

Spring Valley High School

Tam Larnerd
Principal

Dear Spring Valley High School Community:

We are nearing the end of another great year here at Spring Valley High School, and planning for next year is well under way. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your continued support of our many successful programs, and to let you know about some exciting changes coming to our campus for the 2016 – 2017 School Year.

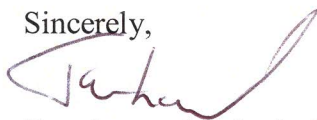
As many of you have probably already heard, we are in the process of becoming an International Baccalaureate (IB) magnet school. This challenging program exists in over 5000 schools worldwide, and we are fortunate to be able to offer it to our students. The goal of IB is to develop internationally minded young people, who are better prepared to succeed in an increasingly global society. Our aim is to challenge students academically, while also developing their understanding of themselves, their community, and the world in which they live. The program will be implemented school wide for all 9th and 10th graders next year, and will be an option for high achieving 11th and 12th graders in the fall of 2018. In addition to the normal graduation requirements, all 9th and 10th grade students will be required to study a foreign language, and may choose from either: Spanish, French, Mandarin Chinese, Japanese, or Korean.

In addition, all 9th graders will be taking a full year of social studies. In order to accommodate these new requirements, and still give students time in their day for electives, we will be moving to a 4 X 4 block schedule in which students take eight classes each year. Classes will be approximately 85 minutes long, and will meet every other day, allowing students to more easily meet or exceed their graduation requirements. The college admissions process is more competitive than ever, and even careers that do not require post-secondary education are asking more of applicants. At Spring Valley we work tirelessly to give our students every opportunity to stand out, regardless of the path they choose. These changes will make that goal more attainable than ever.

The implementation of the IB Program, and our new status as a magnet school, will also allow us to open our doors to more students. We have spent the last several months recruiting students for the program, and, as of March 1st, we had over 240 applicants from throughout the Las Vegas valley. We expect this group of outstanding students to have a positive impact on every aspect of campus life, from our championship athletic programs to our award winning visual and performing arts department.

If you have any questions about these changes, or anything else happening on our campus, please feel free to contact the school at 702-799-2580.

Sincerely,



Tam Larnerd, Principal