



Friday, January 8, 2016
BVPAGE Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: Tracy Elford, Lisa Johnston, Amy Gallentine, Christy Kelley, Delora Crawford, Patty Logan, Lisa Nickel

BV School District Guests: Kristin Asquith, Mark Schmidt

Attendees: 22

- I. Welcome – Tracy Elford
 - a. Showed pictures from commissioned Robotics Challenges being delivered – teachers loved them!
 - b. Reviewed questions from last month’s meeting (see Dec. meeting minutes)
 - c. New location for Summer Opportunities Fair
 - i. Hilltop Campus Conf. Rm A, February 2, 2016 7 - 8:30 pm
 - ii. More vendors
 - iii. New vendors include Engineering for Kids, Drive Right Driving School, MO University of Science & Technology
 - iv. Invite others! – open to all
 - d. Legislative update - Patty Logan
 - i. See below
 - e. Brain Blizzard
 - i. Feb. 20, 2016 at Scheels
 - ii. For 7th & 8th grade gifted students
 - iii. If interested in helping, contact Lisa Nickel (lisanickel@yahoo.com)
- II. State of the Blue Valley School District and State of Gifted Education - Dr. Mark Schmidt, Executive Director of Student Services for Blue Valley (see full presentation on our website under 2015-2016 Meeting Minutes & Handouts)
 - a. Fast facts about Blue Valley
 - i. Superintendent search – at candidate interview stage, new superintendent announced early Spring
 - ii. 2015 Customer Assessment Survey
 1. Results – district and teacher grades at 91% each; 97% of respondents felt the quality of BV positively affects property values and economic development; quality of buildings, safety, quality of education and value received for tax dollars invested all scored “A” or “B”
 - iii. International comparisons
 1. PISA Math – US ranked 36th, BV 6th
 2. PISA Reading – US ranked 24th, BV 4th
 3. PISA Science – US ranked 28th, BV 6th
 - iv. Other
 1. ACT – BV average score 25.4
 2. SAT – BV had highest composite in district history at 1864; compared to KS average of 1753 and national average of 1497
 3. All 5 BV High Schools named to:
 - a. Washington Post’s 2015 Most Challenging High Schools
 - b. Newsweek’s 2014 Top Public High Schools list
 - c. The Daily Beast’s 2014 list of America’s top high schools
 4. Blue Valley graduation rate is 97%
 5. District bond rating is Excellent
 - a. Moody’s (Aaa)
 - b. Standard & Poor (AA+)

- b. Fast facts about Special Education in Blue Valley
 - i. Growth of Primary Exceptionality (change since 2011-12)
 - 1. Gifted – 6%
 - 2. Twice Exceptional – 3%
 - 3. Total Gifted – 6%
 - 4. General Ed Population – 2.1%
- c. Fast facts about Gifted Education in Kansas and Blue Valley – Did You Know?
 - i. Gifted Education Laws and Funding
 - 1. States with gifted education services mandated by law – 32
 - 2. States that have a mandate and fully fund gifted education – 4
 - 3. States that have a gifted education mandate and provide some funding – 19 (KS provides \$27,750/Full-time gifted teacher)
 - 4. States that include gifted education at part of special education -8
 - ii. Gifted Education Identification
 - 1. KS students identified as gifted – 12,989 or 2-3%
 - 2. BV students identified as gifted – 1700+ or 8%
 - 3. BV will accept an IEP immediately if from AL, FL, KS, LA, NM, PA, TN, WV
 - iii. Gifted Education Staffing
 - 1. K-12 public schools in KS (excluding BV) - 2011
 - 2. Gifted Education teachers - KS 328 (excluding BV), BV 39
 - 3. Average schools served by gifted teachers in KS (excluding BV) - 6.1, BV – 1.0
 - 4. Staffing models
 - a. Itinerant teachers serve multiple buildings (Most of KS, including Olathe, DeSoto, Lawrence)
 - b. Students bussed to gifted education center once per week (Shawnee Mission)
 - c. Teacher in every building (BV)
 - iv. Legislative issues/State Budget Questions
 - 1. KS revenues below predictions in December
 - a. Income Tax (-\$26 million)
 - b. Sales Tax Receipts (-\$14 million)
 - 2. Choices if revenue is below budget
 - a. Taxes
 - b. Spending reductions
 - c. Transfer from other state funds
 - 3. Watch for Governor’s Speech & Efficiency Study
 - 4. Efficiency – are schools spending money wisely? Are local boards spending money the way the legislator thinks it should?
 - a. Public schools serve a wide variety of students – what is optional or frivolous to one, may seem necessary to another
 - b. Are the following part of “instruction”?
 - i. Gifted education teachers – no (except in HS/Middle)
 - ii. Counselors - no
 - iii. Nurses - no
 - iv. Social workers - no
 - v. Librarians - no
 - vi. HVAC - no
 - vii. Transportation - no
 - viii. Classroom supplies - no
 - ix. Extra-curricular - no
 - c. Funding comes from combo of fed, state and local dollars
 - i. How funds are spent is determined by local BOE
 - ii. Would it increase efficiency to move some decisions to the state?

- iii. Some recent discussion may impact local BOE (election dates, conflict of interest, state approval for bonds, requirements for how to spend at-risk funding)
 - 5. Effectiveness – are students prepared for college and career after K-12?
 - a. How do we measure success (MAP, ACT, etc.?)
 - b. Minor changes to the system vs. complete overhaul
 - c. Keep in mind...
 - i. KS and BV are good, but can improve. Must have a “growth mindset.”
 - ii. Publicizing select test scores can make a school look very good or very bad. Form opinions from multiple data points, from multiple assessments. Some assessments are not aligned with KS curriculum.
 - d. Students who don’t choose college prep may need remedial classes in college or score poorly on ACT/SAT
 - e. Achievement gaps important, but look to see if all student groups improve over time and if gap is narrowing.
- III. Next meeting – Feb 5, 2016
 - a. Financial overview for BVPAGE
 - b. Mini-SENG session – open forum for parents to talk about what it is like to parent gifted children