SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

By Scott E. Payne, Superintendent

I know it appears to be trite, but I simply cannot believe how quickly the school year is going by. We have just entered the fourth quarter or "home stretch", a perfect time to look back and reflect. While some of you are looking ahead to the summer and the activities that will no doubt consume your time with families and friends, I am looking back to last summer and the whirlwind of being welcomed to the Pine Valley Family. We have undergone several audits (special education, financial, food service, transportation and technology) and have learned much. We have new leadership and a focus on our future through time-bound, relevant, attainable and measurable planning. We are focused on engagement and feedback throughout our school community and have appreciated your participation in the play, the musical and so many great athletic events. And we have some exciting activities coming up like the Senior Carnival, the Elementary Art Show and some terrific spring concerts you will not want to miss. We have talked incessantly about our program; in fact we are adding to our program for next year with the hope of offering Physics on campus, fulfilling our Physical Education mandates and ensuring that our programs are in compliance in special and general education. Our budget is stable; however, we are going to be focusing intensely on our future through long-term financial planning that includes our stakeholders. One of the instructional components that has garnered much discussion is some frustration with iPads for secondary students. We are considering a shift and perhaps piloting a new device next year. We certainly have taken on a lot and have some positive things to show for it. I think most of all, we better understand each other and are committed to working toward making progress in Pine Valley. We are looking for a strong finish!

It is a pleasure to congratulate the following students for their achievements in academics, the arts and athletics!

- Congratulations to the Frewsburg/Pine Valley/Southwestern Boys Swim Team on winning the Section 6 Class C championship.
- Congratulations to CCAA East II Winter Sports All Stars:

  <u>Boys' Basketball</u>

First Team	Kilian Abers, Dylan Chase

  <u>Girls' Basketball</u>

First Team	Jamie Wilcox
Second Team	Jessica Wilcox
Honorable Mention	Kayla Hohl and Zoe Nelson

  PV Girls received the League Sportsmanship award
- Congratulations to the Pine Valley boys basketball team (94.804) and girls basketball team (92.606) and the Frewsburg-Pine Valley-Southwestern swim team (93.58) on being recognized as Section VI Scholar Athlete Teams for the winter 2015-16 season. (Varsity teams who earn a 90.0% or higher average during their sport season qualify for the NYSPHSAA award.)
- Congratulations to the following 8th grade students who were inducted into the Jr. High National Honor Society on March 18th: Haley Campbell, Corey Ellis, Sadie Fadale, Kristina Hoth, Megan Lindquist, Merry Milliman, Jared Nobles, Payton Swanson, Delanie Tunstall and Jocelyn Tyma
- Congratulations to the cast, crew, director and staff/community members/parents volunteers who helped to make the April 1-2 *The Giver* high school play a huge success!
- Congratulations to Cassandra Smith (Health Careers) who will be inducted into the National Technical Honor Society (at LoGuidice) on May 11th.