It is River Valley Homecoming Week! Homecoming is a time when students (past and present) come together to celebrate with people and traditions. We have many exciting events to share!

Homecomings were first celebrated by universities and have a history back to the 19th century. Each year a sporting event was held on the school's home turf and dubbed the "homecoming game." Typically, it's a football game played in the fall. Current public school districts and universities have embedded the entire week's activities as part of the homecoming celebration. Events for students throughout the week—such as crazy hair day, school spirit day, a pep rally, a parade, a dance—are among the common happenings that make up a community's homecoming week. Many things make this a week to celebrate...River Valley has even added fireworks!

The River Valley School District certainly doesn't disappoint in highlighting great activities for our students and families. This year a football game, a volleyball game, a soccer match, our Homecoming Parade, and our 60th School Fair (including a large animal auction, small animal exhibits, and a horse show) will all be available for community members to see. We continue to grow and improve our great traditions at River Valley. Our Blackhawk school spirit is strong and ready to celebrate...so come and join us!

Here is a list of some home events for you to attend:

- Monday, October 2, **JV Football** (5:30 pm)
- Thursday, October 5:
  - o **JV Volleyball** (4:45 pm)
  - o Varsity Soccer (5:00 pm)
  - o **Varsity Volleyball** (6:15 pm)
- Thursday, October 5, **Pep Rally and Fireworks** (after the games)
- Friday, October 6, **School Fair** (Starts at 8:30 am)
- Friday, October 6, **Livestock Auction** (Registration 10-11:30; Auction at Noon)
- Friday, October 6, **Homecoming Parade** (3:00 pm)
- Friday, October 6, **River Valley Endowment Fundraiser** (after the parade)
- Friday, October 6, Varsity Football (7:00 pm)

Our students and families enjoy this week. But what makes it even better is the overall pride in our community! Kids run faster, play harder, dive deeper, and stand prouder when there is a crowd in attendance. We invite you to be a part of the great things the River Valley School District is hosting for Homecoming 2023. This year's theme for Homecoming is "Surf's Up!" So, grab your sandals, ride the waves with some friends, and join us on the shores of River Valley!

Sincerely,

Loren Glasbrenner, District Administrator River Valley School District