

Friday, December 4, 2015
BVPAGE Meeting Minutes

Board members present: Tracy Elford, Lisa Johnston, Amy Gallentine, Christy Kelley, Heidi Mann, Delora Crawford, Patty Logan, Lisa Nickel and Cathryn Linney

BV School District guests: Kristin Asquith
Attendees: 110

1. Welcome—Tracy Elford
 - a. Tracy welcomed our guest speakers for the meeting – Kristi Dixon, Guidance Counselor BVSU and Jen Johnson, Gifted Education Specialist BVHS
 - b. As our guests had previous commitments that required them to leave early, we will have them present first, hold questions to end or submit via note card and cover BVPAGE updates following
2. High School Opportunities presentation – Kristi Dixon
 - a. This will have a district-wide perspective; each building has its own culture and nuances with its own personalized approach to transition.
 - b. Naviance Family Connection
 - i. College research (4600+ post-secondary options)
 - ii. Students can create freshman year plan based on enrollment choices.
 - iii. Preview of 4 year planning process
 - c. Graduation requirements
 - i. 24 credits: all classes = ½ credit, except Study Hall, which equals 0.
 - ii. Any core classes beyond requirements become elective credits.
 - iii. AP and Honors courses available in all core areas and some electives.
 - d. Course description guides – hard copies distributed to 8th grade, others should refer to on-line guide.
 - e. Transition Calendar
 - i. Dec-Jan: transition kick-off from middle/high schools
 - ii. Jan-Feb: counselors visit middle schools about enrollment
 - iii. Late Jan-Early Feb: schools host academic and activity events for middle school parents and students
 - iv. Early Feb: High school counselors assist 8th grade students enroll for freshman year
 - f. Credit requirements
 - i. English/Language Arts: 4 credits (Honors/AP available each year)
 - ii. Math: 3 credits
 - iii. Science: 3 credits
 - iv. Social Studies: 3 credits
 1. World History, US History and American Government required
 2. “America Decides the National Election” available during election years

- 3. Only Freshman AP course – AP Human Geography
 - v. Physical Education: 1.5 credits
 - 1. 1 PE and .5 Health
 - 2. Both courses available on-line
 - vi. Arts: 1 credit (includes visual arts, music, performing arts, debate/forensics, industrial technology and family consumer science)
 - vii. Computer Technology: 1 credit
 - viii. World Language: not-required for graduation, but 2-4 years recommended by colleges/universities.
 - g. Other thoughts
 - i. Look at the big picture – academic performance in a rigorous schedule is only one part of what schools are looking for; also looking for involvement in school activities, community service and leadership opportunities – also keep in mind home/outside interests commitments when determining workload.
 - ii. Choose freshman courses carefully – changes can be made, but depend on class availability; most freshman can handle Honors courses
 - iii. College credits in high school
 - 1. AP
 - a. Not all colleges accept AP credits
 - b. Average \$80-95 per AP test
 - 2. College NOW
 - a. Agreements with JCCC and Baker
 - b. \$100/credit hour
3. Gifted Education in High School – Jen Johnson
 - a. Personalized focus
 - i. Topics covered include: curriculum, individual topics, college prep, ACT/SAT prep, develop study habits, IEP goals, creativity, future planning (i.e. – 4 year, resume, etc.)
 - ii. Safe place to be smart
 - iii. Provides guidance on how to be gifted in a non-gifted world
 - b. Can enroll in gifted as often as preferred
 - i. IEP is active even when not enrolled.
 - ii. Non-enrolled students pulled in for a “check-in” once per quarter.
 - c. Honors/AP for gifted students
 - i. Classes cover information at a faster pace and more content at greater depth than standard classes.
 - ii. Balance – gifted students don’t have to take every AP/Honors course, need to prevent them from becoming overwhelmed.
 - d. 4+4 College/Career Readiness video series
 - i. Available to anyone, at any time.
 - ii. Assists parents with processes and procedures.
 - e. Questions??

- i. What type of credits are earned by CAPS? Depends on class, but some CAPS can provide core credits as well as electives.
- ii. How does on-line PE work? Students are given a heart monitor and have to log a certain number of cardio hours.
- iii. How do the on-line courses work in general? On-line courses can be taken as an “8th hour” and/or must be completed off-campus (taken as 1st or 7th hour & student arrives late or leaves early). Virtual/On-line classes are also offered during the summer.
- iv. Can the AP test be taken without taking the AP course? Yes, but not recommended.
- v. Is it common for 7th grade to take 9th grade level courses? It is rare, but it can happen.
- vi. Remaining questions need to be submitted via note card and will be answered individually and posted to the website.

4. BVPAGE Updates

- a. BVPAGE is sponsoring its first student event, Brain Blizzard - a fun, team-based trivia event for 7-8th grades to be held January 20, 2016 in the Scheels Conference Rooms. More information to be announced in January. Anyone interested in helping with this event, please contact Lisa Nickel (LisaNickel@yahoo.com).
- b. Summer Opportunities Fair
 - i. New location – as we have outgrown our current facilities, the fair will be moving to the Hilltop Campus, Conference Room A.
 - ii. Open House to learn about high ability activities for gifted students
 - iii. Be listening for the Jazz band this year!
- c. Summer Robotics Camps
 - i. Camps will be held for 3 weeks, two camps per week.
 - ii. Start July 11, 2016 at Lakewood Middle School
 - iii. Topics to be announced soon
 - iv. Registration opens first for BVPAGE members
- d. January Meeting Topic – Overview of the District: What is happening with Gifted Education?; Speaker Mark Schmidt
- e. Custom Robotics Challenges ready to be delivered – those who signed up can take theirs for delivery, the remainder will be delivered by BVPAGE Board members.
- f. Tracy introduced our new Secretary, Amy Gallentine.