenagers: it is always an adventure. Valley is an awesome school with awesome people. I'm really glad to be here!

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## Introduction & Music Notes—Mr. Eiler

Hello Valley School District! My name is Jason E. Eiler and it is my privilege to be the new music teacher. I graduated from Idaho State University (Go Bengals!) with my Bachelors in Music Education and then got my Masters in Conducting from Southern Oregon University. I am in my 19th year of teaching music. I have taught in Arizona and Wyoming but my family considers Idaho home. I live in Kimberly with my lovely wife and four teenage boys. I am enjoying Valley Schools immensely. Go Vikings!

We will have our Fall Concert on October 26th. I wanted to try something different this year. So along with some favorite "scary" music we will have a "Pass in Review" for the band. The band will be performing their pep band favorites in a concert setting. Please come and support our wonderful program.

As a last note, the members of the band are required to turn in practice charts every week. Many of my students are doing a great job but a few students need a reminder. Please ask your student if they are meeting their practice obligation. Thank you for all of your help.

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

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## College and Career Readiness - Mrs. Elorrieta

Some VHS students may have received a direct admissions letter from the State Board of Education in September. This letter notified high school seniors of the Idaho colleges and universities that have accepted him/her into next fall's freshman class. Here's what to do next. Each student must submit a formal application. To apply for FREE, visit the Apply Idaho website at <https://nextsteps.idaho.gov/resources/apply-idaho/> for instructions. For all students (new college freshman and returning post-secondary students), you should get started on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). If you haven't applied for an FSA ID (Federal Student Aid ID), this is your first step. Every student needs an FSA ID and for dependent students, at least one parent or legal guardian must apply also at <https://fsaid.ed.gov/> Finally, the FAFSA opens October 1. Colleges will make priority decisions by December 1. Do not delay the FAFSA process. If you have ANY questions, please contact Toni Elorrieta or Risa Moffitt at the school (208) 829-5353 or email [elorrieta@valley262.org](mailto:elorrieta@valley262.org) or [moffitt@valley262.org](mailto:moffitt@valley262.org)

## Booster Club Thank You - Michelle Johnson

Thank you once again for making our Annual Booster Club Dinner a great success! What a great community we live in. We appreciate everyone coming out and supporting our organization and our team. Thank you Valley School for donating the popcorn and ice cream. What a great treat! And thanks again to Ken and Shannon Hodges for your help and the delicious cobblers. We could not put on this dinner each year without the help and support of the many who volunteer. I cannot express how grateful I am to each and every one of you. Thank you for your help...Brian Hardy, Toni Elorrieta, Marcia Mussmann, Jana Sellers, Christi Lamun, Judy Cauhorn, Pat Bruning, Glenys Johnson, Jodi Jones, Maria Juarez, Beckie Lewis, Ali Martinez, Steve and Cori Hunter, Katina Ellis, Katie Christensen, Michele Dimond, Ray Moon, Kattie and Brian Carlquist, Galicia and Ismael Hernandez and Jamie and Brenda Johnson. Last, but not least, thank you to my family for being there at my beck and call and always willing to step up and help me. So, thank you Gary Johnson, Katie Johnson, Dani Johnson and Austin Williams.

## Introduction—Mrs. Jensen

My name is Amy Jensen, and I am beyond excited to teach and learn alongside your student this year. First, let me tell you a little bit about myself. I was born and raised in Declo, Idaho - spending my first eighteen years with my family working on the family farm. I was able to participate in various sports and clubs. I was involved in volleyball, basketball, and track. In addition, I volunteered for our school's Special Olympics partners program and competed in Business Professionals of America. For as long as I can remember, I have wanted to be a teacher and coach. I decided to receive my bachelor's degree in Secondary Education teaching Health and Physical Education. I began my teaching career at Sugar-Salem High School. I taught at the high school level for 6 years. During this time I also had the opportunity to teach Middle School courses in Health, PE, Nutrition, and computers. My newest endeavor is seeking and attaining my Elementary Education certificate. Last year, I taught sixth grade Math, English, and computers, as well as, eighth grade math. I have also coached for 15 years. While at BYU-Idaho I met my husband, Todd. Todd is also a teacher and coach. We have 4 children - Kynzlee (13), Courtney (11), McCoy (9), and Traegen (6). I am so excited to teach here and to get the chance to share your children for the coming months! Please know that my door is always open, and I am here to answer any questions or concerns that you may have.