



**Blue Valley Board of Education Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Committee
March 3, 2022**

Attendance: Jodie Dietz, Kristi Dixon, Kiwaini Duson, Chris Gray, Gina Knapp, Caroline Lubbe, Erica McDonald, Tonya Merrigan, Nayelli Palazuelos-Bowers, Chad Riley, Fariha Shafi, Ephren Taylor, Yongfu Wang, Kelly Wessel, Manal Wiedel

The Blue Valley Board of Education Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee met on Thursday, March 3, 2022 in the Blue Valley Board of Education room. Matt Ortman, Director of School Administration and Janelle Brower, Performing Arts Coordinator shared information about activities and athletics in our middle and high schools. Athletics, music, debate and theater are governed by the Kansas High School Activity Association (KSHSAA). Middle school activities and athletics do not limit participation while high school's often do. Additionally, students can start clubs in each high school or middle school as long as there are adult staff willing to sponsor and supervise meetings. The committee spent time discussing how to ensure that we provide equitable opportunities for all students, especially those that may have financial hardships. It was also suggested that we review participation and ensure we have representation from all student groups on these activities.

The second part of the meeting was a review of Black History Month activities in our schools. Each school provided activities and included such things as posters in the hallways, reports around famous Black Kansans, guest speakers, and all school assemblies that featured students performing or speaking about their experiences. The committee shared the need to ensure that all students are able to participate in these events.

Next Meeting: *Thursday, April 7, 2022*