
Board Briefs

B L U E V A L L E Y S C H O O L S

Education Beyond Expectations

November 8, 2021

Board recognizes Colleen Zink

Blue Valley's dyslexia team goes above and beyond to ensure students and teachers have what they need to thrive. Colleen Zink, a member of the team, earned Certified level status in the Academy of Orton-Gillingham Practitioners and Educators. The Board, along with Dr. Merrigan, highlighted and thanked her for her work.

Board thanks Instructional Design Coaches

Jill Bergee, Jennifer Smith, and Holly McCarty represented Blue Valley's group of instructional design coaches or IDC's. The Instructional Design Team partners with educators to cultivate student-centered, future-ready and personal learning experiences for all students.

Board thanks and honors School Psychologists

The Board invited a representative group of school psychologists in the district to be honored during National School Psychology Week November 8-12. Jaqueline Johnson, Todd McCarthy and Emily Waters represented their school psychology colleagues.

Board recognizes Shelby Meier and Heather Fredericksen

The Board recognized Shelby Meir, Blue Valley West registered behavior technician, with the Distinguished Service Award and Heather Fredericksen, Liberty View special education teacher, with the Excellence in Education Award.

Board votes to make masks optional for grades 9 and above starting Nov. 29, 2021

The Board engaged in conversation around COVID-19 data in Blue Valley high schools and masking requirements. The Board voted 6-1 in favor of modifying its previous policy, extending the Johnson County Board of Health Order No. 001-21 to grades 9-12 and the 18-21 year old program, to allow a mask optional environment in these programs effective November 29, 2021. If the total percentage of positive cases and exclusions at a building rises above 3 percent, masking requirements will return for a minimum of 2 weeks. To view Blue Valley's current COVID-19 protocols and masking requirements [visit the district's COVID-19 page](#).

Board Briefs

BLUE VALLEY SCHOOLS

Education Beyond Expectations

Board receives assessment and data report

Adam Wade, director of academic achievement and accountability, delivered an update to the Board showing what current data says about students in Blue Valley. Topics included literacy, Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) data, ACT data, Advanced Placement (AP) data, graduation rates, and additional assessment and data points.

Board hears 2022-2023 high school course proposals

Kelly Ott, director of curriculum, instruction, and innovation, provided the board with a presentation of high school courses to consider for the 2022-23 school year. Courses among consideration for addition or subtraction/change ranged from world language, mathematics, and new Career-Ready programs. The Board will formally vote for approval of course additions, subtractions, or changes at the December meeting.

Board receives ESSER fund update

The Board received an update on the Elementary and Secondary Emergency Education Relief III (ESSER III) funds. Dr. Katie Collier and Kyle Hayden presented district comparisons of funds, allowable categories for expenditure, trends in feedback from the community on expenditure, and specific plans of expenditure. For more information on ESSER funds, [visit the finance page on the district's website](#).

Board appoints KASB Region 11 Vice President

The Board voted to appoint board member Jodie Dietz to the role of the Kansas Association of School Boards (KASB) region 11 Vice President. Dietz will serve a four year term.

A [video recording](#) of the live-streamed meeting is available for viewing on the [Blue Valley Board of Education YouTube channel](#).



15020 Metcalf Ave.
Overland Park, KS 66283-0901
913-239-4000

Board Briefs is published by the Blue Valley School District Communications Department following each Board of Education meeting.