



Steel Valley School District Board Brief

**Board Meeting
May 26, 2016**

The School Board acknowledged the passing of **Carmen R. Marini**, father of Amanda Olson, middle school math teacher; **Igino Giordano**, uncle of John Zenone, Director of Operational Services/Board Secretary; **Larry Oleksa**, former school board member; **Joycelyn C. May**, mother-in-law of Mickey Pavasko, Barrett custodian; **Nancy Gregg**, mother-in-law of Bob Mangis, high school custodian, and aunt of Tammy Law, 2nd grade teacher at Park School; **Barbara Witt**, mother-in-law of Steven Singer, middle school language arts teacher; **Annette Mszyco**, aunt of Amy Selik, special education teacher at Barrett; **Carol Janes**, sister-in-law of Donna Kiefer, former board member; **Charles Saltrik**, uncle of Denny Keesecker; **Anita White**, cousin of Denny Keesecker, Director of Facilities; and **Melissa Anderson**, mother-in-law of Leslie Hairston, paraeducator at Franklin Primary Center. It was moved by **Mr. Bulger** and seconded by **Mr. Colasante** to place an appropriate selection of books into the school libraries in their memory.

President's Report

Ms. Colette Youngblood congratulated the seniors for their outstanding academic achievements and recognition at the Senior Honor Awards Banquet and wished them well in their pursuits. She thanked **Charlie Batch** and the **Best of the Batch Foundation** for giving the Barrett students a star-studded banquet with a delicious dinner, photo booth and recognition ceremony. The Best of the Batch Foundation transformed Barrett's gym into a beautiful banquet hall for the families. She also reported that the rededication of West Field was well attended and thanks to all who made the event special.

Student Representative's Report

Student Representative **Abbey Caspar** reported that Barrett Elementary School held a Creativity Fair at its annual Carnival on May 12. More than 100 families experienced science experiments, an Art show, print making, food, carnival games and interactions with local agencies for summer programming opportunities.

The Doris Hyde Merit Day Banquet was sponsored by **BYN Mellon** and the **Best of the Batch Foundation** on May 18. The Best of the Batch volunteers transformed Barrett's gymnasium into the Oscars for the evening. Students and their families were invited to dinner, an awards presentation and a band performance. The event was absolutely spectacular with over 300 people in attendance.

Kindergarten students will visit Barrett on May 25 for a tour of the building and to meet the first grade staff. The Barrett All School Revue will take place on June 2.

Students who had no discipline referrals participated in the Pie in the Face and Silly String activity on June 9. As part of PBIS this year, daily drawings for students who have earned the principal's PAW cards will take place May 31 with two bikes being given away. Donations were secured from Target and Lowes.

The final Parent PAW Committee meeting for the 2015-2016 school year will take place on May 31 followed by a 6:00 p.m. PTO meeting. Six parents have committed to meet during the year to review school data and develop a plan to foster a more culturally responsive environment for Barrett.

The following field trips were taken by Barrett students this year:

1 st grade	Zoo
2 nd grade	Museum
3 rd grade	Heinz Field
4 th grade	PNC Park
5 th grade	Bounce U

At Park Elementary School, students from each grade have walked to the Franklin Primary Center pond and garden, and each grade planted different vegetable seeds in the garden.

There was a full house in the auditorium for Park School's All School Revue. The student performances were outstanding. Also, students did a terrific job in the Band and Chorus concert.

Transition day went well for the fifth grade students. Third graders did an awesome job running the Munhall Borough Council meeting as part of Borough Days.

The first graders had fun on their field trip to the zoo. Fourth graders will be going to Laurel Caverns for their field trip. Second graders are going to Triple B Farms, and the fifth graders will be going to the Carnegie Science Center and Fort Pitt Museum. The third grade field trip will be to the Carnegie Science Center.

Upcoming events at Park Elementary School are Celebration in Education, 5th Grade Merit Day, and Field Day. The kindergarten students will be touring Park School next week.

The Middle School Awards Ceremony was held on May 24. Students who achieved Honors, High Honors and Highest Honors with Distinction were recognized. Students who had perfect attendance during the school year were also honored.

Sports physicals will be conducted at the school on June 1, 2 and 6.

Abbey Caspar reported that the Senior Honor Awards Banquet was an amazing night. The guest speaker was inspiring. It was wonderful to see the families, students and community come together to celebrate academic success.

Congratulations to the boys baseball and girls softball teams and their coaches on successful seasons. Both the baseball and softball teams made it to the playoffs!

Teacher Appreciation Week was filled with treats and small tokens of thanks for the faculty and staff. They are appreciated more than one week out of the year, but this week allowed them to feel appreciated and supported.

The West Field rededication ceremony was beautiful. Thank you to the high school students and staff who came out or simply attended to show their support.

Twenty-eight students were inducted into the National Honor Society at the annual ceremony.

Keystone exams were given in the areas of Algebra, Biology and Literature. Finals will take place next week. Commencement will be on June 10.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Wehrer thanked both of the student representatives for serving this year. **Abbey Caspar** has served two years as the Student Representative to the School Board. **Elena Chaffin** served this role during the 2015-2016 school year. She is graduating with high honors on June 10. Congratulations to Elena and we wish her well as she pursues higher education. He also wished Abbey Caspar a happy birthday. She is celebrating her 17th birthday today.

The 45th annual commencement for the Steel Valley Senior High School will be held on Friday, June 10, at 7:00 p.m. at the William V. Campbell Athletic Field. Mr. **Noah Alexandroff** will give the Senior Academic Address as the 2016 Valedictorian, and Salutatorian **Allyson Reichert** will give the welcome address. Our Outstanding Career and Technical Education student, **Anthony Brookins**, will give the Steel Center Career and Technical Education Excellence Address.

We are honored to have **Richard Walker**, a Distinguished Alumnus from Steel Valley High School Class of 1992 address the Class of 2016. Mr. Walker co-founded Impellia, a sports medicine and digital healthcare technology company focusing on injury-prevention, performance and rehab-focused technology. Mr. Walker earned his MBA and Juris Doctorate.

Mr. Wehrer invited the families and friends of the graduates as well as members of the Steel Valley Community to attend the commencement ceremonies on June 10. This event is open to the community. Parking is limited at the field; shuttle buses will be available from the high school parking lot starting at 6:00 p.m. and returning to the high school at the close of the ceremonies.

The District will honor its 2015-2016 retirees at its Annual Retirement Breakfast on Monday, June 13, in the High School Cafeteria beginning at 8:00 a.m. Our distinguished retirees are:

Susan Olsen	High School Biology Teacher
Sandy Fry	5 th Grade Teacher at Park Elementary School
Jean Kearns	Cook at Park School

There will be no school on Monday as we recognize the Memorial Day holiday. Tuesday, June 7, is the Kennywood Picnic, and there will be no school on that day. Mr. Wehrer wished everyone a safe and memorable day at the park. The last day of school for students will be Friday, June 10.

The **Girls Softball** team advanced to the WPIAL playoffs. If the team wins on Tuesday, they play in the state playoffs. Go Lady Ironmen.

The **Boys Baseball** team captured the Section 4-AA title this year. They advanced to the first round of playoffs but lost to Riverside in the quarterfinals.

Mr. Wehrer announced that the district submitted the next writing for the XQ Challenge grant. This round required a lot of thinking and writing of essays. Steel Valley is one of 348 districts being considered for the grant. In July, we will find out if we are in the top 50 schools selected.

Thanks to those who came out to West Field for the rededication. Mr. Wehrer was pleased to see how the field looks.

Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services Report

Mrs. Borges announced that the Munhall Memorial Day Parade would be held on May 30 beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the Steel Valley High School. On June 2, the Barrett students will perform in the All School Revue, and on June 3, Park School will hold its academic awards ceremony for 5th grade.

On Tuesday, **Mikayla's Voice** visited with one of our 2nd grade students and her classmates at Park School. The class made a mural on canvas entitled "Wheels of Friendship."

Director of Academics, Information and Technology Report

Mr. Colebank announced that students are to turn in their iPad, case, charging block and cable and ear buds at the end of the school year.

Mr. Colebank stated that the teachers liked the changes to GradeBook viewed on the webinar. We have purchased a teacher resource, Board Works, for elementary and secondary subject areas. We will be testing specific subject areas next year.

Solicitor's Report

The Board adopted the Agreement of Representation with the Levin Legal Group and engaged Levin Legal Group to represent the district in connection with the Pennsylvania Coalition of Public Charter Schools, et al. v. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Education and The Secretary of Education, Pedro A. Rivera, et al.

Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the following meeting minutes:

- April 18, 2016 worksession meeting
- April 21, 2016 regular meeting

Financial Management

The Board approved the following financial items:

- General Fund invoices for April 2016 in the amount of \$692,383.74
- General Fund hand checks for April 2016 in the amount of \$385,281.30
- General Fund Revenue Report for April 2016
- General Fund Expenditure Report for April 2016
- General Fund Balance Sheet for April 2016
- Food Service invoices for April 2016 in the amount of \$41,940.55
- Payroll Funding Transfers for April 2016
- Capital Projects Statement of Income and Expense for month ending April 30, 2016
- High School Student Activities Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for April 2016
- Middle School Activities Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for April 2016
- External Groups Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for April 2016
- Athletics Fund Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for April 2016
- Awarded school supplies bid list to the selected vendors at a total amount of \$10,667.38
- Declined all athletic bids and re-advertised these bid items
- Payments from the Capital Projects Fund to Honeywell in the amount of \$25,111.04 and to Tower Engineering in the amounts of \$400.10 and \$570.00
- Implemented a 500 megabyte Internet uplink provided by DQE following the rules and guidelines of the E-rate form 470 replacing the 10 megabyte uplink from Expedient that will terminate June 2016
- Renewed the AIU Natural Gas Renewal Agreement for the period September 1, 2016, through August 31, 2017, in the amount of (\$0.43)/Dth
- Purchased, through CoStar, network upgrades to Presidio Network Solutions in the amount of \$62,785.50

Operations

The Board approved the following items:

- Facility rental requests as presented
- Entered into a sixty-month lease for a mail management system at a monthly cost of \$176.44 or \$529.32 per quarter. The lease equipment is titled DM400C Digital Mailing System.
- Adopted a Memorandum of Agreement between the school district and the Homestead Police Department to provide a School Resource Officer at Barrett Elementary School
- Move forward with the planning to train crossing guards including a day of pay and lunch

Co-Curricular Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Fundraising requests as presented
- Fundraiser by Steel Valley High School Varsity Cheerleading for Breast Cancer Awareness with 10% donation from profit to The Pink Pamper
- Recognized and supported the Steel Valley Band Backers, Incorporated, heretofore known as the Steel Valley Band Parents, as a booster group for the Steel Valley Band in which the association conducts its principal activities as a service association

Educational Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Accepted the following donations:

Munhall Garden Club	\$200.00	Steel Valley Grows Garden
The Consortium for Public Ed	\$500.00	Remake Learning Event
Carnegie Museum of Art	\$500.00	Creativity Fair
Phipps Conservatory	\$1,000.00	Let’s Move Pittsburgh
Petco	\$50.00	Pets in Classroom
Steel Valley Marching Band and Band Parent Organization	\$50.00	Music Theory Book in memory of Bill Campbell
- Notices of Adoption of Policies, Procedures and Use of Funds Agreement between the Allegheny Intermediate Unit and the school district for the 2016-2017 school year and authorized the appropriate officials to execute said agreement
- Middle School Academic Handbook for the 2016-2017 school year
- Rescinded approval to bring a dog into Park Elementary School on a daily basis beginning in June 2016

Communications

The Board approved the following items:

- **Zachary Toth’s** Eagle Scout Project to build raised garden beds for the Steel Valley Grows garden at Franklin Primary Center
- Recording and televising of the School Board voting meetings via social media live feeds such as Facebook live
- Addition of a Technology Committee to the structure of the Board and the creation of a Technology Advisory Group

Personnel Management

The Board approved the following items:

- Family Medical Leave of Absence for **Erin Dawso** to commence August 22, 2016, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- **Kimberly Glinka, Maribeth Meals, Lori Oleksak, Tameka Akins** and **Christine Borelli** as special education teachers for the 2016 Extended School Year at a rate of \$32.00 per hour; appoint **Barb Hurley** as a floater teacher at the substitute teacher rate and appoint **Mary Jo Craycraft, Melissa Ladik, Vicki Deutsch, Mary Jo Sklencar, Christine Furrick, Susan Titmus, Holli Bobick** and **Kaitlin Craycraft** as special education paraeducators for 2016 Extended School Year at their hourly rates
- 2016 Summer Camp staff members, positions and hours as presented July 5-28, 2016, Monday-Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. funded from the KtO grant and the Summer Camp Budget
- **Lauren Harter** and **Amber Randol** as day-to-day substitute teachers retroactive to May 4, 2016, and approve **Ronald Siler** and **Ashley McCallister** 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

- Accepted, with regret, the retirement of **Norma J. Kearns** from the position of cafeteria cook effective at the end of the 2015-2016 school year according to the benefits of the collective bargaining agreement
- Family Medical Leave of Absence to **Jim Bartko** retroactive to January 28, 2016
- Rescinded the hire of **Ashley Hanley** effective immediately
- Employed **Robin Schessler** to fill the vacancy in the part-time 10-month secretarial position including benefits as outlined in the collective bargaining agreement, contingent upon receipt of current clearances, passing a health examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, and compliance with Act 168 of 2014
- Accepted the resignation of **Mariann Reilly** from the supplemental position of yearbook advisor effective at the end of the 2015-2016 school year
- Supplemental appointments of **Mary Jo Sklencar** to After School Coordinator at Park School, **Dale Chapman** to Head Coach Varsity Boys Basketball, **David Harhai** to Head Coach Varsity Girls Basketball and **Erica Pittacciato** as an athletic volunteer with Girls Soccer for the 2016-2017 school year, contingent upon receipt of current clearances and compliance with Act 168 of 2014