



River Valley School District

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Dear River Valley Families:

I hope you had a relaxing Thanksgiving break with your friends and families. We have exciting times happening in the River Valley School District. Over the past two years, our district has been through significant change, and discussions occurred that required the involvement and support of the board of school directors, staff, and community. As a result, we have seen the immense success that has benefited the most important group, our students.

We developed an entirely new program of studies that includes more than 70 new courses for our students and challenges them in preparation for their futures. River Valley has also added a comprehensive K-12 career and workforce program so students can begin to explore and understand career pathways and opportunities at an early age.

The opportunities culminate at the new River Valley STEAM Academy at Saltsburg. High school students can study Cybersecurity, Esports, Electrical Occupations, and Sports Medicine, setting them up for success in their future careers. We look forward to offering four new programs in 2023: Agriculture Sciences, Powerline, Teacher Preparation, and Welding. We will also open our doors to the region's students, creating an additional revenue stream for our district.

In addition to our academic advancements, I am happy to tell you that the board of school directors and I developed a plan for a new athletic complex at River Valley High School. This plan will create a facility for our district's students and the community that provides a safe and secure place to hold games, assemblies, and other events. It includes additional classroom space that will enhance regional training and student achievement. The facility will give students access to state-of-the-art technology, training, and career opportunities like no other school district.

The River Valley School Board and I encourage the use of school buildings and grounds by the community for educational, recreational, civic, and cultural activities to the extent possible under the law. The board believes that school facilities are an important resource in developing and sustaining lifelong learning, promoting intergovernmental cooperation, and encouraging citizen participation in community activities.

This past year, we have all experienced the economy's dramatic changes. I can assure you that our district is prepared financially for our projects without increasing taxes. We have been fiscally responsible and reinvested in what is most important - our students. We have been transparent with the project since the beginning and will continue throughout construction. Stay tuned for the district's construction webpage dedicated to keeping our community informed about the athletic complex, including documents and project updates. As always, past school board meetings can be found on the River Valley YouTube channel and are free for anyone to review.

In closing, we welcome your questions and comments. I am asking you to join me as we set out to make River Valley a top-tier school district in our region and give our students the best opportunities to succeed no matter what endeavor they choose in life.

We are River Valley. We are Full STEAM ahead!

Yours in Education,

Superintendent of Schools
River Valley School District