

Regular Meeting
Steel Valley School District Board of Directors
Senior High School Library
December 4, 2012

Meeting was called to order by Mrs. Cannon, President at 7:21 p.m.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

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

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

Flag Salute

Acknowledgements

Moment of Silence

The Board acknowledged the following deaths in the Steel Valley School District families: *Julia Karadus*, mother of Lori Cannon, KtO tutor at Barrett; *Andresita Stevens*, aunt of Sherri Titmus, Franklin Primary secretary; *Stephanie E. Harakal*, mother of Jessica Andzelik, 2nd grade Barrett teacher; *Casimir Rompala*, father-in-law of Wyona Rompala, cafeteria worker at Barrett and Franklin Primary Center; *Mary Beth Boyle*, Steel Valley Graduate Class of 2000; *Frank J. Wintruba*, father-in-law of Tony Verbanick, instructional resource teacher at Barrett Elementary School; *Suzanne Bence*, mother of Jena Bence, former varsity cheerleading coach; *Jacqui Konop Buckley*, Steel Valley Graduate Class of 2000.

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

President's Comments

Mrs. Cannon:

- Thanked the board members for their support in retaining her as President.
- Seven individuals and Olympic swim teams were recognized for their achievements in the arts, sciences, business, sports and community service at the Carnegie of Homestead's Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on Friday evening. Mrs. Cannon praised the planning committee for its efforts in recognizing the individuals. Mrs. Cannon noted that the inductees credited their successes to their roots in Steel Valley.

Student Representative's Report

Ms. Kristen Moten:

- The 9th, 10th and 11th grade students are taking the Keystone exams this week: December 4 – Algebra, December 5 – Literature, December 6 – Biology.
- The winter sports season has kicked off for Boys Basketball, Boys 9th Grade Basketball, Girls Basketball, Cheerleading and Swimming teams.
- This year's semi-formal dance will be held at Westwood Golf Club on December 15 from 5:00-9:00 p.m.
- The holiday choral concert will be held on Wednesday, December 12, at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.
- The holiday break will take place December 22 – January 1.
- At the middle school, an ice skating party will be held at Schenley Park.
- The middle school is conducting a holiday concert on December 12 at 6:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. The Middle School PTO is purchasing a boom box for the cheerleaders.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Wehrer:

- Announced that the school district staff raised \$460 by donating \$5 to wear denim to work on Friday, November 30. These funds are being donated to the Operation Pack to Pack collection efforts being conducted by Munhall Boy Scout Pack 4 for the victims of Hurricane Sandy in Staten Island, New

York. In addition, the Steel Valley Education Foundation made a \$1,000 donation to the collection efforts, and the School Board approved a \$1,000 donation as well.

- The PSBA has been recognizing the contributions of dedicated school directors through the Honor Roll of School Board Service. Superintendent Wehrer thanked Mrs. Susan Ballas and Mr. Joseph Ducar for giving selflessly of their time and talents for the future of our schools. For 16 years they have been giving back to their local communities through the education of our youth. In recognition of their long-term contributions, Mr. Wehrer presented them with Certificates of Appreciation.
- The Steel Center Extra Effort Awards presentation recognizes students in each program area once per quarter. These students have gone above and beyond what is expected and have made considerable improvement in the classroom or shop in areas such as attendance, theory work, shop work and work ethic and attitude. Mr. Wehrer presented Certificates of Recognition to Natalie Talarico for her extra effort in Cosmetology, Jason McMichael for his extra effort in Auto Mechanics and Ryan Ackerman for his extra effort in the Building Trades.

Director of Pupil Personnel, Special Services & Elementary Education

Mrs. Borges:

- Announced the schedule for the elementary holiday concerts:

December 7	All School Holiday Program	9:30 am or 1:00 pm
	Park Elementary School	
December 14	Park Band/Choral Holiday Concert	1:00 pm
December 19	<i>Littlest Christmas Tree</i> Performance	12:30 pm
	By the Kindergarten Students	
	High school Auditorium	
December 20	Holiday Concert	1:30 pm
	Barrett Elementary School	

Director of Academics, Information & Technology

Mr. Colebank:

- Reported that the district will be using a new email service through Gmail and revealing a new design to the Steel Valley website starting in January.

- The school district passed a recent KtO site visit. The state reported they have secured funding for Year 2 and 3 of the Keystone to Opportunity grant.
- A test of the AlertNow system will be conducted late next week for staff and parents.
- Announced that on December 12, the high school/middle school band concerts will begin at 6:00 p.m. and the high school choral concert will start at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.

Solicitor's Report

Mr. Fetzko:

- Reported that the real estate appeal process is being accelerated. He also reported that the sale of the Waterfront properties might help us with revenue. He is also reviewing other commercial property sales.

Citizen Comments

- Mrs. Kathy Ligeros – 210 Elizabeth Street - Item 1.1.05 (Food service invoices) come out of cafeteria budget not general fund; Keystone exams- why leave early and Mr. Colebank answered it allows the students a quiet testing environment; Item 6.5 (7th grade basketball coach) Mrs. Kiefer and Mr. Wehrer stated that athletic director made the recommendation; Item 6.6 (Spring supplemental positions) what spring supplemental positions are being hired tonight- baseball and softball, need to post volleyball positions; middle school – no assistant principal, middle school needs someone to fill in. Mr. Wehrer – personnel matter and cannot address, administrative staff is handling duties.
- Ms. Donna Dreshman – any new items added to the agenda; executive session to review applications for interim business manager; Item 3.1 (Fundraising requests) new denim day fundraiser, Item 6.0 (Personnel Management) is anyone related to the new hires – Mrs. Cannon “yes”; Item 6.8 (Hiring interim business manager); and 6.9 (Hiring Mark Cherpak as consultant) needing one day of work with Mr. Cherpak for a maximum of three days.

Board Meeting Minutes

Mr. Natale moved and Mr. Ducar seconded the motion to approve the board meeting minutes of October 11, 2012 special meeting, October 16, 2012, and October 23, 2012 regular meeting. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Kiefer, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood, Natale and Cannon. Abstain: Ducar on October 23, 2012 minutes and Natale and Cannon on the October 16, 2012 minutes. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Financial Management

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

- General Fund invoices for November 2012 in the amount of \$618,445.26
- General Fund hand checks for October 2012 in the amount of \$377,710.06
- Food Service hand checks for October 2012 in the amount of \$26,825.18
- Payroll Funding Transfers for October 2012
- Food Service invoices for November 2012 in the amount of \$54,613.46
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for month ending October 31, 2012
- Custodial/hand checks in the amount of \$13,348.26
- Middle School/hand checks in the amount of \$987.15
- Athletic invoices/hand checks in the amount of \$4,320.86

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

Operations

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

- Facility rental requests as presented and No. 4151 contingent upon receipt of insurance certificate
- Payment of \$1,000 to Operation Pack to Pack

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

Co-Curricular Leadership

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

- Fundraising requests as presented
- Field trip request by the History Club to Colonial Williamsburg, Jamestown settlement and Busch Gardens from May 25-27, 2013, at a no cost to the school district
- Payment of \$375.00 for the services of A 3-d Sound Productions at the winter semi-formal to be held on December 15, 2012

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

Special Assignments

Mr. Olson moved and Mrs. Ballas seconded the motion to re-appoint Vincent Natale as the Steel Valley Board of School Directors representative for a two-year term on the Steel Valley Enterprise Zone Corporation Board of Directors through December 31, 2014. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Kiefer, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood and Cannon. Abstain: Natale. Negative: None. Motion carried.

On behalf of the Board, thanks for taking on this role as an added duty.

Educational Leadership

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

- Revise the 2012-2013 school calendar and designate Friday, December 21, 2012, as a K-12 districtwide early dismissal
- The revised schedule for December 4, 5 and 6, 2012, for the high school Keystone exams
- The schedule of dates and authorize the advertising of school board meetings for the upcoming 2013 year
- Accept the donation of a 40” flat screen television from Mr. and Mrs. Robert Novotny for the Franklin Primary Center

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

Mrs. Ballas thanks to the Novotny family.

Personnel Management

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

- Accept, with regret, the resignation of Mark R. Cherpak from the position of Director of Operational Services/Board Secretary retroactive at the end of business on November 30, 2012
- The attendance of Alyson Fisher to the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program (OBPP) Trainer Certification Course from December 5-7, 2012, in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, with costs covered by the OBPP grant
- Lynan Cochrane as a substitute tutor for the KtO program for the 2012-2013 school year, contingent upon receipt of current clearances
- Accept the resignation of Ja’Quan McNeil from the supplemental positions of Middle School Boys Basketball Coach, Middle School Girls Volleyball Coach and Varsity Boys Volleyball Coach effective immediately
- Jerred Masley as the 7th grade boys basketball coach
- Spring supplemental positions as listed for the 2012-2013 school year
- School volunteers listed for the 2012-2013 school year contingent upon receipt of appropriate Act 34 and 151 clearances
- Hire an interim business manager/board secretary at the rate of \$50.00 per hour with a maximum of \$1,750.00 per week and no fringe benefits effective December 5, 2012

- Hire Mark Cherpak as a consultant for a maximum of 3 days at a per diem rate of \$366.23
- Deny Grievance #12-230

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Kiefer, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood, Natale and Cannon. Abstain: Cannon on Item 6.3 (Lynan Cochrane as substitute tutor) and Item 6.6 (Spring supplemental positions) baseball coach. Negative: Kiefer on Items 6.8 (Interim business manager/board secretary) 6.9 (Mark Cherpak as a consultant) and 6.10 (Deny Grievance #12-230). Motion carried.

Mr. Natale moved and Mr. Ducar seconded the motion to appoint James Marnell as interim Right-to-Know Officer. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Kiefer, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood, Natale and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Citizen Comments

- Ms. Donna Dreshman – AlertNow will be activated in the evening around 6 p.m.; status of Franklin Primary for next year – no decision yet, discuss early part of the year; Right-to-Know Officer – interim business manager; tentative agreements with two units, working on the Act 93 agreement; Foundation – that decision not made by school board, not certain if two-year 503C status re-instated

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. by a motion of Ms. Youngblood, seconded by Mr. Ducar.