



# West Valley Central School

February 2019





## *Superintendent's Corner*

### *February 2019*

### *Mr. Eric Lawton*

With the wild variation in weather this year, I encourage all parents to be sure that the students leave the house with the proper warm clothing. We have already had temperatures in the negatives and that does not include wind chill. Please be sure they have hats, gloves, warm coats and no shorts. While they may only think of the walk from school to the bus or home, they may end up outside longer than that. We do not want anyone to get a chill.

As we begin the second semester, I want to encourage you to have some honest conversations with your children about their learning. This part of their educational career will set the tone for their future. If they can establish some effective study habits, they will find success now and later and will become life-long learners. Our faculty and staff are committed to providing a high quality learning environment and support our students through the process. If your child is having challenges encourage them to reach out to their teachers and ask for help. That is also a valuable skill they can use for the rest of their lives. Together we can make each and every student successful.

February is the shortest month of the year and generally the coldest. It is also the beginning of budget season. Now that the governor has his budget out, we can begin to plan for the 2019-2020 school year. We have been busy looking at the needs that we have in our district and will continue to put together an excellent educational program for our students. We will balance all of that with a sound, responsible fiscal plan for our taxpayers. I am pleased to say that when I arrived in West Valley we were collecting over \$23 per thousand in school taxes (on true value) as of this year we are around \$19.46 per thousand taxes (on true value). We have been able to not increase our taxes in the last 5 years. Our hope is to continue to do this and look for another potential decrease.

I certainly hope that when you read this the sun is not shining on Gobbler's Knob and our little furry friend does not see his shadow. We all could really use an early spring.

### **TOPS in Education**



At TOPS Friendly Markets, we are committed to helping the communities we serve. Schools are a big part of those communities. That's why we are excited to bring you TOPS in Education, a program that makes it easier to get additional money for school improvements and programs. TOPS contributes up to 5% of your purchase to the school(s) you have chosen. The more you shop, the higher percentage we donate!

**Here's how it works:** Whether you are new to this program or currently participating, *you need to register your bonus card every new school year* at [TopsMarkets.com/Education](http://TopsMarkets.com/Education) and follow the prompts.



***Principal's Corner  
February 2019  
Mr. Daniel Amodeo***

Congratulations to all of our students for their successes during the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of the school year. In order for students to meet this year's goals the same work ethic, attitude and pride that allowed for their successes in the 1<sup>st</sup> semester should continue throughout the end of the school year. Our 7-12 Academic Achievement celebration will occur on Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. Our 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade High Honor, Honor, and Merit Roll breakfast will be held on Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.

As we start the third quarter, we typically begin our student planning for next school year. Throughout the month of February, students will begin to meet with Mr. LaBrake to determine course requests for the 2019-2020 school year. Additionally, our 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students will be taking the JCC Accuplacer tests to determine their eligibility to take JCC College courses offered at WVCS.

There are a number of co-curricular and extra-curricular opportunities that will be provided for students during the month of February. Students in grades 3-6 will be participating in our intramural basketball program throughout the month. Our 7-12 Winter Ball will be held on Saturday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>. We will have an Elementary Fun night sponsored by our PTO on Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, on February 8<sup>th</sup> our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be attending the Ellicottville CTE center to gain knowledge and understanding of the programs offered at the CTE center. This will assist them in focusing their academic pathways as they move into high school.

Finally, I would like to share that West Valley will be partnering with Cattaraugus County Prevention Services to provide Mental Health education to our K-12 students. Mental Health instruction is a new mandate from New York State Education department. In short, schools are now required to provide Mental Health instruction to students in all grade levels throughout the year and continuing each year. The goal for our students is to gain an awareness of what a healthy lifestyle includes and strategies on how to work through emotional and physical stresses of daily living.

**Emergency School Closings**

West Valley Central School District uses the Blackboard Connect system to send an automated message regarding school closings and cancellations of activities. The message will be sent to your household phone number and to the emergency contacts that you listed at the beginning of this school year. If this information has changed or you would like to verify what is on file, please call Dana Westfall at 942-3100 extension 4111. The District also contacts the following radio and television stations:

Channel 2, 4, 7	WPIG 95.7	FM	WYRK 106.5	FM
	WBEN 930	AM	WSPQ 1330	AM

## **West Valley Food Pantry**

**The pantry is located at the Ashford Town Barns on Fox Valley Road. It services the families of the Town of Ashford and the West Valley School District. If West Valley Central School closes due to inclement weather, the food pantry will close.**

**It is open the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month from 1-4pm. For emergency needs, call Kris Aldrow at 942-6690 or Corky Miller at 716-257-3651.**

**Donations are always welcome. We are always in need of the following items; juice, cereal, macaroni, toilet paper and paper towels.**

**Thank you!**

### **Free Community Clothes Closet**

**St. John the Baptist Church has a *Free Community Clothes Closet* located behind the church in Bingham Hall from 1-4pm every Wednesday or by appointment.**

**Clothing, shoes, bedding, household items and books are available for Cattaraugus County residents.**

**Donations of gently worn, clean seasonal items are always welcome.**

**If you have any questions or would like to make an appointment please call Jacque Conrad at 942-3836.**

**Thank you very much for the continued support.**

### **Child Find Notice**

Attention Residents with children between birth and age 21: If your child is disabled or you suspect he/she may be disabled, you may be entitled to special education and related services, without cost to you.

Please contact Shawna Gugino, Director of Special Education at 942-3100 extension 4149 or write West Valley Central School Attention Special Education Department 5359 School Street West Valley, New York 14171 to register your child or obtain further information.

# YEARBOOK SALES

The 2019 Vallian Yearbook is now on sale. The free yearbook winners were:  
Chloe Samborski –Elementary Colleen Keller –Secondary

The last day to order a yearbook will be March 1, 2019  
There will be only a few extras ordered so please get yours soon.

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The cost of this year's FULL COLOR yearbook is \$50.00. A deposit of \$25.00 will hold your yearbook. The final payment of \$25.00 will be due by March 1, 2019.

Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_  
Homeroom \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount paid \_\_\_\_\_  
Date ordered \_\_\_\_\_

Orders should be given to Mrs. Mumbach or Mrs. Kazmierczak.

**Jennifer Glatz** and **Brianne LaBelle** from Howard Hanna Real Estate Services will host a Community Open House in the school auditorium on February 9 2019 from 10 am – noon.



Watch for a SAVE the DATE postcard in your mailbox.

**West Valley Central Schools  
2019-2020 Budget Development Calendar**



January 7- February 28, 2019	Development of building level budget
February 11, 2019	BOE Meeting 7:00 PM – Preliminary Budget Review and Update
February 28, 2019	Requisition forms due to Business Office
March 1, 2019	Property Tax Cap Submission due to the NYS Comptroller’s Office
March 11, 2019	BOE Meeting 7:00 PM – Budget Review & Update
March 18, 2019	Petitions available for Board of Education Candidates from District Clerk
April 6, 2019	1 <sup>st</sup> Publication of Legal Notice for Budget Hearing, Vote, and Election (Subsequent publications on April 20 <sup>th</sup> , May 4 <sup>th</sup> and May 18 <sup>th</sup> )
April 22, 2019	Board candidate petitions due to District Clerk by 5:00 p.m.
April 16, 2019	BOE Meeting 7:00 PM – Final Budget Review, Adoption of 2019-2020 Budget & Property Tax Report Card/Adoption of BOCES Admin Budget
April 17, 2019	Submission of Property Tax Report Card to SED
May 7 – May 21, 2019	Copies of the budget must be available to the residents upon request
May 9, 2019	Voter Registration Day 3:00 -7:00 pm, main office
May 13, 2019	Annual Budget Hearing 7:00 PM Auditorium
May 14, 2019	Budget Notice mailed to district residents
May 21, 2019	Annual Budget vote and Board of Education Election from 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m./ BOE Meeting 8:00 p.m. cafeteria

**\*\*\* Last business day on which BOE can adopt a budget- Monday, April 22, 2019 (must be adopted 21 days before prior to date of annual meeting)**

## **PENN-YORK COLLEGE NIGHT 2019**

Interested in finding the college that best meets your needs? Then all sophomores and juniors and their families should plan on attending the Penn-York College Night at Saint Bonaventure University in the **Richter Center** on Tuesday, March 19, 2019 from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM. This is an opportunity to speak with admissions representatives from over 100 colleges, and attend financial aid presentations. There will be representation from four-year colleges and universities, community colleges, business schools, technical schools, and military academies. Information will be available in the Guidance Office soon. There is **NO** cost for this event. Transportation for the students will be provided with chaperones.

### **Transportation Requests**

The deadline for transportation requests to a non-public school for your student(s) outside of the West Valley Central School District is April 1, 2019. Parents are reminded that written transportation requests for non-public schools must be received by April 1, 2019 to be eligible for the 2019-2020 school year.

Send requests to:  
Ann O'Brien, Business Official  
West Valley Central School  
5359 School Street  
West Valley, New York 14171

### **School District Tax Code Number**

The New York State resident income tax returns (IT-200 and IT-201) require you to enter the name and code number of the public school district where you were a resident as of December 31 for the tax year 2018. The school district name and code for entry on state income tax forms are: **West Valley Central School District** code is **690**. It is important to put this number on your tax return because it helps determine the amount of State Aid we receive for the school district.

## Construction Career Day

To help educate and expose our students to the importance of the construction industry and the numerous careers within it, a group of juniors and seniors traveled up to the Operating Engineers training facility in Lakeview, New York on October 3rd and attended the Construction Career Day. Students were able to experience all of the trades through hands-on activities, operating equipment, and speaking with individuals who work in these fields. Many of the representatives had the latest and greatest machinery, tools, and technology available to our students to explore and try out. Each trade was very informative and enjoyed speaking with the students in order to explain the various career opportunities that are increasing every day throughout Western New York. Each and every trade is wide open for employment opportunities. In addition to the trades, numerous colleges were on hand to provide information regarding their construction related degree options. It was a great day for our students to explore career options that are not only growing in our area but expanding in today's technological society. We are looking forward to another great Construction Career Day in 2019. If you have any questions regarding this day, or would like any additional information about a particular trade, feel free to contact Gerry Stead at [gstead@wvalley.org](mailto:gstead@wvalley.org), or 942-3100 ext. 4114



## Winter Spirit Week at West Valley

In the weeks leading up to December break, Student Council hosted a number of holiday themed events. Middle School students enjoyed a competitive White Elephant party, with wild and wacky gifts. Students in grades 9-12 participated in Secret Santa. There was a Holiday Hallway decorating competition, which the Junior class won. In addition, there was a Candy Cane Scavenger Hunt, Cookie Decorating during lunch and a Holiday Dress Up Spirit Week the week before break. On Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup> students in 7-12 participated in a Winter Fun Day! Students moved in groups from station to station that included Holiday themed games, Christmas Carol Karaoke, Elf Yourself videos, and crafts. In the afternoon students enjoyed popcorn and watched the Christmas classic Elf. Thank you to all of the teachers, staff, and students who participated!



## West Valley heARTbeat

Our elementary students have been inspired to create winter scenes this cold season. Kindergarteners created these beautiful and colorful collages of winter villages, while first graders made black and white villages using newspapers. Our second graders have been working on their winter cardinals and they are turning out adorable! Our sixth graders have been focusing on New Year Resolutions and putting it to paper. Did you know there have been studies that show that you become 42% more likely to achieve your goals and dreams, simply by writing them down on a regular basis? Eighth graders have been finishing up their semester making ceramic speakers for their phones.

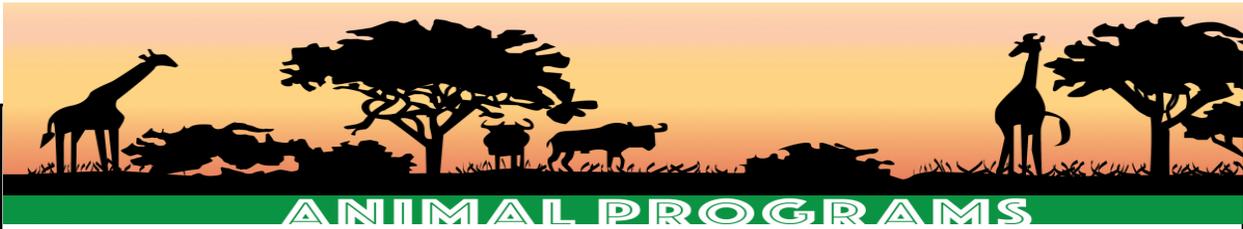
Students in grades K-6 will be working on their submissions for Square 1 Art. Order forms will be sent home with students. The art department thanks you for your continued support towards our annual fundraiser.



## Artist of the Month

Our Celebrity Artist of the month is sixth grader Isabella Gibson. Bella wants to be an artist when she grows up and loves drawing, especially anime. She loves cake and her favorite movie is Venom. Art teacher Hannah Mazzuto says, “Bella is such a pleasure and role model to have in class. She has such a positive attitude and great sense of humor. She is wonderfully talented, too!” Congratulations, Bella!

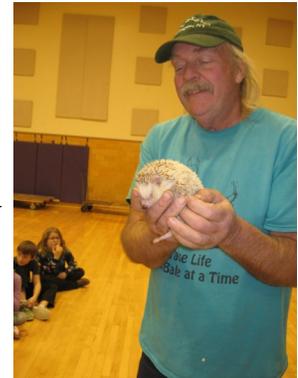




## ANIMAL PROGRAMS

Once again Mr. Morton, from Sun Dance Kids Farm, came with a really cool animal to teach us about! In January, he brought Helga and Herbert, the hedgehog. He taught us all about where hedgehogs live, what they eat, and how they protect themselves. He even let us touch Herbert! Did you know that hedgehogs can climb trees? They can, but they cannot climb down! When they're done in the tree and want to get down, they curl into a ball and drop to the ground. Their quills cushion them so they don't get hurt when they hit the ground. That's only one of the many cool facts we learned about hedgehogs this month.

Thank you to Mr. Morton for sharing his animals with us!



## Reading is Fun!

This past month, our Pre-K class read "The Fed Up Cow" by Peta Lemon and Maria Dasic Todoric. It was about a cow that didn't want to be a cow anymore. She tried being a sheep, a pig and a chicken, but in the end she realized that being a cow was the best thing for her to be. Pre-K decided to try being a cow to see what that was like.



## **What is YOUR word?**

### **MyIntent Project is a catalyst for meaningful conversations and positive action.**

We believe there is purpose inside each of us and we want our efforts to encourage people to share more truth and inspiration with each other.”

Est. 2013 - Founder Chris Pan

<https://www.myintent.org/pages/mission>

Just before winter break, WVCS students in grades 7-12 got a surprise – a wristband with a special word stamped on it – a different word that was special to each one of them. One of the teachers came across the idea to make these for the students. Then the WVTA, PTO and WVCS administration came together with the financial support to make it happen!

In ELA classes, Mr. Gregor and Ms. Budde led students through an exercise to find “their word.” Students thought they were just doing a pre-writing exercise for a future assignment! (Sneaky weren’t we?)

Step 1: Answer 1 or more of the following questions...

What is a goal of yours?

What brings you joy?

Is there something that you want to let go of?

Is there something you want to improve upon?

What energizes you or makes you feel like your true-self?

Step 2: Think about it!

What is holding you back from achieving the answers in Step 1? What WORD, as a daily reminder, would inspire you to accomplish or overcome the things that you mentioned in Step 1? For example, if you want to start your own business but have some doubts you’d like to overcome, you could choose a word such as BELIEVE, COURAGE, DETERMINATION or INGNITE. If you’re feeling overwhelmed, you may choose a reminder like BREATHE, STRENGTH, PERSEVERE, or GRIT.

Step 3: Identify YOUR word

You may have come up with a few words, and that’s ok, but what is the one WORD that is the most important, the priority, to be working on today?

After the words were chosen, a few teachers worked after school over the next two weeks to stamp out the words on the wrist bands so that all students would receive this gift just before winter break. Be sure to watch for the wrist bands on the students and when you see them, ask them to tell you about their word. We bet you’ll be inspired by their stories and their goals for the future. For more information, go to myintent.org. (By the way.... one of our clubs just might make YOU a wristband with YOUR word on it as a fundraiser this spring!)



**West Valley Community  
Friday Night Fish Fry**

February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019  
March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019

West Valley Volunteer Hose Company, Inc.  
Firemen's Memorial Banquet Hall & Training Center  
9085 Rte. 240, West Valley, NY  
Phone: 716-942-6500

# West Valley Central School Grades K-8 Lunch Menu

Menu is subject to change.

## February 2019



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
4 Hot Dog On A Bun Or Chicken Salad Sandwich ----- French Fries	5 Taco In A Bag Made with Nacho Doritos Or Turkey & Cheese Wrap ----- Baked Beans Salsa ¼ cup	6 Meatballs w/Garlic Bread Or Ham & Cheese Sub ----- Green Beans	7 Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Or Turkey & Cheese Sub ----- Broccoli	8 Burrito W/Seasoned Rice Or Ham & Cheese Sandwich ----- Sweet Carrots ½ cup
11 Cheeseburger OR Hamburger Or Chicken Salad Wrap ----- French Fries	12 Ultimate Nachos W/Tostitos Chips Or Turkey & Cheese Sandwich ----- Baked Beans Salsa ¼ cup	13 Chili In A Bread Bowl W/Cheese Or Ham & Cheese Sub ----- Sweet Carrots ¼ cup	14 Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Or Turkey & Cheese Su b ----- Broccoli VALENTINE COOKIE! 	15 Grilled Cheese W/Tomato Soup Or Ham & Cheese Sub ----- Green Beans
18 Cheeseburger OR Hamburger Or Chicken Salad Sandwich ----- Cucumber/Celery cup	19 Taco Salad Seasoned Rice Or Turkey & Cheese Wrap ----- Salsa ¼ cup Baked Beans	20 Roast Chicken/Dinner Roll Or Ham & Cheese Sub ----- Mashed Potatoes Carrots ½ cup	21 Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Or Turkey & Cheese Sub ----- Broccoli Cauliflower	22 Julienne Salad with a Dinner Roll
MID WINTER BREAK NO SCHOOL				
25 Cheeseburger OR Hamburger Or Chicken Salad Sandwich ----- Cucumber/Celery cup	26 Taco Salad Seasoned Rice Or Turkey & Cheese Wrap ----- Salsa ¼ cup Baked Beans	27 Roast Chicken/Dinner Roll Or Ham & Cheese Sub ----- Mashed Potatoes Carrots ½ cup	28 Cheese & Pepperoni Pizza Or Turkey & Cheese Sub ----- Broccoli Cauliflower	

### Offered daily

#### With all School Lunches:

#### Fresh or Prepared Fruit

(Must take ½ cup of Fruit or Vegetable - may take up to 1 cup)

Non or Low Fat White or Non Fat Chocolate Milk available daily

In addition to the Entrée of the Day, we also serve the following Items Daily:

Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwich

Julienne Salad with a Dinner Roll

Start with a:

- **Vegetable**
- **Fruit** (or take both)
- **Choose whole grains**
- **Pick a lean protein**
- **Add serving of milk**

*Take at least 3*

West Valley CS Pre K - 12  
Breakfast Menu

February  
2019



MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1
4 Sausage, Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich Or Cereal w/ $\frac{1}{2}$ a Bagel Chilled 100% Juice Cup Fresh or Prepared Fruit Non or Low Fat Milk	5 Apple or Cherry Fruite!l Or Cereal w/ $\frac{1}{2}$ a Bagel Chilled 100% Juice Cup Fresh or Prepared Fruit Non or Low Fat Milk	6 Sausage, Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich Or Cereal w/ $\frac{1}{2}$ a Bagel Chilled 100% Juice Cup Fresh or Prepared Fruit Non or Low Fat Milk	7 Breakfast Pizza Or Cereal w/ $\frac{1}{2}$ a Bagel Chilled 100% Juice Cup Fresh or Prepared Fruit Non or Low Fat Milk	8 Mini French Toast Or Cereal w/ $\frac{1}{2}$ a Bagel Chilled 100% Juice Cup Fresh or Prepared Fruit Non or Low Fat Milk
11 Sausage, Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich Or Cereal w/ $\frac{1}{2}$ a Bagel Chilled 100% Juice Cup Fresh or Prepared Fruit Non or Low Fat Milk	12 Cinni- Minis Or Cereal w/ $\frac{1}{2}$ a Bagel Chilled 100% Juice Cup Fresh or Prepared Fruit Non or Low Fat Milk	13 Sausage, Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich Or Cereal w/ $\frac{1}{2}$ a Bagel Chilled 100% Juice Cup Fresh or Prepared Fruit Non or Low Fat Milk	14 Breakfast Burrito or Cereal w/ $\frac{1}{2}$ a Bagel Chilled 100% Juice Cup Fresh or Prepared Fruit Non or Low Fat Milk	15 Mini French Toast Or Cereal w/ $\frac{1}{2}$ a Bagel Chilled 100% Juice Cup Fresh or Prepared Fruit Non or Low Fat Milk
18	19	20	21	22
MID WINTER		BREAK	NO SCHOOL	
25 Sausage, Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich Or Cereal w/ $\frac{1}{2}$ a Bagel Chilled 100% Juice Cup Fresh or Prepared Fruit Non or Low Fat Milk	26 Cinni- Minis Or Cereal w/ $\frac{1}{2}$ a Bagel Chilled 100% Juice Cup Fresh or Prepared Fruit Non or Low Fat Milk	27 Sausage, Egg & Cheese Breakfast Sandwich Or Cereal w/ $\frac{1}{2}$ a Bagel Chilled 100% Juice Cup Fresh or Prepared Fruit Non or Low Fat Milk	28 Breakfast Burrito or Cereal w/ $\frac{1}{2}$ a Bagel Chilled 100% Juice Cup Fresh or Prepared Fruit Non or Low Fat Milk	



Attention Parents!!!

Breakfast is the most important meal of the day and provides the necessary energy to start a day of learning and achievement. Children who eat breakfast at school:

- Score better on Standardized Tests
- Have Fewer Health Issues
- Behave Better in Class

Take the worry out of paying for Breakfasts:

Prepay for your child with cash, check or money order. Make checks and/or money orders payable to West Valley Central School or pay online at [myschoolbucks.com](http://myschoolbucks.com)



Students may choose one item from each section. Students must choose at least three items to constitute a full breakfast.

**One item must be a Fruit**

Menu is subject to change.

**West Valley Central School**  
5359 School Street  
West Valley, NY 14171  
(716) 942-3100

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 5

West Valley, NY

**Board of Education**

Timothy Ploetz, President  
Mike Harmony, Vice-President  
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Dawn Samborski  
Stephen Kowalski  
Gary Niesyty

**POSTAL PATRON LOCAL**

*Or Current Resident*

**Administration**

Mr. Eric Lawton, Superintendent  
Mr. Daniel Amodeo, Pre-K–12 Principal and  
District Curriculum Coordinator

## WVCS Calendar of Events for February

February 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Winter Ball 7-10pm auditorium
February 5 <sup>th</sup>	Elem. Girls Basketball 2:45-3:45pm gymnasium
February 6 <sup>th</sup>	AYI softball 6pm gymnasium
February 7 <sup>th</sup>	Elem. Boys Basketball 2:45-3:45pm gymnasium
February 8 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup> grade BOCES Tour 9-11am WV elementary students fun night 6-7:30pm
February 11 <sup>th</sup>	Sundance Farm Animals 1-2:30pm auditorium BOE meeting 7pm library
February 12 <sup>th</sup>	Elem. Girls Basketball 2:45-3:45pm gymnasium
February 13 <sup>th</sup>	AYI softball 6pm gymnasium
February 14 <sup>th</sup>	Elem. Boys Basketball 2:45-3:45pm gymnasium
February 18-22 <sup>nd</sup>	Mid-Winter Break – no school
February 20 <sup>th</sup>	AYI softball 6pm gymnasium
February 26 <sup>th</sup>	Spanish club 2:45-3:45pm
February 27 <sup>th</sup>	AYI softball 6pm gymnasium

Please send all newsletter articles to: [aleonard@wvalley.org](mailto:aleonard@wvalley.org). Articles should be in MS Word or MS Publisher or saved as a JPEG. The deadline for the February Newsletter is February 15, 2019 at 3 PM.

\*\*\*\*PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE GRAPHICS IN YOUR ARTICLES-THANK YOU!\*\*\*\*