

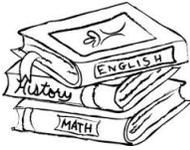


Penns Valley Area School District News and Information Update

Our recently completed Penns Valley Area School District Community Survey indicated a strong satisfaction with and support of academic performance, educational programming, sport offerings, extracurricular offerings, and facilities maintenance. Over 40% of the survey participants, however, had limited or no knowledge of the District budget, vision and long term planning. In response, the Penns Valley Area School District Board of Directors has authorized monthly publications in the Valley Vine through June 2014. The purpose of this and future publications is to improve communications and understanding of District information and programming with all residents. If you have an interest topic that you would like to see in the future, please contact Mrs. Elbin at 422-2000 x2540 or melbin@pennsvalley.org.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING

Parent feedback has indicated a desire to have more information available to our students/parents regarding post-secondary educational opportunities. To help our students and parents, we have partnered with the National College Advising Corps (NCAC) to help raise the rates of college enrollment and degree completion among low-income, first-generation college, and underrepresented high school students. The program places well-trained, recent college graduates within our school to provide these services. The program is entirely funded through partnerships with various colleges, grant funding, AmeriCorps funding and \$22,500 from the District. The program has demonstrated significant success in helping students and parents navigate the complex process of college admissions, financial aid and matriculation. This year we are pleased to have Ms. Briana Stetler, College Adviser, at Penns Valley available to our students and parents. Feel free to contact Briana directly at 422-8907 or bstetler@pennsvalley.org.



FACILITIES

The District is continuing its efforts to maintain facilities by renovating and planning for the future, using reserved monies garnered from prudent budget management. Currently we are renovating the original high school locker rooms that were initially installed in the late 1950s. The commercial longevi-



ty standard of this type of facility is approximately 20 years. These locker rooms were in desperate need of upgrades due to normal wear and tear, as well as updated design trends required to meet current standards of supervision and privacy. If you were unable to attend the recent open house and would like a tour, please contact Mr. Miller at 422-2000 x2524 or rmiller@pennsvalley.org.

FINANCIAL

Annually the District authorizes a budget based on its best estimates of revenues and expenditures. Throughout the school year we continually manage our expenditures to operate below revenues. Over the past 5 years, the District has been successful in accumulating reserve monies by prudent expense management. The Board is responsible to determine the use of these reserves. Our reserves have recently been applied to pay down debt and renovate our high school restrooms which were original to the building. In 2012, The District paid off \$2,000,000 in debt principal, saving the District over \$1,290,000 in interest costs through March 2028. In addition, the District used cash reserves to pay for high school restroom renovations, saving borrowing costs and interest by avoiding additional debt. The District plans to continue to use reserve money for items that are not part of its annual reoccurring obligations. This will provide funding for facilities renovations/upgrades and any anticipated obligations for extraordinary Health Care and Retirement Contribution mandates.



Empowering our students every day to reach individual success