

Valley Lutheran High School
Annual Report
May 19, 2010

Prepared by Executive Director/Principal John Brandt, Academic Dean Lisa Meyers, and Dean of Students/Athletic Director Kurt Hofmeister.

Mission Statement

Valley Lutheran High School believes that Christ is the foundation of our school and everything that we do. We prepare our students as children of God academically, physically, socially, emotionally and spiritually to serve in the world today and tomorrow.

Core Values

LUTHERAN CHRISTIAN - Proclaiming Christ as Savior according to the Bible and the Lutheran Confessions.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE - Challenging and equipping students to utilize their talents to the highest level.

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS - Nurturing Christ-like relationships within the VLHS community and beyond.

PURPOSEFUL SERVICE - Encouraging participation in activities that glorify God, benefit others, and help students discern His purpose for their lives.

Annual Theme and Bible Verse

“Trials Test Faith and Produce Perseverance”

“Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.” James 1:2-4

Accreditation

We continue to be accredited by:

North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
National Lutheran Schools Accreditation
Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools

21st Century Classroom Initiative

We are in our fifth year of the “Twenty-first Century Classroom Initiative” which combines professional development, changes in instructional strategies, and technology to become a school that produces students who are most ready for facing the intellectual, academic, and global challenges that await the millennial student. The initiative promotes improvement in the classroom by focusing on four areas.

The twenty-first century student will be able to:

- Use critical-thinking skills to solve real-world problems
- Collaborate with others to produce high-quality products
- Demonstrate high levels of literacy in reading, interpreting, and writing about complex information.
- Apply technology effectively as a tool in answering questions and solving problems.

The entire faculty is involved and is using our one hour per week of professional development time to work on this goal as well as a number of professional development days during the summer and on days off. The following highlights occurred this year:

Collaboration – The faculty participated in a pre-school retreat that focused on techniques for improving the effectiveness of student work in teams.

Literacy – The faculty continued to work on strategies for improving reading comprehension skills. Students participated in more opportunities to read expository writing (newspaper and journal articles, textbooks, online material) in a number of their classes.

Technology – Teachers explored the use of the LCD projectors, Smart Board, and the student response system as tools for helping students grow in their 21st Century skills. Teachers participated in two different technology workshops (of their choice) during the late-start Tuesday professional development time. Technology workshops were led by

Barry Wittig, Bev Feldkamp, Heath Vincent, and Lisa Meyers. Teachers also maintained personal web pages that gave details on the lesson plans and assignments for each week as well as other important class information.

Academics

Students were successful in the classroom.

We will graduate 83 seniors on June 13.

The average ACT score for the class of 2010 is 22.9 which is higher than both the state and national averages and among the highest in Saginaw County. All seniors took the test as part of the Michigan Merit Exam. This score compares very favorably to the average of 22.2 for the previous 16 years when only college-bound seniors took the test.

Kristy Brandt, Jon Weiss, and Elizabeth Wittig are the Valedictorians and Matthew Ringel is the Salutatorian for the Class of 2010.

27 Academic Letters and 63 academic pins were presented to 10th, 11th graders, and 12th graders.

Jamie Helmreich, Matthew Ringel and Elizabeth Wittig were honored by the Tri-Valley Conference as All Conference Scholars.

The National Honor Society inducted 27 new members at its Induction Ceremony in October. Jody Botwright, Executive Director of the Saginaw County Chapter of the Red Cross, was the guest speaker.

Curriculum and Programs

The Math department curriculum review was completed under the direction of Barb Doyle. After a careful comparison of our curriculum to the new Michigan Merit Math curriculum, decisions were made to continue offering a full-course of Trigonometry concepts integrated into Geometry, Advanced Algebra, and Pre-Calculus (the state has actually reduced the amount of Trigonometry and Probability students are responsible to know). In addition, two new courses were proposed that would meet the needs of students entering college: Advanced Applications in Mathematics and Basic Statistics.

The Special Needs Program (Lisa Meyers) is in its eighth year with faculty and parents working together to custom tailor the educational plan for more than 31 students (6 seniors, 6 juniors, 9 sophomores, 10 freshmen). The Special Needs Program continues to demonstrate positive growth. Linda Rogers and Debbie Davis are the coordinators for this program and also work one-on-one with the students providing support as the students complete our standard college preparatory program. Melissa Rachwitz continues to volunteer her time to meet with the students monthly on planning their transition to post high school. A couple of parent volunteers round out the program by meeting with students at least once per week to help with the tutoring portion. Debbie Davis and Linda Rogers also attended a conference on Executive Skills Dysfunction and another one on Strategies for Emotional and Behavioral Problems.

Seventeen AP Calculus and 36 AP English students took the Advanced Placement Exam on May 5th and May 12th, respectively. Ten students took the AP Spanish Exam. This was only the second year we have followed the AP Spanish curriculum and prepared students for the exam. All courses designated at Advanced Placement must have a course syllabus approved by the College Board. One student took the AP Psychology and AP U.S. History exam even though we do not offer formal AP Government or AP U.S. History. One student took the AP Music Theory exam.

Students, faculty, and some parents read the book, Warriors Don't Cry by Melba Patillo Beals. Each student selected a topic based upon the book and wrote an essay during the summer. Class discussions, writing assignments, and projects that were related to the book were used within classes. Family groups participated in discussions also based on the book. The 2010 summer read book is Do Hard Things by Alex and Brett Harris. The non-fiction book was written by a pair of Christian young men (twins!) who encourage teens to join the fight against low expectations.

Sophomores attended the "Sophomore Leadership Day" in March where they participated in a number of sectionals that focused on making good decisions. On the same day, the ninth graders attended their first conference at Valley where they participated in a number of sectionals based upon the book, "The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens."

Ninth graders worked with the Underground Railroad during the month of February to learn more about health relationships. They completed a number of projects that served to inform the rest of the student body on the signs of dating abuse. This effort was coordinated by Mrs. Roxanne Menapace (PE/Health) and

Mr. Eric Smith (PE/Health). PE/Health classes also had a speaker on nutrition and were able to use the new Student Response System (hand-held clickers that allow students to vote and see immediate results) to explore their knowledge in the area of health.

English 2 students participated in Literature Circles in the Spring where they were able to select their own book and work in groups to discuss the literature and respond in writing. They also created “story cubes” which depict the major elements of a short story on a 3-D cube. Mrs. Kris Flora is the instructor.

Spanish III and IV (Renee’ Brenner) participated in an authentic Spanish luncheon at Los Quatros where only Spanish language was spoken. All Spanish classes heard from alumni Darian Marsalis as he spoke about his semester abroad in Spain.

Pastor Robert Smith spoke to Old and New Testament classes on the difference between Law & Gospel.

Five students: Elizabeth and Rebecca Wittig, Taylor Morgan, Brandon Wittig, and Jordan Grant participated in the Math Field Day held at University of Michigan, Flint. Mrs. Barb Doyle was the advisor. The VLHS team placed 4th in the small school division and Taylor Morgan received the top score for her room in the “chalk talk.”

Art 2 classes took a field trip to the Frederick Marshall museum at SVSU and participated in sculpture making at the state park in Bay City. Studio Art classes spent time at the Alden B. Dow House and Studio and the Center for the Arts in Midland. Mr. Jay Kaelberer is the teacher.

The British Literature and drama classes (Mrs. Bess Winter) took a field trip to the Hilbury Theater in Detroit to see the play, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*.. After the play, they were able to participate in a “talk back” where the actors discussed the play with the audience.

A number of speakers made presentations to the Senior Christian Ethics class. The students learned about Hospice Care and Mrs. Melissa Rachwitz spoke with the classes about growing up in a Jehovah’s Witness house. Pastor John Mueller teaches senior Ethics.

Students were able to work with Attorney Darrell Zolton and participate in the Law Day mock trial at the Saginaw County Court House where they received a guilty and a not-guilty verdict. Mr. Barry Wittig is the faculty advisor.

The U. S. History classes heard from Mr. Frank Hofmeister (pilot in WWII). Students in U. S. History were the first to participate in a series of on-line quizzes and using a student response system. They also simulated a mock trial based upon the Pullman strike. The students also created a simulated investigation of the murder of Theodore Roosevelt. Mr. Barry Wittig is the teacher.

All Spanish classes began using the “Yabla” internet program which provides students with authentic language listening experiences through video.

Algebra 1 classes (Amy Cooper) explored quadratic functions using graphing calculators and the TI-Navigator system.

Algebra 2 classes heard from parent Bill Wittig about the field of engineering and the use of mathematics in general and trigonometry specifically.

Biology classes (Ben Cooper) learned the proper use of microscopes and were able to use them regularly in the Biology lab. An emphasis of the course is learning about God’s world from a Biblical worldview.

The senior Government/Economics classes heard from speakers from the International Credit Association and Dennis Browning who spoke on local government. A number of students entered the ICA competition to promote credit with Elizabeth and Rebecca Wittig taking 1st place with their song to the tune of Billy Joel’s “Piano Man.” The senior Psychology classes participated in the “Baby Think it Over” program where they took care of computerized “babies” over a weekend. They also saw the Babinski reflex firsthand from Mr. Frank’s niece, Mia. In Economics, the students were led through the Junior Achievement program by consultants Jeffrey Proctor and Hal Schilling. The Economics students also played a nationwide stock market game where they are currently ranked 1st out of 1000 teams across the country. All three classes are taught by Jon Frank.

Chemistry classes (Tracy Pederson) also heard from a speaker from “Plastivan” on the “Amazing World of Plastics.”

The Global Issues classes (Miss Bev Feldkamp) completed a culture project where they were able to “tour” numerous countries (and try their food!) by visiting student scrapbooks. They also completed a “fasting” project in their unit on hunger and they took a collection for Lutheran World Relief.

Students in Algebra classes used graphing calculator technology (Barb Doyle) with the TI-Navigator system which allows students and teacher to send information to each other and to the main computer screen.

Student Activities

Athletics

Spring 2009:

The *Girls' Track Team* won the Division 3 Regional at Standish-Sterling Central. Individual state qualifiers were Kristy Brandt and Andrea Finkbeiner in the long jump, Kayla Finkbeiner in the high jump, Scarlet Fitzpatrick in the shot put and discus, and Liz Wegener in the discus. This team also won the TVC West Division championship. The *Boys' Track Team* won the TVC West Division, as well. State qualifiers for the boys were Aaron Meckes in the shot put and discus and Matt Duggar in the high jump.

The *Softball Team* won their first District title since 1985. All-District honors went to Jenna Weiss, Jessica Miller, Sarah Appold, and Kayla Engelhard.

Girls' Soccer won the TVC East championship finishing the season with a 17-2-1 record. They allowed just 5 goals all season.

Fall 2009:

Our *Volleyball Team* had another outstanding year, finishing second in the TVC West division with a 6-1 record but included a District title over Reese. Valley fielded a 9th grade, Junior Varsity, and Varsity team this year. The 9th and JV teams had the best record of any conference schools at that level. The girls are coached by Jon Frank.

The *Boys' Cross Country Team and the Girls' Cross Country Team*. The *Girls Team* just missed qualifying for the state meet by finishing 4th at the Regional. All-State honors went to one boy, James Rogers, who performed the third fastest time in Valley Lutheran history. Two girls, sisters Mary and Abbie Greenwell also qualified for the state meet. Both cross country teams are coached by Tom Roekle

Our *varsity Football Team*, with seventh year co-op help from the Saginaw Arts and Science Academy, finished without a win but managed four players on the All-Conference team. Kyle Kaufmann was voted to the first team Lutheran High

School All-American team as a punter. The football team is coached by Eric Smith.

Our *Boys' Soccer Team* finished third in the Tri-Valley East Division. No less than four Valley Lutheran players were selected to the all-conference team. The soccer team was coached by Doug Guenther. Senior Adam Kunding were named Honorable Mention All State.

Winter 2009-10:

The *Boys' Basketball Team* was under the direction of Randy Rogers, his fifth year at Valley Lutheran, finished second in TVC West. Five players earned all-conference selections. The players from the Class of 2010 finished with 34 wins, third most in VLHS history. The JV and Freshman levels finished with winning records, as well. James Rogers competed in a 3-point shooting contest at the Breslin Center at MSU. He was also named to the All-State team as Honorable Mention.

The *Girls' Basketball Team* finished as co-champs in the TVC West dropping just one game in the conference. Their overall record was 15-6. They were ranked in the top five all season in the state of Michigan for Class C schools, but were defeated in the District tournament by two-time state champs, New Lothrop. Six players were chosen to the All-Conference teams. Kayla Engelhard was also named to the All State team as Honorable Mention. In addition, the JV team and the Freshmen team boasted winning records.

Our *Wrestling Team* found 2009-10 to be another rebuilding year as last year's freshmen and some new wrestlers made them more competitive. Bruce Rau qualified for the state meet as a sophomore this year. The wrestlers were coached by Gary Frederick

Our *Varsity Pom Team* won the Mid-Michigan competition in Ithaca during January and finished runner-up in the state competition sponsored by Mid-American Poms at Eastern Michigan University in early February. The girls are coached by Kelli Thompson.

Spring 2010:

The *Boys and Girls Track Teams* are poised to make a run at the TVC West crowns next week as well as some Regional honors this Friday. Many school

records have fallen during the course of this season with Coach Jon Frank looking for even more to fall.

The *Girls' Soccer Team* is currently in second place in the TVC East with three games remaining before District play. Coach Doug Guenther is looking forward to making a run in the tournament.

The *Softball Team* is currently tied for first place with Breckenridge. They have battled hard and won some big games against some very good teams in the area this spring. Coach/Pastor John Mueller has the girls ready for District play at Nouvel on June 5.

The *Baseball Team* is in second place one game behind Breckenridge. They are carrying an 18-6-1 record as of today. Seven seniors, four which have 4 years of varsity experience, are leading the way this season as they look forward to doing well in the tournament.

Students named to the Tri-Valley Conference (TVC) post-season honors: (this does not reflect this spring's sports teams as the all conference selections have not yet been made.)

First Team TVC

Cross Country: Abbie Greenwell, Mary Greenwell, James Rogers, Nick Marter

Baseball (09): Kyle Kaufmann

Football: Jeff Brady, Kyle Kaufmann

Boys' Soccer: Adam Kundinger; Cory Cookingham, Austin Schriber, Jon Weiss

Girls Soccer (09): Megan Wegener, Faith Palmreuter, Kate Morse, Katie Pett,

Jackie Stone

Girls Basketball: Kayla Engelhard

Boys Basketball: James Rogers, Kaleb VanAmburg

Softball (09): Kayla Engelhard, Trista Brownlee, Sarah Appold

Volleyball: Maureen Yurgens, Kristy Brandt

Second Team TVC

Cross Country: Alicia Ramsey, Bethany Rogers

Football: John Holtrop, Michael King

Baseball (09): Brett Martin

Boys' Soccer: Danny Doyle

Girls' Soccer (09): Stephanie Faller, Hilary Peil

Girls' Basketball: Maureen Yurgens, Trista Brownlee
 Boys' Basketball: Kaleb Van Amburgh, Jon Weiss
 Volleyball: Sarah Appold, Sarah Weiss
 Softball (09): Natalie Yurgens, Jessica Miller, Jenna Weiss
 Golf (09): Tyler Kluck

Two new sports have been added to the Valley Lutheran sports program. This past winter, our *Boys' Bowling Team* participated in the TVC East Division. In fact, we had one girl on our team. It looked as though we'd have enough for a girls' team, but that did not come about. The second sport added to the winter offerings was *Ice Hockey*. In order to make this happen, we entered into a cooperative arrangement with Nouvel Catholic Central. Valley Lutheran had 3 boys make the team. We plan on being in the co-op arrangement as long as we have boys that are interested in playing ice hockey.

Kristy Brandt was a Michigan High School Athletic Association Scholar-Athlete finalist. Kristy was the first female athlete at Valley Lutheran to be recognized at this level. There were 120 finalists for this award.

The *Girls' Varsity Basketball Team* had the highest GPA of any class school this season. Their 3.92 earned them top honor as recognized by the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan.

Summer sports camps and clinics were conducted for area students going into grades 5-9 during June 2009. Camps also being planned for this summer include soccer, basketball, football and volleyball. We have included three Fine Arts Camps, once again, for this coming summer which include Art, Music, and Science.

Tournaments were held for our area Lutheran elementary schools: girls' basketball in January, boys' basketball in the February, and girls' volleyball in October of 2009. Our grade school track meet in May was canceled due to bad weather this year. We plan to continue hosting grade school tournaments.

Coaches attending clinics this past calendar year: Eric Smith and John Duclos—football, Doug Guenther-soccer, Randy Rogers and Tom Roekle-basketball, Jon Frank and Mandy Neumeyer-volleyball, Gary Frederick-Wrestling, Jon Frank and Kayla Kramer-track,, Kurt Hofmeister and Heath Vincent-baseball.

We have enjoyed competing in the Tri-Valley Conference once again this school year. Less travel and neighborhood rivalries have been both exciting and challenging.

Music

The Golden Voice Choir, under the direction of Paul Eschmann, received a “Superior at both the State and District festivals.

Golden Voice enhanced worship at St. Lorenz Lutheran Church in Frankenmuth and sang for the culminating service celebrating the Anniversary of Grace Lutheran Church in Auburn.

“Glorify”, the handbell choir under the direction of Mrs. Barb Doyle, organized a bell concert that involved 5 local parish bell choirs totaling nearly 60 ringers. They really enhance Sunday worship at local congregations.

The Jazz Band, Jazz Choir, and Barbershop music groups performed for various school functions and several retirements homes in the community.

The Flute Choir and Acclaim enhanced worship at several member congregation Sunday services.

In October, the music department presented a "Musical Extravaganza" to over 600 students from twelve area Lutheran schools, with small samples of many of the musical groups at Valley Lutheran

The Brass Quintet and Golden Voice contributed their gifts to the annual Good Friday service held at Horizons Conference Center.

The annual Christmas concert was sung at Trinity Lutheran Church in Monitor Township.

The annual band and choir Lenten Tour traveled to Ohio, Missouri, Illinois and Michigan for concerts before returning for a home concert at Faith Lutheran Church in Bay City. This is always a highlight of the year.

Brian Altevogt, from Concordia University (Ann Arbor) conducted a workshop with Golden Voice as they prepared for the District competition.

The women singers from Golden Voice participated in a Women's Choral Workshop at St. Lorenz in September.

The Spring Concert was performed at the Malcolm Field Theater at Saginaw Valley State University.

Drama

Mrs. Bess Winter directed the winter production of *Play On* by Rick Abbott. It was performed at St. Paul Lutheran School in Frankenlust.

Mrs. Renee Brenner directed *John Lennon and Me* written by Cherrie Bennett.

Mr. Barry Wittig, assisted by Mr. Paul Eschmann and Lindsay Meyer., directed the musical *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* by Clark Gesner.

Jay Kaelberer and a crew of students provide great support in designing and constructing the stage and sets.

Chapel Presentation Teams

Several student groups and faculty members presented over 40 chapels at our Lutheran Elementary Schools. This was a wonderful opportunity for Valley Lutheran High School students to share their faith. Our Lutheran Elementary Schools greatly appreciated these chapels. The following groups were involved:

Students for Life (under the direction of Dr. Lisa Meyers)

Impact (under the direction of Mr. Paul Eschmann)

Social Opportunities And Assemblies

Over 350 students and their guests attended the Homecoming Dance.

Over 125 students and their guests attended the Prom at Bay Valley.

The Charger Post Prom Party was also held at Saginaw Valley State University. This was organized by parents and provided students with a safe and fun conclusion to their prom night. 140 students and their guests were in attendance.

The annual Freshman Lock-in was held at the Saginaw YMCA with every 9th grader in attendance!

60 Seniors attended the annual Senior Retreat at Camp Timbers in West Branch.

The students were able to benefit from several assemblies during the school year.

Carl Kerby from Answers in Genesis, spoke to our student body and 700 Lutheran middle school students. In the evening he made another presentation to the community. His time was funded by a grant from the St. Lorenz Foundation.

Tony Horvath spoke with our students about life issues. His presentation was funded by Michigan Lutherans for Life.

Former VL teacher and contemporary Christian musician Dave Britton presented a chapel assembly.

For the first time we prepared two special events for 9th and 10th graders to do while the 11th graders were completing the Michigan Merit Exam. Ninth graders participated in a day-long seminar based on Sean Covey's book "The Seven Habits of High Effective Teens." Teachers, with the help of seniors, prepared interactive sessions that challenged the 9th graders to succeed. For the third time the 10th graders participated in the Sophomore Futures Day, this time held at Stardust Lanes. Students each participated in six sessions that addressed issues concerning drug and alcohol abuse, guy/girl relationships, legal consequences of poor decisions, and building positive relationships with peers.

Liz Haiderer was selected to the TVC all conference writing team and Kayla Finkbeiner was named honorable mention. Rachel Worthing's poem received the highest rating in the TVC writing contest.

Student leadership skills continued to be developed through our Student Council. This year's president is Cory Cookingham and the faculty advisors are Mrs. Kris Flora and Pastor John Mueller.

Our student council participated in a "student council exchange" with both North Branch and Carrollton where the student groups shared ideas with each other while visiting the other schools.

A Michigan State Trooper presented a drug awareness seminar for our parents.

Service Opportunities

The Key Club continues to provide service to the community. With over 100 active student members, the Key Club works with a number of local non-profit agencies to make a difference. Allie Washabaugh is the chapter president and the parent advisor is Kim Reiss.

Two school-wide service days were conducted, one in September and one in May.

The New Testament classes (Mr. Steve Zill) spearhead the campaign to adopt 8 children from Compassion International. Money is collected from the student body each week and sent to CI to help cover the costs of food, clothing, and education for the adopted students. Valley supports these students until they turn 18.

The Global Issues classes raised over \$800, which was given to World Vision, Lutheran World Relief, and UNICEF as part of their unit on hunger.

Two blood drives were hosted by the National Honor Society for the Michigan Community Blood Center. They also worked with volunteers from Hospice for Hope (Lutheran Homes of Michigan) making teddy bears for children attending Camp Hope who have lost a parent . The NHS advisor is Mrs. Barb Doyle.

The 27th annual Christmas Family drive was very successful. Miss Beverly Feldkamp organized and directed this project.

The school building was also offered as “service” to the community as it was used by the American Red Cross for Operation CPR and for the Saginaw County Right to Life annual memorial service.

Meranda McDonald and her father, Rick Canute, lost their home in a fire. Students and the extended Valley Lutheran family had a first hand opportunity to make a difference. Working with the Social Ministry team at Holy Cross Lutheran Church the family was able to furnish their new home with donated items and received over \$6000 to assist in overcoming the fire.

The boys basketball team raised over \$200 for Coaches v. Cancer.

Students organized a relief drive to assist in the recovery efforts after the Haiti earthquake. The donations were forwarded to Lutheran World Relief.

Our school is a site for the Saginaw Valley Rehabilitation Center program “My Choice.” This program gives clients with disabilities the opportunity to develop necessary job skills. They work one day each week in our food service.

Facility Improvements

We continue to improve the technological infrastructure to facilitate the 21st Century Classroom Initiative. Most notable this year was the upgrade to the computer lab so that it can also serve as a language lab and the installation of four interactive white board systems.

Faculty and Staff Notes

We are blessed with a wonderful group of Christian teachers and staff who believe in the ministry of Valley Lutheran High School.

Mr. Doug Guenther received the Distinguished Secondary Educator Award from the Lutheran Educator’s Association (LEA). This is a national award that was presented to him in March. He was also asked to write the high school devotions and chapels for the upcoming Lutheran Schools Week in March of 2010.

The faculty took advantage of opportunities to expand their knowledge and skills.

The faculty participated in a three-day retreat in preparation for the school year. A main focus was on using collaboration in the classroom.

The faculty participated in two in-service days and regular meetings on late-start Tuesdays. The emphasis of their work this year was in the development of instructional strategies for using technology in the classroom, literacy instruction, creating team lesson plans, Bible study, and continued work on the “21st Century Classroom Initiative.”

The faculty also completed a year-long study of “Passing the Baton” which trains people to pass along the Christian values and attitudes to the next generation by developing the leadership skills of teenagers. The course was led by Miss Lindsay Meyer and Mr. Doug Guenther.

The entire faculty attended the MANS (Michigan Association for Non-Public Schools) conference for two days in October. The keynote speaker was Bill

Daggett who emphasized the importance of rigor, relationships, and relevance in the curriculum. Teachers also had the opportunity to attend sectionals in areas of interest. A number of teachers also presented at this conference: Bev Feldkamp, Barb Doyle, Randy Rogers, and Doug Guenther).

Bev Feldkamp (Social Studies) presented at the National Council for Geographic Education in Puerto Rico. Her presentation was on deforestation in Haiti. She also attended a 2 week workshop in South Korea for the Korean Studies program.

Barb Doyle and Bev Feldkamp presented new technologies to the teachers in the Detroit Lutheran High Schools Association. Bev Feldkamp presented the Mimeo and Barb Doyle presented the TI-Navigator.

Other opportunities to expand knowledge and skills were:

Mrs. Melissa Klamer (English/Music), Mrs. Amy Cooper (Math/Computer Science), and Mr. Ben Cooper (Biology/English) passed all the Michigan Tests for Teacher Certification in their two subject areas and in basic skills.

Pastor John Mueller took two graduate classes from the St. Louis Seminary on homiletics and millennialism and prophecy.

Mrs. Renee Brenner and Mrs. Amy Cooper attended the MACUL conference in Grand Rapids which emphasizes the use of technology in the classroom.

Mr. Randy Rogers (guidance counselor) and Dr. Lisa Meyers (Academic Dean) attended training sessions on administering the MME (Michigan Merit Exam) to juniors in the Spring.

Mrs. Melissa Klamer (English) attended a week-long conference on teaching Advanced Placement English Language and Composition.

Mr. Heath Vincent (Physics) and Mrs. Tracy Pederson (Chemistry) attended the Tri-Valley teacher conference for teachers of Physics and Chemistry.

Mr. Eric Smith attended a Bigger, Faster, Stronger workshop where he became certified in speed, strength, and conditioning training.

Mr. Ben Cooper and Pastor John Mueller (religion) attended a conference in Fort Wayne, IN on "Dealing with Darwin."

Mr. Randy Rogers was trained in the use of Connect EDU which will now allow for the electronic transfer of student transcripts.

Miss Lindsay Meyer (Instrumental) and Mr. Paul Eschmann (Choral) attended the Michigan Music Conference.

Our Faculty is:

Executive Director/Principal	John Brandt (Ed.D.)
Academic Dean/Special Needs Coordinator	Lisa Meyers (Ed.D.)
Dean of Students/Athletic Director	Kurt Hofmeister (M.A.) (10 years at VL)
Guidance Counselor	Randall Rogers (M.A.) (5 years at VL)

Teachers:

Renee Brenner (M.A.) (5 years at VL)
 Amy Cooper (B.S.)
 Ben Cooper (B.S.)
 Barb Doyle (M.A.T.)
 Pam Eschmann (M.Ed.)
 Paul Eschmann (M.Ed.)
 Beverly Feldkamp (M.A.T.) (30 years at VL)
 Kris Flora (M.A.T.) (25 years at VL)
 Jon Frank (M.A.T.) (15 years at VL)
 Doug Guenther (M.A.T.) (25 years at VL)
 Jay Kaelberer (M.A.T.)
 Melissa Klamer (B.A.)
 Margee Keoshian (B.A.)
 Roxanne Menapace (R.N., B.S.)
 Lindsay Meyer (B.M.E.)
 John Mueller (M. Div.)
 Tracy Pederson (M.E.L.)
 Tom Roekle (M.A.T.) (25 years LCMS)
 Eric Smith (M.A.) (5 years at VL)
 Heath Vincent (B.A.)
 Elizabeth Winter (M.A.)
 Barry Wittig (M.S.)
 Steve Zill (M.S.S.)

Our Support Staff is:

Assistant to the Executive Director
 Krista Flory (B.A.) (30 years LCMS)

Special Needs Aides
 Debbie Davis
 Linda Rogers (B.A.) (5 years at VL)

Secretaries
 Shelby Wieck
 Royce Wegener (B.A.)
 Nora Krueger

Food Service
 Peggy Herbolsheimer (15 years at VL)
 Tracy Bauer
 Kathy Davis

Custodians and Maintenance
 Jerry Neuenfeldt
 Scott Englehardt (10 years at VL)
 Jim Morgrette

Enrollment

9 th Grade	102
10 th Grade	93
11 th Grade	85
12 th Grade	83
<u>Total</u>	<u>363</u>

International Students 5 South Korea, 1 Germany, 1 Saudi Arabia

Our students are from:

LCMS Congregations	28
WELS Congregations	3
ELCA Congregation	2
Other Christian Congregations	31

218 (62%) are members of Association congregations
 67 (19%) are members of Non-Association Lutheran Congregations
 68 (19%) are from the Community

The Business of the Association

The Board of Directors completed a new strategic plan with implementation currently in progress.

The “Peeks” process is an important focal point of our school’s efforts. At least twice each month a one hour “Peek at Valley” for anyone interested in learning more about the school. In two years over 500 have attended. An annual highlight is the Sunrise at the Summit breakfast held at Saginaw Valley State University. Approximately 350 individuals interested in Valley Lutheran attended. An important part of this process is inviting people to join the “Summit Society.” Each member commits to giving at least \$1000 for each of the next 5 years. We currently have 55 members. Six individuals attended a training session these techniques in Dallas. Two new support groups were established – the Builders who assist in building relationships with current donors and the Ambassadors who invite others to attend “Peeks.” Tom Roekle is our team leader.

Originally VOICE was a group committed to sharing about Valley Lutheran by word of mouth. This group expanded until there are nearly 200 people who receive weekly e-mail about good things happening at Valley Lutheran .

We continue with an on-going rental relationship with Concordia University-Ann Arbor to provide classrooms for their off campus graduate courses.

A billboard campaign was launched in January that will feature one billboard that moves between three locations over the next 6 months. This is part our communications plan.

The Board recognizes a growing concern about the sustainability of Lutheran education in our community. To this end they contracted with the Near Consulting Group to conduct focus group sessions with a variety of community members. This effort was supported in part by a grant from the Church Extension Fund.

In addition to work on the Strategic Plan the standing committees also addressed the following issues:

The Campus Life and Communications Committee reviewed the current long-term maintenance plan and website.

The Finance Committee studied and recommended the budget for approval. It began the difficult job of developing a five year financial plan as part of the strategic plan.

The Educational Excellence Committee interviewed and recommended for employment a new English teacher. It studied and recommended for adoption the new math curriculum. It also began to develop assessments to measure the effectiveness of the 21st Century Classroom Initiative.

Yeo and Yeo audited our financial records in August 2009 giving us an unqualified approval.

	<u>June 30, 2009</u>	<u>June 30, 2008</u>	<u>Change</u>
Total Net Assets ¹	\$4,356,116	\$3,771,034	\$585,082/15.5%
Total Property Debt	\$798,391	\$859,908	(\$66,517)/(7.7%)
Operating Revenue	\$2,573,068	\$2,552,807	\$20,261/.1%
Operating Expenses	\$2,469,291	\$2,399,805	\$69,486/2.9%
Net Excess/Loss	\$103,777	\$153,002	(\$49,225)/(32%)
Cost per Student	\$6765	\$6779	(\$14)/(.2%)
Operating Reserves	\$338,667	\$328,221	\$10,446/3.2%
Valley Lutheran Foundation ²	\$1,790,951	\$1,906,156	(\$115,205)/(6%)

¹ Includes funds previously listed as undesignated or faculty compensation.

² \$57,000 was withdrawn from the Faculty Compensation. The additional losses were due to a poor market.

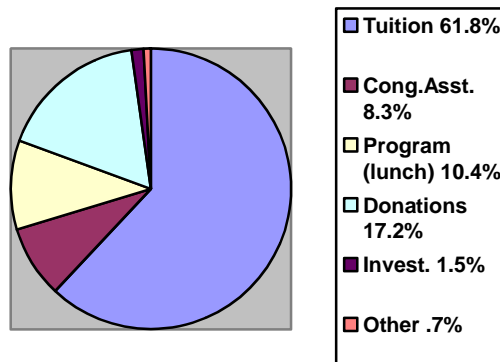


Figure 1- Sources of Revenue

Tuition rates for 2010-2011 will be \$4650 Association, \$5740 Non-Association LCMS, and \$6050 Community.

Association rates for 2010-2011 are the lesser of \$23 per communicant member or \$8 per communicant plus \$700 per enrolled student or \$2000 per enrolled student.

At the end of the third fiscal quarter (March 31, 2010) we had \$1,998,168 in revenue and \$1,998,362 in expenses for a net loss of \$194. We do project a balanced budget.

Valley Lutheran Foundation

The Valley Lutheran Foundation is charged with developing long-term financial support for the school. Foundation board members include: President Rodney Wakeman, Vice-President Jim Milroy, Secretary Rich Marker, Treasurer Jeff Benjamin and members, Dave Duclos, Kathy Engelhardt, Ken Gremel, Carole Hemminger, Al Kaul, Roy Schmidt, and Darrell Zolton.

The annual appreciation dinner was held on March 23 at the Germania Club. Terry and Gail Wegener, Sharon and Dennis Lawrence were presented with the Angel Award for their board and volunteer service. Thrivent Financial Services for Lutherans was recognized for its long-time financial support which is estimated to exceed \$1 million. Kris Flora and Tom Roekle were recognized for 25 years of service in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Doug Guenther was presented with the Distinguished Secondary Educator Award from the Lutheran Education Association.

The Foundation distributed \$44,170 for student aid and to help underwrite the cost of technology improvements. .

Account Balances March 31, 2010

Valley Lutheran Foundation	\$1,249,018	
Faculty Compensation Fund	\$582,519	
 Total Assets	 \$1,831,537	 \$1,686,027 (2009)

Named Funds:

Wheatley (college scholarship)	Boehm (college scholarship)
Olson (fine arts)	Reichard (VL scholarship)
Keinath (VL scholarship)	Fiedler (VL scholarship)
Schwarz-Smith (VL Scholarship)	Teacher Appreciation Fund*
Duclos **	Summer Music Scholarship
Bronner (VL Scholarship)	Wakeman (VL and college scholarship)
Faith Bridgeport (VL Scholarship)	

* The Teacher Appreciation Fund has been established with the intent of building it for 10 years before making distributions. At that point it will supplement faculty salaries.

** The Duclos Fund is a new fund that is in the building process and has yet to identify a purpose.

The “Auction for Action Benefit Dinner-Auction” at the Apple Mountain Conference Center was a high point again this year. Chaired by Beth Kaul this event attracted a record 400 participants and donors of many items for bid. Nearly \$50,000 was raised at this event which brings its total to \$250,000 in seven years.

The 10th annual golf outing raised nearly \$9000 with leadership from a new “team.” Lori Drinan has taken the leadership responsibilities as we look forward to the 2010 outing.

Board Members

Mike Denno	Bethlehem, Saginaw
Cathi Reymore	St. Paul Frankenlust
Laurie Zolton	Good Shepherd, Saginaw
Rich Schiemann	St. Peter, Hemlock
Jack Anderson, President	Faith, Bay City
Dave Peruski	Trinity, Monitor
David Duclos	Holy Cross, Saginaw
Eric Rupprecht	Trinity, Reese
Todd Brechtelsbauer	Immanuel, Frankentrost
Mark Treiber	Zion, Beaver
Debbie Beffrey	Messiah, Carrollton
David Little	Zion, Iva
Steve Ott, Treasurer	Peace Saginaw
Pastor Michael Korte	Pastoral Delegate
Lisa Helmreich, President-Elect	St. John, Amelith
Cindy Rauschert	Teacher Delegate
Rachel Geddes, Secretary	St. Mark, Shields