



Steel Valley School District Board Brief

**Board Meeting
December 4, 2012**

Re-organization Meeting

Congratulations to Mrs. Cannon who was re-elected President and Mr. Natale who was re-elected Vice President of the Board of School Directors for 2013. This is Mrs. Cannon's 5th term as President and Mr. Natale's 3rd term as Vice President.

The Board acknowledged the passing of Julia Karadus, mother of Lori Cannon, KtO tutor at Barrett; Andresita Stevens, aunt of Sherri Titmus, secretary at Franklin Primary Center; Stephanie E. Harakal, mother of Jessica Andzelik, 2nd grade teacher at Barrett; Casimir Rompala, father-in-law of Wyona Rompala, cafeteria worker at Barrett and Franklin Schools; Mary Beth Boyle, Steel Valley Graduate, Class of 2000; Frank J. Wintruba, father-in-law of Tony Verbanick, Instructional Resource Teacher at Barrett Elementary School; Suzanne Bence, mother of Jena Bence, former varsity cheerleading coach; and Jacqui Konop-Buckley, Steel Valley Graduate, Class of 2000. It was moved by Mr. Natale and seconded by Mrs. Kiefer to place an appropriate selection of books into the Steel Valley School District Libraries in their memory.

President's Comments

Mrs. Cannon thanked the board members for their support in retaining her as President.

Seven individuals and Olympic swim teams were recognized for their achievements in the arts, sciences, business, sports and community service at the Carnegie of Homestead's Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on Friday evening. Mrs. Cannon praised the planning committee for its efforts in recognizing the individuals. Mrs. Cannon noted that the inductees credited their successes to their roots in the Steel Valley.

Student Representative's Report

Student Representative Kristen Moten reported that the 9th, 10th and 11th grade students are taking the Keystone exams this week: December 4 - Algebra, December 5 - Literature, December 6 - Biology.

The winter sports season has kicked off for the Boys Basketball, Boys 9th Grade Basketball, Girls Basketball, Cheerleading and Swimming teams.

This year's semi-formal dance will be held at Westwood Golf Club on December 15 from 5:00 - 9:00 p.m.

The holiday choral concert will be held on Wednesday, December 12, at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.

The holiday break will take place December 22 – January 1.

At the middle school, an ice skating party will be held at Schenley Park.

The middle school is conducting a holiday concert on December 12 at 6:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. The Middle School PTO is purchasing a boom box for the cheerleaders.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Wehrer announced that the school district staff raised \$460 by donating \$5 to wear denim to work on Friday, November 30. These funds are being donated to the Operation Pack to Pack collection efforts being conducted by Munhall Boy Scout Pack 4 for the victims of Hurricane Sandy in Staten Island, New York. In addition, the Steel Valley Education Foundation made a \$1,000 donation to the collection efforts, and the School Board approved a \$1,000 donation as well.

The PSBA has been recognizing the contributions of dedicated school directors through the Honor Roll of School Board Service. Superintendent Wehrer thanked Mrs. Susan Ballas and Mr. Joseph Ducar for giving selflessly of their time and talents for the future of our schools. For 16 years they have been giving back to their local communities through the education of our youth. In recognition of their long-term contributions, Mr. Wehrer presented them with Certificates of Appreciation.

The Steel Center Extra Effort Awards presentation recognizes students in each program area once per quarter. These students have gone above and beyond what is expected and have made considerable improvement in the classroom or shop in areas such as attendance, theory work, shop work, work ethic and attitude. Mr. Wehrer presented Certificates of Recognition to Natalie Talarico for her extra effort in Cosmetology, Jason McMichael for his extra effort in Auto Mechanics and Ryan Ackerman for his extra effort in the Building Trades.

Director of Pupil Personnel, Special Services and Elementary Education

Mrs. Borges announced the schedule for the elementary holiday concerts:

December 7	All School Holiday Program 9:30 am or 1:00 pm Park Elementary School
December 14	Park Band and Choral Holiday Concert 1:00 pm
December 19	Littlest Christmas Tree Performance 12:30 pm By the Kindergarten Students High School Auditorium
December 20	Holiday Concert 1:30 pm Barrett Elementary School

Director of Academics, Information & Technology

Mr. Colebank reported that the district will be using a new email server through Gmail and revealing a new design to the Steel Valley website starting in January.

The school district passed a recent KtO site visit. The state reported they have secured funding for Years 2 and 3 of the Keystone to Opportunity grant.

A test of the AlertNow system will be conducted late next week for staff and parents.

Mr. Colebank announced that on December 12, the high school/middle school band concerts will begin at 6:00 p.m. and the high school choral concert will start at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.

Solicitor's Report

Mr. Donald Fetzko reported that the real estate appeal process is being accelerated. He also reported that the sale of the Waterfront properties might help us with revenue. He is also reviewing other commercial property sales.

Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the following meeting minutes of October 11, 16 and 23, 2012.

Financial Management

The Board approved the following financial items:

- General Fund invoices for November 2012 in the amount of \$681,445.26
- General Fund hand checks for October 2012 in the amount of \$377,710.06
- Food Service hand checks for October 2012 in the amount of \$26,825.18
- Payroll Funding Transfers for October 2012
- Food Service invoices for November 2012 in the amount of \$54,613.46
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for month ending October 31, 2012
- Custodial/hand checks in the amount of \$13,348.26
- Middle School/hand checks in the amount of \$987.15
- Athletic invoices/hand checks in the amount of \$4,320.86

Operations

The Board approved the following items:

- Facility rental requests as presented and No. 4151 contingent upon receipt of insurance certificate
- Payment of \$1,000.00 to Operation Pack to Pack

Co-Curricular Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Fundraising requests as presented
- Field trip request by the History Club to Colonial Williamsburg, Jamestown Settlement and Busch Gardens from May 25-27, 2013, at no cost to the school district
- Payment of \$375.00 for the services of A 3-d Sound Productions at the winter semi-formal to be held on December 15, 2012

Special Assignments

The Board 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, 2014

Educational Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Revised the 2012-2013 school calendar and designated Friday, December 21, 2012, as a K-12 districtwide early dismissal
- Revised the daily schedules on December 4, 5 and 6, 2012, for the high school Keystone exams
- Approved the schedule of dates and authorized the advertising of school board meetings for the upcoming 2013 year
- Accepted the donation of a 40" flat screen television from Mr. and Mrs. Robert Novotny for the Franklin Primary Center

Personnel Management

The Board approved the following items:

- Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Mark R. Cherpak from the position of Director of Operational Services/Board Secretary retroactive to the end of business on November 30, 2012
- Attendance of Alyson Fisher to the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program (OBPP) Trainer Certification Course from December 5-7, 2012, in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, with costs covered by the OBPP grant
- Lynan Cochrane as a substitute tutor for the KtO program for the 2012-2013 school year, contingent upon receipt of current clearances
- Accepted the resignation of Ja'Quan McNeil from the supplemental positions of Middle School Boys Basketball Coach, Middle School Girls Volleyball Coach and Varsity Boys Volleyball Coach effective immediately
- Jerred Masley as the 7th grade boys basketball coach
- Spring supplemental positions as listed for the 2012-2013 school year
- School volunteers listed for the 2012-2013 school year contingent upon receipt of appropriate Act 34 and 151 clearances
- James Marnell as an interim business manager/board secretary at the rate of \$50.00 per hour with a maximum of \$1,750.00 per week and no fringe benefits effective December 5, 2012
- Mark Cherpak as a consultant for a maximum of 3 days at a per diem rate of \$366.23
- Denied Grievance #12-230
- Appointed Mr. Marnell as the interim Right-to-Know Officer