

BVPAGE Meeting Minutes
October 4, 2013

Board Members: Lisa Nickel, Tracy Elford, Lisa Johnston, Patty Logan, , Lana Webster, Cathryn Linney, Karen Jordan
District Guests: Kristin Asquith
17 Parent Attendees

1. Lisa Nickel welcomed the group and all did brief introductions. Explanations were given about notecards being used for questions or topics members wanted to discuss. Lisa also reviewed some of the questions and their follow up answers from the notecards from the September session. Topics included ELA+ and foreign language + classes in middle school, gifted teacher credentials, AP exam rates, online courses, digital bridge courses, and how BVPAGE makes its money.

2. At the November meeting, Kristin Asquith will give a "State of Gifted Education" talk and relay information on identification, changes in program, and other related information. In addition, parent Cheryl Dudley, schedule providing, will give information on the Duke TIP program.

Kristin also reported that as the end of the first quarter approaches, gifted teachers are working on progress reports for their students.

3. Curriculum & Instruction - Tracy Elford reported that they had their first meeting. There will be topics coming during the year that will directly apply to the gifted program such as middle school curriculum and new reading and math series for the elementary schools.

4. Special Ed Advisory Council - Jan Connors reported that the recent SEAC had middle and elementary school coordinators report how the common core standards will affect special education. She said the information was very positive and received well by the parents. SPED has a parent support group and all are invited to casual lunches to talk with other parents.

5. Lisa Nickel announced the author Jim Webb will present 2 sessions Wednesday November 12: 1 targeted at educators to take place at 4:00pm and 1 targeted toward parents to take place at 7:00pm. This is made possible by the funds raised from the summer robotics camps. We are currently still working on a venue for the presentations and more information will follow.

6. Patty Logan announced that the final grant items for elementary and middle schools have been received and delivered. Every classroom chose and received a variety of items. We are planning to hold summer robotics camps again during 2014; planning will begin within the next few weeks.

7. Patty Logan gave a follow up report to the First Lego League information

meeting that was mentioned at the September meeting:

- CAPS had decided to sponsor an after school FLL league starter session and provided slots for 28 students
- Almost 500 students signed up for the groups!!
- CAPS is revamping their robotics group idea into 2 phases, training team coaches and practice sessions for the students, and then holding lego challenges at CAPS to reflect FLL style competitions
- The group activity is to be called CAPS Inspired Lego
- Anyone interested in signing up for the group should contact ptuma@bluevalleyk12.org at CAPS and communicate with her regarding additional students

8. 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 and there are currently only 5 empty slots in the class.

9. KGTC Workshop – Cathryn Linney 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

10. BVPAGE is trying to spread the word about our classroom grants with articles submitted to BV news and area newspapers and magazines.

11. Membership Report – Karen Jordan reminded parents that BVPAGE does not have a list of students in the district with gifted IEPs. All families are asked to use the www.bvpage.org website to register with the group and encourage other families of gifted students to register also.

12. Advocating Without Alienating Lisa Nickel lead a discussion about advocating from the perspectives relating to students, parents, and teachers. Discussions included:

- Having students speak and advocate for themselves
- Thanking and recognizing teachers who go out of their way in general education classrooms
- Different IEP goals were discussed
- Using “we” and team approach
- How student’s personalities can affect what they want and don’t want in general education classrooms
- See Lisa’s Advocating Without Alienating power point presentation on the www.bvpage.org website,.

13. The next BVPAGE meeting will be held Friday November 1st.