

Regular Meeting
Steel Valley School District Board of Directors
Senior High School Auditorium
January 28, 2009

Meeting was called to order by Mr. Ducar, President, at 7:02 p.m.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

Mrs. Ballas, Mrs. Cannon, Mrs. Kubancsek,
Mrs. McCallister, Mrs. McEnheimer, Mr. Olson,
Mrs. Terrick, Mr. Natale and Mr. Ducar

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

Acknowledgements

The Board acknowledged the following deaths in the Steel Valley School District families: *Edward "Gus" Fetzko*, brother of Solicitor Don Fetzko and father-in-law of Shari Koroly-Fetzko, Barrett Elementary teacher; *Marian J. Baron*, retired music teacher; *Dr. A. Thomas Caruso*, retired choral teacher; *George Stretavski*, father of Gary Stretavski, retired teacher; *Charles "Chick" Davies*, husband of Dottie Davies, retired teacher; *Irene Johnson*, sister of Wanda Burwell, cafeteria monitor at Barrett Elementary; *William J. Davis*, former Munhall Councilman; *Elmer W. Baker*, uncle of Amber Thomas, school nurse; *Bobbie Cameron*, uncle of Sharon Fisher, Barrett/Franklin Principal; *Lloyd Wright*, uncle of Wyona Rompala, food service staff member; *Madeline Clark*, aunt of Brian Bungard, middle schoolteacher; *Lucille Cable*, grandmother of Lori Kenavey, Elementary Literacy Coach; *Margaret Sperduto*, grandmother of Matt Janov, Park School teacher; *Marjorie Grimm*, mother-in-law of Kathy Grimm, instructional aide at Barrett Elementary; *Lloyd D. Simpson*, visual creative consultant for the marching band; *James Raver*, grandfather of Shanna Bradfield, Barrett Elementary teacher; *Florance Cousins*, grandmother of Denise Barron, Park Elementary teacher; *Christine Soknich*, sister-in-law of Michael Hofbauer, middle school teacher; and *Anthony Pusatere*, father of retired teachers Dr. McKenna and Mrs. Tyler.

Mr. Natale moved and Mrs. Cannon 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, Cannon, Kubancsek, McCallister, McEnheimer, Olson, Terrick, Natale and Ducar. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Moment of Silence

President's Comments

Mr. Ducar:

- Reported that the architect is revising plans for the addition to Barrett Elementary School. Core drilling will be occurring on the playground soon.

Student Representatives to the Board

No report

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kinavey:

- Recognized the contributions of school board members and encouraged the community to thank these dedicated men and women.
- There will be no school for students on Friday, February 13, due to the teacher inservice day.
- The make-up day for the school closing on January 28, will be Monday, February 16 (President's Day). All schools will be in session that day.
- The PSSA Writing Assessment in grades 5, 8 and 11 will occur February 9-12, 2009.

Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services

Mrs. Borges:

- Reported that the school district received the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) Improvement Grant for inclusive practices from the Department of Education in the amount of \$10,000. The district will purchase the PATHS (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies) curriculum at the elementary level and the PATHS Turtle Unit for Kindergarten. This program focuses on empathy and relational problem solving. The district will develop an Elementary Student Assistance Team at both Park and Barrett to serve at-risk students in grades 1-5. The grant will also provide healthy relationships curriculum in the high school health and physical education department.

Director of Academics, Information & Technology

Mr. Colebank:

- Stated that report cards were distributed this week. Students will be given their EdLine Codes to view their grades on line.
- Thanked Mrs. Fleming-Salopek and Mrs. McCallister for coordinating the student assessments.
- During the February 13 inservice day, the middle school teachers will be working on course syllabus and placing information on EdLine. Elementary teachers will continue to receive training on differentiated instruction. The University of Pittsburgh will be working with the high school staff on analyzing student assessment data and how to adjust instruction.

Director of Elementary Education

Dr. Policastro:

- Reported that the elementary Language Arts curriculum has been completed.
- Announced that the University of Pittsburgh has received a \$17,500 grant for kindergarten transition services. They have chosen Steel Valley to implement the Ready for Freddy program to increase kindergarten enrollment for the first day of school.

Solicitor's Report

Mr. Olson moved and Mr. Natale seconded the motion to adopt a resolution permanently expelling a minor male student. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Cannon, Kubancsek, McCallister, McEnheimer, Olson, Terrick, Natale and Ducar. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Mr. Natale moved and Mrs. Ballas seconded the motion to approve a consent decree for the purpose of regional voting in electing a Board of School Directors. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Cannon, Kubancsek, McCallister, McEnheimer, Olson, Terrick, Natale and Ducar. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Citizen Comments on Agenda Items

- Mrs. Paula Borsch asked questions on the consent decree, ACAPA, and are any relatives of Board members in any positions being filled.
- Ms. Donna Dreshman asked questions on the need for substitutes in the district to have classroom experience and will Dr. Kinavey limit workshop attendance on Mondays and Fridays.

Board Meeting Minutes

Mr. Ducar moved and Mrs. Cannon seconded the motion to approve the board meeting minutes of November 25, 2008 worksession, December 2, 2008 re-organization meeting and the December 2, 2008 regular meeting. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Cannon, Kubancsek, McEhheimer, Olson, Terrick, Natale and Ducar. Abstain: McCallister. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Mrs. Cannon announced that she was misquoted in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* and that she supports the positions of academic coaches in the district. She did not make the statements as reported by Mary Niederberger.

Financial Management

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

- General Fund invoices for December 2008 and January 2009 in the amount of \$982,211.94
- General Fund hand checks for November 2008 in the amount of \$383,273.73
- General Fund hand checks for December 2008 in the amount of \$549,543.25
- Payroll Funding Transfers for November and December 2008
- Treasurer's Reports for October and November 2008
- General Fund Revenue Report for November 2008
- General Fund Revenue Report for December 2008
- General Fund Expenditure Report for November 2008
- General Fund Expenditure Report for December 2008
- Food Service invoices for December 2008 in the amount of \$62,436.59
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for month ending November 30, 2008
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending December 31, 2008
- Foundation for Education Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending November 30, 2008
- Foundation for Education Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending December 31, 2008
- Custodial hand checks in the amount of \$31,663.81
- Athletic hand checks in the amount of \$7,634.65
- Band Trip hand checks in the amount of \$4,808.85
- Middle School hand checks in the amount of \$3,011.58
- Adopt the resolution indicating there will be no increase in the rate of any tax for the support of the school district for 2009-2010 fiscal year by more than the index established by the Department of Education pursuant to Section 311 of the Taxpayer Relief Act

- Authorize Munhall Borough real estate tax refund to Peggy Kernan for Lot & Block 180-N-160 in the amount of \$230.30 as a result of an overpayment
- Authorize Munhall Borough real estate tax refund to Marc Steinert for Lot & Block 180-F-50 in the amount of \$235.00 as a result of an overpayment
- Authorize Munhall Borough real estate tax refund to Carrie Morrow for Lot & Block 181-E-120 in the amount of \$235.00 as a result of an overpayment
- Authorize Munhall Borough real estate tax refund to Ann Calvert for Lot & Block 181-A-259 in the amount of \$399.37 as a result of an overpayment
- Exonerate the Homestead, Munhall and West Homestead tax collectors for year 2008 for uncollected amounts of \$317,064.56, \$939,401.33 and \$203,012.35 respectively

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Cannon, Kubancsek, McEnheimer, Olson, Terrick, Natale and Ducar. Abstain: McCallister. Negative: Terrick on Item 1.2 (Adopt resolution regarding Section 311 of the Taxpayer Relief Act). Motion carried.

Operations

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

- Facility rental requests as presented
- Fundraising requests as presented
- Disposal and donation of eight (8) OS9 laptop computers that cannot be upgraded for use with district applications and donate them to the senior citizen living groups, if accepted

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

Co-Curricular Leadership

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

- The attendance of JV and Varsity Boys' & Girls' Basketball teams to the KSA Events 2009 Basketball Tournament in Orlando, Florida, from December 16-21, 2009, at no cost to the district

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

Special Assignments

Mrs. McEnheimer moved and Mr. McCallister seconded the motion to approve the following:

- Re-appoint Vince 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, 2010
- To vote for the officers and depository/treasurer of the Southeastern Area Special School Board and the Steel Center Area Vocational Technical School Advisory Board

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Cannon, Kubancsek, McCallister, McEnheimer, Olson, Terrick, Natale and Ducar. Abstain: Natale on Item 4.1 (Re-appoint Vince Natale to Steel Valley Enterprise Zone Board of Directors). Negative: None. Motion carried.

Educational Leadership

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

- The 2009-2010 Steel Valley High School Academic Handbook
- The Starfish Literacy Program at Park Elementary School for the summer of 2009 at no cost to the district
- Accept the donation of books to Park Elementary School library from John and Judy Merisko in memory of their son John Merisko in the amount of \$500

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

Personnel Management

Mr. McCallister moved and Mrs. McEnheimer seconded the motion to approve the following:

- An unpaid family medical leave of absence for Jennifer Pecora commencing after the exhaustion of her accumulated sick leave and personal days, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- An unpaid family medical leave of absence for Melissa Walters after the exhaustion of her accumulated sick leave and personal days, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- An unpaid family medical leave of absence for Susan Wilder retroactive to the exhaustion of her accumulated sick leave days, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- Authorize the Board President and Board Secretary to execute a Professional Employee Contract for Ebony Cunningham
- Professional development requests from Ed Colebank, Ellen Sabo and Mark Cherpak to attend the ACAPA Spring Conference to be held in Hershey, PA, on March 18-20, 2009, at an approximate total cost to the district of \$1,700.00
- Christina D’Odorico, Jerred Masley, GeorgAnne Hoffman, Philip Merriless, Curtis Plumb, Kathleen Adamek and Denise Rogan as day-to-day substitutes for the 2008-2009 school year
- Dianne Furnival and Brian Keesecker as tutors for the EAP tutoring program at a rate of \$30 per hour
- Accept the resignations of Ryan Dunmire as Fitness Center Supervisor and Matt Kuney as Assistant Boys’ Volleyball coach effective immediately
- Appoint Patrick Connelly to the Middle School Yearbook supplemental position effective immediately
- Approve Jeff Pingor as a baseball volunteer
- Reimburse Barrett Elementary Teacher Shanna Bradfield for the replacement cost of her glasses in the amount of \$143.00
- Approve Jeffrey Petruzzi as a substitute custodian at the rate of \$8.75 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon receipt of

acceptable Act 34, 114 and 151 clearances, passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances

- Approve Dawn Horvath as a substitute custodian at the rate of \$8.75 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon receipt of acceptable Act 34, 114 and 151 clearances, passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances
- Approve Michael Ferson as a substitute custodian at the rate of \$8.75 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon receipt of acceptable Act 34, 114 and 151 clearances, passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances
- Approve Andrea Bynum as a substitute in the food service department at \$7.15 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon receipt of an acceptable Act 114 clearance, passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances
- Approve Maria Palaza as a substitute instructional aide and secretary at a rate of \$7.15 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon receipt of acceptable Act 34, 114 and 151 clearances, passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances
- Approve Brian Charles as a substitute custodian at the rate of \$8.75 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon receipt of acceptable Act 34 and 114 clearances, passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances

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

Citizen Comments

- Ms. Donna Dreshman asked questions on how funds will be used that are donated to the band and on Dr. Kinavey's contract- request to take a pay freeze.

- Mrs. Paula Borsch asked questions about the solicitor's violations of the Sunshine Law and requests that the Board look to remove the solicitor.

Adjournment

Mr. Ducar moved and Mrs. Cannon seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m.