

Regular Meeting
Steel Valley School District Board of Directors
Senior High School Auditorium
October 25, 2011

Mrs. Cannon, President called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

Mr. Bajus, Mrs. Ballas, Mr. Natale, Ms. Youngblood,
Mrs. Kubancsek and Mrs. Cannon

Absent: Mr. Ducar, Mr. Olson and Mr. Terrick

Also present: Dr. Kinavey, Mr. Cherpak, Mr. Fetzko, Mr. Colebank and
Mrs. Borges

Acknowledgements

Moment of Silence

The Board acknowledged the following deaths in the Steel Valley School District families: *Dale Hinkle*, husband of Audrey Hinkle, elementary teacher; *Benjamin D. Noblet*, husband of Erin Noblet, former middle school teacher and nephew of Dianne Cain, attendance/residency checker; and *Irene Sippos*, aunt of Marilyn Zabelsky, elementary teacher.

Mrs. Kubancsek moved and Mr. Natale 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, Natale, Youngblood, Kubancsek and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

President's Comments

Mrs. Cannon:

- Commended the 4th and 5th grade students at Barrett and Park Elementary Schools for their participation in the teleconference with Charlie Batch for the Dignity and Respect campaign.

Student Representatives to the Board

Ms. Taylor Szczepankowski:

- Reported on the student assembly at Park School with Jon Pritikin, a motivational speaker who reinforced the anti-bullying message. He is in the Guinness Book of World Records for being a strong man. Mr. Pritikin showed his strength by ripping a phone book in half, rolling up a metal frying pan and twirling two girls in the air while they held on to a pole. He encouraged them to spread the message that “words hurt” and to “be a friend to someone in need.”
- The 6th grade girls are participating in Girls Groups, and the 8th grade students are taking a field trip to the Carnegie Music Hall for a performance of short stories.
- Seniors took the PSSA Reading and Math retakes on October 25 and Writing and Science retakes on November 1.
- The boys’ soccer and girls’ volleyball teams qualified for the WPIAL playoffs.

Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Kinavey:

- Recognized high school varsity football player Dontez Williams for his achievement on the PPG AIM Player of the Week. He was honored at the Pittsburgh Steelers game on October 16.
- Also recognized Ben Bobick who finished in the top 5 at the golf sectional qualifier. Ben played in the Division II Championship at New Castle Country Club.
- Dr. Kinavey congratulated the Marching Band who were named Chapter 8 Champions and have qualified to attend the Atlantic Coast Championships in Hershey.
- The annual Veterans Day programs will be held as follows:

| | | |
|-------------|-----------|---------------------------|
| November 9 | 1:30 p.m. | Barrett Elementary School |
| November 10 | 9:00 a.m. | Park Elementary School |

November 11 8:45 a.m. Senior High School

- Asked the public to contact their legislators regarding the passage of Senate bill 1. SB 1 will fund school vouchers and drain even more money from public education.

Director of Pupil Personnel, Special Services & Elementary Education

Mrs. Borges:

- Announced that a fire safety assembly was held at Park School. The firemen showed the children their equipment and talked to them about a safety plan.
- Park and Barrett Schools will hold their annual Halloween parades on Thursday, and Franklin Primary center will hold its parade on Friday.
- Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held at Park and Barrett Elementary Schools on Tuesday, November 8.

Director of Academics, Information & Technology

Mr. Colebank:

- Commended the students who participated in the teleconference. He reported that we were connected via a teleconference with eleven other schools for the Dignity and Respect program at Barrett Elementary School.
- Grades are due November 2 and report cards will be distributed November 7.
- Reported on the Steel Valley Online Academy, an educational cyber program using EdOptions. The benefits of having our own cyber school program are flexibility in offering enrichment for some of our gifted students, credit recovery, alternative to students who drop out, alternative for medical homebound, solution for summer school, and preparation for GED. Currently, Steel Valley has 13 full-time students participating in the Steel Valley Online Academy.

Citizen Comments on Agenda Items

- Ms. Donna Dreshman - questions on real estate tax refunds (Items 1.2 and 1.3); do we have money to bring back a custodian, are we bringing back any teachers this meeting; and does it cost anything for grievances.

Solicitor's Report

Mrs. Kubancsek moved and Mr. Natale seconded the motion to expel a minor male student from October 3, 2011, through and including October 2, 2012. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Natale, Youngblood, Kubancsek and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Board Meeting Minutes

Mrs. Kubancsek moved Mrs. Ballas seconded the motion to approve the worksession minutes of the September 20, 2011 meeting and the regular minutes of the September 27, 2011 meeting. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Natale, Youngblood, Kubancsek and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Financial Management

Mr. Natale moved and Mrs. Kubancsek seconded the motion to approve the following:

- General Fund invoices for October 2011 in the amount of \$670,643.80
- General Fund hand checks for September 2011 in the amount of \$1,118,600.59
- Payroll Funding Transfers for September 2011
- Food Service invoices for October 2011 in the amount of \$50,068.78
- Food Service hand checks for September 2011 in the amount of \$624.04
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending September 30, 2011
- Foundation for Education Technology Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending September 30, 2011
- Custodial hand checks in the amount of \$17,232.52
- Athletic invoices/hand checks in the amount of \$7,490.00
- Band Trip hand checks in the amount of \$137.89
- Authorize a real estate tax refund as a result of an overpayment to Wells Fargo, in the amount of \$779.79 for Lot & Block 133-G-80

- Authorize a real estate tax refund as a result of an overpayment to Citimortgage, in the amount of \$3,667.02 for Lot & Block 132-H-190
- Authorize a real estate tax refund to Costco Wholesale Corporation, Lot & Block 90-D-225, as a result of Costco paying a portion of the Sandcastle real estate taxes, in the amount of \$16,696.28

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Natale, Youngblood, Kubancsek and Cannon. Abstain: Ballas on Invoice No. 998157761006. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Operations

Mr. Bajus moved and Ms. Youngblood seconded the motion to approve the facility rental request as presented. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Natale, Youngblood, Kubancsek and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Co-Curricular Leadership

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

- Fundraising requests as presented
- The Agreement between the Steel Valley School District and the West Mifflin Area School District to allow Steel Valley players to wrestle with the West Mifflin Varsity Wrestling Team for the 2011-2012 season according to the terms of the agreement
- The Letter of Agreement with Academics in Motion to provide a comprehensive academic and personal development support program at the Steel Valley High School from October 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012, at no cost to the district

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Natale, Youngblood, Kubancsek and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Special Assignments

No report

Educational Leadership

No report

Personnel Management

Mr. Natale moved and Mrs. Kubancsek seconded the motion to approve the following:

- Family medical leave of absence for Christina Szott beginning November 22, 2011, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- Supplemental appointments as presented for the 2011-2012 school year
- Retroactively approve the request from Geraldine Wilson, cafeteria worker at Park Elementary School, for a family medical leave of absence, beginning September 28, 2011, through October 28, 2011
- Amendments to the job description for the Attendance/Residence Checker
- Re-instate one (1) full-time custodian and recall one (1) custodian from the furlough list for the 2011-2012 school year to work the second shift at the Senior High School and also to be utilized in all the school facilities, effective October 26, 2011
- Deny Grievance #2011.09.01 from the Secretarial/Aide Educational Support Personnel Association due to no violation of the collective bargaining agreement as alleged
- Deny Grievance #2011.09.02 from the Secretarial/Aide Educational Support Personnel Association due to no violation of the collective bargaining agreement as alleged
- Deny Grievance #2011.09.03 from the Secretarial/Aide Educational Support Personnel Association due to past practice
- Deny Grievance #2011.09.03.01 from the Secretarial/Aide Educational Support Personnel Association due to no violation of the collective bargaining agreement as alleged

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Natale, Youngblood, Kubancsek and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Citizen Comments

- Ms. Donna Dreshman – if child is being bullied how is this handled in the district, where do we stand on the Act 93 agreement, will paving of the tennis courts be bid, and illegal dumping occurring at Woodlawn.

- Ms. Susan Grueser – addressing the Board regarding discipline policies in the district; Steel Valley athletic/activities handbook, why don't parents sign off on this; would like the handbook to be sent with medical information to parents; comments on the suspension of a football player after ejection from a game; wants a committee formed to re-write the handbooks.
- Ms. Trudi Pinkerton Zeiler – an attorney spoke for her.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m. by a motion of Ms. Youngblood, seconded by Mrs. Kubancsek.