

Regular Meeting
Steel Valley School District Board of Directors
Senior High School Library
October 22, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Cannon, President, at 7:08 p.m.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

Mr. Bajus, Mrs. Ballas, Mr. Ducar, Mrs. Kiefer, Mr. Olson, Mr. Terrick, Ms. Youngblood and Mrs. Cannon

Absent: Mr. Natale

Also present: Mr. Wehrer, Mr. Colebank, Mrs. Borges, Mr. Berk, Mr. Fetzko and Mrs. Watkins

Pledge of Allegiance

Acknowledgements

Moment of Silence

The Board acknowledged the following deaths in the Steel Valley School District families: *William Purifoy, Sr.*, retired fire chief of Homestead Borough and a 1977 Steel Valley graduate; *Jeffrey M. Jennings*, a 1986 Steel Valley graduate and brother-in-law of Tim McCallister, former Board member; *Rachel Kelley*, grandmother of Nick Seech, high school teacher; and *Robert M. Graham*, former custodian and football coach in the school district.

Mr. Terrick moved and Mr. Ducar seconded the motion to approve the purchase of memorial books to be placed into the district libraries in memory of the above departed. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Kiefer, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

President's Report

Mrs. Cannon:

- Congratulated Gabby Olson, our 2103 Homecoming Queen. Gabby is the daughter of Board Member Tom Olson and recognized Shane King, PPG Academics in Motion Student Athlete of the Week and the Marching Band for its 1st place win in the Chapter 8 Championships.

Student Representative's Report

Mr. Brandon Tomasic

- Reported that Barrett Elementary School held a fire safety assembly and completed a fire drill with the Fire Chief of Homestead. An After School program is occurring at Barrett Elementary, Monday through Thursday.
- A Health Day was held on October 17 in the Campbell Recreational Facility at Barrett Elementary School to allow community members to receive information and assistance on health issues.
- An assembly on the Dignity & Respect program was conducted at Barrett Elementary School with all fifth grade students in the district. Charlie Batch was in attendance.
- A mini Walk-A-Thon was held on October 12, to “walk all over pediatric cancer.” Participants raised \$1,600 for the Four Diamonds Foundation.
- Park School's Family Math Night – Monster Math Theme is scheduled for Monday, October 28, from 6:00-7:30 p.m. The Park Power Halloween Parade will be held on Thursday, October 31, at 1:00 p.m.
- Park School will hold its annual Veterans Day program on November 6 at 9:00 a.m.
- First Grade Teacher Mrs. Gennari and her class participated in “Read for the Record” on October 3 as part of a national reading celebration
- On Thursday, October 17, the Steel Valley High School hosted the Pennsylvania Literacy Network (PLN) Conference. Administrators, academic coaches and teachers participated in an intensive training session provided by professors from the University of Pennsylvania. The PLN workshop provided

- participants with strategies for establishing classroom environments that are rich in problem-solving, critical thinking, logical reasoning and practical techniques that connect content to the real world.
- The Powder Puff King contest raised \$1,430.00 for Spina Bifida. The contestants were seniors Corey Pinkerton, Dom Keyes, Adam Votedian, Shane King and Junior Connor Szczepankowski. The 2013 Powder Puff King is Connor Szczepankowski.
 - The Homecoming Court winners are: 4th Runner Up Allie Noll; 3rd Runner Up Kenzie Fisher; 2nd Runner Up Natalie Konish; 1st Runner Up Thu Dinh. Homecoming Queen for 2013 is Gabby Olson.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Wehrer:

- Introduced Bryan Macuga, High School Principal, to discuss the College in High School courses being offered to students in the Senior High School. Five courses are offered for 18 college credits from the University of Pittsburgh, An Analytic Geometry and Calculus 1 course taught by Tim Vickers; Basic Applied Statistics taught by Patrick Loughran; Basic Physics for Science & Engineering I taught by Benjamin Lander; Intermediate College French I taught by Toni Besh; and Communication and Rhetoric taught by Gary Goga. Families can save a considerable amount of money by having their children enroll in these courses while they are still in high school. The cost of each course at Steel Valley High School is \$225.00 versus taking 3 credits at Pitt for \$2,028.00 and 4 credits for \$2,704.00. The University of Pittsburgh and all other colleges accept these credits.
- Recognized the distinguished service of Board Member Joe Ducar and declared him a *Friend of Steel Valley*. Mr. Ducar served 16 consecutive years on the Steel Valley Board of School Directors. During his tenure, he served three years as President of the School Board, Chairperson of the Operations Committee, and President of the Steel Valley Foundation for Education. He directed the construction of the James Campbell Gymnasium, the construction of the William V. Campbell Recreational and Education Facility at Barrett Elementary School and the renovation of the William V. Campbell Athletic Field. In recognition of his service to the

children and citizens of the Steel Valley community, a shelf of books will be placed in the Senior High School Library in his honor. Mr. Wehrer presented Mr. Ducar with a Steel Valley Gold Card, which gives him lifetime admittance to all events and activities.

Director of Pupil Personnel, Special Services , Elementary Ed Report

Mrs. Borges:

- Announced that there would be no school for students on Friday, November 1. This a scheduled inservice day for staff members. Report cards will be distributed on November 5. November 12 is the districtwide early dismissal for all students. Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled as follows: November 7-Franklin Primary Center at 12:00-3:00 and 4:00-7:00 pm; November 11-Senior High School at 12:00-3:00 and 5:00-8:00 pm; November 13-Middle School at 12:00-3:00 and 5:00-8:00 pm; November 14-Barrett & Park Schools at 12:00-3:00 and 4:00-7:00 pm.

- Various Veterans Day programs are being conducted:

November 6	Park Elementary School	9:00 am
November 7	Barrett Elementary School	9:00 am
November 8	Senior High School	8:45 am

- A meeting of parents of gifted students will be held on November 6 beginning at 5:30 pm in the high school to highlight the gifted happenings.

Director of Academics, Information & Technology Report

Mr. Colebank:

- Noted staff is preparing for the Keystone exams to be held in December.
- He reported that we have 72 students enrolled in the Steel Valley Cyber School, and 51 students are full-time status. Through the Career Technology Education Library, the district will offer eight (8) online vocational courses to our students in addition to core subjects.

- Shared a mock-up of one page of the new website design with school board members. One of the key features on the website will include a student spotlight button.

Solicitor's Report

Mr. Ducar moved and Mr. Olson seconded the motion to renew the Propel Charter School Agreement to operate a public school within the Steel Valley School District beginning July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2018, as presented. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Kiefer, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Mr. Ducar moved and Mr. Olson seconded the motion to approve the modification to the Superintendent's contract. No vote taken.

Mr. Ducar moved and Mrs. Ballas seconded the motion to table the motion. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Kiefer, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Mr. Ducar moved and Mr. Olson seconded the motion to modify the Superintendent's contract, Section 5.04, and change to \$4,000. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Olson, Youngblood and Cannon. Negative: Kiefer and Terrick. Motion carried.

Mr. Ducar moved and Mrs. Ballas seconded the motion to reimburse the maximum amount of tuition, \$6,000, for pre-approved strategic planning course. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Ducar, Olson, Youngblood and Cannon. Negative: Kiefer, Bajus and Terrick. Motion carried.

Board Meeting Minutes

Mr. Ducar moved and Ms. Youngblood seconded the motion to approve the meeting minutes of September 17, 2013, and September 24,

2013. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Kiefer, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood and Cannon. Abstain: Ducar. Negative: None. Motion carried.

1.0 Financial Management

Mrs. Ballas moved Mr. Ducar seconded the motion to approve the following:

- 1.1 List of Bills:
 - 1.1.01 General Fund invoices for September 2013 in the amount of \$686,709.11
 - 1.1.02 General Fund hand checks for September 2013 in the amount of \$475,000.14
 - 1.1.03 Food Service invoices for September 2013 in the amount of \$49,697.86
 - 1.1.04 Payroll Funding Transfers for September 2013
 - 1.1.05 General Fund Revenue Report for September 2013
 - 1.1.06 General Fund Expenditure Report for September 2013
 - 1.1.07 Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for month ending September 30, 2013
 - 1.1.08 Custodial/hand checks in the amount of \$14,266.28
 - 1.1.09 Athletic invoices/hand checks in the amount of \$7,356.71
 - 1.1.10 Band invoices/hand checks in the amount of \$1,883.95
 - 1.2 Refund in the amount of \$254.78 to William Toulin, for Lot & Block 179-P-296, as a result of a change in assessment
 - 1.3 Refund in the amount of \$238.06 to Robert T. and Renee L. Kane, for Lot & Block 133-C-076, as a result of a change in assessment
 - 1.4 Authorize necessary budget transfers for the 2013-2014 school year
- Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Kiefer, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood and Cannon. Abstain: Cannon on Item No. 1.1.08. Negative: None. Motion carried.

2.0 Operations

Mr. Ducar moved and Mr. Olson seconded the motion to approve the following:

- 2.1 Facility rental requests as presented

- 2.2 Adopt the resolution to utilize Tremco Roofing and Building, Maintenance, Inc., for the roofing project at the middle school/high school building in the amount of \$440,691.00
- 2.3 Award Gymnasium Equipment Company (G. E.C.) the replacement of the bleacher motor's power drive system in the high school gymnasium at a cost of \$17,985.00 per their quote dated October 22, 2013
- 2.4 Award Coppola Construction, Inc., retroactively, the asphalt paving of Park School's gravel lot in the amount of \$8,500.00, to be paid from the capital projects account
- 2.5 Authorize the business manager to solicit bids for plumbing and electrical services for the 2013-2014 school year

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Kiefer, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

3.0 Co-Curricular Leadership

Mr. Bajus moved and Mr. Olson seconded the motion to approve the following:

- 3.1 Fundraising requests as presented
- 3.2 Accept the donation of a whirlpool from NovaCare Rehabilitation
- 3.3 The creation of a Robotics Club for high school students for the 2013-2014 school year with Shawn McCallister and Ben Lander to volunteer as sponsors
- 3.4 A request from the Marching Band to tour New York City on April 4, 2014, at no cost to the district

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Kiefer, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

4.0 Special Assignments

- Mr. Tom Olson reported on the breakout sessions, innovative educational ideas and vast knowledge to be gained at the Annual School Leadership Conference in Hershey. He attended as a

- representative for Steel Center Vocational-Technical School. He would like to see other board members attend in the future.
- Mr. Olson commended Mr. Wehrer for riding the bus and shadowing our students at Steel Center Vocational-Technical School on October 17.

5.0 Educational Leadership

- Mrs. Ballas thanked Ed Colebank for the website update.

6.0 Personnel Management

Mrs. Ballas moved and Mr. Terrick seconded the motion to approve the following:

- 6.1 Create a long-term substitute elementary position with prorated fringe benefits according to the collective bargaining agreement for the remainder of the 2013-2014 school term
- 6.2 Create a supplemental position for the Barrett After School Program with a stipend of \$1,800.00 for the 2013-2014 school year
- 6.3 The winter and spring supplemental appointments as presented for the 2013-2014 school year
- 6.4 Alie Fisher for the supplemental position of Barrett Intramural Supervisor for the 2013-2014 school year
- 6.5 Samuel Musselman as a day-to-day substitute teacher for the 2013-2014 school year at the approved daily rate
- 6.6 Judi Besnak as a substitute food service worker at the rate of \$7.25 per hour and no benefits
- 6.7 Elaine Becker (retroactive to September 20, 2013) and Christine Furrick as substitutes in the areas of secretary, paraprofessional and cafeteria monitor at the rate of \$7.25 per hour and no benefits, and as a substitute KtO tutor at the rate of \$15.00 per hour and no benefits
- 6.8 School volunteers listed for the 2013-2014 school year contingent upon receipt of appropriate Act 34 and 151 clearances
- 6.9 Deny grievance #73013 received from the Steel Valley Educational Support Personnel Association
- 6.10 Deny grievance #10113 received from the Steel Valley Educational

Support Personnel Association

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Kiefer, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood and Cannon. Negative: Kiefer on Item 6.9 and 6.10. Abstain: Youngblood and Cannon on Item 6.3. Motion carried.

Citizen Comments

- Ms. Donna Dreshman

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:19 p.m. by a motion of Ms. Youngblood seconded by Mrs. Kiefer.