

**Regular Meeting**  
**Steel Valley School District Board of Directors**  
**Senior High School Auditorium**  
**October 28, 2008**

Meeting was called to order by Mrs. Pam Terrick, Vice President at 7:30 p.m.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

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

Absent: Mr. McCallister

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

Flag Salute and Moment of Silence

**Acknowledgements**

The Board acknowledged the following deaths in the Steel Valley School District families: *Paul A. Roman*, retired math teacher; *Mary Bobick*, mother-in-law of Holli Bobick, Park Elementary instructional aide and aunt of Joe Ducar, Board member; *Kayla L. Fisher*, sister of Sharon Fisher, *Darlene Jackson*, aunt of Sharon Fisher, and *Robert Henderson, Jr.*, uncle of Sharon Fisher, Barrett Elementary principal; *Helen J. Policastro*, aunt of Dr. Carole Policastro, Director of Elementary Education; *June Gray*, cousin of Kathy Marzec, Barrett Elementary teacher; *Aquilla Santucci*, grandmother of Erin Noblet, middle school teacher; *James Miskovich*, cousin of Donna Kiefer, middle school custodian; *Hughey J. Mathews*, grandfather of Kevin Tomasic, Park Elementary teacher; *George Takos*, uncle of Mike Takos, instructional aide at Barrett Elementary; *Leonard L. Fleming*, grandfather of Regina Takos, middle school teacher, and *Lena Cardinale*, grandmother of Richard Pireaux, high school teacher.

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

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

- Mrs. Paula Borsch - questions on Item 5.2 (2009 to 2010 Continuous School Improvement Plan for the Senior High School) how does this address Dr. Kinavey's strategic plan; Item 6.0 (Personnel Management) is anyone related to a school board member; Item 6.3 (Long-term substitute teacher for Kindergarten) and does Step 1 mean the person is a recent graduate; Item 6.5 (New supplemental for middle school yearbook) is this position in the current budget; Park School volunteers – concerns about length of time clearances are valid for volunteers and Item 4.1 (First reading of Policy No. 800 Records Management policy).
- Ms. Bridgette Wissinger – questions about band trip.
- Mr. Michael Sniegocki – questions about band trip. Band Backers will now pay for an additional night stay.

**Mr. Olson moved and Mr. Ducar seconded the motion to allow the band an extra night's stay in Annapolis, Maryland, at no cost to the district.** Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Ducar, McEnheimer, Natale, Olson. Abstain: Kubancsek and Terrick. Negative: Cannon. Motion carried.

- Mrs. Colleen Fedor – questions on Item 4.2 (First reading of revisions to Policy No. 610 Purchases Subject to Bid), why changed and what has changed; Item 1.2 (Resolution to participate in the LERTA) does this include the Waterfront and Item 6.1 (clearances – questions on costs associated)
- Ms. Donna Dreshman – copies of Item 1.1.08 and 1.1.09 (Capital Projects 2005 Statements for August and September, and Item 1.1.10 (Foundation for Education Statement for September) and Item 2.1 and 2.2 (Facility rental and fundraising requests); questions about Item 6.3 (Brian

Keesecker to a long-term substitute Kindergarten teacher position) how was the candidate selected

- Ms. Kathy Ligeros – Item 4.2 (First reading of Policy No. 610 Purchases Subject to Bid) and what changes were made to policy.

### **Vice President's Report**

Mrs. Terrick:

- Thanks the parents and staff of Barrett and Park Elementary for their cooperation during the Park School roof abatement.
- Congratulations to the Varsity Girls' Soccer and Girls' Volleyball teams for their outstanding seasons and recognizes the marching band as grand champions at a recent band competition.
- Dual enrollment information will be available at the parent/teacher conferences.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Kinavey:

- Announced that the Park School roof replacement would be completed at the end of the week.
- The Veteran's Day programs will be held as follows:  
Wednesday, November 5 at 9:15 a.m. Barrett Elementary School  
Thursday, November 6 at 9:00 a.m. Senior High School  
Friday, November 7 at 9:30 a.m. Park Elementary School

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

Mrs. Borges:

- Announced that the district received a \$45,000 special education performance grant for school-based behavioral health to be used for bullying prevention programs at Barrett and the middle school and a mental health therapist to work within the middle school emotional support class.

- High School Counselor Jason Novak highlighted the counseling services at the Senior High School.

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

Mr. Colebank:

- The High School Improvement Team comprised of Leo Schlanger, High School Principal; Ed Colebank, Director of Academics, Information & Technology; Jill Fleming-Salopek, Academic Literacy Coach; Emilee Garcia, Special Education Teacher; and Beth McCallister, Academic Math Coach presented a two-year school improvement plan for the high school
- Announced that the district would begin using EdLine, a web-based grade book, for parents and students to view grades and attendance online. Parents will receive information in the mail next week with their access code to the program.

### **Director of Elementary Education**

Dr. Policastro:

- Announced that the district will partner with the University of Pittsburgh to receive services worth approximately \$19,000 for a Kindergarten transition program.

### **Student Representatives' Reports**

Ms. Kaitlyn Baran

Ms. Miriam McBeth

- Munhall Fire Department will present a safety program to the Franklin Primary students on October 30. The kindergarten students will also parade in their Halloween costumes in the afternoon. The Queen of Hearts visited Franklin in October.
- Park School students and staff will hold, the annual Make-A-Wish Parade and fundraiser on October 31 at 1:30 p.m. Tutoring at Park School is occurring after school for students in grades 3-5.

- Barrett Elementary School held a Family Night on October 15 kicking off a year-long program “Year of the Book: Barrett Reads” to increase parent awareness and participation in education. The schoolwide goal is to read 10,000 books during this school year. Students made book boxes for their home libraries while parents participated in workshops with school staff as well as community organizations.
- Congratulations to the Girls’ Soccer and Girls’ Volleyball teams for making the WPIAL playoffs.
- Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held at the Middle School and High School on Wednesday November 12 from 12:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Flu vaccines will be available at the High School on the same date for \$23 between 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- On Friday, November 14, Bill Campbell and special guests will be speaking with high school students.
- Announced the Steel Valley Drama Club will present *Hedda Gabler* on November 20-22 in the high school auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

### **Solicitor’s Report**

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

### **Board Meeting Minutes**

**Mr. Ducar moved and Mrs. Cannon seconded the motion to approve the board meeting minutes of September 16 and September 23, 2008.** Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Cannon, Ducar, Kubancsek, McEnheimer, 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 October 2008 in the amount of \$470,376.11
- General Fund hand checks for September 2008 in the amount of \$629,456.45
- Payroll Funding Transfers for September 2008
- Treasurers' Reports for June and July 2008
- General Fund Revenue Report for August 2008
- General Fund Expenditure Report for August 2008
- Food Service invoices for October 2008 in the amount of \$64,266.27
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending August 31, 2008
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending September 30, 2008
- Foundation for Education Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending September 30, 2008
- Custodial hand checks in the amount of \$8,841.34
- Athletic hand checks in the amount of \$8,571.73
- Middle School hand checks in the amount of \$2,543.57
- Adopt the resolution to participate in the Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance (LERTA)

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

### **Operations**

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

- Facility rental requests as presented
- Fundraising requests as presented

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

### **Co-Curricular Leadership**

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

- The French Club to attend field trip to Quebec City and Montreal, Canada, on February 12-16, 2009, at no cost to the district

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

### **Special Assignments**

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

- Hold first reading of new Policy No. 800 Records Management
- Hold first reading of revisions to Policy No. 610 Purchases Subject to Bid

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

### **Educational Leadership**

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

- Special Education Performance Grant/School Based Behavioral Health Grant Contract for Services and authorize the appropriate officials to execute said agreement
- Accept the "Getting Results!" 2009 to 2010 Continuous School Improvement Plan for the Senior High School

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

## **Personnel Management**

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

- Appoint Julie Miller to a professional employee position of Health/Physical Education teacher assigned to the Senior High School with salary based upon Step 2 Bachelor's level and fringe benefits as per the collective bargaining agreement effective November 24, 2008, and contingent upon her passing a general physical examination and the mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days or the position will be re-opened
- Appoint Nicole Goga to a long-term substitute position for the remainder of the 2008-2009 school term in the area of Science and assigned to the Middle School retroactive to September 24, 2008, based upon Step 1 Bachelor's salary and fringe benefits as per the collective bargaining agreement contingent upon her passing a general physical examination, which must be completed in 30 days or the position will be re-opened
- Appoint Brian Keesecker to a long-term substitute Kindergarten teacher assigned to Franklin Primary Center with salary based upon Step 1 Bachelor's level and fringe benefits as per the collective bargaining agreement effective October 29, 2008, and contingent upon receipt of current Act 34 and Act 114 clearances, passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days or the position will be re-opened
- Middle School Teacher Ed Tozzi to attend the committee for Children-Second Step Program in Seattle, Washington, on December 9-11, 2008, paid for by the Second Step grant
- A new supplemental for a middle school yearbook sponsor effective for the 2008-2009 school year with the stipend to be agreed upon by the School Board and the Steel Valley Education Association
- Accept the resignations of Steve Large as Assistant Boys' Basketball Coach, Cristin Sargo as Assistant Girls' Varsity



Basketball Coach, Amanda Linder as Art Club sponsor and Bryan Macuga as Middle School Boys' Basketball Coach

- Approve Russ Gill as the Head Varsity Wrestling Coach and Alex Stright as the Assistant Varsity Wrestling Coach

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Cannon, Ducar, Kubancsek, McEnheimer, Natale, Olson and Terrick. Negative: Terrick on Item 6.2 (Nicole Goga to long-term substitute teacher position for Science) and Item 6.3 (Brian Keesecker to long-term substitute teacher position for Kindergarten). Abstain: Cannon on Item 6.2. Motion carried.

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

- Susan Salapa as the Middle School Drama Club sponsor
- David Morus, Kathleen Milanak, Nicholas Sworden, Terry Brown Groce, and Jacob Hess as day-to-day substitutes for the 2008-2009 school year at the rate of \$75 per day for the first 30 days and \$100 per day beginning with the 31<sup>st</sup> day
- The attached list of volunteers for the 2008-2009 school year, contingent upon receipt of current Act 34 and 151 clearances
- Accept, with regret, the retirement of Mary Lebeda from her position of general worker in the Senior High School cafeteria, retroactive to September 29, 2008
- Appoint Traci Riley as a general worker in the Park Elementary cafeteria, 2.5 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 October 29, 2008
- Terry Brown Groce as a substitute in the food service department and as an instructional aide at \$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
- Joyce Kornacki as a substitute secretary and instructional aide at \$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
- Christian Killings as a substitute custodian at \$8.75 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon receipt of acceptable Act 114

and 115 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, Ducar, Kubancsek, McEnheimer, Natale, Olson and Terrick. Negative: None. Motion carried.

### **Citizens Comments**

- Mrs. Colleen Fedor - what is the cost of the school improvement plan, is it in the budget, what is fund balance; Christmas parade on Saturday, December 4; any impact on scores related to the Park School issue; band - thanks for the congratulations; questions about band competition
- Ms. Donna Dreshman - what is the stipend for Item 6.5 (middle school yearbook sponsor), and any loss of funding for tutoring
- Ms. Paula Borsch - wants copy of emails about band issue, clarify information on Mr. Schlanger's presentation, what is the average class size in the high school, and are we teaching the PSSA test

### **Adjournment**

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

Meeting ended at 10:30 p.m.