

Regular Meeting
Steel Valley School District Board of Directors
Senior High School Auditorium
January 26, 2010

Meeting was called to order by Mrs. Cannon, President, at 7:03 p.m.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

Mr. Bajus, Mrs. Ballas, Mr. Olson, Mr. Terrick,
Mrs. Kubancsek and Mrs. Cannon

Absent: Mr. Ducar, Mr. Natale and Ms. Youngblood

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

Acknowledgements

Moment of Silence

The Board acknowledged the following deaths in the Steel Valley School District families: *JoAnn Vandergraft*, sister of Magistrate Thomas Torkowsky; *Rose Pecora*, grandmother of Jennifer Pecora, middle school teacher; *Albine Perne*, grandfather of Amanda Linder, Barrett and high school teacher; *Raymond W. Saunders*, brother-in-law of Bill Edwards, kindergarten teacher and uncle of Jonathan Edwards, middle school teacher; *Craig Hams*, brother of Loren Ford, high school custodian; *Irene E. Catterall*, mother-in-law of Karen Catterall and grandmother of Beth and Jeff Catterall; Barrett and high school teachers; *John M. Schmunk*, brother of Dr. Jim Schmunk, former interim superintendent; *Charles J. "Jerry" Sweeney*, retired social studies teacher; *Bernard J. McKittrick*, father-in-law of Raymond Braszo, high school teacher; *Anna McMahan*, mother-in-law of Melissa McMahan, high school custodian; *Julia Hoyle*, aunt of Dr. Carole Policastro, instructional resource at Park School; *Robert "Bud" Casper*, uncle of Denise Stephenson, Park School teacher; *Grace Dilling*, grandmother of Terri Hoffman, middle school and Franklin librarian; *John Swiatek*, grandfather of Bridget Stright, high school teacher; *Mary Kish*, aunt of Ed Colebank, Director of Academics, Information & Technology; *William Gordon*, uncle of Rebecca

Kristen, middle school teacher; *Thomas Wildman*, uncle of Lois Habrat, secretary in the Office of Pupil Personnel, Special Services & Elementary Education.

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: Bajus, Ballas, Olson, Terrick, Kubancsek and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

President's Comments

Mrs. Cannon:

- Announced that the school district is holding a *Denim for Emily Day* to raise money for the purchase of a service dog for kindergarten student Emily Hyland. Staff members are encouraged to donate \$5 to show their support for the project and have the opportunity to wear denim on Thursday, February 11. All proceeds will be given to the Hyland family along with the money raise through *Pennies for Emily* campaign.
- Reported that the high school students represented Steel Valley very well on the Hometown High "Q" game show.
- Announced that she received a complimentary letter from the executive director of KSA Events commending Coach Shawn McCallister, Coach Kelly Sabo and the girls' and boys' basketball teams for their participation at Disney's Wide World of Sports in December.

Student Representatives' Report

Mr. Lance Miller

Ms. Kaitlyn Baran

- Reported that the Queen of Hearts read to the kindergarten students on January 12 and distributed three books to each student provided by the Reading Is Fundamental Program. The kindergarten students enjoyed lunch with their parents at Franklin Primary Center on January 20.
- The middle school teachers are producing a video, which will be shown to the student body prior to PSSA testing.
- The girls' basketball team is doing well. The seniors enjoyed their trip to Seven Springs, and the semi-formal was held on January 16 at the Georgetown Centre. The 2nd semester began on January 20.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kinavey:

- January is designated as School Board Recognition Month across the Commonwealth. The Superintendent thanked the School Board members for their dedication of time and service to the students in the Steel Valley School District. They are not paid for their service but are devoted to the students and supportive of the teachers and staff.
- Congratulated the varsity football team for advancing to the first round of the WPIAL playoffs this season. *James Caldwell* made 1st Team All Conference Linebacker and Second Team Running Back, *Delrece Williams* made 2nd Team All Conference Running Back and *Kevin Ohm* made 2nd Team All Conference as a specialty player.
- Middle School Principal Kevin Walsh along with Teachers Heather Huber and Steven Singer made a presentation on the success of the Title I Family Game Nights being held at the middle school. The next one is scheduled on February 9, and everyone will be playing bingo. Family Game Night began with the purchase of the games through a Great Idea Mini Grant awarded by The Consortium for Public Education. It is now funded with Title I funds.

Director of Pupil Personnel, Special Services and Elementary Education

Mrs. Borges:

- Reported that the elementary students have successfully completed the 4Sight, GMade and Dibels assessment tests.
- A Title I Family Math Night will be held at Park School on January 28 from 6:00-7:30 p.m.
- Park School students raised \$725 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation by purchasing tickets for a chance to have lunch with Principal Bryan Macuga. Winners from each grade were selected and enjoyed a special lunch with their principal.
- Report cards will be distributed on January 29.
- Park School is holding a Spirit Night at Chick-Fil-A on the Waterfront on Wednesday, February 3 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Wear your favorite sports jerseys and join them for this fundraiser. Twenty percent (20%) of the sales will be donated to Park Elementary School.

- On February 11, a 5th grade social will be held at Park Elementary School from 6:00-7:30 p.m. The 5th graders from Barrett and Park Schools will be getting together for a good time.
- There will be no school for students on Friday, February 12. This is a teacher inservice day. School will be in session on Monday, February 15, as a make-up day.
- The district has been awarded an Inclusive Practices Grant in the amount of \$14,995 to improve inclusion and the education of students with disabilities in the least restrictive environment within the school district. The grant monies will be used for professional development materials, addressing co-teaching, inclusion and the response to intervention model. Teachers will also be trained to implement an Elementary Student Assistance Program to address challenging behaviors.
- A family support group for parents raising children with mental health, emotional and behavioral concerns will be meeting at the Steel Valley High School on a monthly basis.

Director of Academics, Information & Technology

Mr. Colebank:

- Announced that the 4sight and GMade assessments have been completed at the middle and high school. The Middle States Evaluation of the Senior High School has been postponed to the last week in April.
- On the February 12 inservice day, faculty will be reviewing courses syllabi, 4Sight data and Edline procedures.

Solicitor's Report

No report

Citizen Comments on Agenda Items

- Ms. Donna Dreshman – did anyone ask for a phone connection tonight; Item 5.2 (Elementary social studies curriculum) will there be new textbooks as part of this; Item 5.5 (Start-up of Steel Valley Online Academy) is this a cost to the district; Item 6.0 (Personnel Management) any hires related to the Board or Administrators; Item 6.1.1 (Resignation of Nicole Benjamin) did this person send in resignation; Item 6.6 (Attendance at ACAPA Spring

Conference in Hershey, PA) is it necessary to have three administrators attend the conference; Item 6.8 (Professional Employee contracts), is this tenure; Item 6.11 (Resignation of David Morus) what is the reason for resignation; Item 6.16 (Substitute in food service, secretary and custodian) can person hold multiple positions in one day.

Board Meeting Minutes

Mr. Terrick moved and Mrs. Kubancsek seconded the motion to approve the board meeting minutes of the November 24, 2009 worksession, the December 8, 2009 reorganization and the December 8, 2009 regular meetings. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Olson, Terrick, Kubancsek and Cannon. Abstain: Cannon on November 24, 2009. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Financial Management

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

- General Fund invoices for December 2009 and January 2010 in the amount of \$646,354.59
- General Fund hand checks for November 2009 in the amount of \$463,834.77
- General fund hand checks for December 2009 in the amount of \$498,429.95
- Payroll Funding Transfers for November and December 2009
- Treasurer's Reports for September, October and November 2009
- General Fund Revenue Report for November 2009
- General Fund Revenue Report for December 2009
- General Fund Expenditure Report for November 2009
- General Fund Expenditure Report for December 2009
- Food Service invoices for December 2009 in the amount of \$80,373.13
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending November 30, 2009
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending December 31, 2009
- Foundation for Education Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending November 30, 2009

- Foundation for Education Technology Account Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending November 30, 2009
- Foundation for Education Barrett Project Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending December 31, 2009
- Foundation for Education Technology Account Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending December 31, 2009
- Custodial hand checks in the amount of \$104,111.66
- Athletic hand checks in the amount of \$11,621.41
- Middle School hand checks in the amount of \$15,639.94
- Band Trip hand checks in the amount of \$2,395.14

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

Operations

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

- Facility rental requests as presented
- Fundraising requests as presented
- Accept the donation of three books Biggest, Strongest, Fastest; What Do You Do With a Tail Like This? and Actual Size to Park Elementary School, Barrett Elementary School and Franklin Primary Center from Kohl's Cares for Kids program
- The agreement between Steel Valley School District and ClearChoice Energy

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

Co-Curricular Leadership

No report

Special Assignments

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

- Hold a second reading and adopt new Policy Nos. 349, 449 and 549 Family and Medical Leaves

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

Educational Leadership

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

- Revise the 2009-2010 school calendar and designate March 31 as a make-up day and April 1 as a clerical day
- The elementary social studies curriculum for grades four and five as presented
- The High School Academic Handbook for the 2010-2011 school year
- The Middle School Academic Handbook for the 2010-2011 school year
- VLN as the provider of 30 online class subjects for grades 9-12 to be used to start up the Steel Valley Online Academy at the cost of \$33,000

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

Personnel Management

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

- Accept, with deep regret, the retirement of Susan Kaufold from the position of 4th grade teacher at Park Elementary School effective at the close of business on June 9, 2010
- Accept, with regret, the resignation of Nicole Benjamin from the 1st grade teaching position at Barrett Elementary School effective January 25, 2010
- A family medical leave of absence for Jennifer Smith retroactive to January 8, 2010, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- A family medical leave of absence for Bridget Stright commencing February 10, 2010, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- A family medical leave of absence for Cara Hritz commencing March 1, 2010, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- A family medical leave of absence for Bobbi Vargo retroactive to January 13, 2010, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration

- Ed Colebank, Ellen Sabo and Mark Cherpak to attend the ACAPA Spring Conference to be held in Hershey, Pennsylvania, on March 17-19, 2010, at an approximate cost to the district of \$1,800
- Two (2) additional paid bereavement days for Jodi Geyer for December 2 and 10, 2008
- Authorize the Board President and Board Secretary to execute Professional Employee contracts for Mark Fallon, Richard Pireaux, Kelly Sabo, Brian Bungard and Patrick Connelly
- Justin Kuhar, Ashleigh Hays, Lindsey Weidner, Katelyn Rae Zilko, Lisa Waskiewicz and Andrew Petruska as day-to-day substitute teachers for the 2009-2010 school year
- Melissa Nelson, Audra Bobbs and Heather Malingowski as day-to-day substitute teachers for the 2009-2010 school year
- The resignations of David Morus from the supplemental position of High School Band Director, Mike Cullen from the supplemental position of Head Varsity Boys' Volleyball Coach and Shane Lucas from the supplemental position of Assistant Varsity Boys' Volleyball Coach
- Brian Savolskis to the supplemental position of Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach for the 2009-2010 school year
- A stipend for The Future is Mine (TFIM) supplemental at the rate of \$2,560.54 for the 2009-2010 school year according to the supplemental contract of the collective bargaining agreement
- Appoint Deborah Perry as a general worker in the Barrett Elementary School cafeteria, 4 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 January 27, 2010
- Request from Wyona Rompala for a family medical leave of absence commencing on February 4, 2010, and ending on or about March 4, 2010
- Kathy Gardner as a substitute in food service and as a secretary at an hourly rate of \$7.25 per hour with no benefits, and as a custodian at a rate of \$8.75 per hour with no benefits, contingent upon passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Olson, Terrick, Kubancsek and Cannon.

Negative: Kubancsek and Cannon on Item 6.7 (Additional paid bereavement days for Jodi Geyer) and Terrick abstained on Item 6.7.

Abstain: Olson and Cannon on Item 6.8 (Professional Employee Contracts).
Motion carried.

Citizen Comments

- Ms. Donna Dreshman – did we pay back the Tax Anticipation Note yet, when will we pass preliminary budget and will there be furlough letters mailed to staff.
- Ms. Gerry Hawkins – why was there no delay or cancellation on January 4, 2010.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m. by a motion Mrs. Kubancsek seconded by Mr. Terrick.