

**Regular Meeting**  
**Steel Valley School District Board of Directors**  
**Senior High School Library**  
**December 4, 2007**

Meeting was called to order by Mr. Tim McCallister, President at 7:50 p.m.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

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

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

Flag Salute and Moment of Silence

**Acknowledgements**

The Board acknowledged the following deaths in the Steel Valley School District families: *Mr. William J. Zabelsky*, father of Dr. Dennis Zabelsky, school dentist, and father-in-law of Marilyn Zabelsky, Park School teacher; *Mr. John Csider*, uncle of Susan Wilder, Barrett Elementary teacher, *Mrs. Patricia Allison*, cousin of Bobbi Vargo, Barrett Elementary teacher; *Mr. Charles W. Belavic, Jr.*, retired guidance counselor, Senior High School; *Mr. Raymond S. Kupec*, brother of Judi Radaci, high school counter clerk, *Mr. William Watkins*, uncle of Kim Watkins, confidential secretary; *Mr. Joseph Medica*, uncle of Grace James, custodian; *Mrs. Geraliss Thompson*, aunt of Loren Ford, custodian; *Mr. Edward Mohrbach*, uncle of Mary Cay Rojtas-Milliner, high school library media specialist; *Mrs. Linda L. Lyons*, aunt of Amy Lyons, Park School secretary; *William P. Vargo*, kindergarten student; *Mr. Albert Timko*, uncle of Jennifer Williams, Barrett Elementary teacher.

**Mrs. Terrick moved and Mrs. Kubancsek 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, Ed

McCallister, Natale, Olson, Terrick and Tim McCallister. Negative: None.  
Motion carried.

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

- Mrs. Paula Borsch of 184 Roberta Drive, Munhall, asked if board members were related to any of the candidates under Item 6.0. Board members replied they were not related that they knew of. She asked if the substitute teacher is certified and Dr. Kinavey confirmed that he has a teaching certificate in Social Studies.
- Ms. Donna Dreshman, Forest Avenue, Munhall, asked for copies of Items 1.1.12 and 1.1.13 (Foundation for Education Statements for September and October 2007) and Items 2.1 and 2.2 (facility rental requests and fundraising requests). She also asked who prepared the 2008-2009 budget. Mr. Fetzko replied that Mr. John Yaklich prepared the budget (Item 1.6). Ms. Dreshman asked if we have a rhythm club. Dr. Kinavey stated that the sponsor has been a volunteer for two years and he is recommending a stipend for the supplemental position. Ms. Dreshman asked if there were any checks to Mr. Bichko in the bill list. There were none. She asked about the outcome of the meeting with the assessment appeals board. Mr. Fetzko reported that there are 26 pending tax appeal pre-trials. He will analyze the offer from Waterfront Partners LLC and report to the Board in an executive session. Mr. Fetzko reported that this is a legal matter and will be addressed in an executive session. Mr. Dreshman asked for a list of tax appeals.

### **President's Comments**

Mr. Tim McCallister:

- Thanked the School Board for their support in electing him President and striving for academic excellence in the Steel Valley School District.

## **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Kinavey:

- Congratulated the faculty and staff at Park Elementary School and the Steel Valley Middle School for meeting AYP two years in a row and receiving the Keystone Award.
- Announced the district received a \$3,000 great idea grant from The Consortium for Public Education
- Announced the following holiday concert schedule:

December 13	7:00 p.m.	Middle School Concert
December 18	7:00 p.m.	High School Choral Concert
December 19	7:00 p.m.	High School Band Concert
December 19	9:00 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.	Barrett's Winter Concert
December 19	9:00 a.m. & 1:30 p.m.	Park's Winter Concert

In addition, students will be dismissed early on Friday, December 21. The winter break begins December 22 through January 1. School resumes on Wednesday, January 2.
- Congratulated the Boys' Basketball Team for taking first place in the Meadville Tournament, and the Girls' Basketball Team for winning the Brownsville Tournament.

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

Mr. Colebank:

- Reported that the district would be submitting the second round of PIMS data on December 7. In the first round of submissions, Steel Valley was the first of 15 districts whose data was correct on the first submission. PIMS is a database of financial and student data submitted to the Department of Education. This process will assure better continuity between the state and local districts.
- Mr. Colebank reported that progress reports would be sent home the week of December 10.
- Parents were notified by letter that they are able to place money on their children's cafeteria accounts as well as monitor what their children are purchasing for lunch.

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

Mrs. Borges:

- Reported that the school district would be monitored by the Department of Education in the spring.

### **Director of Elementary Education**

Dr. Policastro:

- Reported that with the help of the elementary principals, she created an Elementary Academic Handbook last year. She is now writing new science curriculum for the elementary grades using the back mapping method.

### **Student Representatives Report**

No report

### **Solicitor's Report**

No report

### **Board Meeting Minutes**

**Mrs. Kubancsek moved and Mrs. Terrick seconded the motion to approve the October 16 and October 23, 2007 meeting minutes.** Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Cannon, Ducar, Kubancsek, Ed McCallister and Terrick. Abstain: Bartko, Natale, Olson and Tim McCallister. Negative: None. Motion carried.

### **Financial Management**

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

- General Fund invoices for November 2007 in the amount of \$749,806.99

- General Fund hand checks for October 2007 in the amount of \$495,475.64
- Payroll Funding Transfers for October 2007
- Treasurers' Reports for July, August, September 2007
- General Fund Revenue Report for October 2007
- General Fund Expenditure Report for October 2007
- Food Service invoices for October 2007 in the amount of \$84,250.06
- Capital Improvements 2000-2001 Statement of Income and Expenses for the month ending September 30, 2007
- Capital Improvements 2000-2001 Statement of Income and Expenses for the month ending October 31, 2007
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending September 30, 2007
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending October 31, 2007
- Foundation for Education Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending September 30, 2007
- Foundation for Education Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending October 31, 2007
- Custodial hand checks in the amount of \$15,137.02
- Athletic hand checks in the amount of \$10,454.60
- Middle School hand checks in the amount of \$2,569.79
- Band Trip invoices in the amount of \$4,906.60
- Authorize West Homestead Borough real estate tax refund to PAS LLC for Lot & Block 131-J-264 for year 2006 in the amount of \$1,008.67 as a result of a change in assessment
- Authorize West Homestead Borough real estate tax refund to Albert Ackerman for Lot & Block 131-J-332 for year 2006 in the amount of \$1,765.16 as a result of a change in assessment
- The tuition rate of \$3,300.33 for the 2007-2008 school year and all terms of Policy No. 202 for employee Traci Churilla's daughter to be enrolled in Grade 10 at the Steel Valley Senior High School
- Payment to the Office of the Prothonotary of Allegheny County for filing fees for year 2005 in the amount of \$14,840 and for year 2006 in the amount of \$17,660
- Making available the proposed 2008-2009 preliminary general fund budget for public inspection on January 3, 2008

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

There was discussion about the 2008-2009 budget. Mr. Yaklich described the problems in the process of determining the budget due to the Act 1 legislation. He noted that this is a more detailed budget than in previous years. He had to estimate that the state would increase funding by 3% for regular education and 2% for special education. Actual figures will not be known until January or February. He also discussed the exoneration of taxes, payment plans for two Waterfront properties, TIF revenue of \$2.7 million, refund to Waterfront apartments, fund balance, tax collections, 9% increase in hospitalization, and charter school costs. He added that if the district would want to raise taxes, they could only raise them 6.2% or 1.3 mills, which would be \$800,000 in revenue.

## **Operations**

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

- Facility rental requests as presented
- Fundraising requests as presented
- Award the bid for refuse hauling for 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 to Waste Management of PA, Inc., in the amount of \$2,279 per month and \$7.95 per yard when school is not in session
- Award the quote to J.C. Ehrlich, Inc., for extermination services for the district for 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 and authorize proper officers to sign agreement
- Award bid for student transportation services for 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 to PA Coach Lines, Inc., per their bid and to authorize the proper officers of the district to execute an agreement, approved by the solicitor
- Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with Burt Hill, Inc., for grease trap work at the high school and authorize proper officers of the district to sign
- Award installation of forced air gas furnaces to Hruska Plumbing for \$15,570.80 payable from the Capital Projects 2005 fund

- Authorize the Director of Facilities to clean out three storage trailers located at the high school, scrap items that are no longer of any use to the district and advertise for the selling of all other items in good condition
- Permit Mr. Keesecker to look into the closing in of the corridor/dock area between the middle school and the middle school cafeteria/auxiliary gym
- The advertising of bids for selling of the white pickup truck and white van, and in the event no bids are submitted for the vehicles, authorize the Director of Facilities to junk the vehicles at a salvage yard
- Advertising of bids for purchase of a food service truck and a pickup truck

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

### **Co-Curricular Leadership**

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

- Authorize payment of \$500 for the services of a DJ at the snow ball dance to be held at the Georgetown Centre on January 19, 2008
- Authorize payment of \$500 for the services of DJ Brian Bungard at the prom to be held at the Omni Westin William Penn Hotel on May 23, 2008
- Accept the grant for \$5,000 from the Mid-Atlantic Dairy Council for the purchase of two coolers form Penn Fixture and Supply for cafeteria operations

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

### **Special Assignments**

No report

## **Educational Leadership**

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

- The Educational Services Agreement between the Allegheny Intermediate Unit and the Steel Valley School District for the 2007-2008 school year and authorize the appropriate officials to execute said agreement
- The list of board meeting dates for 2008 (with a revision)

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

## **Personnel Management**

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

- Benjamin Flood as a day-to-day substitute teacher at the rate of \$75 per day for the first 30 days and \$100 per day thereafter for the 2007-2008 school year
- Dr. Dennis Zabelsky as school dentist for the 2008-2009 school year
- High school Rhythm Club stipend of \$1,589.07 for the 2007-2008 school year with a 5% increase each year of the current collective bargaining agreement
- Danielle Mays as a substitute in the food service department at \$7.15 per hour with no fringe benefits, contingent upon receipt of acceptable Act 34, Act 114 and Act 151 clearances, passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances
- Terri Vargo as a substitute secretary and instructional aide at the rate of \$7.15 per hour contingent upon receipt of acceptable Act 34, Act 114 and Act 151 clearances, passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances



- Accept, with regret, the resignation of Tracey Michalak from the position of High School French instructor effective at the close of business January 11, 2008

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

### **Citizen Comments**

- Ms. Donna Dreshman thanked Mr. John Yaklich for his thorough report on the budget. She asked if the salary range for the new business manager was set. Mr. Yaklich stated that \$83,000 was the amount budgeted. Ms. Dreshman added that she would like to see a business manager hired with school experience.
- There was discussion about grants and student scholarships. Mr. Colebank and Ms. Sabo discussed scholarships with the guidance counselors. Dr. Kinavey confirmed there are no floaters in the buildings as was in previous years. There is a part-time teacher who is used to cover classes in the morning.
- Ms. Dreshman asked if there had been any decision on Woodlawn. It was reported that a company did a feasibility study on purchasing the building and found it not to be profitable.
- Dr. Kinavey reported that the portrait of James Campbell would be hung as soon as a proper frame is purchased.

### **Adjournment**

**Mr. Ducar moved and Mrs. Kubancsek seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting.** On a voice vote all members present voted affirmatively.

Meeting ended at 9:05 p.m.