

Friday, January 9, 2015
BVPAGE Meeting Minutes

Board members present: Tracy Elford, Lisa Johnston, Delora Crawford, Christy Kelley, Cathryn Linney, Patty Logan, Lisa Nickel, & Leslie Johnson

BV School District guests: Kristin Asquith, Mark Schmidt

Attendees: 52

1. Welcome and Introductions—Tracy Elford

2. President's Report—Tracy Elford
 - a. BVPAGE's Summer Opportunities Fair will be February 3, 2015 from 7pm-8:30pm in the High Plains Room.
 - b. The Eastern Kansas League Fine Arts Competition is February 25, 2015 at BVSU. Interested ~~K-12~~** students may compete in drawing, ceramic, textile, sculpting, photography, etc. Speak to your school's art teacher. ** After following up on a post-meeting question regarding the EKL Fine Arts Competition, Tracy found out the competition is for high-school students only, not K-12 as reported.
 - c. Blue Valley Today magazine (as well as the KC Star) featured an article on Brittani Wilton's fifth grade gifted education class. The group of Leawood Elementary students won the Battle of the Brains competition, received a \$50,000 grant for their school, and is working with professionals to bring their exhibit to life at Science City.
 - d. Tracy followed up on several questions from our last meeting (via postcards left on the table) regarding acceleration. Answers to the follow-up questions will be posted on the BVPAGE website.
 - e. Local Option Budget election. Please mail your ballot!
 - f. BVPAGE recommends that members pay attention this this...KGTC has made us aware of a draft bill to remove gifted education from Special Education. BV School District is aware of this and is watching it closely. If this proposed draft bill becomes a concern, BVPAGE will notify members. The state contributes about \$27,500 per year toward the salary of each gifted teacher (Blue Valley has 39 gifted teachers). Legislative Update is attached.
 - g. Next BVPAGE meeting is February 6, 2015.

3. Organizational Interventions—Kristin Asquith

Highlights of Kristin's presentation are as follows. Her full presentation will be posted on the BVPAGE website.

 - a. Students need to be invested in the process. Organization is not just a personality trait. Executive functioning can impact organization and some students struggle to understand how to stay organized.
 - b. Organization skills can be learned. A routine can become a habit after 21 days of consistency.
 - c. The time of year, a student's age, and "who" is having the conversation all have impact.
 - d. Praising a student's effort and process is important.
 - e. Model good organization.
 - f. Organization hot topics for AT SCHOOL—Know teacher expectations, facilitate a note taking process, paperwork must be managed with a filing system (schools are not paperless yet), explain short-term and long-term planning for projects (many kids do not know how to do this on their own)
 - g. Organization hot topics for AT HOME—give students a specific workspace, have all their tools right there (pencils, pencil sharpeners, etc.), have a good home storage filing system, DO NOT let power struggles between you and your student derail the process and affect your relationship. Get help from a third party (older student, professional organizer, tutor, etc.) if it is harming your relationship.
 - h. Embrace strategies that span school, home and on the move.

- i. Build independence
- j. Engage early and make organization part of every day. Use checklists, have a consistent study time and place, prep for the day ahead at the end of current study time,
- k. Take big projects and break them down (chunking)
- l. Note taking strategies: Cornell Notes, Drop Box, EVERNOTE, Grid-It by Cocoon, mySchoolNotebook.com, LockerBones, My Homework app, I-phone Notes, Calendar, and Reminders.