

Regular Meeting
Steel Valley School District Board of Directors
Senior High School Library
October 29, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Kiefer, President, at 7:00 p.m.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

Mr. Bajus, Mrs. Cannon, Mr. Olson, Mrs. Steele, Mr. Terrick,
Mrs. Yuhas, Ms. Youngblood and Mrs. Kiefer

Absent: Mrs. Ballas (arrived 7:17 p.m.)

Also present: Mr. Wehrer, Mr. Fetzko, Mr. Zenone, Mr. Colebank and
Mrs. Borges

Flag Salute

Acknowledgements

The Board acknowledged the following deaths in the Steel Valley School District families: *Donna Gump*, mother-in-law of Tim Vickers, high school math teacher; *Catherine Shanoski*, grandmother of Michelle Maddigan, high school science teacher and mother of Charlotte Asmonga, substitute food service worker; *Perry Zirkle*, uncle of Randy Zirkle, high school teacher; *Codi Joyce*, 2010 Steel Valley graduate; and *Ryan W. Conley*, West Mifflin Class of 2016.

Ms. Youngblood moved and Mrs. 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: Bajus, Cannon, Olson, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas, Youngblood and Kiefer. Negative: None. Motion carried.

President's Report

Mrs. Kiefer:

- Congratulated Chelsea Rohan, homecoming queen; and her court: 1st runner up Taylor Claus. 2nd runner up Saline Auberzinsky, 3rd runner up Ally Reichert and 4th runner up Cassawndra Brugos.
- Congratulations to the Band and Color Guard for taking 1st place in the Section 8 Championship Tournament of Bands on Saturday. They also won for Visual, High Ensemble, High Percussion and High Music. They will compete in the state championship in Hershey on Sunday, November 1.
- The Varsity Football team clinched a spot in the WPIAL playoffs. Congratulations to the players and coaches.
- Congratulations to Coach Steele for being named High School Coach of the Week by the Pittsburgh Steelers for the Ironmen's Week 5 victory over Freeport.
- Congratulations to the fall sports teams for successful season: Varsity Girls volleyball, Cross Country, Varsity Boys Soccer, Varsity Girls Soccer and the Varsity Golf team.

Student Representatives' Reports

Ms. Abbey Caspar

Ms. Elena Chaffin

- Reported that students in grades 6-8 are actively utilizing their iPad devices to assist with coursework and complete projects using preloaded applications, such as Keynote, Garage Band and iTunes U.
- The fall sports season has concluded, and the girls and boys soccer teams and the girls volleyball team showed great improvement. The middle school basketball team is preparing for its upcoming season and first game next week.
- Reported that the high school had a wonderful homecoming week. The majority of the students participated in all of the weekly themes; wearing pajamas, different colors, superhero outfits and sporting maroon and gold. The homecoming carnival, powder puff game and the bonfire were well attended and enjoyed by the students, faculty and community.
- Rachel's Challenge program is coming to Steel Valley on November 12. Rachel Scott was the first student victim in the Columbine tragedy, and her story has inspired many to acts of kindness. There will be a community event as well as student assemblies and leadership training for students.

- The Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) has been initiating safe driving messages for students and staff, which includes a seat belt and never getting in the car as a drunk driver or with a drunk driver.
- High school teachers are continuing iPad training and completed the digital citizenship training. The students are looking forward to getting iPads into their hands.
- Writing Across the Curriculum initiative has begun in the English, Social Studies and Science departments. The goal is for writing expectations to be consistent across the disciplines to assist students on the Keystone exams and increase fluency in AP and CHS courses.
- The Student Government is sponsoring a “Glow Dance” and a winter semiformal. The semiformal is scheduled for January 16 at Westwood Golf Club.
- A blood drive is being held on November 13.
- Congratulations to the marching band for winning the section tournament.
- Franklin Primary center, the fire department taught students what to do in case of an emergency. A seat belt safety check occurred on October 12. Kindergarten students participated in a fall festival parade and party on October 29. The Queen of Hearts shared stories with students on October 22.
- At Barrett Elementary School, October was a busy month. Students who had not been tardy or absent during September were rewarded with extra gym time on October 2.
- Barrett hosted the District Health Fair on October 8. Forty families participated in the flu shot clinic and Optical Academy. The Optical Academy will return on December 7 to complete eye exams for 75 students.
- The Homestead Fire Department visited Barrett on October 13 reminding students to know the fire exits and safety plans in their homes.
- Students enjoyed participating in the homecoming festivities. Thanks to Denise Barron and Jess Andzelik for creating and hosting a bag toss game at the homecoming carnival.
- A Parent University Title I Family Night was held on October 21.
- Barrett students paraded to the Munhall Retirement Residence as part of the fall festival on October 30.
- Students participated in the tree planting ceremony on October 21 to beautify 12th Avenue along with the Creating Value students and representatives from the Western PA Conservatory.

- At Park School, students participated in a school wide kick off assembly, fire safety day and a pep assembly. Two fall movie nights for students were held on October 28 and 30, and a fall dance for grades 4-5 occurred on October 29.
- The Veterans Day assembly was held on November 6. Park School is holding a food drive from October 20-November 20.
- The after school programs are doing well with a lot a student participation.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Wehrer:

- Since 1983, the Pennsylvania School Boards Association has been recognizing the contributions of dedicated local school directors with long-term service. School directors are first recognized when they reach 8 years of service and again every 4 years thereafter, through the Honor Roll of School Board Service.
- On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, Mr. Wehrer presented Certificates of Appreciation to school directors Beth Cannon with 12 years of service and Tom Olson with 8 years of service. He thanked them for their commitment and dedication to the students, staff and community in the Steel Valley School District.
- For 181 years, the welfare and future of the children of our Commonwealth has been entrusted to local School Boards by the Free Public School Act of 1834. The Board acknowledged Beth Cannon, Donna Kiefer and Donald Bajus for their commitment to our school district and our community and dedicated them Friends of Steel Valley.
- In honor and recognition of their distinguished service to the children and citizens of the Steel Valley School District, a shelf of books shall be placed in the Senior High School Library in honor of Beth Cannon, Donna Kiefer and Donald Bajus. A Steel Valley Gold Card was presented to each for free admittance to all sporting events and activities.
- Mr. Wehrer congratulated Band Director Mike Sisley and the marching band students for their Section 8 Championship. The students presented six trophies to the Board. Mr. Sisley praised the students for their dedication and commitment.
- Homecoming week was full of activities this year, and school spirit was tremendous. Mr. Wehrer thanked all those who had a part in making homecoming week a success. He thanked Shawn and Beth McCallister for organizing the homecoming carnival, Dennis Keesecker for setting up the

bonfire, and the Munhall Fire Department for assisting with the bonfire and providing a safe environment.

- Mr. Wehrer announced that the fall parade at Franklin Primary Center was held today.
- He invited the public to an inspirational evening at Steel Valley High School on Thursday, November 12, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the auditorium to hear the message and writings of Rachel Joy Scott, the first victim of the Columbine school shootings in 1999. The event is sponsored by Students Against Destructive Decisions and Student Government. The presentation hopes to inspire individuals to replace acts of violence, bullying and negativity with acts of respect, kindness and compassion.

Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services Report

Mrs. Borges:

- Announced that the annual Veterans Day Program would be held on November 11 beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the high school auditorium. On November 6 at 9:00 a.m., Park Elementary School will host veterans for its annual Veterans Day Program, and Barrett will recognize our veterans during its program starting at 1:00 p.m.

Director of Academics, Information & Technology Report

Mr. Colebank:

- Reported that report cards would be distributed on November 11. He noted that 21 members of the Steel Valley Geek Squad were trained on the iPads by Apple.

Citizen Comments on Agenda Items

None

Board Meeting Minutes

Mr. Terrick moved and Mr. Olson seconded the motion to approve the following meeting minutes of September 21, 2015, and September 24, 2015. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas,

Cannon, Olson, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas, Youngblood and Kiefer. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Solicitor's Report

Mr. Olson moved and Mrs. Cannon seconded the motion to adopt a resolution establishing a process for enforcing distraints to enable the school district to collect real estate taxes and establish a civil penalty for tenants in possession of the realty who refuse to comply with a distraint notice. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Bajus, Cannon, Olson, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas, Youngblood and Kiefer. Negative: None. Motion carried.

1.0 Financial Management

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

- 1.1.01 General Fund invoices for October 2015 in the amount of \$1,142,508.58 and two invoices from Donald Fetzko for arbitration fees, totaling \$1,800 for a total amount of \$1,144,308.58
- 1.1.02 General Fund hand checks for September 2015 in the amount of \$1,032,156.86
- 1.1.03 General Fund Revenue Report for September 2015
- 1.1.04 General Fund Expenditure Report for September 2015
- 1.1.05 General Fund Trial Balance for September 2015
- 1.1.06 Food Service Revenue Report for September 2015
- 1.1.07 Food Service Expenditure Report for September 2015
- 1.1.08 Food Service invoices for September 2015 in the amount of \$48,838.61
- 1.1.09 Food Service Balance Sheet for September 2015
- 1.1.10 Payroll Funding Transfers for September 2015
- 1.1.11 Capital Projects Statement of Income and Expense for month ending September 30, 2015
- 1.1.12 High School Student Activities Balance Sheet for September 2015
- 1.1.13 Middle School Activities Balance Sheet for September 2015
- 1.1.14 Athletics Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expense Statements for September 2015

- 1.2 Change orders to Allegheny City Electric in the amount of \$2,708,61 and Murin & Murn, Inc. in the amount of \$13,980.00
- 1.3 Payments from Capital Projects Fund to Tower Engineering \$285.00; Kudravy Architects \$2,200.00; Allegheny City Electric \$24,837.14 and Honeywell \$146,153.14
- 1.4 Real estate refund to John G. Thomas, Lot & Block 133-F-116, for year 2015, as a result of a change of status to exempt in the amount of \$446.78 and to Wells Fargo, Lot & Block 132-M-233, for year 2015, as a result of an overpayment in the amount of \$1,923.34
- 1.5 SSIS proposal and direct the solicitor to draft a three-year contract from July 1, 2016, through June 30, 2019. The rates for the new agreement are: Hourly Rate Supervisor \$15.59; Hourly Rate Non-Supervisor \$14.64 Overtime Rate – Supervisor \$23.39; Overtime Rate – Non-Supervisor Rate \$21.96
- 1.6 Adopt a resolution to acquire realty in the Borough of Homestead designated as Block 130 R, Lot 153
- 1.7 Adopt a resolution to acquire realty in the Borough of Homestead designated as Block 130 R, Lot 00233
- 1.8 The Postretirement Benefit Valuation Report submitted by Willis
- 1.9 Deleted
- 1.10 Adopt an Agreement between the school district and Legal Tax Service for the continuation of collection of the district's delinquent realty taxes and delinquent 511 taxes for a commission rate of five (5%) percent for an initial term of five (5) years
- 1.11 Adopt a resolution authorizing the assessment of penalties, interest, costs, fines, charges, expenses and fees incurred, including reasonable attorney fees, in the collection of any delinquent taxes

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Cannon, Olson, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas, Youngblood and Kiefer. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Abstain: Ballas on Item 1.5.

Comment by Ballas on bid contract.

2.0 Operations

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

- 2.1 Facility rental requests as presented
- 2.2 Purchase of a Van to be paid out of Capital Projects Fund in the amount not to exceed \$27,500.00. This will be a piggyback transaction with CWCOG
- 2.3 Tower Engineering to create High School DDC Controls bid documents and the respective engineering that will go into those documents. The cost of engagement will not exceed \$27,900.00.
- 2.4 Purchase of three fireproof security cabinets not to exceed \$8,250.00 to be paid out of Capital Projects Fund
- 2.5 The proposal from DES for \$20, 852.47 for the security camera projects at William V. Campbell Athletic Field to be funded from Capital Projects

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Cannon, Olson, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas, Youngblood and Kiefer. Negative: None. Motion carried.

3.0 Co-Curricular Leadership

Mr. Bajus moved and Mr. Terrick seconded the motion to approve the following:

- 3.1 Fundraising requests as presented
- 3.2 Request for the History Club field trip to Philadelphia, Hershey, and Gettysburg on June 4, 5, 6, 2016, at no cost to the school district.
- 3.3 The Future is Mine club field trip to the Annual Conference at the Pittsburgh Marriot City center on April 21 & 22, 2016
- 3.4 Payment of \$500 for the services of a DJ at the semi-formal winter dance to be held at the Westwood Golf Club on January 16, 2016
- 3.5 Create a new student activity, Middle School Media Club

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Cannon, Olson, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas, Youngblood and Kiefer. Negative: None. Motion carried.

4.0 Special Assignments

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

- 4.1 Hold first reading of policies in Section 600 of the Steel Valley Board Policy Manual. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Cannon, Olson, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas, Youngblood and Kiefer. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Cannon, Olson, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas, Youngblood and Kiefer. Negative: None. Motion carried.

5.0 Educational Leadership

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

- 5.1 A donation of library books for the Franklin Primary Center from the Class of 2000 Reunion Committee in the amount of \$173.08
- 5.2 A donation of \$1,300.00 from the Homestead Lion's Club to the High School Gridiron Club

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Cannon, Olson, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas, Youngblood and Kiefer. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Mr. Olson thanked the Class of 2000 for Lions Club donation.

6.0 Personnel Management

Ms. Youngblood moved and Mr. Terrick seconded the motion to approve the following:

- 6.1 Appoint Rachel Sprouse as a substitute Secondary Assistant Principal at the Middle School at a per diem rate of \$350.00, no fringe benefits, retroactive to October 2, 2015
- 6.2 Appoint Aaron Johnson as Acting Principal at Barrett Elementary School retroactive to October 12, 2015
- 6.3 Accept the resignation of Cheryl Chapman from the position of substitute teacher retroactive to October 19, 2015

- 6.4 Raquel Gaviria, Danielle White and Kaitlin Hensel as day-to-day substitute teachers for the 2015-2016 school year at the approved daily rate, contingent upon compliance with Act 168 of 2014
- 6.5 Accept the resignation of Tracy Findlay from the position of KtO Reading Tutor at Barrett Elementary School retroactive to September 25, 2015
- 6.6 Appoint Kacie Titmus to the position of KtO Reading Tutor at Barrett Elementary School for the 2015-2016 school year retroactive to October 7, 2015
- 6.8 Moved to Superintendent's Report
- 6.9 Create one (1) part-time districtwide cafeteria monitor position for the 2015-2016 school year
- 6.10 Create two 920 districtwide paraeducator positions to support the IEPs of students with disabilities
- 6.11 Accept the resignation of Judi Besnak from the position of general worker in the high school cafeteria retroactive to September 25, 2015
- 6.12 Appoint Dylan Titmus to the position of full-time custodian with all benefits of the current collective bargaining agreement, contingent upon passing the district's health examination and mandated screening for controlled substances and compliance
- 6.13 Appoint Susan R. Titmus as a districtwide paraeducator at a rate of \$10.10 per hour, contingent upon passing the district's health examinations and mandated screening for controlled substances effective on or about October 30, 2015
- 6.14 The volunteers listed for the 2015-2016 school year, contingent upon receipt of Act 34 clearance, Act 151 clearance and a signed Verification of Volunteer form (or FBI federal criminal history clearance)
- 6.15 Approve Dondi Hartman, Tim Wilder and Robert Mangis as substitute custodians at the approved rate contingent upon receipt of all clearances, passing the district's health examination and mandated screening for controlled substances, and compliance with Act 168 of 2014

Items 6.1 through 6.6 and Item 6.8 through 6.15

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively:

Bajus, Ballas, Cannon, Olson, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas, Youngblood and Kiefer.

Negative: None.

6.7 Appoint Jay Latinmire to the supplemental position of 9th Grade Boys Basketball Coach and Aaron Felder to the position of Assistant Boys Varsity Basketball Coach and approve Angela Hafen as a middle school cheerleading volunteer contingent upon receipt of all clearances and compliance with act 168 of 2014

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively:

Unanimous votes on cheerleading volunteer

Six affirmative on basketball: Bajus, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas, Youngblood, and Kiefer.

Negative on basketball: Ballas, Cannon and Olson.

Motion carried.

Mr. Olson moved and Mrs. Ballas seconded the motion to open the basketball position.

Mr. Terrick moved and Mrs. Steele seconded to table the motion to open the basketball position. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas, Youngblood and Kiefer.

Negative: Ballas, Cannon and Olson. Motion carried.

Mrs. Steele moved and Mrs. Yuhas seconded the motion to approve to have an investigation of the basketball coach. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Cannon, Olson, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas. Negative: Youngblood and Kiefer. Motion carried.

Citizen Comments

- Donna Dreshman – comment tree of Barrett
- Mr. McCallister – posting on social media

Adjournment

Meeting ended at 8:44 p.m.

