



Italy Independent School District

Department Board Report

Meeting Date: April 2026

MISSION: The mission of Italy ISD is to maintain a safe and caring environment by partnering with families and the community to inspire lifelong learning for intellectual and personal success for all students.

VISION: Italy ISD will be a district that sees every child and creates a diverse learning environment to prepare them for an ever-changing world.

Department: Italy High School

Name of Director or Presenter: Sharon Graves

Date: April 2026

Celebrations:

- Currently have 298 students enrolled

- We have officially made it to the 6th Six Weeks of the 2025-2026 school year. It is hard to believe that we have less than 30 days remaining in the school year. So many successes! So many accomplishments!! So many things still to do!!!
- Some of the most recent successes include 8th grade band receiving Sweepstakes in their recent UIL competition, 2 ag teams advancing to state competition, several Gladiators and Lady Gladiators advancing to Regional for track and field, and several students advancing to Regional competition in Academic UIL. It's truly a GREAT day to be a GLADIATOR!!!
- STAAR testing is definitely in full swing!!! We are officially two-thirds complete with testing for this school year. I genuinely can not wait to see the results, as students have locked in and worked so incredibly hard this year. You can see them using what they have learned in daily instruction, they are using strategies that have been taught and reinforced throughout the school year, and they have approached testing with a level of confidence that I have not seen our kids work with before. I am ready for testing to be finished, but I am SO PROUD of student work!
- Staff members were asked to write letters of encouragement to all testing students. This has been fun seeing students get mail from their teachers. These encouraging words mean so much to our students. Mail Call is a BIG DEAL!!!
- Mrs. Barrett will be scheduling a parent meeting with current 8th grade parents to prepare families for high school and graduation requirements.
- I will be scheduling a meeting with current 6th grade families to discuss the exciting opportunity for all incoming students to begin a journey in advanced math.
- We are also working on the schedule for the 2026-2027 school year. Our hope is for students to be able to digitally pick their schedule before students leave for summer. Mrs. Barrett has spent time with 6th grade students discussing future schedules. These students will be coming over to take a tour very soon.

- ❑ Scholarship applications have been gathered and distributed. It will be exciting to see what our students earn. Many have already received scholarships, and the money they are receiving is SO exciting!!!
- ❑ Graduation is becoming very real to Seniors as Jostens seems to be making weekly visits to deliver items to Seniors. Caps and gowns have been delivered to most Seniors .
- ❑ As we move toward the end of the school year, monitoring student social emotional health continues to be a priority. Anxiety builds with Seniors who may be uncertain of next step, and anxiety builds with students who may be uncertain what summer may hold for them.
- ❑ Mentors Care has been such a great support for our students this year. They have certainly been a piece of the “village” that has helped students reach this milestone.
- ❑ I continue to have meetings with Tour de Italia in planning the bike race for June 20. This organization pours a lot of money into our students and community. They are quite appreciative of the work our staff, students and community pour into this event.
- ❑ Prom is this weekend!! I can’t wait to see our students dressed to the nines, laughing, dancing, and having a GREAT time!
- ❑ We are now stepping into banquet season. It seems like most groups will have a banquet to celebrate the years’ accomplishments! I hope you are able to join us for some of the celebrations.
- ❑ The challenge for us as the end of the year comes is to stay focused and breathe. We can easily get overwhelmed, or we can continue to take one step at a time and do what Gladiators do!

Notable upcoming Gladiator Events

We have a master event calendar that is shared within the campus to know what is happening in the building and on the campus each day. This calendar includes games, practices, band competitions, CAP activities, FFA activities, and other campus events.

- Baseball & Softball games weekly - softball will be advancing to playoffs soon
- Track will continue to the Regional Meet with sites set on State as athletes continue to advance.
- May 13 - FFA Banquet
- April 19 - NHS/NJHS Induction
- May 8 - Band Banquet
- April 26 @ 2:00 - Band Concert
- May 17 @ 5:00 - Baccalaureate
- May 14 - Academic Banquet
- May 11 @ 6:00 - Senior Cord Ceremony
- May 13 - All Star Field Day
- May 14 - Senior Exams
- May 18 & 19 - Exams
- May 18 - Senior Luau
- May 20 - JH/HS Awards @ 9:00AM
- May 21 - Senior Elementary Walk & Senior Awards
- May 19 - IHS Athletic Banquet