

**Regular Meeting  
Steel Valley School District Board of Directors  
Senior High School Conference Room  
February 26, 2008**

Meeting was called to order by President Mr. Tim McCallister at 7:30 p.m.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

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

Absent: Mr. Ducar and Mr. Ed McCallister

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

Flag Salute and Moment of Silence

**Acknowledgements**

The Board acknowledged the following deaths in the Steel Valley School District families: *Mrs. Ann Maran*, aunt of Winifred Stegena, Food Service at Barrett Elementary; *Miss Grace "Amazing Grace" Ekis*, niece of Nicole Asson, Park School teacher; *Gloria Robinson*, former instructional aide at Barrett Elementary and Woodlawn Schools; *Mr. John Krappweis*, uncle of Lois Habrat, secretary to the Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services; *Mr. Ralph Perry*, uncle of Therese Safko, paraprofessional at the Middle School.

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

## **Citizen Comments on Agenda Items**

- Ms. Donna Dreshman asked for copies of Item 1.1.04 (Treasurer's Reports for November and December 2007), Item 1.1.10 and 1.1.13 (Foundation for Education Statements ending December 2007 and January 2008), Item 2.1 and 2.2 (facility rental requests and fundraising requests).

Ms. Dreshman questioned the following items: Item 2.11 (the sale of Dennis Keesecker's 2005 GMC pick-up truck), is it legal to do this, Item 6.3 (list of substitute teachers) are all teachers certified. Yes is the response. And, are any relatives- and the response is no. Item 6.4 (substitute teacher) the item was pulled from the agenda because the teacher lives out of state. Item 6.7 (creation of a Visual Arts Club) can the district afford this position.

Ms. Dreshman would like a copy of the Settlement Agreement between the district and the Waterfront Apartments. Ms. Dreshman requested that the district check to see if a sound system was part of the auditorium renovation project. If so, when and why was it pulled from the project.

## **President's Comments**

Mr. Tim McCallister:

- Thanked the citizens for coming to the meeting and thanked Mr. Bill Campbell for his donation to the girls' and boys' sports programs. He also thanked Mrs. Jackman and Mr. Thompson for their many years of service to the children of the community.

## **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Kinavey:

- Announced that freshmen Miranda Ladik and Taylor Stevens, 8<sup>th</sup> grade student at the Middle School, were chosen to participate in the National Young Leaders State Conference held in Pittsburgh this week. Dr. Kinavey also recognized Extra Effort Award winners for the 2<sup>nd</sup> grading period at Steel

- Center Vo-Tech School: Dennis Lewis, Mike Cush, Samantha Grimes and Rasmiya Akbar
- Congratulations to Junior Tyrone Ezell for qualifying in the WPIAL wrestling finals. Spring sports will start on Monday, March 3, 2008.
  - Mrs. Sharon Fisher, Principal of Barrett Elementary School, reported that students walked over 40 miles during recess and were featured in a Subway commercial. The students recognized for their participation in the *Recess Walking Program* at Barrett Elementary School were Liam Dempsey, Danaysia Thurman, Brooklyn McCaskill, Karly Deutsch and Ryan Fossick.
  - Principal Dr. Beth Tully shared a PowerPoint presentation of the *Year in Review* at Park School. She highlighted Open House, Cookie and a Chat, Pioneer Map Project, Fire Prevention program, Fall Carnival, Parent University, Make-A-Wish Parade, Book Fairs, Most Improved Student program, Veterans' Day program, After School Tutoring, Family Reading Night, Winter Band and Choral Concert, Visits to Parkview Towers, Family Math Night, Crazy Hat Day, Intramurals, Artist-in-Residence and the Keystone Award.

### **Student Representative's Report**

Mr. Thomas Barefoot:

- The PSSA Writing tests have been completed. He reported that the assembly with motivational speaker Bill Sanders was inspirational. The girls' and boys' basketball teams qualified for the WPIAL playoffs.

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

Mr. Colebank:

- Reported that the 4Sight tests have been submitted to the Department of Education. When the scores are received, they will be given to the academic coaches and teachers to assist students with preparation for the PSSA tests.

- The science teachers received *Out of the Box* training by Apple Computer. The teachers are performing 30-45 additional professional development hours learning to use the new science equipment provide by Classrooms for the Future grant. The district will be applying for a Classroom for the Future grant for next year. The PSSA Science assessments will be conducted in 4<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grades this year.
- As part of the accreditation process, Mr. Colebank asked parents to complete the Middle States surveys on the Steel Valley website.

### **Director of Elementary Education**

Dr. Policastro:

- Announced that the Educational Leadership Committee of the Board met prior to the board meeting for the purpose of reviewing the K-5 science and math curriculum. She thanked the teachers and the School Board for their support. The next areas of curriculum writing will be K-5 Language Arts and Social Studies.
- The district is applying for Waterford National Best Practices School Site recognition for the Early Reading program at Franklin Primary Center.

### **Solicitor's Report**

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

- To accept the Settlement Agreement with the Waterfront Apartments that also resolves 23 tax appeals in the Waterfront TIF district
- To adopt a resolution expelling a minor female student under the terms and conditions of the Articles of Agreement dated January 25, 2008, between the Steel Valley School District and the minor student and her mother.

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

### **Board Meeting Minutes**

**Mrs. Terrick moved and Mrs. Bartko seconded the motion to approve the worksession minutes of January 8, 2008, and the regular meeting minutes of January 22, 2008.** Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bartko, Cannon, Kubancsek, Natale, Olson, Terrick and Tim McCallister. Abstain: Cannon on minutes of January 8, 2008 and Kubancsek on minutes of January 22, 2008. Negative: None. Motion carried.

### **Financial Management**

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

- General Fund invoices for January/February 2008 in the amount of \$612,766.29
- General Fund hand checks for January 2008 in the amount of \$436,330.13
- Payroll Funding Transfers for January 2008
- Treasurer's Reports for November and December 2007
- General Fund Revenue Report for December 2007
- General Fund Expenditure Report for December 2007
- Food Service invoices for January 2008 in the amount of \$62,613.62
- Capital Improvements 2000-2001 Statement of Income and Expenses for the month ending December 31, 2007
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending December 31, 2007
- Foundation for Education Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending December 31, 2007
- Capital Improvements 2000-2001 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending January 31, 2008

- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending January 31, 2008
- Foundation for Education Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending January 31, 2008
- Custodial hand checks in the amount of \$19,423.91
- Athletic hand checks in the amount of \$8,150.59
- Middle School hand checks in the amount of \$874.00
- Band Trip invoices in the amount of \$1,000.00
- Adopt the Act 183 agreement to join the Allegheny County Regional RWAN in July 2010 appointing IU3 to work on behalf of the Steel Valley School District to petition vendors for reduced costs while filing E-Rate documents for reimbursement
- Amendments to Section 2.1 and Section 4.1 of the Allegheny County Schools Health Insurance Consortium Agreement of September 1, 2003
- An appraisal of Pier One Imports for years 2001 through 2008 by Gary Bodnar at a cost of \$3,000
- The advertisement to solicit bids for the 2008-2009 school year by the Board Secretary for the following supplies: art, athletics, audio visual, general office, health, home economics, library, music, physical education, science and technology education
- Authorize the Board Secretary to advertise for bids for the District Security Camera Project

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

### **Operations**

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

- Facility rental requests as presented
- Fundraising requests as presented
- Agreement with Strategic Energy LLC to cover the timeframe from January 2009 to January 2011 between Strategic Energy LLC and the district

- Award a one-year HVAC maintenance agreement including the existing DDC system to Honeywell for \$99,500 and reject all other parts of bids
- Authorize the Board Secretary to advertise for bids for the high school Auditorium Sound System Renovation Project
- Authorize the Board Secretary to advertise for bids for the enclosure of the dock area at the high school/middle school
- Authorize the Board Secretary to advertise for bids for roof repairs at Park Elementary School
- Award a contract to Gymnasium Equipment Company at the quoted price of \$7,595 for installation of a roll-up divider curtain for the Senior High School gym, to be paid from the Capital Projects 2005 fund.
- The removal of the bleachers in the auxiliary gym/middle school cafeteria and authorize the advertising of selling them on the WPIAL website
- Authorize the sale of the 1992 GMC van to Rogers Auto Sales for \$60.00 and authorize the sale of the 1980 GMC pick-up truck to Ronald McKee for \$250.00
- The purchase of the 2005 GMC pick-up truck 4X4, automatic transmission from Dennis J. Keesecker for \$15,000 or the lesser amount owed on the pay off of the present loan

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bartko, Cannon, Kubancsek, 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:**

- The attendance of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and chaperones to Washington, DC, on May 9 & 10, 2008, at no cost to the district
- Accept a donation of \$42,820.70 from Mr. Bill Campbell to be used for miscellaneous girls' sports needs, new varsity football game jerseys and weight room improvements

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

### **Special Assignments**

Mr. Natale:

- Mr. Natale reported that several buildings on Amity Street leading into the Waterfront were sold for \$850,000. These buildings will be refurbished by the purchaser.

### **Educational Leadership**

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

- The Middle School Academic Handbook for the 2008-2009 school year as presented
- The High School Academic Handbook for the 2008-2009 school year as presented

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

### **Personnel Management**

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

- An unpaid leave of absence for Amber Thomas, High School/Middle School Nurse effective immediately for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year
- To accept, with regret, the retirement of Priscilla Jackman from the position of Elementary Literacy Coach effective at the end of the 2007-2008 school year, under the provisions set forth in Article XXIX of the collective bargaining agreement
- Kelli Buksar, Alyssa LaFankie, Catherine Banaszak, Katie Welch and Bobbi Santiago as day-to-day substitute teachers for the 2007-2008 school year

- Retroactively appoint Jessica Andzelik, Denise Stephenson and Benjamin Laughton to the position of tutor at a rate of \$30 per hour paid from the EAP Tutoring Grant
- Authorize the attendance of Dr. Mary Cay Rojtas-Milliner to the Pennsylvania School Librarian's Association Annual Conference held in Hershey, PA, on May 1-3, 2008, at a cost of \$423.00
- The creation of a Visual Arts Club and approve a new supplemental stipend for a High School Visual Arts Club sponsor effective for the 2007-2008 school year to be agreed upon by the Board and Steel Valley Education Association
- To accept the resignation of Bradley Thompson from the supplemental position of Band Director effective at the completion of the 2007-2008 school year
- To accept the resignation of Mark Rider from the supplemental position of High School Assistant Football Coach effective February 6, 2008
- A supplemental stipend of \$1,589.07 for the High School Bowling Sponsor for the 2007-2008 school year and a 5% increase each year of the current collective bargaining agreement
- Amy Lewkowicz as a substitute in the food service department at \$7.15 per hour and no fringe benefits, contingent upon receipt of an acceptable Act 114 clearance, 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: Bartko, Cannon, Kubancsek, Natale, Olson, Terrick and Tim McCallister. Negative: None. Motion carried.

### **Citizen Comments**

- Ms. Donna Dreshman asked if money is available for payment to the Waterfront as stipulated in the Settlement Agreement between the district and the Waterfront Apartments.  
Ms. Dreshman inquired as to whether there had been discussion of opening the swimming pool for public use.  
Ms. Dreshman questioned if a camera at Woodlawn would be included in the security camera bid.

## **Adjournment**

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

Meeting ended at 8:45 p.m.