

Regular Meeting
Steel Valley School District Board of Directors
Senior High School Auditorium
April 26, 2011

Corrected 5/19/11

Meeting was called to order by Mrs. Cannon, President, at 7:05 p.m.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

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

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

Acknowledgements

Moment of Silence

The Board acknowledged the following deaths in the Steel Valley School District families: *Pat J. Natale*, uncle of Vince Natale, school board member; *Helen J. Marks*, mother of Bob Marks, Park School custodian; *Brian Hensell*, cousin of Donald Packer, former middle school custodian; *Keifer J. States-Lemmert*, 9th grade high school student and nephew of Nicole States, 3rd grade teacher at Park School; *Joseph M. Mercuri, Jr.*, school district tax collector; *Ralph Lough*, uncle of Diana Borges, director of pupil personnel, special services & elementary education; *Alvin Raines, Jr.*, father of Aaliyah Raines, 9th grade student and Alvin Raines III, 10th grade student; *Nicole Pliska*, mother of Corey Sickler, 10th grade student; *Eileen Ezerosky*, mother of Dylan Younkins, 11th grade student; *George Olsavicky*, father of Mary Olsavicky, 10th grade student; *Rose Marie Stader*, mother of Kathy Grimm, instructional aide at Barrett Elementary.

Mrs. Kubancsek 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, Natale, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood, Kubancsek and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

President's Comments

Mrs. Cannon:

- Reported that Mrs. Ballas, Chairperson, held an Educational Management Committee meeting focusing on the education cuts proposed by the Governor. Members of T.E.A.C.H., Business Manager Mark Cherpak and Superintendent Dr. Kinavey presented information to the public. State Representative Costa, Gergely and Kortz and Rich Fitzgerald challenged the constituents to tell Harrisburg to do the right thing for the kids.
- Recognized Munhall Police Officer Boehme for his presentation on cyber bullying that provided a wealth of information for parents, guardians and community members.

Students Representative's Report

Ms. Taylor Szczepankowski:

- Reported that the Annual Spring Concert at Park School would be held May 5. The All School Revue will be held on May 15 and the Celebration in Education will be held on May 20 at Park School.
- The 8th graders will be touring Washington, D.C. on May 12-14. The middle school received a \$5,000 grant for physical education equipment.
- The high school held its Mr. Steel Valley contest and the prom will be held at the Doubletree Hotel on May 13. The marching band will compete in the Apple Blossom Festival in Virginia this week.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kinavey:

- Recognized several middle school teachers for their efforts in garnering Great Idea Grants from The Consortium for Public Education. Sixth grade teachers Steve Singer and Heather Huber wrote a grant "More than Just Super Heroes" and were awarded \$2,050.95 to create a graphic novel library to increase fluency and comprehension among middle school students.

Middle School Teachers Mike Hofbauer and Steve Large secured \$1,935 for their proposal “Mathgellen: Charting a New Course in Mathematics.” The grant will allow teachers to purchase gel boards for students to solve problems and reveal their answers to their teachers.

- Dr. Bethany Fenyus, 8th grade Language Arts Teacher, reported on the good news from the Steel Valley Middle School. She reported that the middle school provides team support to students, two drama productions, an active PTO, art, music performances, bully free campaign, and academic assemblies. It is a loud and busy building with active learning going on. Eighth grade student Jacob Miller read his letter to Governor Corbett stating that the future of students is in jeopardy.
- Recognized and thanked the parent and community volunteers for their dedication and support of the children of the community. The volunteers received a pen imprinted with Steel Valley Volunteer.

Director of Pupil Personnel, Special Services & Elementary Education

Mrs. Borges:

- Reported that the Barrett and Park school combined Family Night was held April 14 in the Barrett gym and 55 families attended.
- Announced that the Annual Literacy Fair would be held on April 28 beginning at 5:00 p.m. Kindergarten registration would also occur that evening.

Director of Academics, Information & Technology

Mr. Colebank:

- Announced that the High School Drama Club would present Bite of Broadway and a pasta dinner on April 30.
- Mr. Colebank reported the Keystone exams would be conducted May 2-9 as follows:

Algebra	Grades 8 & 9
Biology	Grade 10
Online Language Arts	Grade 10

Solicitor’s Report

No report

Mrs. Cannon called for an executive session for the purpose of discussing legal/personnel items at 7:35 p.m. and ended at 7:47 p.m.

Citizen Comments on Agenda Items

- Mrs. Mary Lou McConnell – Item 6.14 (Elimination of positions) what is the difference between the March and April motions and how many paraprofessionals are being furloughed? Mr. Natale answered nine.
- Mrs. Erin Noblet – Item 6.14 - Spoke about special education students and cuts.
- Mrs. Patty Semenko – Item 6.14 – questions about aides for special education students. Mrs. Borges addressed the questions.
- Mrs. Jill Fleming-Salopek – is there a way to table this motion tonight and discuss this with the staff? Other cuts that would equate to the same amounts of cuts.
- Mrs. Denise Blasko – made comments about aides.
- Ms. Donna Dreshman – how much will the district save with these cuts? How many administrators are being cut?

Mrs. Cannon adjourned into an executive session for the purpose of discussing legal/personnel items at 8:15 p.m. and ended at 8:38 p.m.

Mr. Fetzko explained the resolution.

- Mrs. Sara Sullivan – how many positions are being cut?
- Mrs. Susan Salapa – do we have to pay this and how much is due in back taxes?
- Mr. Kevin Tomasic – what is the percentage decline; how do you come up with \$4.5 million and financial burden
- Ms. Donna Dreshman – Item 1.0 (Financial management) fix pothole in parking lot; Item 2.1 (Operations) what was pulled; Item 6.7 (Appoint school dentist) what is the cost; Item 6.6 (Substitute teachers) is anyone related to the Board; Item 6.11(Eliminate high school assistant principal) and Item 6.12 (Create position of secondary assistant principal) is this position being posted; Item 6.14 (Eliminate positions) is kindergarten full day?

Board Meeting Minutes

Mr. Natale moved and Mr. Ducar seconded the motion to approve the board meeting minutes of March 15, 2011, and March 22, 2011. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Natale, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood, Kubancsek and Cannon. Abstain: Ducar on minutes of March 15, 2011. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Financial Management

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

- General Fund invoices for March and April 2011 in the amount of \$735,282.69
- General Fund hand checks for March 2011 in the amount of \$554,069.09
- Payroll Funding Transfers for March 2011
- Treasurer's Report for February 2011
- Food Service invoices for March 2011 in the amount of \$61,889.66
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending March 31, 2011
- Foundation for Education Technology Account Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending March 31, 2011
- Custodial hand checks in the amount of \$11,013.79
- Athletic hand checks in the amount of \$4,120.47
- Middle School hand checks in the amount of \$9,456.14
- Band Trip hand checks in the amount of \$9,186.88
- Adopt the resolution in opposition to the proposed reductions in state education funding for the 2011-2012 school year
- Adopt the resolution in opposition to Senate Bill 1, the implementation of a tuition voucher program

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Natale, Olson, Youngblood, Kubancsek and Cannon. Negative: Terrick on invoices from Natale Sporting Goods. Motion carried.

Operations

None

Co-Curricular Leadership

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

Mr. Terrick moved and Mr. Ducar seconded the motion to approve the field trip for JV and Varsity Boys and Girls Basketball Teams to KSA Tournament in Orlando, Florida, December 14-19, 2011. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ducar and Olson. Negative: Bajus, Ballas, Natale, Terrick, Youngblood and Cannon. Motion failed.

Special Assignments

Mr. Olson moved and Mrs. Ballas seconded the motion to hold the first reading of new Policy No. 450 Credit for Salary Placement. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Natale, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Mr. Olson announced Steven Spence earned the Extra Effort Award in Auto Body and Collision at the Steel Center Vo-Tech School.

Educational Leadership

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

- The Allegheny Intermediate Unit's 2011-2012 Program of Services Budget totaling \$3,815,375

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

Personnel Management

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

- Family medical leave of absence for Rebecca O'Shell retroactive to April 22, 2011, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- Family medical leave of absence for Dr. Mary Cay Rojtas-Milliner retroactive to February 28, 2011, not to exceed 60 days in duration
- Intermittent family medical leave of absence for Karen Catterall retroactive to April 7, 2011, through the remainder of the 2010-2011 school year
- Intermittent family medical leave of absence for Brian Bungard retroactive to March 15, 2011, not to exceed the 10 days he's eligible over a one-year rolling period
- Compensated professional leave of absence for Lori Kenavey for the purpose of professional development during the 1st semester of the 2011-2012 school year per the provisions of Article XV of the collective bargaining agreement
- Rachel Dilla, Abbe Dirling, Paul Thomas and Brittany Bellovich as day-to-day substitutes for the 2010-2011 school year at the rate of \$75 per day for the first 30 days and \$100 per day beginning with the 31st day
- Appoint Dr. Dennis Zabelsky as school dentist for the 2011-2012 school year
- Jena Bence as the Varsity Cheerleading Coach for the 2010-2011 school year
- Amy Murgie as an activities volunteer for the 2010-2011 school year contingent upon receipt of Act 34 and 151 clearances
- Accept, with regret, the retirement of Rudy Valiska from the position of high school custodian effective May 1, 2011
- Eliminate the position of High School Assistant Principal effective July 1, 2011
- Create the position of Secondary Assistant Principal for the middle school and high school and approve the revised job description effective July 1, 2011
- Appoint Scott Meade to the position of Secondary Assistant Principal effective July 1, 2011

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

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

- Adopt the resolution to eliminate administrative, elementary, secondary and support personnel positions for the 2011-2012 school year

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

Citizen Comments

- Ms. Donna Dreshman – 2006-2007 delinquent taxes are there still any delinquencies; how do we collect delinquent taxes on commercial properties; Item 6.14 (Eliminate positions) what salary will the new position have; what salary will the new secretarial position have; how are repairs at Barrett going; can middle school plays use microphones?
- Ms. Sue Hartman – when will Dr. Kinavey's contract expire?
- Ms. Bridget Wissinger – were we going to cut staff prior to budget cuts by the governor; US Steel question for Mr. Fetzko - did he represent the school district at the appeal hearing?
- Mrs. Donna Kiefer – comments on cuts, cut Mr. Soles and Mr. Keesecker.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m. by a motion made by Mrs. Cannon, seconded by Ms. Youngblood.