



## Steel Valley School District Board Brief

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**Board Meeting  
January 25, 2011**

The Board acknowledged the passing of John Rapach, grandfather of Katie Pugh, Park School teacher; Wasil Karlovski, father of Judith Stokes, Park School teacher; Steven Berry, brother of Patty Semenko, substitute instructional aide and substitute secretary; Joy Harris, sister of Cynthia McEnheimer, former board member; Rose Macuga, grandmother of Bryan Macuga, Park School Principal; Karl Wenisch, father of Cecilia Wenisch, retired high school teacher; William Jacobs III, father of Kasia Jacobs, Park School student; Troy Penn, father of Tayari Penn, Park School student; Marie Denk, grandmother of Lori Mehalik, kindergarten teacher; Benita Farrington, former substitute teacher; Major Richard Patrick Carlisle, stepfather of Brandi Chalus, Park School Guidance Counselor; William Steimer, uncle of Beth Catterall, Barrett teacher; Beatrice Wehrer, food service worker at Barrett and Franklin Schools; Dwain E. Heath Jr., high school student; Clement C. Braszo, uncle of Ivan Braszo, middle school teacher; Robert Bolden, grandfather of Charlie Batch; Seth Halbleib, son of Lana Gainer, middle school teacher, and brother of Jessica Halblieb, middle school student; Michael John Totin Sr., father of Mary Ellen Totin, school nurse; Eileen Reiling, cousin of Karen Catterall, Barrett teacher and Beth Fowler, aunt of Ed Colebank, Director of Academics, Information & Technology. It was moved by Mrs. Kubancsek and seconded by Mr. Olsonto place an appropriate selection of books into the Steel Valley School District Libraries in their memory.

### **President's Report**

Mrs. Cannon congratulated Tom Olson on his election as Vice President to the Southeastern Special Schools Board of Directors.

She announced that the Alert Now system is operational and making automated calls to the homes of students and employees on the mornings of school delays and closings. Mrs. Cannon announced that on mornings of inclement weather, Dr. Kinavey makes the decision to close or delay school, and the School Board supports his decision.

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

Park Elementary School hosted an ice skating party at Schenley Park on January 17. The event was well attended and the next skating party is scheduled for February 23.

Students in grades 3-5 are currently preparing for the upcoming PSSA state assessments. Staff members are integrating components of the PSSA test into daily lesson plans and students are utilizing computer-based programs to aid in their preparation.

Students in grades 1-5 have recently completed the 4Sight, GMADE and Dibels assessments. Data from these tests are utilized in the formation of flexible student groups during the daily Academic Reinforcement period.

Park Elementary School hosted a Title I Family Math Night on January 27 with a paradise theme.

Middle school students and staff are preparing for the PSSA state assessments. The teachers are creating a video for the students on tips for preparing for the PSSA. The boys and girls groups at the

middle school have been successful in decreasing the number of behavior issues. Students are preparing and working hard for their upcoming Science Bowl competition.

The high school semi-formal was held at the Georgetown Centre on January 15. The senior ski trip was held at Seven Springs on January 27.

The high school guidance department will conduct its annual FAFSA clinic on February 9 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at the high school. The High School and the Educational Opportunity Center of Southwestern Pennsylvania are partnering to provide families with assistance in completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. The program is free. Families must sign up for a scheduled time slot by contacting Mr. Jason Novak at 412-464-3600 ext. 2521.

The high school will conduct a blood drive on Wednesday, February 2.

## Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kinavey read a resolution declaring Mark Raymond Hornak as a Friend of Steel Valley. Mr. Hornak was a 1974 Steel Valley Graduate and served 10 consecutive years on the Steel Valley Board of School Directors. Recently, President Barack Obama nominated Mr. Hornak to the U.S. District Court bench for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

Park School Student Rebecca Harhai read an essay on "What it Means to be an Ironman."

January is designated as School Director Recognition Month. School Board members were honored with a certificate for volunteering their time and talent for the betterment of public education in our community.

Math coaches Beth McCallister and Mary Ann Wassel recognized the following students for their achievement in the First in Math computer program. Elementary students have earned over 2,000 points using the program to enhance their math skills, and the middle school students have consistently earned the status of being in the "Top Five."

Barrett Elementary School  
Darnell Youngblood – grade 4  
Drayonna Miller – grade 4  
Cornell Ford – grade 4  
Josh Fossick – grade 4  
Jamie Fossick – grade 4  
Gerard Lawrence – grade 4  
Haley Reber – grade 4  
Latrece Brimage – grade 4  
Jane Wright – grade 4  
Quelyn Holt – grade 4  
Isaiah Gilliam – grade 5  
Daeshawn Washington – grade 4  
Derrick Chaffin – grade 5  
Jerred Duncan – grade 4  
Michael Bonin – grade 4  
Trinity Wilson – grade 4  
Middle School  
James Scotillo  
Lizzy Csonka  
Derrick Wilkins  
Jessica Chau  
Brandon Ivaska  
Paul Balaban

Park Elementary School  
Paige Butko – grade 3  
John Tomasic – grade 3  
Tyler Coppola – grade 3  
Ella Kornacki – grade 4  
Olivia Wellman – grade 4  
Josh Hansen – grade 4  
Brooke Batyi – grade 5  
Jordan Morgart – grade 4  
Lucas Vargo – grade 4  
Drew Votedian – grade 4  
Devin Morrison – grade 4  
Terry Leas – grade 2  
Hunter Martinosky – grade 3  
Jaylin Brown – grade 4  
Jacob Bayus – grade 4  
Anthony Perry – grade 2  
Jordan Kraft – grade 4  
Kayla Hartnett – grade 4  
Matthew Wellman – grade 3  
Angela Fichter – grade 2

## **Director of Pupil Personnel, Special Services and Elementary Education**

Mrs. Borges announced that a Special Education Parent Training including information on the parent-child interaction therapy would be held on February 22 at 5:30 p.m. at the high school.

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

Mr. Colebank reported that report cards were distributed January 28. Middle school and high school students are selecting courses for next school year.

### **Solicitor's Report**

The Board adopted a resolution authorizing, for a limited period of time, a compromise of interest due on delinquent real estate taxes, interest, establishing a standards to be eligible for said compromise allowing the delinquent tax collector or his designee to review the application to determine which application meets the standards required, and the authority to accept such compromise, or petition the Court of Common Pleas to accept a compromise where appropriate

### **Meeting Minutes**

The Board approved the meeting minutes of the November 30, 2010 worksession, December 7, 2010 re-organization meeting and the December 7, 2010 regular meeting.

### **Financial Management**

The Board approved the following financial items:

- General Fund invoices for December 2010 & January 2011 in the amount of \$1,011,033.41
- General Fund hand checks for November 2010 in the amount of \$367,999.38
- General Fund hand checks for December 2010 in the amount of \$498,251.30
- Payroll Funding Transfers for November & December 2010
- Treasurer's Report for November 2010
- Food Service invoices for November & December 2010 in the amount of \$76,514.06
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending November 30, 2010
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending December 31, 2010
- Foundation for Education Technology Account Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending November 30, 2010
- Foundation for Education Technology Account Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending December 31, 2010
- Foundation for Education Barrett Project Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending November 30, 2010
- Foundation for Education Barrett Project Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending December 31, 2010
- Custodial hand checks in the amount of \$63,996.23
- Athletic hand checks in the amount of \$11,320.00
- Middle School hand checks in the amount of \$16,008.62
- Band Trip hand checks in the amount of \$2,084.47
- Adopted the resolution, which indicates that the district will not increase the rate of tax for the support of the school district, above the Act 1 index of 1.9%, for the 2011-2012 fiscal year
- One-month extension of the district's school leaders' legal liability insurance coverage for the period February 8, 2011, through and including March 8, 2011, at a cost of \$1,126.00 through School Boards Insurance Company of Pennsylvania, Inc.
- Accepted the Single Audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, from Maher Duessel

## **Operations**

The Board approved the following items:

- Facility rental requests as presented, except deleted Permit No. 3968 and waived the charges noted on Permit No. 3964 and assessed a \$500 deposit for use of the facility
- Re-appointed Vincent Natale as the Steel Valley Board of School Directors' representative for a two-year term on the Steel Valley Enterprise Zone Corporation Board of Directors through December 31, 2012

## **Co-Curricular Leadership**

- The Board approved the fundraising requests as presented.

## **Educational Leadership**

The Board approved the following items:

- 2011-2012 High School Academic Handbook
- 2011-2012 Middle School Academic Handbook
- YMCA Starfish After School Program for 2nd grade students at Park and Barrett Elementary Schools
- Accepted the donation of the new Lifetime Complete Basketball System for Park Elementary School on behalf of the Dugan Family
- 2010-2011 High School and Middle School PSSA schedules

## **Personnel Management**

The Board approved the following items:

- Accepted, with regret, the retirement of Robert Capone from the position of librarian at Park Elementary School effective at the end of the 2010-2011 school year in accordance with Article XXIX of the current collective bargaining agreement
- Accepted, with regret, the retirement of William Gentile from the position of elementary music teacher at Park Elementary School effective at the end of the 2010-2011 school year in accordance with Article XXIX of the current collective bargaining agreement
- Accepted, with regret, the retirement of Karen Catterall from the position of instructional resource teacher at Barrett Elementary School effective at the end of the 2010-2011 school year in accordance with Article XXIX of the current collective bargaining agreement
- Concurrent family medical leave of absence for Elizabeth Hanson beginning February 1, 2011, and a one-year child rearing leave of absence commencing after the birth of her child, which is on or about March 13, 2011
- Request from Cindy DeLuca for an unpaid leave of absence through May 10, 2011
- Erica Simmons, Christina Scotillo and Melissa Conrad as day-to-day substitute teachers for the 2010-2011 school year at the rate of \$75 per day for the first 30 days and \$100 per day beginning with the 31st day
- Supplemental appointments as presented for the 2010-2011 school year
- Kerry J. Riley as a substitute custodian at the hourly rate of \$8.75 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed within 30 days

