



Friday, February 5, 2016
BVPAGE Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: Tracy Elford, Lisa Johnston, Heidi Mann, Christy Kelley, Delora Crawford, Patty Logan, Lisa Nickel

BV School District Guests: Kristin Asquith
Attendees: 20

Summer Opportunities Fair was held February 2 at Hilltop Campus

- 600 people attended(!), and 18 vendors participated. We'd like to add other vendors next year and grow the event.
- Several parents asked "Where's the camp for writing skills?" We are looking for a vendor to provide this – parents asked to pass on any contacts they may know of.
- Thanks to Kristen Asquith and the school district for allowing us the use of the facility with no facility rental or janitor fees.

2016 Summer Robotics Camps

- Location moved - Overland Trail Middle School for all 3 sessions
- Again, facility for free so that we turn money around and give grants
- Registration open. Current 2nd-Current 7th graders. See the bvpape.org website and camp information for individual session topics, times, and age restrictions

Legislative Update (BV LEAGUE)

- District meeting - Once a month. Patty Logan.
- School Finance - watching. KS budget in the hole. K-12 is 50% of KS budget.
- Local Control - We elect Board Of Education for our area. They select Superintendent and set policy for our school district. They are the voter's voice. As a voting body, we elect our reps to do what is right on our behalf. Some actions being discussed involve taking local control away from local voters. Consolidating districts - local control vs. State. Why is state getting involved in bonds and how money is spent? Local voters should be able to determine that through BOE reps.
- Efficiency - Efficiency study is in works through state of Kansas. Just because it's more efficient doesn't mean that it's the right choice. Example given reflecting health insurance for school district employees: Proposing all school district employees in the state go on high deduct plan, is this right for everyone? Insurance a huge issue for employee morale and recruiting, this should be left to local districts, there is currently variety of options. They just proposed the change it is not finalized. Other efficiency issues to consider: Bus routes: Some in BVSU area 40 mins one way, BOE has decided 40 mins is maximum ride time, buses sometimes have empty seats and it would be more efficient to have more people on bus but kids would be on bus longer. We want our Board of Education to make these decisions.

Stand Up Blue Valley

- Parent group providing factual information about issues that affect Blue Valley school district, a pro-education group
- Not related to school district
- Target disseminating information about candidates, issues, policies, and legislation

Brain Blizzard - February 20, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm at Scheels

- for Blue Valley 7th & 8th grade gifted students
- 5 rounds trivia, activities in between.
- HS kids talk in between to talk about gifted in HS
- Some get-to-know- you activities for kids to meet each other
- Volunteers needed
- Please pass information to any student or parent! Message is not getting out through all gifted teachers

SENG Model Parent Groups - Wednesdays for 8 weeks, 9:30am -11:00am March 23 - May 11

- Location the Blue Valley Education Services Building
- Not an evening class this year - must have 2 facilitators. Looking for people to supplement facilitator pool so that we can have an evening group.

Special Education Mini Conference - March 2 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Location Hilltop Campus

Free event

- Keynote Rex Hudler - KC Royals. Cade, his son, has Down’s Syndrome. Jennifer Hudler do a breakout session
- Workshops - What kind of activities are out there outside of the norm.
 - Activities for K-8 - physical, emotional, ADHD
 - College Info - transition programs since no IEPs
 - Sibling panel - talk about what it’s like to be a sibling of a student with special needs
 - District employees to talk about IEPs/504s - general guidelines
 - Other sessions

2015 Financial Overview (Lisa Johnston)

Because BVPAGE is not a 501(c)3 or a PTO/PTA, we want to make sure all parents know where our money comes from and where it goes to. The majority of our income is from summer robotics camps. We spend the majority of our money on classroom grants with other expenditures for copying and printing, meeting snacks for gifted education teacher meetings, instructor fees, and building rental and janitorial fees.

Summary 2015	Income	Expenses	Total
ADMINISTRATIVE (ongoing)	\$ 35.00	\$ 481.58	\$ (446.58)
TEACHER ROBOTIC TRAINING	\$ 90.00	\$ 760.00	\$ (670.00)
SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES FAIR	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00
GIFTED TEACHER MEETING	\$ -	\$ 103.75	\$ (103.75)
EVENING PARENT PRESENTATION	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
ROBOTICS SHARE FAIR	\$ -	\$ 269.59	\$ (269.59)
SENG PARENT GROUPS	\$ 1,240.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 240.00
ROBOTICS SUMMER CAMPS	\$ 24,787.10	\$ 11,211.40	\$ 13,575.70
GRANTS TO SCHOOLS		\$ 10,200.00	\$(10,200.00)
BVEF COMMUNITY BREAKFAST	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	\$ (1,500.00)
ROBOTICS LEGO CLASSROOM CURRICULUM KITS	\$ -	\$ 2,045.09	\$ (2,045.09)
GRAND TOTALS for 2015	\$ 26,352.10	\$ 27,571.41	\$ (1,219.31)

SENG Model Parent Groups (Lisa Nickel, Lana Webster facilitators)

Characteristics of Gifted from A Parent’s Guide to Gifted Children

- Strong verbal abilities
- Unusually good memory
- Intense curiosity
- Wide range of interests, but some have tunnel vision. Keeps them from doing other things. Interested in experimenting.
- Passionate imagination and creativity about imaginary friends
- Remarkable sense of humor wordplay and puns. Sometimes to exhaustion of adults around them.
- Desire for reason and understanding
 - Rules - but I’m following them, no one else is, and nothing is happening. Social experiment - testing out a theory.

- Impatience with others or with themselves.
 - Why don't other people share interests?
 - Frustration with average learning environment (people, teacher errors).
 - Teamwork is HARD.
 - Pep talking and scolding themselves. You may NOT talk to yourself that way.
- Longer attention span - in areas that interest them.
- Complex thinking - easily bored with routine tasks.
- Concerned with social/political problems/injustices - Fairness
 - Children critical of each other when parenting differently because kids are different.
 - Black and White - there is not grey. And everything is either highly important or highly NOT important
- Sensitivity - notice more and react more strongly.
 - Intellectual/Emotional - Compassion for others. Get feelings hurt, but don't know that they are hurting. Fully intellectually comprehending things that they are not emotionally ready to handle. Worry
 - Physical - Sensory issues.
 - Clothing - letting them wear what's comfortable.
- Intensity - everything is just to the next level
- Daydreaming

Characteristics of Gifted Conversation

- Perfectionism - how to demotivate?
- Control
- Fairness
- Motivation
 - Underachieving - how to motivate?
- Socially awkward experiences
 - Talking about things that are out of place
 - Embracing things to a level that make the rest of us uncomfortable.
 - How can I better handle MYSELF? Don't bring my own baggage. Embrace who they are.
- Difference between smart and gifted
 - Smart kids ask questions that have answers. Gifted kids ask questions that don't have answers or easy answers.
 - Smart kids question the answers. Gifted kids question the questions.
- Twice Exceptional Kids
 - Clothing chart
 - Rigidity/Routine
 - Lots of kids with ADHD and giftedness
- Parenting a gifted kid
 - Lonely - challenges are real
 - Parents seeing themselves in their kids.
 - Try to remember that they are still kids.
 - What happens when a kid gets an F in school? *Tracy Elford will research this at the elementary, middle & high school levels and post answers on the website and relay information at the March meeting
- Kids
 - Feel alone - have to find their "peeps."
 - Boring in school because they say it, say it again, and teach it a third time.
 - In the real world, you are going to have to find a way to find happiness being who you are in a world that isn't necessarily like you
 - Fair is not always equal. Fair is that you get what you need at the time that you need it. What would be equitable?
 - Self Advocating - how do you do it respectfully when you might know more? Some kids have problems with telling/asking authority figures