

BVPAGE Meeting Minutes  
February 7, 2014

Board Members: Tracy Elford, Lisa Johnston, Patty Logan, Christy Kelley,  
District Guests: Kristin Asquith, Mark Schmidt  
10 Parent Attendees

1. Tracy Elford welcomed and the group the group did introductions.
2. Due to district events being cancelled due to snow last week, the Summer Opportunity Fair has been rescheduled to Tuesday February 11th. The time of 7:00 – 8:30 pm and location in the High Plains room at the district office have not changed.
3. Several inquiries have been made to members of BVPAGE regarding outside political groups (specifically Moms Against Common Core). Tracy relayed to the group that BVPAGE is a parent support and advocacy group and while everyone has a personal opinion, BVPAGE does not take political stances for or against candidates or political groups.
4. Patty Logan reviewed our 2014 Summer Robotics Camps offerings to take place all 4 weeks in the month of June at the CAPS facility.
5. Guest Elizabeth Parks, Director of Assessment and Research for Blue Valley spoke to the group.
  - See attached copy of Mrs. Park's presentation slides
  - See attached copy of links to helpful resources and information on testing anxiety provided by Mrs. Parks
  - Mrs. Parks told the group that she started career bringing gifted education programs to different school districts so is familiar with 'our kids' and our parenting challenges
  - A MAP test score is the score at which a student can answer approximately 50% of the questions correctly, NOT the highest scored question they got correct
  - Bright/smart kids can have different results to MAP tests than traditional students: smart kids realize that if they see a question a second time it probably means they missed it the first time so they can select a different answer or use different means to select an answer the second time, these kids can 'play' the test because they are smart enough to figure out answers in this way. So when they score high the first time, they are not only reflecting their knowledge from point 0 to the highest point, but their highest point also reflects their 'playing' of the test. When they take the MAP test a second or third time, their scores tend to be lower because they are starting from a higher point the second time and the higher point reflects 50% of their correct answer knowledge, not 0% start as the first time test did.
  - The EXPLORE and PLAN tests of the ACT trilogy will no longer be offered by the ACT company – the grades that took the tests in the fall of 2013 will be

the last ones to have this data. The ACT company may be replacing the tests but they have not been evaluated by Blue Valley yet. Blue Valley is planning to offer a practice ACT test for 9th grade students in the future.

- 15 Blue Valley AP courses are currently being re-evaluated and updated by the College Board group that monitors and sets curriculum for the classes. Changes may be in store for the AP tests and class content.

6. Kristin Asquith reported that there are no district wide updates other than the end of 3rd quarter and upcoming Parent Teacher Conferences.