

BVPAGE Meeting Minutes
March 7, 2014

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

1. Lisa Nickel welcomed and the group did introductions.
2. A discussion was held with BVPAGE members regarding the frequency of electronic communication. The group voiced opinions on frequency, length, subject line descriptions, associated embedded links, and ways to describe if messages are "need to know" or "nice to know."
3. Ann Ryan, acting as the Nominating Chair for next year's board told the group that all volunteers are welcome and that we are in need of an Events Chair.
4. Kristin Asquith reported that some elementary and middle school students attended the KU Engineering Fair the previous week. In addition, preparations are underway in the gifted classrooms for the Robotics Share Fair taking place April 25th at the CAPS building.
5. Mark Schmidt reported that a current state court case regarding school funding had reached a verdict that day. There is not an immediate update on what the ruling will mean for Blue Valley.
6. Patty Logan gave a legislative update saying that currently school funding and local funding is being discussed in Senate Bill 277 (SB277) and that there is currently discussion on a house/senate bill regarding timing of elections that could affect school board elections and members.
7. A Summer Robotics Camp update from Patty Logan relayed that 164 of 205 student slots are filled and that 4 of the 8 camps were full. We are in need of some high school students to help during the June weeks with the camps.
8. Jan Conners reported that the Special Needs Resource Fair was snowed out and has been rescheduled for April 8th.
9. Tracy Elford reported that the last Curriculum and Instruction meeting gave an overview of technology in the school district.
10. Cathryn Linney told the group she is still in need of additional building representatives whose duties include passing meeting notices and minutes to gifted teachers at their school and bringing any teacher ideas to the group.

11. Lana Webster said there are a small number of open positions for both the morning and evening SENG model parent groups starting in March.

12. Lana Webster led a SENG model parent discussion with the group on the topic of Gifted Underachievers. The following is an overview of discussion points:

- Parents voiced the concern/frustration that kids are not learning how to study or plan due to work being too easy in early and middle grades
- Organization is a problem for some gifted students
- Some parents have made planning and organization part of IEP goals
- Time management is also a problem for some gifted students
- A number of gifted underachievers study "the night before" and wait til last minute to start projects
- 1 family uses the keyword "project" to mean multiple days of work, not just one
- Students need to learn to 'fail' early so hopefully they will learn the lesson of action and outcome
- Parents should not rescue their children from consequences of procrastination
- Parents need to let teachers know that it is ok for child to get poor grade if they deserve it
- Student earning bad grade, parent reply "Sounds like that needed more organization"
- A child's fear of failure can come off as bad organization
- A child's fear of failure can also cause them to never start projects (why should I do it if it's going to be bad?)
- Some students will not start or finish a project if it is not/cannot be perfect
- Book recommendation called Mindset by Carol Dweck
- Some kids feel pressure to be "smart" all the time and will call projects/assignments 'stupid' if they seem challenging
- Parents need to focus on effort and not grade
- Some families involve kids in activities that don't have a 'grade' (music, sports)
- Also recommended to involve kids in activities they are NOT the best at, so they can see relationship between practicing and getting better
- Relating stories to kids of past efforts and achievement help to remind them that this is not first time they ever tried something or had to work at something
- How do you motivate a kid when they don't care about subject?
- Making yourself do something you don't like is a life skill. Gifted kids need to learn that everyone has to do things they don't like.
- A timer was recommended by one family – Lana Webster also reported that gifted kids do seem to respond well to timers and timed activities.
- A timer has been used in 2 ways: set time for activity kids don't like and they see an finite end to the disliked task, set time for activity they do like and once it runs out they have to do activity they don't like/don't want to

start

- Response to children "Are you going to be happy with that tomorrow?" "Are you going to like that result tomorrow?"
- Check out the website, Giveit100.com, to see people working on new skills.

13. The next BVPAGE meeting will be held Friday April 4, 2014.