

Worksession Meeting
Steel Valley School District Board of Directors
Senior High School Conference Room
September 18, 2007

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Cannon, President at 7:33 p.m.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

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

Absent: Mr. Ed McCallister, Mrs. Sloan (arrived at 8:10 p.m.)

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

Reports

Mr. Chip McCarthy, HT Capital Markets, distributed a Power Point document and reviewed last year's Swap agreement. He presented an option to push the start date out another year. The market has caused a large amount of uncertainty. It will take some time for the interest rates to normalize. In light of the current market, he stated it would not be wise to enter the transaction when you have to pay out money. Mr. McCarthy reviewed the advantages and disadvantages of amending the Swap. Currently, the district is enjoying a positive cash flow.

Mr. Chris Brewer will prepare the resolution to make the change. He needs one week in advance to place a legal advertisement for the voting meeting. First payment for the Swap is due October 1. The district can avoid paying the first payment by acting on September 25.

The board members agreed to place this item on the September 25 meeting agenda to amend the Swap. Mr. Brewer will advertise.

Items on the agenda were discussed as follows. No action was taken.

Minutes

No change to the meeting minutes.

Financial Management

Mr. Tim McCallister asked about the amount spent on cleaning supplies. There is a concern about over spending the budget. Mrs. Terrick asked if the cleaning supplies were bid, and are we getting the best price? It was noted that Mr. Keesecker handles the cleaning supply budget and preparing bids. Dr. Kinavey discussed with Mr. Keesecker the spending for supplies.

Mrs. Fedor had concerns about the amount of legal fees, and Dr. Kinavey noted that \$60,000 is the budgeted amount. It was discussed that Mr. William Campbell gave a donation for off-season conditioning costs.

Mrs. Fedor discussed the stipend of the band sponsor and that they work year round with the students. It was noted that supplementals were determined in contract negotiations. There was discussion about the new band uniforms.

Mrs. Cannon discussed an audit finding regarding the bidding process by the Foundation brought up by Mrs. Krisher during the audit review. Mr. Ducar noted that the Foundation does not follow the prevailing wages requirement. It was reported that we have not heard from the IRS about being exempt for certain items purchased by the Foundation.

Mrs. Fedor discussed the steps the district is required to follow from the audit review. Mrs. Fedor asked for an action plan with dates of implementation, how they will be performed and who will be responsible. Ms. Sabo and Mr. Yaklich are working on that plan. Dr. Kinavey has policies on fraud to share with the board.

Mrs. Sloan arrived at 8:10 p.m.

Operations

Mrs. Terrick discussed the bids for the metal detectors. Ms. Sabo reported that the district did not receive any bids on the metal detectors. The original company did not return the bid specifications. Mr. Fetzko noted that if no

bids are received after the 2nd advertisement, the district can call companies and negotiate for the purchase of metal detectors. Ms. Sabo will re-advertise the bids for metal detectors. Mr. Colebank discussed the interference from the HVAC equipment with the metal detectors. A possibility is to enclose the metal detectors in brick or stone. Dr. Kinavey will contact Lilli Leonardi from the FBI for more information.

Co-Curricular Leadership

Mr. Tim McCallister brought up concerns from band parents about the conflict of fundraisers for the band competition and the Monte Carlo Night for basketball. Mr. Heddleston asked about an electronic calendar that groups can review before setting dates. Mr. Colebank stated that the software is expensive, but he is looking into it. The Board would like to see a better check of event dates.

Special Assignments

Mrs. Sloan reported that the pool at Mon Valley is up and running. She attended the Enterprise Zone meeting and reported that there will be an official opening of the Grays Bridge in October. There will be a special recognition for Joe Chiodo in September. Many of the buildings on 7th Avenue have been purchased and renovated into loft apartments. The Straka Building has recently sold. The Christmas parade is Saturday, December 1.

Mrs. Fedor added that the organizers of the parade are attempting a world record for the most people at a parade dressed in black and gold. Our students will be participating. Volunteers are always needed to help.

Educational Leadership

No change to the agenda item.

Citizen Comments

Donna Dreshman asked if students receive receipts when depositing money into their Point of Sale account in the cafeteria. Mr. Colebank noted that reports are generated showing the deposits.

Ms. Dreshman asked how much was the district fined for late AFR documents. Ms. Sabo reported that the district incurred \$20,000 in fines. Ms. Dreshman also requested the amount of legal fees spent by the district on the Bichko case. Ms. Sabo reported that no invoices have been received to date.

Ms. Dreshman asked for the time frame on a settlement with Mr. Bichko. Mr. Fetzko reported that he has not heard from the party nor received a proposal. He will write to them tomorrow. The attorneys are drafting a settlement. Dr. Kinavey reported that Andrews & Price sent paperwork to Costello and Smith.

Mr. Ducar apologized to any special needs students who were offended by his comments comparing them with borough officials.

Adjournment

Mr. Heddleston moved and Mr. Tim McCallister seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The worksession ended at 8:45 p.m. Mr. Fetzko announced that the Board would be convening an executive session to discuss personnel and legal matters.