



Steel Valley School District Board Brief

**Board Meeting
March 25, 2008**

The Board acknowledged the passing of *Charles Robert Hogg, Sr.*, grandfather of Amy Hogg and husband of Agnes Patterson Hogg; *Elaine Smid*, mother of Vonnie Smid; *Jane Fetcho*, 1977 Steel Valley graduate; *Edward Fetcho*, 1976 Steel Valley graduate; *Phillip Sandlin, Sr.*, uncle of Larry McKern; *Jessie Patterson*, grandmother of Maribeth Meals; *Jeff Fetchen*, uncle of Tracey McGrew; *Robert Septak*, uncle of Mickey Pavasko; *Dorothy Blahut*, aunt of Sharon Ellis; *Art Munizza*, uncle of Melissa Pentin; *Rosemary Davis*, aunt of Tammy Law; *Mary Ann Sanbura*, cousin of Tammy Law and *Ray M. Kosko*, brother of Norm Kosko. It was moved by Mrs. Terrick and seconded by Mrs. Kubancsek to place an appropriate selection of books into the Steel Valley School District Libraries in their memory.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kinavey announced the annual Family Night Out Literacy Fair event would be held on Wednesday, April 9, at the Franklin Primary Center beginning at 5:30 p.m. Parents and their children will have an opportunity to register for Kindergarten and meet the principal, teachers and staff. Dr. Kinavey encouraged families that have children ages 0 to 5 to attend and receive a free copy of *A Guide to Your Child's Literacy*.

There will be no school for students on Friday, April 4.

Dr. Kinavey announced that the School Action Committee awarded Great Idea grants to Park School teachers Judith Stokes and Kevin Tomasic for *Chess Mates* in the amount of \$790 and to Barrett teacher Shanna Bradfield in the amount of \$406 for *Opening Doors*. The district has received 127 Great Idea grants over 12 years.

PSSA Math and Reading tests will be administered next week in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 11.

Congratulations to Thomas Barefoot, Katie Bennett and Michael Terrick who competed on KDKA's Hometown High Q in March.

The annual Community Meet and Mingle will be held Wednesday, April 23, from 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. in the high school cafeteria. The Steel Valley Middle School will be in the spotlight featuring the 8th grade chorus and a special piano performance by Aaron Faux. Dr. Kinavey will provide an overview of the district's accomplishments with special emphasis on the Middle School achievements.

The Chamber of Commerce will recognize two middle school students and two senior students at the Outstanding Citizens Dinner being held Thursday, April 17, at the Westwood Golf Club. Elementary Academic Literacy Coach Priscilla Jackman will be recognized as the Educator of the Year, and Bill Campbell will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award.

The middle school students raised \$2,788.60 for St. Jude's Children's Hospital for the

17th consecutive year. Sixty students participated in a Math-A-Thon and Student Council members sold hearts for \$1 each. Dr. Kinavey thanked Mrs. Beth McCallister and Mrs. Denise Williams for their commitment to this fundraiser.

Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services

Mrs. Borges reported that the Bureau of Special Education would perform a Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) monitoring during the week of May 19. Letters will be mailed to all parents of special needs students regarding this monitoring.

Director of Academics, Information & Technology

Mr. Colebank reported that after school tutoring has been available for 11th grade students prior to the PSSA next week. The PSSA Science testing of students in grades 4, 8 and 11 will begin April 28.

Report cards will be distributed the week of April 7.

The Dual Enrollment Committee is holding an informational meeting for parents of sophomores and juniors on Wednesday, April 23, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium to address the parents about the benefits of attending college while still in high school.

Mr. Colebank asked parents to complete the Middle States Accreditation surveys found on the Steel Valley Website (www.svsd.k12.pa.us).

A new Activities/Athletic link has been added to the SV Website. The link includes information about the Steel Valley sports and clubs. Mr. Colebank will also be adding a guidance department link in the near future. The daily game times and locations will be added to the Athletic/Activities Office telephone system.

Director of Elementary Education

Dr. Policastro announced that Charlie Batch and local dignitaries would be at Franklin Primary Center to kick off a *Live with Vision* endeavor. Kindergarten students will receive free vision screenings on Friday, March 28.

Solicitor's Report

The Board adopted a resolution to permanently expel a minor female student.

The Board adopted a resolution to allow members of the Steel Valley Board of School Directors to cast votes by telephone at a public meeting when School Board members are unable to attend the meeting due to personal or family emergencies, sickness or work related commitments.

Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the meeting minutes of the February 19, 2008 worksession and the February 26, 2008 board meeting.

Financial Management

The Board approved the following financial items:

- General Fund invoices for March 2008 in the amount of \$625,193.53

- General Fund hand checks for February 2008 in the amount of \$390,101.21
- Payroll Funding Transfers for February 2008
- General Fund Revenue Report for January 2008
- General Fund Expenditure Report for January 2008
- Food Service invoices for February 2008 in the amount of \$60,970.86
- Capital Improvements 2000-2001 Statement of Income and Expenses for the month ending February 29, 2008
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending February 29, 2008
- Foundation for Education Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending February 29, 2008
- Custodial hand checks in the amount of \$9,990.04
- Athletic hand checks in the amount of \$1,426.23
- Middle School hand checks in the amount of \$330.00
- Band Trip invoices in the amount of \$24,620.08

Operations

The Board approved the following items:

- Facility rental requests as presented
- Fundraising requests as presented
- Awarded bid for 54 wall mounted clocks, which includes materials, installation, support and maintenance to Simplex Grinnel at their bid price of \$22,600 to be paid from the Capital Projects 2005 fund
- Awarded bid for weapons detectors, installation, support, maintenance and training to CEIA-USA at their bid price of \$16,328.70 contingent upon satisfactory demonstration of operation in the high school facility
- Awarded the bid for the purchase of a 2008 Econoline Ford truck to Davies Ford, Inc., at the quoted price of \$23,382, to be paid from the general fund
- Rejected the bids received in November 2007 for security services for school year 2008-2009 and authorized the Board Secretary to re-advertise for security services for the 2008-2009 school year
- Authorized the Board Secretary to advertise for bids for replacement of the filter and heating system for the high school swimming pool to be paid from the Capital Projects 2005 fund
- Awarded bid for replacement cafeteria equipment, which includes two convection steamers, two fryers, two proofing/holding cabinets and the appropriate peripheral equipment to B&J Peerless Restaurant Supply at their price of \$38,679.29 including installation, to be paid from the Capital Projects 2005 fund

Co-Curricular Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Attendance of students and chaperones to The Future is Mine Conference in Pittsburgh on April 24 & 25, 2008, at no cost to the district
- Attendance of six students and Mrs. Kapolka to the Teen Institute Leadership Training at Linden Hall on April 24 & 25, 2008, at no cost to the district
- Attendance of the Steel Valley Swim Team, coaches and chaperone to Splash Lagoon in Erie, Pennsylvania, on March 26, 2008, at a cost of \$250 for transportation to be paid from the Swim Team account
- Payment of \$2,500 to the Senior Breakfast/Reception account to support the Senior Breakfast for the Class of 2008
- Attendance of the members of the Fly Fishing Club and chaperones to Warwick Pond in Greene County on April 19, 2008, at no cost to the district

Educational Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Adopted the 2008-2009 school calendar as presented
- Allegheny Intermediate Unit's 2008-2009 Program of Services Budget totaling \$3,782,025
- Adopted the K-5 Science Curriculum Guides for the Steel Valley Elementary Schools
- Adopted the K-5 Math Curriculum Guides for the Steel Valley Elementary Schools
- 5-year Master Agreement between the school district and the Pennsylvania Department of Education from July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2013

Personnel Management

The Board approved the following items:

- Unpaid family medical leave of absence for LuAnne Szczypinski commencing after the exhaustion of her accumulated sick leave days through the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year
- Unpaid family medical leave of absence for Brandi Chalus commencing after the exhaustion of her accumulated sick leave and personal days through the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year
- Unpaid family medical leave of absence for Michelle Blasko commencing after the exhaustion of her accumulated sick leave and personal days through the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year
- Unpaid family medical leave of absence for Amy Hogg commencing after the exhaustion of her accumulated sick leave and personal days through the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year
- Retroactively accepted the resignation of Danielle Rutkowski from the position of Special Education teacher effective March 7, 2008
- Retroactively accepted the resignation of Jenny Walker from the position of long-term substitute in the area of French effective March 14, 2008
- Amie Erickson, Meredith Andrus and Loren Faulx as day-to-day substitutes for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year
- Joseph Vozza, Claudia Marcello, Rachael Zenobi, Wendi Weller, Jessica Wade and Luke Stedrak as day-to-day substitutes for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year
- Retroactively appointed Jill Wassell to the position of tutor at a rate of \$30 per hour for the EAP Tutoring program
- Voted for John Schmotzer as a School Board Trustee for the Southeastern Region of the Allegheny County Schools Health Insurance Consortium for a two-year period effective April 8, 2008
- Middle School Wrestling Club as a new student activity for the 2008-2009 school year
- Supplemental stipend for the High School Visual Arts Club sponsor of \$977.88 for the 2007-2008 school year and a 5% increase each year of the current collective bargaining agreement
- Appointed Anita Weisel to the position of long-term substitute French instructor assigned to the Senior High School retroactive to March 18, 2008, contingent upon passing the screening for controlled substances within 30 days or the position will be re-opened