



Steel Valley School District Board Brief

**Board Meeting
January 22, 2008**

The Board acknowledged the passing of Gavin Robert Thomas, son of Amber Thomas, School Nurse; John F. "Bucky" Skeels, Jr., father of Beth Cannon, Board Member; Amanda Lynn Faux, former Steel Valley student; Sally H. Barabas, mother-in-law of Karen Barabas, Barrett Secretary; Alfred F. Schwoeble, father-in-law of Natalie Schwoeble, retired Director of Pupil Services; James F. Frank, Cousin of Susan Kaufold, Park School Teacher; Nancy Lee Watkins, aunt of Bobbi Vargo, Barrett Teacher; Dennis M. Hornak, Ironmen Football Coach and cousin of Denise Blasko, paraeducator at Park School; and Margaret Griffin, aunt of Denise Blasko. It was moved by Mrs. Terrick and seconded by Mr. Natale to place an appropriate selection of books into the Steel Valley School District Libraries in their memory .

President_s Comments

Mr. Tim McCallister introduced Mr. Mark Cherpak to the district as the Director of Operational Services/Board Secretary and welcomed him to Steel Valley. He also thanked the Campbell family for their continued contributions to the students in the Steel Valley community and the Bandbackers for the invitation to VegasNight.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kinavey reported that there are several student achievements to recognize:

Steel Center Extra Effort Awards for the 1st Quarter

Dana Clark	Chanel Pamplin
Cullen Bugel	Paris Green

Membership into the National Technical Honor Society

Andrew Breznai	Alyson Gamble
Jared Ducar	

2007 Marching Band Trophies and Awards Seniors:

Kyra Mangold, Shante Garner, Tyler Gennari, Kevin Dilworth, James Keenan, Adam Kagemann, Justin Ringeisen, Marie Hanus, Cassi Dobnak, Brittany Hanus, Scott Wallace

Why Families Matter Essay Award Winners sponsored by Green_s Funeral Home

Megan Moore _ Senior High School	Meghan Wolf _ Middle School
Cole Eged - Park School	Alyssa Mackey - Barrett School

Dr. Kinavey recognized the Steel Valley Board Members for their hours of work and dedication to the children and citizens of the school district. January is School Director Recognition Month, and the theme for 2008 is _School Directors Achieve for Public Education._ School governance is the

foundation of a strong public education system. Dr. Kinavey asked the citizens to give a special thank you to the men and women who serve.

The Board readmitted a minor male student to the Senior High School effective January 23, 2008.

Director of Academics, Information & Technology

Mr. Colebank reported the schedule for the upcoming PSSA:

February 11 PSSA Writing Grades 5, 8 & 11

There will be no school for students on Friday, February 15, due to a teacher professional development day. The district will host classroom teachers from other school districts on February 14-15 for "Out of the Box" technology training sponsored by Apple Computer and the Department of Education. Steel Valley's science teachers involved in the *Classrooms For The Future* grant will also participate.

The district is in the beginning stages of making application for Middle States Accreditation by gathering data, creating a portfolio and surveying students, parents and the public. The district is collecting data through web surveys. There is one student survey, 13 parent surveys and 12 non-parenting household surveys on the Steel Valley website (www.svsd.k12.pa.us).

Mr. Colebank reported that he has been approached by Mr. William Campbell's associates to begin Phase 2 of the district technology plan. Phase 2 will have an emphasis on the secondary schools and academic improvement.

Director of Elementary Education

Dr. Policastro announced that the Queen of Hearts would be reading to the Franklin Primary students on February 6. WQED will be filming this session, and Dr. Policastro is hoping that Steel Valley receives the grant for next year. Mrs. Cannon thanked Dr. Policastro for acquiring the grant from WQED this school year.

At the February 15 inservice day, K-2 teachers will be learning Reading strategies and teachers in grades 3-5 will receive training on SuccessMaker.

Dr. Policastro reported that the K-5 science curriculum is available, and the teachers continue their work on the pacing guides.

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.

Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the meeting minutes of the October 16 and 23, 2007 board meetings.

Financial Management

The Board approved the following financial items:

- 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
- 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
- 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

- 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

Operations

The Board approved the following items:

- Facility rental requests as presented
- Fundraising requests as presented
- Awarded 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
- Awarded quote to J. C. Ehrlich Co., Inc., for extermination services for the district for 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 and authorize proper officers to sign agreement
- Awarded 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
- Awarded installation of forced air gas furnaces to Hruska Plumbing for \$15,570.80 payable from the Capital Projects 2005 fund
- Authorized 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
- Permitted Mr. Keesecker to look into the closing in of the corridor/dock area between the middle school and the middle school cafeteria/auxiliary gym
- Advertising of bids for selling of the white pickup truck and white van, and in the event no bids are submitted for the vehicles and authorized 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

Co-Curricular Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Payment of \$500 for the services of a DJ at the snowball dance to be held at the Georgetown Centre on January 19, 2008
- 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
- Accepted the grant for \$5,000 from the Mid-Atlantic Dairy Council for the purchase of two coolers from Penn Fixture and Supply for cafeteria operations

Educational Leadership

The Board approved the Educational Services Agreement between the Allegheny Intermediate Unit and the Steel Valley School District for the 2007-2008 school year and authorized the appropriate officials to execute said agreement.

The Board approved the list of board meeting dates for 2008.

Personnel Management

The Board approved the following items:

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