Friday, April 1, 2016
BVPAGE Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: Tracy Elford, Lisa Johnston, Amy Gallentine, Delora Crawford, Lisa Nickel, Tracie Howell

BV School District Guests: Kristin Asquith, Mark Schmidt, Dr. Todd White

Attendees:

I. Welcome – Tracy Elford
   a. Nighttime Best of BVPAGE meeting
      i. Thursday, April 28 6:30 pm-9:00 pm
      ii. Hilltop Campus Conference Room B
   b. Topics
      1. Johnson County Library System Website – Wendy Gish, Youth Services Specialist will show us the amazing capabilities of the JoCo Library system as it pertains to our gifted kids.
      2. Gifted Curriculum and Gifted IEPs
   c. BV School District Robotics Share Fair
      i. Friday, April 29, 2016
      ii. Location CAPS building
      iii. Volunteers needed for setup and clean up
   d. SENG meetings have started
      i. 10 attendees
      ii. BVPAGE pays 2 facilitators to run these sessions
   e. New group spawned from last month’s Twice Exceptional topic – BV2E
      i. Will meet April 15 at 11:30 am
      ii. Panera Bread at 135th & Metcalf
      iii. Contact Heidi Mann (Heidi.bruce.mann@hotmail.com) or Tracie Howell (tracie.michelle.howell@gmail.com)
   f. Summer Robotics Camps
      i. July 2016
      ii. Registration is open on-line, openings still available
   g. Legislative Update
      i. KS House and Senate agreed on a funding bill for 1 year, this now moves on to the state Supreme Court
   h. Mark Schmidt introduced Dr. Todd White, 2016-17 BV Superintendent
      i. Comes most recently from North Kansas City (20+ yrs.) and 8 years prior in Harrisonville as teacher and coach
      ii. Question – What is the greatest opportunity facing the BV district?
         1. Budget
         2. Need people who can see past current problems to the future
         3. Confident we can work through this – has been through similar in MO
         4. Chance for BV parents to advocate for district
            a. why do we live/move here?
            b. What opportunities do our schools provide our children?
   i. BV has the opportunity to go from “good” to “great”
      1. Focus on moving from best practices to “next” practices – what are our aspirations for our kids? – build on our best practices to achieve these goals
      2. Want to talk with BV parents – what do we want for our kids?
   j. Welcome to the new BVPAGE Treasurer – Cecilia Davis-Fletchall
      i. Thank you notes passed around from district gifted teachers to BVPAGE for providing snacks during professional development day

II. Overview of Performing Arts, Visual Arts and Athletics Curriculum in Blue Valley - Janelle Brower, Director of Performing Arts
a. Gifted doesn’t always mean “talented”
b. Looking for where talent meets interest
c. Benefits of the Arts
   i. Multiple ways of knowing – visual, aural, kinesthetic, linguistic & mathematical
   ii. Emotional awareness
   iii. Reflective learning
   iv. Process orientation – introspection, evaluation & analysis
   v. Grit – what it takes to learn
   vi. Academic achievement
      1. Higher GPAs
      2. Higher attendance & graduation rates
   vii. Fills gaps
      1. Students lagging behind
      2. Engagement
      3. Transcends socioeconomic levels
   viii. Brain development – helps process sound and stay focused
d. Arts teachers must meet students where they are and move them as far as they can go
   i. Find where interest meets talent – don’t pursue if talent isn’t of interest
   ii. Opportunities are built in – flexibility to provide challenges based on ability
   iii. No IEP required
e. How can I support my child in the Arts?
   i. Let your child be the guide
   ii. Provide opportunities to explore
   iii. Should parents force practice? – personal philosophy; should come from within student
f. Course offerings – see presentation attached

III. Overview of Performing Arts, Visual Arts and Athletics Curriculum in Blue Valley – Kathleen Cigich, Director of Visual Arts and Athletics
a. Visual Arts
   i. Course offerings by level – see presentation attached
   ii. New KS Visual Arts standards
      1. Shifts the way we teach
      2. Focus on getting the students to think and problem-solve, not just teach to them
      3. In the classroom, want product creation, but also a community where voices are heard
   iii. 4 components across Arts
      1. Creating – Creativity
      2. Presenting – Critical Thinking
      3. Responding – Communication
      4. Connecting – Collaborating
   iv. Arts program is flexible to student needs/wants – if an advanced course is desired, but not available, it is possible to “nest” student with lower class, while they work on their advanced focus
b. Physical Education
   i. Mission is for students to make responsible life choices that affect health and well-being and form goals to promote life-long wellness (see presentation attached)

IV. May Meeting – Review
a. What topics do you want to see in 2016-17?
b. Overview of grant money and spending
c. What did you learn from BVPAGE presentations/events this year?