

**Regular Meeting  
Steel Valley School District Board of Directors  
Senior High School Auditorium  
August 19, 2008**

Meeting was called to order by Mrs. Pam Terrick, Vice President at 7:35 p.m.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

Mrs. Bartko, Mrs. Cannon, Mr. Ducar, Mrs. Kubancsek,  
Mr. Natale, Mr. Olson and Mrs. Terrick

Absent: Mr. Ed McCallister

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

Flag Salute and Moment of Silence

**Acknowledgements**

The Board acknowledged the following deaths in the Steel Valley School District families: *Joseph R. Havrilla*, uncle of Carol Sekura, Business Education teacher and former Board member; *Thomas B. Sowa*, father of Jennifer (Sowa) Smith, high school math teacher; *Mary Agnes Emery*, mother of Vicki Deutsch, substitute caller, *Richard S. Shiner*, brother of Sherri Titmus, Franklin Primary secretary; *Mae Ankrom*, aunt of Diana Borges, Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services; *Clinton O'Shell III*, father-in-law of Rebecca (Whelan) O'Shell, Park School teacher; *Robin L. Gainer*, mother of Lana Gainer, middle school teacher, *Dorothy Bruchas*, grandmother of Denise Barron, Park School teacher; *Josephine Tokay*, grandmother of Denise Cullen, Athletic/Activities Office secretary.

**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: Bartko, Cannon, Ducar, Kubancsek, Natale, Olson and Terrick. Negative: None. Motion carried.

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

- Mr. Michael Terrick comments on working sticks Tony Demartino and political retaliation, Item 6.13 (supplemental positions). Shawn McCallister answered the questions. Anthony Demartino responded to the comments.
- Mrs. Paula Borsch asked who will replace Dr. Tully at Park School, Item 6.9 (Professional Employee contracts) what does this mean and asked are any Board members relatives of the following appointments and are any emergency certified: Item 6.13 (Supplemental positions), Item 6.14 (Supplemental positions of department chairpersons), Item 6.15, Item 6.16 (Day-to-day substitutes) and are we hiring any floating subs for elementary?
- Mrs. Colleen Fedor, Item 6.15 (Day-to-day substitutes) and asked how many class coverages were used last year and should we look at increasing the sub rate from \$75/day.
- Mr. Dave Cannon, Item 6.13 (Supplemental positions) stated he would like stipend positions given back to those who had them last year.
- Mr. Dan Lloyd, Item 6.13, asked why remove individuals who have worked the last 16 years. This is direct political retribution against Mr. Terrick.
- Ms. Donna Dreshman: copies of Items 2.1 and 2.2 (Facility and fundraising requests), Item 1.1.13 (Capital Projects 2005 Statement) and Item 1.1.14 (Foundation for Education statement), and no liens on Item 1.8 (Property at 224 East 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Homestead), Item 2.4 (Razing the Woodlawn building) how much money is left in the Capital Projects fund), Item 5.1 (Act 80 day on October 23) will students receive another day off, Item 6.0 (Personnel Management) anybody that has applied, live outside the county or state, Item 6.1 (Resignation of Tim McCallister from the Board) will someone be appointed to the School Board tonight and will the Board interview Board potential candidates.
- Ms. Kathy Ligeros asked how many sub nurses.

## Vice President's Comments

Mrs. Terrick:

- Welcomed the staff and students back to school for the 2008-2009 school year. The district purchased two new metal detectors and installed a camera security system to ensure the safety of the staff and students.

## Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kinavey:

- Noted that the middle school breezeway has been enclosed and will be safer for the students walking between the buildings.
- Meet the Principal Night schedule for student/parent orientation:

Monday, August 18	Middle School 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday, August 20	Senior High School 6:00 p.m. Franklin Primary Center 6:00 p.m.
Thursday, August 21	Barrett Elementary 5:30 p.m. Park Elementary 6:00 p.m.
- The teachers and staff return on Monday, August 25, for a clerical day to prepare their classrooms. On Tuesday and Wednesday, August 26 and 27, the teachers and staff will participate in professional development activities. All students begin school on Thursday, August 28.

**Mr. Ducar moved and Mr. Natale seconded the motion to readmit a minor female student to the Steel Valley High School for the 2008-2009 school term provided she meets the age and residency requirements of the school district.** Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bartko, Cannon, Ducar, Kubancsek, Natale, Olson and Terrick. Negative: None. Motion carried.

- Mr. Ducar announced that Mr. Bill Campbell is funding a \$3.3 million project to erect a gymnasium and four classrooms adjacent to the Barrett Elementary School. The building will be built on the current playground.

- Ms. Laurie Havrilla wants to know why everything goes to Barrett
- Ms. Kathy Ligeros asked can we look at combining the two elementary schools.

### **Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services**

Mrs. Borges:

- Announced that a three-day inservice was held for the special education teachers on August 11-13. Changes to Chapter 14 Special Education State Regulations, the new special education forms, and required procedures and best practices in progress monitoring were reviewed.
- Training will be offered on the revisions to Chapter 14 Special Education Regulations and Least Restrictive Environment for district staff and parents later this fall.

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

Mr. Colebank:

- Announced that a new online portfolio system will be available for parents to check the academic progress and assignments of their children this school year. Parents will receive an access code from the school this fall.
- The computer network project is underway for the 2008-2009 school year. New switches are being installed in each building to convert the data traffic from 100 MG to 1000 MG. Additional fiber lines have been installed to increase the performance of the network.
- New metal detectors have been installed at the high school. These new metal detectors along with the new camera system will increase the ability to identify and document problems. A committee will be formed to review the function of the system.

### **Director of Elementary Education**

Dr. Policastro:

- Reported that the elementary students would participate in the Imagination Project in cooperation with the Waterfront. The theme this year is *Homestead: Past and Present*.
- The elementary school will initiate *Tuesday Folders* this year. On Tuesdays, children will bring home notes and announcement for parents. Parents are encouraged to look for the Tuesday folder and return it to school on Wednesday.
- Reported that teachers and administrators are writing for various grants in the areas of art, environment, and economics. Spanish will be taught at the Kindergarten level this year, and the district will add one elementary grade each year for this instruction.
- Data Driven Analysis (DDA) will be implemented in the elementary schools. The DDA framework will assist in monitoring students' academic achievement level, and the DDA framework will utilize a variety of formal and informal assessments. Formal and informal assessments are a systematic process to continuously gather evidence about students' learning.

### **Board Meeting Minutes**

**Mr. Natale moved and Mr. Olson seconded the motion to approve the worksession meeting minutes of June 17, 2008, and the regular meeting minutes of June 24, 2008.** Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bartko, Cannon, Ducar, Kubancsek, Natale, Olson 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 2007-2008 in the amount of \$284,981.54
- General Fund invoices for July and August 2008 in the amount of \$307,699.80

- General Fund hand checks for June 2008 in the amount of \$529,941.98
- General Fund hand checks 2007-2008 in the amount of \$36,292.63
- General Fund hand checks for July 2008 in the amount of \$444,031.25
- Payroll Funding Transfers for June and July 2008
- Treasurer's Report for May 2008
- General Fund Revenue Report for May 2008
- General Fund Revenue Report for June 2008
- General Fund Expenditure Report for May 2008
- General Fund Expenditure Report for June 2008
- Food Service invoices for June 2008 in the amount of \$8,101.00
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending June 30, 2008
- Foundation for Education Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending June 30, 2008
- Custodial hand checks in the amount of \$15,969.03
- Athletic hand checks in the amount of \$650.00
- Middle School hand checks in the amount of \$3,265.54
- Authorize West Homestead Borough real estate tax refund to Gary & Beverly Anthony for Lot & Block 90-H-86 in the amount of \$281.38 as a result of a change in assessment
- Approve the quote from PSBA through Cusumano Agency for renewal of package, automobile and umbrella insurance for the 2008-2009 year for a total cost of \$60,214
- Approve, retroactively, the proposal from Valuation Engineers, Inc., at a cost of \$5,900 for the initial appraisal, \$690 per year for the continuation of the annual revaluation; and \$495 per year for the continuation of the annual accounting supplement
- Authorize the proper district officers to sign the Full and Final Release for All Property Damage Claims from York Claims Service and accept the payment of \$5,650 for property damage that occurred to the high school entryway by George's Moving and Storage
- Authorize, retroactively, the proper officers of the district to sign the engagement letter dated June 30, 2008, from local auditor Maher Duessel, at a cost of \$12,340 for basic financial statements and the Single Audit, \$2,050 for the audit of the Act

511 tax collector, and \$1,700 each for the Homestead, West Homestead and Munhall Borough tax collectors

- Approve Kades-Margolis proposal for 403(b) compliance services at no cost to the school district
- Accept the offer of \$30,000 for the purchase of property located at 224 East 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Homestead and authorize the proper officers of the district to complete all necessary steps required to effectuate the sale, including but not limited to a title search, and payment of the purchase price, recording the deed and realty transfer tax

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

### **Operations**

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

- Facility rental requests as presented
- Fundraising requests as presented
- Approve the advertising of bids for installation of air conditioning in the middle school cafeteria/gymnasium to be paid from the Capital Projects 2005 fund
- Approve the advertising of bids to raze the Woodlawn building, to be paid from the Capital Projects 2005 fund, for the purpose of building a suitable structure for the school district.

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

### **Co-Curricular Leadership**

No report

### **Special Assignments**

**Mrs. Bartko moved and Mrs. Kubancsek seconded the motion to hold a first reading of revisions to Policy No. 218 Student Discipline**

**and a first reading of new Policy No. 249 Bullying/Cyberbullying.** Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bartko, Cannon, Ducar, Kubancsek, Natale, Olson and Terrick. Negative: None. Motion carried.

### **Educational Leadership**

**Mrs. Cannon moved and Mrs. Kubancsek seconded the motion to approve the following:**

- Revise the 2008-2009 school calendar to include an Act 80 day on Thursday, October 23, 2008
- Approve the disposal of 450 Social Studies textbooks located at the middle school
- Sign the Letter of Agreement between the Steel Valley School District and the Allegheny Intermediate Unit to provide nonpublic services to low income students at St. Therese and Ascension Schools for the 2008-2009 school year

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

### **Personnel Management**

**Mr. Natale moved and Mrs. Bartko seconded the motion to reinstate all persons who were replaced by teachers as event workers and Co-Curricular Committee to develop a policy to fill these positions.**

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bartko, Cannon, Kubancsek, Natale, Olson and Terrick. Negative: Ducar. Motion carried.

**Mrs. Kubancsek moved to approve Items 6.1 through 6.9 and Mrs. Cannon moved to approve Items 6.10 through 6.18 and Mrs. Bartko seconded the following:**

- Accept the resignation of Tim McCallister from the Board of School Directors effective immediately
- Accept the resignation of Hampton Conway from the position of middle school math teacher effective immediately



- Accept the resignation of Amy Hogg from the position of first grade teacher at Barrett Elementary effective immediately
- Accept the resignation of Karen Suppok from the position of high school physical education/health teacher effective immediately
- Accept the resignation of Dr. Beth Tully from the position of Principal of Park Elementary School effective immediately
- Approve an unpaid child rearing leave of absence for Kristie Spotti commencing after the exhaustion of her accumulated sick leave and personal days
- Appoint Jamie Fleck to a temporary professional position in foreign language assigned to the high school with salary and benefits based upon 2<sup>nd</sup> step Bachelor's as per the collective bargaining agreement effective at the start of the 2008-2009 school year
- Appoint Ryan Cleary to a long-term substitute position in math assigned to the middle school with salary and benefits based upon 1<sup>st</sup> step Bachelor's as per the collective bargaining agreement effective at the start of the 2008-2009 school year and contingent upon his passing a general physical exam and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances which must be completed within 30 days
- Appoint Jonathan Edwards to a long-term substitute position in social studies assigned to the middle school with salary and benefits based upon 3<sup>rd</sup> step Bachelor's as per the collective bargaining agreement effective at the start of the 2008-2009 school year
- Approve Regina Takos, Christy Ruffing, Nicole Adams and Kim Gennari as teachers at a rate of \$30 per hour and approve Betty Lyons and Mary Lou McConnell as paraprofessionals at a rate of \$15 per hour for the Title I Summer Camp retroactive to August 4-15, 2008
- Authorize the Board Vice President and Board Secretary to execute Professional Employee contracts for Tameka Akins, Nicole Asson, Denise Barron, Traci Churilla, Elizabeth Holland, Benjamin Lander, Bryan Macuga, Dana Matthews, Larry McKern, Melissa Pentin, Mariann Reilly, Kimberly Sheaffer, Kristie Spotti and Susan Wilder
- Renew contracts for school psychologists services at the listed rates effective immediately

- Authorize the Office of Pupil Personnel and Special Services to contract with Therapeutic Specialists, Inc., for occupational and physical therapy services as required at the listed rates
- Accept the resignations of Susan Salapa from the supplemental position of middle school academic challenges and Clay Karadus from the supplemental position of girls' volleyball head coach
- Approve the supplemental positions as listed for the 2008-2009 school year
- Approve the supplemental positions of department chairpersons as listed for the 2008-2009 school year
- Approve day-to-day substitute teachers and school nurses as listed for the 2008-2009 school year at the rate of \$75 per day for the first 30 days and \$100 per day thereafter
- Approve the day-to-day substitute teachers Rachel Burner, Tracey Betschart, Jessica Ducar, Katherine Resanovich, Jessica Kapsha, Stephanie Guarino, Brian Keesecker, Juli West, Lisa McCartney, Grace Link and Nicole Goga for the 2008-2009 school year at the rate of \$75 per day for the first 30 days and \$100 per day thereafter
- Approve the volunteers as listed for the 2008-2009 school year contingent upon receipt of Act 34 and 151 clearances
- Approve an increase of \$1.50 per hour for Irvin Williams, security guard at Barrett Elementary School, effective for the 2008-2009 school year

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bartko, Cannon, Ducar, Kubancsek, Natale, Olson and Terrick. Abstain: Ducar on Item 6.16 (day-to-day substitute teachers). Negative: None. Motion carried.

### **Citizen Comments**

- Becky and Chuck Olson – What does loss of privileges mean referring to law enforcement, comments about the hearing with middle school teacher, wait until Mr. McCallister is present to ask other questions
- Mrs. Colleen Fedor – discrepancy in audit fund balance; instructions on how to access online plan, use of tutoring money from state, plan for addressing those schools that did not

meet AYP, thank Mr. Campbell, consider principal overseeing both elementary schools

- Mrs. Paula Borsch – payment to substitutes – look at budget first before increasing rates, ideas on ways to integrate two elementary schools, any applications for emergency certifications for 2008-2009 year
- Ms. Donna Dreshman – bids on pool included timeframes, why is pool not complete? Any salary increase in new superintendent's contract, better frame for Campbell photo
- Mr. Anthony Demartino thanked the Board for renewing his position
- Mr. Michael Terrick thanked all for listening.

### **Adjournment**

**Mr. Ducar moved and Mrs. Kubancsek seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.**

Meeting ended at 9:35 p.m.