



Steel Valley School District Board Brief

**Board Meeting
February 23, 2010**

The Board acknowledged the passing of Robert Fenner, cousin of Susan Salapa, middle school teacher; Irma Goga, aunt of Gary Goga, high school teacher; Ruth Kovalyak, sister-in-law of Sue Kaufold, Park School teacher; Charles "Nate" Weary, uncle of Diana Borges, Director of Pupil Personnel, Special Services & Elementary Education; Randall Ballog, cousin of Norm Kosko, Barrett custodian; Lance Hayward, cousin of Amanda Olson, middle school teacher; Steven Fetchen, cousin of Tracy McGrew, middle school teacher; Joseph Veslany Sr., uncle of Linda Terrick, Park School teacher; Henry Rogowski, uncle of Amy Gusky, high school teacher; Betty Rosinski, aunt of Kristi Spotti, speech teacher; Edward Muse, uncle of Deb Woolley, middle school secretary and Jen Woolley, high school secretary; Elaine Youger, aunt of Jodi Geyer, high school teacher; Elizabeth Valko, mother of Betty Ann Orkis, retired high school secretary; Robert A. Woolley, grandfather of Jennifer Woolley, high school secretary; and Opal Porter Colebank, grandmother of Ed Colebank, Director of Academics, Information & Technology. It was moved by Mrs. Kubancsek and seconded by Mr. Ducar to place an appropriate selection of books into the Steel Valley School District Libraries in their memory.

Student Representatives'

Reports Student School Board Representative Lance Miller announced the events held at Park Elementary School in February:

- Character Education assembly on February 2
- Chick-fil-A Spirit Night raised \$234.03 for the school
- School assembly with Ion Jones was provided by Carnegie Science Center
- Ice Skating Party on February 24 at Schenley Ice Rink from 7:00-9:00 pm

He reported that the middle school teachers completed a video on Tips for Test Taking.

On March 11, Barrett students will complete their schedules for middle school and on March 19 the 5th graders at Park School will fill out their schedules.

Senior School Board Representative Kaitlyn Baran reported that the high school held a blood drive on February 3. A Financial Aid Night was held to assist parents and students with completing FAFSA forms.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kinavey and Mr. Soles congratulated the Steel Center students who achieved the Extra Effort Award in the 1st and 2nd quarters of the 2009-2010 school year. The Extra Effort award recipients were chosen by shop instructors each quarter for their demonstration of outstanding attitude, work ethics, attendance and dependability.

Elizabeth Bristol

Terrell Hart

Jaelynne Kirksey

Shalonda Davis

Health Assistant

Computer Aided Drafting

Food Service

Health Assistant

Dr. Kinavey recognized Teacher Ryan Dunmire and The Future is Mine students who initiated a Pay it Forward class project to help Kindergarten student Emily Hyland and her family purchase a service dog. Students Ian Bennett, Jen Guicardo, Mike Pavasko, Emily Doyle, Kasey Churilla, and Danyelle Haddad played a vital role in the success of this project. The students and staff raised money through two fundraising events—Pennies for Emily and Denim Day for Emily. Ms. Dunmire thanked the students, staff and community for contributing and supporting this important cause.

A check in the amount of \$7,850.65 was presented to the Hyland Family for the purchase of a service dog for Emily. In addition, Mr. Ducar announced that the Steel Valley Education Foundation and benefactor Mr. Bill Campbell would donate \$5,000 to the Hyland Family for costs associated with the service dog.

Ms. Dunmire announced that the high school has an opportunity for a \$15,000 grant through Pittsburgh Voices of Youth. She asked everyone to vote for Steel Valley's Extreme Home Makeover project by logging on to <http://www.pghvoicesofyouth.com/view>.

Director of Pupil Personnel, Special Services and Elementary Education

Mrs. Borges reported that students at Barrett Elementary School performed a musical celebration as part of Black History Month on Friday, February 19. Students participated in a game show and 2nd grade students performed a "Tribute to the Stars of Motown."

On March 2, Barrett will celebrate Read Across America Day with guest readers and a Title I Family Night. Franklin Primary Center will hold its Title I Family Night on March 18.

The Allegheny Family Network and the school district will hold a Parent Support Group meeting on February 24 for parents of children with emotional and behavioral issues. The meeting will be held in Room 113 of the middle school.

Director of Academics, Information & Technology

Mr. Colebank announced that student health screenings would occur in the high school.

The Steel Valley Drama Club will present its musical performance of Anyone Can Whistle on March 11-14.

Mr. Colebank reported that three teams of physics students coached by Physics Teacher Ben Lander competed in the 5th Annual Innovative Design Competition held on February 19 at the University of Pittsburgh. Students Katie Bennett, Samantha Clark, Cassidy Emery and Nicole Black won Best Science medals for their work on a device to assist bilateral upper arm amputees in wearing corrective lenses.

Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the minutes of the January 19, 2010 worksession meeting and the January 26, 2010 board meeting.

Financial Management

The Board approved the following financial items:

- General Fund invoices for February 2010 in the amount of \$418,481.98
- General Fund hand checks for January 2010 in the amount of \$386,382.48
- Payroll Funding Transfers for January 2010 • Treasurer's Report for December 2009
- Food Service invoices for January 2010 in the amount of \$6,974.58

- Custodial hand checks in the amount of \$18,972.96
- Athletic hand checks in the amount of \$2,349.50
- Middle School hand checks in the amount of \$6,925.81
- Exonerated the Homestead, Munhall and West Homestead tax collectors for year 2009 for uncollected amounts of \$349,142.63, \$654,329.53 and \$223,487.67 respectively

Operations

The Board approved the following items:

- Facility rental requests and fundraising requests as presented
- Advertisement of bids for art, athletic, general school and office supplies, health, home economics, library, music, science, physical education and technology supplies for the 2010-2011 school year
- Advertisement of bids for refuse hauling, security services and transportation of students for the 2010 through the 2012 school years
- Additional days as make-up days for use of facilities by the Community Basketball League, retroactively for February 20 and February 27 and 28, 2010

Special Assignments

- Held first reading of revisions to Board Policy No. 113 Special Education
- Voted for President, Vice President and Depository/Treasurer of the Southeastern Area Special School Board and the Steel Center Advisory Board for the 2010 calendar year

Educational Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Inclusive Practices Mini Grant Agreement in the amount \$14,999.95 and authorized the Board Secretary and Board President to execute said agreement
- PA CARES Safe Schools Grant in the amount of \$7,500 to implement the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program model at Park Elementary School
- Title II D technology grant Enhancing Education Through Technology (EETT) in the amount of \$53,000 for the 2009-2010 school year Mrs. Ballas thanked the staff for their hard work in obtaining these grants for the school district. Personnel Management The Board approved the following items:
- Accepted, with deep regret, the retirement of Susan Little from the position of 1st grade teacher at Barrett Elementary School effective at the conclusion of the 2009-2010 school year
- Nanci Valko as a day-to-day substitute for the 2009-2010 school year retroactive to February 15, 2010
- Beverly Loadman and Nicole Andres as day-to-day substitutes for the 2009-2010 school year
- Accepted, with regret, the retirement of Donna Kiefer from the position of middle school custodian effective May 31, 2010
- Appointed Erik Jabs to the supplemental position of head varsity boys' volleyball coach and Jaquan McNeil to the supplemental position of assistant varsity boys' volleyball coach for the 2009-2010 school year per the collective bargaining agreement
- Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Ray Braszo from the position of high school physical education teacher and the supplemental position of varsity football coach effective at the close of business February 23, 2010
- Family medical leave of absence for Jennifer Woolley retroactive to January 26, 2010, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- John Knabb Jr. as a day-to-day substitute teacher for the 2009-2010 school year

Previous Board Action

The Board approved the 2010-2011 Preliminary Budget as presented and authorized the business manager to advertise that the district will be seeking approval from the Department of Education for any referendum exceptions which are applicable to the district.

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