

Regular Meeting
Steel Valley School District Board of Directors
Senior High School Auditorium
March 22, 2011

Meeting was called to order by Mrs. Cannon, President at 7:02 p.m.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

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

Absent: Mr. Bajus (arrived at 7:05 p.m.), Mr. Ducar (arrived at 7:04 p.m.), Mr. Terrick (arrived at 7:20 p.m.)

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

Acknowledgements

Moment of Silence

The Board acknowledged the following deaths in the Steel Valley School District families: *Francis E. Fetsko*, uncle of Donald Fetzko, school solicitor; *Lynn A. Sobczak*, mother-in-law of *Bryan Macuga*, Park School principal; *Mike Monaco*, cousin of Joe Panaia, Park School custodian; *Carl May*, grandfather of Rebecca O'Shell Park School teacher and uncle of Michael Pavasko, Barrett custodian; *Hugh R. Scott*, grandfather of Mariann Reilly, high school teacher; *Mary Cotton*, grandfather of Christina Szott, high school teacher.

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

President's Comments

Mrs. Cannon:

- Announced that our students and staff put on a phenomenal performance of *Seussical* and there is so much talent in our district.
- Noted that over 300 students and family members attended Park School's Seussical on Tour Family Night activities thanks to the generosity of John Bajus, brother of Teacher Maria Heddleston and son of Board Member Donald Bajus. Thanks to Maria Heddleston, Park School teacher, for coordinating the event.

Student Representatives' Report

Ms. Taylor Szczepankowski:

- Reported that the Steel Valley Literacy Team fundraiser took place on March 2 at Uno's Restaurant with story time by the *Seussical* cast.
- The high school drama club presented the musical *Seussical* on March 10-13. All members did a fantastic job and it was a huge success.
- The spring sports season is underway.
- On March 15-18, the juniors took the PSSA Reading and Math assessments, and on March 29-30 they will take the PSSA Writing assessments.
- On March 28, there will be no school for students. Report cards will be distributed on April 1.
- At the middle school, students also finished the PSSA Reading and Math assessments.
- Charlie Batch will take 85 students on a field trip on May 16.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kinavey:

- Introduced Athletic Activity Director Shawn McCallister who recognized the winter sports teams and players with certificates of recognition.
- The boys and girls swim team had another successful season. One individual who symbolizes the success of the team is Junior Zack Graham. He came within 4 seconds of qualifying for the WPIAL championship, and he placed 5th at the Section 5 swimming invitational. The overall GPA of the swim team was a 3.5. Great job to the swim team and Coach Matt Simpson.

- Mr. McCallister reported the girls' basketball team's hard work and determination advanced them to the WPIAL playoffs earning a spot in the Sweet 16. Five players are in the top 10 of the junior class in academics. The overall GPA of the girls' basketball team was a 3.6. Congratulations to the Lady Ironmen and Coach Kelly Sabo.
- Two wrestlers qualify for the Southwest Regional and two wrestlers in the Section finals. The last three years we had three section champs, four regional qualifiers, and this year, we had a state finalist. Andre Ellis was a section runner-up, finished 7th in the WIAL and qualified for the Southwest Regional. The wrestlers had a team GPA of 2.8. Great job wrestlers and Coach Russ Gill.
- Senior Mike Pavasko became one of the most successful wrestlers in the history of Steel Valley High School. He now holds the record for most career wins at 112. He was also a two-time Section champion at 140 and 152 pounds. He was a two-time WPIAL runner-up, and a three-time Southwest Regional qualifier. He is Steel Valley's first PIAA place winner by finishing 4th. He also placed 4th at the Allegheny County Championships. Congratulations to Mike Pavasko as he represented Steel Valley and displayed sportsmanship in every match.
- Mr. McCallister reported that this is the 3rd year for the Boys and Girls Bowling teams to complete in the WPIBL. Both teams showed determination to maintain their status among the 44 teams from other school districts. The students on bowling teams maintained 3.2 GPA during the season. Individually, Alex Delserone, rose to the top of his division throughout the season. He maintained a 205+average that has been a Steel Valley record for the past three years. He even bowled a perfect 300 during practice. Alex qualified for the WPIBL individual championships finishing 3rd in his section, and he finished 13 out of all 74 bowlers. Congratulations to the bowling teams and Coach Scott Manns.
- Dr. Kinavey recognized Steve Singer and Denise Williams, middle school teachers, for sponsoring the Alice Club. Alice is a free program from Carnegie Mellon University that allows students to create 3D animations, video games and other computer programs. Students who participate in the after school activity were presented with certificates:

Efrain Lanz	Caylee Cannon	Davide Hill
Cologeno Lanza	Hayley McDonald	Michael Ondike
Anne Ribeau	Aujahnea Turner	Chyanne Sapien
Gerrison Clemons	Will Frank	Bailey Johnson
Nick Michaels	Chad Navarro	Janelle Jea

Austin Riley
Danny Urban
Jacob Lea
Michael Kraycar

Hecatase Simpson
Luke Navarro
Amber Birkhamer
Jimmy Rogers

Alex Tomko
Dustin Pisarcik
RJ Frank

- Middle School Language Arts Teacher Heather Huber recognized the 6th grade language arts students who had their non-fiction essays published in “Celebrating What is Important to Me” by Creative Communications. The school district and Mrs. Huber were recognized in the book as being one of the Writing Achievement Honor Schools for the fall of 2010 because we had over 50% of our entries published. The following students were recognized with certificates:

Krista Bayus
Abbey Caspar
Salvidor Gori
Jamaela Green
Roya Herrle
Makala Kaiser
Reganne McMichael
Jolene Potoma
Nicole Scotillo
Gunnar Smith
Riley Tate
Dymond Williams

Amani Blakney
Isabella Colaianni
Alexander Grace
Carrie Hardy
Tori Hunt
Sam Keane-Paul
Marice McWhite
Annie Ribeau
Delainy Seech
Bailey Stoken
Alexis Vargo

Tanner Cannon
Tavion Fisher-Boynes
Lindsey Gratton
Richard Hartnett
Brandon Ivaska
Evan Lasek
Alexander Pepke
Tomaiya Robinson
Brandon Siska
Taraya Strothers
Chandler Veverka

Director of Pupil Personnel, Special Services and Elementary Education

No report

Director of Academics, Information & Technology

Mr. Colebank:

- Reported the Keystone exams would be conducted May 2-9 as follows:
Algebra 1 Grades 8 & 9
Biology Grade 10
Online Language Arts Grade 10

Report cards will be distributed April 1, and the Body Mass Index ratio (BMI) will be included on the report card of secondary students.

Solicitor's Report

No report

Citizen Comments on Agenda Items

- Donna Dreshman - what was updated in 2.1 (Facility rental requests) and Item 3.1(Fundraising requests); Item 6.1 (Personnel Management) was it related to an item last month, and asked several questions regarding the elimination of positions.
- Donna Kiefer – Item 6.7 (Elimination of positions) and asked questions about the furloughs of custodians.

Board Meeting Minutes

Mrs. Kubancsek moved and Mr. Ducar seconded the motion to approve the meeting minutes of the February 8, 2011 meeting, the February 15, 2011 worksession, and the February 24, 2011 regular meeting.

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively for the February 8, 2011 special financial meeting: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Natale, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood, Kubancsek and Cannon. Negative: None.

The following members voted affirmatively for the February 15, 2011 worksession: Bajus, Ballas, Natale, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood and Cannon. Abstain: Ducar and Kubancsek. Negative: None.

The following voted affirmatively for the February 24, 2011 regular meeting Bajus, Ducar, Olson, Youngblood, Kubancsek and Cannon. Abstain: Ballas, Ducar and Terrick. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Financial Management

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

- General Fund invoices for February 2011 in the amount of \$553,604.09
- General Fund hand checks for February 2011 in the amount of \$554,069.09
- Payroll Funding Transfers for February 2011
- Treasurer's Reports for December 2010 and January 2011
- Food Service invoices for February 2011 in the amount of \$48,740.83
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending February 28, 2011
- Foundation for Education Technology Account Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending February 28, 2011
- Custodial hand checks in the amount of \$14,043.42
- Athletic hand checks in the amount of \$5,196.08
- Middle School hand checks in the amount of \$8,485.46
- Band Trip hand checks in the amount of \$563.45
- Authorize a real estate tax refund to John and Donna Patsen in the amount of \$1,635.25 for year 2010
- Renew Sunesys as the Metropolitan Network Provider for the Steel Valley School District under E-Rate reimbursement program
- Sprint as the Wireless Phone Provider for the Steel Valley School District under E-Rate reimbursement program

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Natale, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood, Kubancsek and Cannon. Abstain: Ballas on Item 1.4 (Sprint as Wireless Phone Provider). Negative: Terrick on Item 1.1.06 (Capital Projects statement). Motion carried.

Operations

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

- Facility rental requests as presented
- Authorize the business manager to bid the electrical, plumbing and pest control work effective immediately

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

Co-Curricular Leadership

Mr. Terrick moved and Mrs. Kubancsek seconded the motion to approve fundraising requests as presented. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Natale, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood, Kubancsek and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Special Assignments

No report

Educational Leadership

Mrs. Ballas moved and Ms. Youngblood seconded the motion to approve the following:

- Revisions to the 2010-2011 school calendar
- Adopt the 2011-2012 school calendar as presented
- Accept a grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in the amount of \$15,000 to Steel Valley High School for the School Demonstration Project, Music Technology for the 3rd Millennium

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

Mrs. Cannon recognized Music Teacher Brad Thompson for his efforts in receiving the School Demonstration Project grant.

Personnel Management

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

- Accept, with regret, the retirement of Drew Vautier from the position of English as a Second Language teacher effective at the close of business on August 19, 2011, in accordance with Article XXIX of the current collective bargaining agreement

- A family medical leave of absence for Melissa Walters commencing on or about April 20, 2011, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- Jaquan McNeil to the supplemental position of Boys Assistant Varsity Volleyball Coach and Lisa Harrier to the supplemental position of Drama Vocal for the 2010-2011 school year
- Appoint Kathy Salapa as a general worker in the Barrett cafeteria 3.5 hours per day at the 90-day probationary rate of 85% of \$9.60 (\$8.16) per hour and all benefits per the collective bargaining agreement effective immediately
- John Vaughan as a volunteer for the 2010-2011 school year contingent upon receipt of Act 34 and 151 clearances
- Accept the resignations of Nicole Waters as Varsity Cheerleading Coach and Marlo Petersavage as Junior Varsity Cheerleading Coach effective March 22, 2011
- Eliminate the following positions, six (6) custodians and six (6) paraprofessionals, and to authorize the administration to send notices to the appropriate employees

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

Citizen Comments

- Ms. Donna Dreshman – what measures are we going to take to balance the budget; do we plan to open the current contract to allow others to retire; have repairs been made to Barrett and do principals require a teaching degree.
- Ms. Donna Kiefer – will there be any subs in the building and will all teachers move back into the classroom.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m. by a motion of Ms. Youngblood, seconded by Mr. Ducar.