

Regular Meeting
Steel Valley School District Board of Directors
Senior High School Auditorium
September 26, 2006

Meeting was called to order by Mr. Joseph Ducar at 7:34 p.m.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

Mrs. Fedor, Mr. Heddleston, Mrs. Kubancsek,
Mr. Edward McCallister, Mr. Tim McCallister,
Mrs. Terrick, Mrs. Cannon and Mr. Ducar

Absent: Mrs. Sloan

Also present: Dr. Kinavey, Mrs. Borges, Mr. Bichko, Ms. Fenys,
Mr. Fetzko, Mrs. Sabo, Mr. Colebank

Flag Salute and Moment of Silence

Acknowledgements

The Board acknowledged the following deaths in the Steel Valley School District families: *Mrs. Charlence Schott*, cousin of Lori Mehalik, kindergarten teacher, *Mrs. Mary Cerda*, grandmother of Lynn Bohin, high school food service; and *Mr. Philip Swinkle*, husband of Suellen Swinkle, high school receptionist.

Mrs. Cannon moved and Mrs. Kubancsek seconded the motion to purchase memorial books to be placed into the district libraries in memory of the above departed. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Fedor, Heddleston, Kubancsek, Edward McCallister, Tim McCallister, Terrick, Cannon and Ducar. Negative: None. Motion carried.

- Mrs. Terrick requested a listing of the stipends/supplemental payments made for activities and athletics in the 2005-06

school year. Mr. Bichko indicated that he would provide a summary report by position.

- Mrs. Fedor asked if the information would be provided to all members of the School Board. Mr. Bichko replied in the affirmative.

Citizen Comments

- Mrs. Paula Borsch questioned the following agenda items:
Item 6.9 What was meant by the execution of a professional employee contract for the teachers named?

Dr. Kinavey replied that the teachers identified had completed three years of teaching in the Steel Valley School District and had received a satisfactory rating in each year. By state law, they were now tenured as Professional Employees and the Board was obligated to present them with the Professional employee contract.

Item 6.15 How many of the substitute teachers were certified to teach in Pennsylvania?

Dr. Kinavey replied that all of the teachers being submitted for approval as substitutes in the Steel Valley School District were certified to teach in Pennsylvania except one who had completed the AIU Substitute Certification Course.

Item 6.18 How did it occur that Mrs. Fleming-Salopek was recommended for the English Department Head?

Dr. Kinavey responded that Mrs. Fleming-Salopek was a former English Department Head at Steel Valley who returned to the District as a Literacy Coach when the employee in that position was appointed as the Director of Secondary Education.

President's Comments

Mr. Ducar:

- Announced the completion of the auditorium renovation. The construction of the Jim Campbell Gymnasium is progressing, and Mr. William Campbell sent \$500,000 to the school district toward the construction of the gym and funded a run-through for the cheerleaders. Once again, Bill Campbell continues to be a benefactor

to the school district. Mr. Ducar reported that the enhanced security at the middle school/high school complex has been positive for the students, faculty and staff.

Director of Secondary Education

Ms. Fenyus:

- Presented a plaque honoring Junior Christopher Burke for his outstanding academic performance on the PSAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Christopher was named a Commended Student in the 2007 National Merit Scholarship Program. He placed among the top 5% of more than 1.4 million students who entered the competition.
- Reported that the District students have made adequate yearly progress on the 2006 Pennsylvania State System of Assessment (PSSA) tests. Overall, the percentage of students who scored above the proficient level has increased, while the percentage of students who scored below the basic level has decreased. On the 2005 PSSA, 46% of students scored above proficient on the 8th grade reading section. On the 2006 PSSA, 64% of 8th graders scored at the proficient level or above. Middle school math scores also increased by 10% from last year. In 2003, only 8% of 8th graders scored advanced on the math section. Meanwhile, in 2006, 38% of 8th graders scored advanced on the math test. Similarly, compared to last year's assessment, there has been a 24% increase in students who scored proficient or advanced on the 11th grade writing section. Also, at Park Elementary, there was an increase in the number of students who scored at the advanced level on the reading assessment.
- Barrett has received a warning for its performance and there are concerns with the 5th grade reading and the 11th grade math scores. The District has already implemented programs to help struggling students in these areas. By adopting reading intervention programs at the elementary level, teachers will focus on building the comprehension, decoding, and fluency skills of their students. By implementing benchmark assessments throughout the year to drive instruction, teachers will be able to focus on the strengths and weaknesses of their students and differentiate instruction based on their students' needs.

Grant and Special Programs Coordinator

Mrs. Sabo:

- Announced that the District is eligible for \$12,102 in Dual Enrollment funds for this year. Students will be reimbursed at 48.9% for their college classes. In January, the District will offer, for college credit, Intro to Psychology and History of Women at the high school for juniors and seniors. CCAS professors will teach the courses.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kinavey:

- Announced there will be no school for students on Monday, October 9. Teachers will be participating in a countrywide professional development day. He introduced Thomas Barefoot, junior representative to the School Board, and Kim Hartnett, senior representative.

Students Representatives' Reports

- Thomas Barefoot reported that the kindergarten students will have lunch with their parents on September 29 at Franklin Primary Center. Local firemen will visit Franklin for Fire Prevention Day on Friday, October 6, from 9:00-11:00 a.m.
- PSSA scores at the Middle School have increased and student discipline is on the decline. Principal Walsh is looking for a 35% decline in discipline referrals this year, which will lead to increased PSSA scores. A middle school dance is being planned for October 20.
- Senior representative Kim Hartnett reported that Park School students are working on the *Park Press* publication, and band sign ups are being conducted this week.
- At Barrett Elementary School, a Barnes & Noble Book Fair was held on Wednesday.
- The high school students held elections for class officers. Seniors are looking forward to a hayride and haunted house trip. During homecoming week, students are encouraged to participate in the "dress up" days.

- September's blood drive was the most successful ever. If participation continues at this level, the District maybe eligible for a \$7,000 scholarship award. The next blood drive will be in October.
- The marching band did well at its competition in Preston, West Virginia. The visual ensemble and percussion took first place. The Steel Valley Band will hold its Band Festival on Saturday, September 30, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at Campbell Field.

Report of the Board Secretary

Mr. Bichko:

- An organizational meeting of the Tax Study Commission will be held Wednesday, September 27, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

Mr. Tim McCallister moved and Mrs. Kubancsek seconded the motion to approve the July 25 regular meeting minutes, the August 22 regular meeting minutes, and a correction to the May 23, 2006, regular meeting minutes to reflect the approval of the School Board's formal response to the report of the Pennsylvania Auditor General for the fiscal school years ending June 30, 2001 and 2002. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Fedor, Heddleston, Kubancsek, Edward McCallister, Tim McCallister, Terrick, Cannon and Ducar. Abstain: Ducar on minutes of July 25. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Financial Management

Mr. Heddleston moved and Mr. Edward McCallister seconded the motion to approve the following:

- General Fund invoices for September 2006 in the amount of \$376,257.36
- General Fund hand checks for August 2006 in the amount of \$1,393,356.48

- General Fund invoices for September 8, 2006, in the amount of \$425,031.73
- Payroll Funding Transfers for August 2006
- Food Service invoices in the amount of \$32,818.36
- General Fund Revenue Report for July 2006
- General Fund Revenue Report for August 2006
- General Fund Expenditure Report for July 2006
- General Fund Expenditure Report for August 2006
- SV Foundation for Education Statement of Income and Expenses
- Capital Improvements 2000-2001 Statement of Income and Expenses
- Capital Improvements 2005 Statement of Income and Expenses
- Hand Checks/Custodial in the amount of \$10,120
- Hand Checks/Athletic in the amount of \$4,014.91
- The district's Business Manager to enroll the Steel Valley School District in the COSTARS Program offered by the Pennsylvania Department of General services at no cost to the district
- Retroactively approve the renewal of the District's Package Policy including Automobile Insurance, Boiler and Machinery and Umbrella Liability for the 2006-2007 school year in the respective amounts of \$46,917, \$8,234.12 and \$2,525
- The transfer of \$251,421 from the 2005 Capital Projects Fund to the District's General Fund as reimbursement for payments made by the General Fund for various capital projects for the period of July 24, 2006, through August 31, 2006
- The property tax refund to the Dick Corporation, 1900 State Route 51, Large, PA 15025, in the amount of \$84,421 for calendar year 2003; and approve the property tax refund to GAI Consultants, Inc., 570 Beatty Road, Monroeville, PA 15146 for calendar years 2004 and 2005 in the respective amounts of \$75,212.15 and \$25,845.14; and authorize the Business Manager to close the Tax Escrow Account effective September 30, 2006, and transfer the account balance into the General Fund
- The District's membership to the Pennsylvania Education Joint Purchasing Council (PEJPC) through the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit at an annual membership fee of \$250, plus 1.5% of all purchases made through the PEJPC; and authorize the District's Business Manager to file the necessary application on the District's behalf

- Payment of Burt Hill Invoice Numbers 0117037, 0117542 and 0117957 in the respective amounts of \$40,331.10, \$781.23 and \$872.50 for a total of \$41,984.83 on the Kitchen Renovation Project; and Invoice Number 0117543 in the amount of \$687.50 for the Campbell Field Maintenance Garage; for a grand total of \$42,672.33 to be paid from the General Fund with reimbursement to be remitted from the 2005 Capital Projects Fund

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Fedor, Heddleston, Kubancsek, Edward McCallister, Tim McCallister, Terrick, Cannon and Ducar. Abstain: None. Negative: Tim McCallister, Terrick and Cannon on Item 1.7 (Payment of Burt Hill Invoice Numbers 0117037, 0117542 and 0227957 and payment of \$2,100.00 to Kees Waterproofing for the repair of the high school entry pillars). Motion carried.

Operations

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

- Facility rental requests as presented
- Fundraising requests as presented
- Authorize the Business Office to advertise for bids for the replacement of the interior doors and the exterior exit/entrance doors at the High School
- Authorize the Business Office to accept the proposal from Marshall Elevator to perform quarterly maintenance on the Park Elementary Passenger Elevator at a cost of \$200 per visit; and on the High School Passenger Elevator at a cost of \$115 per visit, for a period of five (5) years, with an option to automatically renew unless certified notice is provided to the contrary
- Authorize the Business Office to accept the proposal from Marshall Elevator to replace the car operating panel of the High School Passenger Elevator with new ADA compliant fixtures at a cost of \$9,420; and to accept the proposal from Marshall Elevator to replace the door protection system with a new door safety system on the front and rear doors of the High School Passenger Elevator at a cost of \$4,100 with the projects to be funded from the Capital Improvements 2000-2001 Fund

- Retroactively approve the maintenance and service proposal for the Park Elementary School Passenger elevator from Marshall Elevator in the amount of \$1,665
- The planned maintenance and safety inspection program for the JLG 30AM DC Personnel Lift as proposed by BestLine Equipment of State College, PA, at an annual fee of \$1,700 beginning November 1, 2006
- Retroactively approve payment of Right Electric Inc. Payment Application Number 3 in the amount of \$51,199.20 and Payment Application Number 4 in the amount of \$34,590.30 for their related progress billings on the High School Auditorium Renovation Project
- Retroactively approve payment to FranJo Construction in the amount of \$58,770 as presented on their progress billing for the High School Auditorium Renovation Project identified as Payment Application Number 3; and approve payment in the amount of \$275,706 as presented on their progress billing for the High School Auditorium Renovation Project identified as Payment application Number 4
- Payment of \$450 to Matthew M. Franckiewicz, Arbitrator, due as a result of the cancellation of an arbitration hearing previously scheduled for August 28, 2006
- Retroactively approve placing a full-page advertisement in the Jerome Bettis Caring for Kids All-Star Event program at a cost of \$500 to honor Charlie Batch as the recipient of the Jerome Bettis Award for Humanity and Community Service

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Fedor, Heddleston, Kubancsek, Edward McCallister, Tim McCallister, Terrick, Cannon and Ducar. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Co-Curricular Leadership

Mrs. Cannon: No report

Special Assignments

Mr. Edward McCallister moved and Mrs. Cannon seconded the motion to approve the first reading of Policy No. 142 Wellness. Upon

roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Fedor, Heddleston, Kubancsek, Edward McCallister, Tim McCallister, Terrick, Cannon and Ducar. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Educational Leadership

Mrs. Pam Terrick moved and Mr. Tim McCallister seconded the motion to approve the University of Pittsburgh Services Agreement between the Steel Valley School District and the Tri-State Area School Study Council to provide services to develop the Strategic Plan of 2007-2013 in the amount of \$3,500 for the 2006-2007 school year. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Fedor, Heddleston, Kubancsek, Edward McCallister, Tim McCallister, Terrick, Cannon and Ducar. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Personnel Management

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

- Unpaid leave of absence for Melissa Capan from November 27-30, 2006
- Unpaid child rearing leave of absence for Carolina Guenther effective on or about October 20, 2006, not to exceed one year
- Change the status of the Elementary Academic Literacy Coach, Elementary Academic Math Coach and the Secondary Academic Math Coach positions from long-term substitute positions to permanent coaching positions effective immediately
- Appoint Karen Suppok to a permanent full-time position in physical education/health with salary and benefits based on 4th step Master's salary effective October 2, 2006, and contingent upon receipt of current Act 34 and 151 clearances, her passing a general physical exam and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances
- Appoint Catherine Pisula to a permanent full-time position in Elementary Education assigned to 3rd grade at Barrett Elementary School with salary and benefits based upon 1st step Bachelor's salary retroactive to the beginning of the 2006-2007 school year and

contingent upon her passing a general physical exam and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances

- Appoint Tom Kendro, Lori Kenavey, JoAnn Pisula, Eileen Joll, Christina Levkus and Katie Pisula to the position of tutor at a rate of \$30 per hour; Leslie Hairston to the position of aide at a rate of \$10 per hour; and Michele Batch to the position of paraprofessional at a rate of \$15 per hour per the EAP tutoring grant beginning September 5, 2006, through May 8, 2007
- Appoint Bill Edwards and Jennifer Awenowicz to the position of tutor at a rate of \$30 per hour; appoint Mary Lou McConnell and Betty Lyons to the position of paraprofessional at a rate of \$15 per hour per the EAP tutoring grant beginning October 3, 2006, through May 8, 2007
- Authorize Board President and Board Secretary to execute the professional employee contracts for Julie Doebreiner, Rebecca Kristen, Brian Savolskis, Susan Wright and LuAnne Szczypinski
- Authorize the Office of Pupil Personnel and Special Services to contract with Mrs. Joyce Clark for consulting services up to twenty (20) hours per month for the remainder of the 2006-207 school year at \$50 per hour
- Retroactively approve the three-year agreement to serve as School Physician/Athletic Physician from Dr. Rudolph Antoncic III, 5301 Walnut Street, McKeesport, PA 15132, at a cost of \$15,000 for 2006-2007 for Athletic Trainer and \$8 per student examination
- Approve the attendance of Dr. Kinavey to the annual Superintendents' Professional Development Program on October 18-20, 2006, at Lakeview Gold Resort and Spa at a cost of \$500
- Approve the attendance of Claire Stitzell to the Family consumer Science professional development training in Byron Center, Michigan, October 25-29, 2006, at a cost of \$2,400 plus air fare
- Approve the attendance of Toni Besh and Tracey Michalak to present at the PSMLA Conference *Connections* on October 20-21, 2006, at a cost of \$402.22
- Approve substitute teachers as presented for the 2006-2007 school year at the rate of \$75 per day for the first 30 days and \$100 per day thereafter

Mrs. Fedor asked if there were job descriptions for the supplemental positions. There was advisement that stated job descriptions existed for each position in the Activities/Athletic

Office. Mrs. Fedor commented that the job description for the Director of Athletics/Activities should include the direction of district intramural programs.

- Appoint activity supplementals as presented for the 2006-2007 school year contingent upon receipt of current clearances from Mr. Woodburn
- Appoint Alyson Fisher to the supplemental position of Wellness Department Head effective for the 2006-2007 school year at a stipend of \$1,979.06
- Appoint Jill Fleming-Salopek to the supplemental position of English Department Head effective for the 2006-2007 school year at a stipend of \$1,979.06
- Create and post two new supplemental positions of Building Technology Technicians assigned to Barrett and Park Elementary Schools at the proposed stipend of \$1,746.23 for the 2006-2007 school year and a 5% increase each year thereafter of the current collective bargaining agreement
- Permit the Junior High football coaches to assist the JV and Varsity football programs for the 2006 seasons
- Appoint Dorothy Miller to a 3.25 hour position in the cafeteria at Barrett Elementary at the 90-day probationary rate of 85% of \$10.55 per hour (\$8.97) and all benefits accruing as a result of the bargaining agreement effective immediately.
- Approve Patrick Kazimer as a substitute custodian at \$8.75 per hour and a four-hour cleaner at \$9 per hour, with no benefits, pending receipt of acceptable Act 34 and 151 clearances and passing the district's mandated physical examination and drug screening test
- Approve Melissa McMahan as a four-hour cleaner at \$9 per hour, with no benefits, and also as a substitute custodian at \$8.75 per hour, food service and instructional aide at \$6.50 per hour, also with no benefits, pending receipt of acceptable Act 34 and 151 clearances and passing the district's mandated physical examination and drug screening test
- Approve Lindsay Jones as a substitute special education instructional aide for the 2006-2007 school year at the rate of \$6.50 per hour contingent upon receipt of current clearances
- Deny Grievance No. 9-4-06 due to no violation of the collective bargaining agreement

- Approve a job description for a Director of Facilities and advertise for the position

Mrs. Cannon stated that she felt that the district should employ more custodians to clean the buildings instead of employing a supervisor.

- Approve the attendance of Leo Schlanger and Dawn Kunca-Kapolka to the Marine Corps Educator Workshop in Parris Island, South Carolina, from October 31 through November 3, 2006, at no cost to the district

Following the call for questions on the motion, Mrs. Fedor, a member of the Personnel Committee, asked if there was a job description for all of the supplemental positions. Dr. Kinavey replied that the job descriptions for each supplemental position were available in the Athletic/Activities Office. Mrs. Fedor further commented that she felt that the supplemental positions of Intramural Director and Equipment Manager should be included in the job description of the Director of Athletics/Activities. Committee Chairperson Mr. Edward McCallister stated his disagreement with Mrs. Fedor's position.

Mrs. Beth Cannon, Co-Chair of the Personnel Committee, stated her disagreement with Item 6.27, the request to approve a job description for the Director of Facilities and permission to advertise the position. Mrs. Cannon stated that she felt it would be better to hire three more custodians than to hire another administrator.

It was moved by Mrs. Colleen Fedor, seconded by Mrs. Pam Terrick to table the appointment of the intramural director. Voting affirmatively were Mrs. Fedor, Mrs. Terrick and Mrs. Cannon. Voting negatively were Mr. Heddleston, Mrs. Kubancsek, Mr. Edward McCallister, Mr. Tim McCallister and Mr. Ducar. The tabling motion fails.

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Fedor, Heddleston, Kubancsek, Edward McCallister, Tim McCallister, Terrick, Cannon and Ducar. Negative: On Item 6.1 (leave of absence for Melissa Capan) Fedor, Cannon and Ducar, and on Item 6.27 (approve job description for a Director of Facilities and advertise for the position) Kubancsek and Cannon. Motion carried.

Citizen Comments

- Mrs. Paula Borsch commended the advertising of meetings, board policies, placing policies on the website, questioned the policy on speaking at meetings, Park's Open House, job descriptions and supplemental positions.

Adjournment

Mrs. Kubancsek moved and Mr. Edward McCallister seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting ended at 9:00 p.m.

Submitted by:



Michael F. Bichko
Board Secretary