

BVPAGE Meeting Minutes  
September 6, 2013

Board Members: Lisa Nickel, Tracy Elford, Lisa Johnston, Patty Logan, Ann Ryan, Lana Webster, Cathryn Linney, Christy Kelley  
District Guests: Kristin Asquith, Mark Schmidt  
27 Parent Attendees

1. Lisa Nickel welcomed the group and did brief introductions of the BVPAGE board members. Explanations were given about notecards being used for questions or topics members wanted to discuss. Lisa also showed the group a sample jar of candy that was given by BVPAGE to all gifted teachers in the district at an earlier summer meeting.

2. Mark Schmidt did a review of the State of the District presentation that was given by Dr. Trigg at the recent BVEF breakfast. The presentation revolved around a #beatfinland theme relating to Blue Valley's math, science, and reading scores ranked against other counties around the world.

3. Kristin Asquith reported that she is now the point person in the district for a program called NAVIANCE that tracks high school graduates, where they go to college, what ACT/SAT scores they earned, what grade point averages they graduated with, and other data points. The individual student identities will remain private but schools may see data for their graduates. There are a number of ways to look at and use the data and the uses are just beginning to be explored here in Blue Valley. There was a great deal of interest in this topic and there will be follow up to see if this might be part of a separate lunch or evening session.

Kristin also reported that work continues with the gifted education teachers to provide more support and collaboration with general education teachers. Continuing with goals set last year, access to differentiated materials is being provided to general education teachers by way of an online central source.

4. Summer Robotics Camps. Patty Logan gave an overview of our summer robotics camps. Highlights include:

- 6 sessions were offered over 3 weeks at area middle school
- 139 kids attended from both Blue Valley and local private schools
- \$8,000 in camp proceeds will be given in grants to every gifted classroom in the district
- Pictures were shown of the items selected by gifted teachers and you may see the selected items at [www.bvpage.org](http://www.bvpage.org)
- Items are still being received and deliveries to schools should begin within 2 weeks
- Mark Schmidt has already requested the use of a middle school for BVPAGE for the summer of 2014 but there are many construction projects planned for this year. He will keep us apprised of the availability of any buildings.

5. A question was asked about where BVPAGE's money comes from. The majority of our funds come from robotics camps proceeds, we make a small amount from table fees at the summer opportunities fair, and in the past we have received donations from parents. BVAPGE is not a registered non-profit or charitable foundation.

6. Membership Report & Public Relations – Christy Kelley. Parents at the meeting were informed that BVPAGE does not have a list of students in the district with gifted IEPs. That information is private so we do not have a way to contact the families of gifted students other than email forwards from gifted teachers or our own distribution list. All families are asked to use the [www.bvpage.org](http://www.bvpage.org) website to register with the group and encourage other families of gifted students to register also. In addition, we are looking for ways to reach parents who don't currently get information about BVPAGE events from their gifted teacher.

7. Advocacy Updates. In years past, getting Multivariable Calculus added to the district's math curriculum was a target solution to a problem for those students who skipped a year in math. Last year was the pilot of a program where the class was taught live by an instructor at BVNW high school and live-streamed to 3 other high schools. For the 2013-2014 school year, the class will be taught live at BVNW and streamed to all 4 other district high schools to include 25 students all together.

Last year, a goal of the district was to see the improvement of challenge and differentiation in the general education classrooms. This is still 'on the radar' of upper level administrators and continues to be a part of staff development planning.

8. A discussion took place over the identification process and over/under gifted identification of certain genders or personality types at the elementary and middle school levels. This topic will be taken into consideration as a future meeting subject.

9. SENG model parent groups – Lana Webster. Lana reported that a new SENG model parent group will begin Wed Oct 9 from 9:30am – 11:00am. Registration ends Oct 1 and the cost is \$35 per participant.

10. Building Representatives – Cathryn Linney. Cathryn is going to revive the School Representative initiative and would like to have at least one parent from each school volunteer to relay information to parents and gather ideas and opinions from them. Attendees were asked to check a box on the sign in sheet if they were interested in finding out more. Cathryn also told the group that the building rep is a work in progress and she is open to suggestions for ways to get more families involved at the school level.

11. KGTC Workshop – Cahtryn Linney. Catheryn let the group know that the Kansas Association for the Gifted, Talented, & Creative is being held in Wichita on October 13th. For more information visit their website at [www.kgtc.org](http://www.kgtc.org)