

**Regular Meeting  
Steel Valley School District Board of Directors  
Senior High School Library  
February 28, 2012**

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Cannon, President, at 7:01 p.m.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

Mr. Bajus, Mrs. Ballas (via telephone), Mrs. Kiefer, Mr. Terrick, Ms. Youngblood and Mrs. Cannon

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

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

**Acknowledgements**

The Board acknowledged the following deaths in the Steel Valley School District families: *Paul J. Kuszaj*, former librarian at Barrett and Franklin schools; *Rodney R. Steele*, father of Rodney Steele, varsity football coach; *Aizeya Mattocks*, third grade student at Mercer Area Elementary School; *Mary Zotter*, grandmother of Mike Altman, high school language arts teacher; *Phillip Drane*, brother-in-law of Mark Fallon, middle school history teacher; *David Metcalf*, cousin of David Emro, high school teacher; *Anne Simko*, aunt of Dianne Cain, attendance and residency checker.

**Ms. Youngblood 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, Kiefer, Terrick, Youngblood and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

**President's Comments**

Mrs. Cannon:

- Reported that the High School Drama Club will perform the musical *Oliver* on March 8-11 in the high school auditorium. Tickets are available to purchase in the Activities Office.

### **Student Representatives to the School Board**

Miss Kacey Hartnett

Miss Meghan Wolf

- Reported that Barrett students participated in a positive behavior dance. Each child with no office referrals was invited to learn a dance to *Thriller*.
- Barrett Teacher Sue Wilder is tutoring students after school for the PSSA tests. A motivational speaker talked to 4<sup>th</sup> grade students about perseverance in Nicole States' classroom. The 4<sup>th</sup> grade Fun Night was held on February 16, and Dr. Seuss Title I Family Night will be held on February 29.
- The middle school is doing a lot of PSSA preparations, including writing to boost test scores. They are also planning student field trips for May, and the middle school teachers and administrators will be at the next board meeting to present the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Washington, DC trip.
- Reported that the Varsity Girls Basketball team was playing in the WPIAL semifinals tonight and has secured a spot in the state playoffs.
- PSSA testing in Reading and Math is scheduled for March 13, 14 and 15. The high school will operate on a modified schedule on those days. The high school has raised nearly \$1,000 for PSSA testing incentives.
- Spring sports will begin in early March. Students in the high school are eligible to participate in baseball, softball and boys volleyball.
- Students at Park School are celebrating Dr. Seuss Week by wearing mismatched socks, crazy hats and dressing "Wacky" on Wednesday. On February 29, they will hold a Dr. Seuss Title I Family Night beginning at 6:00 p.m.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Kinavey:

- Recognized Miss Jaylin Brown, a 5<sup>th</sup> grade Park Elementary School student, for competing and being named a Pennsylvania State Finalist in the National American Junior Miss Pageant.

- Three high school students were honored for receiving the “Extra Effort” award for the second quarter from Steel Center Area Vocational-Technical School. Shop instructors choose the extra effort award recipients each quarter for their demonstration of outstanding attitude, work ethics, attendance and dependability. The students recognized were:

Gilbreona Carswell	Baking
Ryan Doyle	Diesel Mechanics
Anthony Romagna	Retail Food Merchandising & Production

Another group of students attending Steel Center were awarded the Top of the Shop Award of the first semester of the 2011-2012 school year. Certificates were distributed to:

Chelsea Cannon	Cosmetology
Sarah Csider	Computer Information Systems
Dylan Younkins	Food Services

The Top of the Shop award is given once each semester and instructors from each of the technologies select a morning and afternoon student to receive the award. Selection is based on conduct, attendance, proficiency in coursework, and professionalism.

- The 4<sup>th</sup> grade Production Team at the Barrett Elementary School under the direction of Ms. Sharon Kampe performed a positive musical selection for the audience. Students who performed were:

TreVon Epps	Aliyah McEnheimer
Alana Almedia-Amaral	Jenna Dunn
Vanessa West	Terevon Harris
Kharissa Kightlinger	Taiona Clay
Stephanie Travis	Lenaya Brimage
Gabriel Carter	Ryan Hartman
Erica Irvin	Keelee Marra
DeAirah Murray	Rionte' Carter
Gavin Harff	

- On April 4, the Barrett Production Team will present its All School Revue at Barrett Elementary school.
- Mrs. Borges and Mrs. Alyson Fisher presented an update on the School Wide positive Behavior Program at Barrett and Park Elementary Schools. This program teaches, models and rewards good student behavior.

**Director of Pupil Personnel, Special Services & Elementary Education**

Mrs. Borges:

- Announced that the Franklin Primary Center held a Dr. Seuss Title I Family Night on Monday evening. On February 29, Barrett will hold its Family Night beginning at 5:00 p.m. and Park School's will begin at 6:00 p.m.
- On March 2, the district will hold an inservice day. All staff will receive special education training in the afternoon.
- The elementary PSSA Reading and Math tests will be held during the week of March 12-16.

### **Director of Academics, Information & Technology**

Mr. Colebank

- Announced the PSSA Reading and Math tests are scheduled at the middle school and high school on March 13-15. Eleventh grade students are to report to school at 7:10 a.m. on those dates, and the 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> grade students are to report at 10:45 a.m. Middle School students will start at the regular time and be dismissed early.
- Thanked Academic Coaches Mrs. Geyer and Mrs. McCallister for coordinating the Keystone Grant application process. The school district has been invited to submit the full application. During the March 2 inservice day, the Core Team will work with Title I and elementary teachers on the application. Mr. Colebank invited community members who would like to be part of the Core Team to contact him.

### **Solicitor's Report**

No report

The Board members held an executive session to discuss legal/personnel issues at 7:31 p.m. to 7:55 p.m.

### **Citizen Comments on Agenda Items**

- Ms. Donna Dreshman questions - what was the outcome of the executive session; Item 1.2 (Bids for refuse and security services) are the contracts expiring; Item 5.0 (Educational Leadership) who wrote the grants for these; Item 6.0 (Personnel Management) is anybody related to the Board or administration being appointed tonight.

## **Board Minutes**

**Mr. Terrick moved and Ms. Youngblood seconded the motion to approve the board meeting minutes of January 17 (Revised 2/22/12) and January 24, 2012.** Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Kiefer, Terrick, Youngblood and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Mr. Terrick would like the minutes of the January 17 (Revised 2/22/12) meeting sent to all coaches directly.

## **Financial Management**

**Mr. Terrick moved Ms. Youngblood seconded the motion to approve the following:**

- General Fund invoices for February 2012 in the amount of \$415,387.99
- General Fund hand checks for February 2012 in the amount of \$290,324.28
- Payroll Funding Transfers for January 2012
- Food Service invoices for February 2012 in the amount of \$55,363.78
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for month ending January 31, 2012
- Foundation for Education Technology Statement and Expense for month ending January 31, 2012
- Custodial/hand checks in the amount of \$22,840.19
- Middle School/hand checks in the amount of \$495.00
- Athletic invoices/hand checks in the amount of \$4,735.00
- Authorize the business manager to solicit bids for refuse hauling and security services for the district
- Authorize the participation of the Steel Valley School District in the Western Pennsylvania Electricity Consortium Extension for the purchase of electricity from Duquesne Light Energy only if the price is at or below the current price. The extended agreement will begin after the final meter read date in 2014 under the current agreement for a period of 12 to 18 months and the price will include all costs except distribution, sales taxes and other local utility charges as contained in the original agreement

- Exonerate the Homestead, Munhall and West Homestead tax collectors for year 2011 for uncollected amounts of \$354,079.77, \$798,312.79 and \$184,042.31 respectively

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Kiefer, Terrick, Youngblood and Cannon. Abstain: Ballas on Item 1.1.02 (Sprint invoices.) Negative: None. Motion carried.

## **Operations**

**Mr. Terrick moved and Ms. Youngblood seconded the motion to approve the following:**

- Facility rental requests as presented
- The purchase and installation of a chain link fence for the Girls' Softball Field, per County of Allegheny-Fence Contract #47214, at a price of \$16,040.00 to be paid from the Capital Projects fund
- The purchase of a John Deere 3038E Tractor per PA State Pwr Equipment 2420-1, at a price of \$14,303.52 to be paid from the Capital Projects fund

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Kiefer, Terrick, Youngblood and Cannon. Negative: Ballas on Item 2.2 (purchase of fence). Motion carried.

## **Co-Curricular Leadership**

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

- Fundraising requests as presented
- Payment of \$225 for the transportation of Barrett Elementary School students to visit the Carnegie Museum of Natural History on April 3

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

## **Special Assignments**

No report

## **Educational Leadership**

**Ms. Youngblood moved and Mr. Terrick seconded the motion to approve the following:**

- Accept the Transition Mini Grant in the amount of \$800 from the Allegheny Intermediate Unit
- Accept a \$500 grant from the Edith and Albert Derzak Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation on behalf of the Office of Pupil Services for the schoolwide incentives for Barrett Elementary School

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

## **Personnel Management**

**Ms. Youngblood moved and Mr. Terrick seconded the motion to approve the following:**

- Accept, with regret, the resignation of Rebecca Russell from a part-time teaching position effective February 29, 2012
- Recall Cynthia Levick to the part-time, long-term substitute credit recovery position assigned to the Batch Building effective February 29, 2012, for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year
- Authorize the business manager to attend the PASBO annual conference in Hershey, PA, on March 7, 8 and 9, 2012
- Accept the supplemental resignation of Brian Savolskis from the Assistant Baseball Coach position
- Approve the supplemental appointments as presented for the 2011-2012 school year, contingent upon receipt of Act 34 and 151 clearances, with Michael Beck's name removed from list
- Approve an intermittent family medical leave of absence for Michael Pavasko retroactive to February 10, 2012, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- Approve Kacey Churilla as an activity volunteer for girls' volleyball for the 2011-2012 school year, contingent upon receipt of Act 34 and 151 clearances

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

**Mr. Terrick moved and Mr. Bajus seconded the motion to reject the request to throw out the new assessments for 2013 as requested by the Allegheny County Executive.** Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Kiefer, Terrick, Youngblood. Abstain: Cannon. Negative: Ballas. Motion carried.

### **Citizen Comments**

- Ms. Liz States commented on her high school career and how she has become a success in life. Thanks all the teachers for helping her get where she is today.
- Ms. Nicole States feels the teachers of the district deserve an apology. Mr. Bajus declined to apologize. Ms. Youngblood commented positively on teacher performance at Barrett. Explained the role of a teacher. Recognized Sue Wilder for tutoring students after school.
- Ms. Donna Dreshman – where do we stand on contract negotiations, will we send out furlough notices this year, spoke about delinquent taxes and questioned Mr. Fetzko on this.
- Mr. William Lasek – thanked Barrett students for performance. Spoke about music education programs at middle school and elementary schools. Spoke in support of music programs in the district.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m. by a motion of Ms. Youngblood, seconded by Mrs. Kiefer.