



Steel Valley School District Board Brief

**Board Meeting
March 27, 2012**

The Board acknowledged the passing of Hunter C. Huston, infant grandson of Colleen Andreyo, business office secretary. It was moved by Mr. Natale and seconded by Mr. Olson place an appropriate selection of books into the Steel Valley School District Libraries in their memory.

Board President's Report

Mrs. Cannon congratulated the Steel Valley Drama Club on an outstanding performance of Oliver! She also congratulated the Girls Basketball Team for a great season and making it into the PIAA State Finals.

Student Representative's Report

Senior Student Representative Meghan Wolf reported that the staff and students are to be commended for their hard work and diligence during the PSSA Reading and Math Assessments. The new grading period began on March 19 and the third quarter report cards will be distributed March 28.

WTAE's meteorologist will visit Park Elementary School on Wednesday, April 4, for a weather assembly. The School Board members are invited to attend a luncheon at 12:30 p.m. and the assembly at 1:00 p.m.

Spring Break will occur April 5-9 and school will resume on Tuesday, April 10.

Miss Taylor Szczepankowski, senior student representative, announced that 8th grade students, teachers and staff are preparing for the upcoming trip to Washington, D.C. The middle school is involved in the 2nd Step Violence Prevention program. On April 4, several students will be going on a field trip to Dave & Buster's as a reward for their success in the Ironmen Card fundraiser.

She also reported that 6th grade students are looking forward to going geocaching in Pittsburgh, and 7th grade students will travel to the Wildwood for their end of the year field trip.

Miss Kacey Hartnett reported that high school students completed the PSSA Reading and Math assessments, and the students experienced a good testing environment and were able to concentrate on their tests. The PSSA Writing assessment will take place April 17-19, and the PSSA Science assessments will be held on April 24-26. There will be no late starts or early dismissals on these dates.

On March 20, KDKA presented a Driving Skills program to the 11th and 12th grade students. Spring sports have begun for JV and Varsity Baseball, Girls Softball and Boys Volleyball.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kinavey recognized Math Coach Beth McCallister and math teachers Sara Sullivan and Steve Large for their receipt of a \$2,500 Great Idea Grant from The Consortium for Public Education. This is the 5th year they have garnered a grant to be used for the outdoor classroom. With this grant, they will add composters to the outdoor classroom, which will allow students to see recycling in action while adding fertilizer to the vegetable, bird and butterfly gardens.

Mr. Macuga and Mr. McCallister recognized the winter sports teams and complimented them on their good sportsmanship and positive attitudes this season. Recognized were the students on the swim team, boys basketball team, girls basketball team and the drama club for their time and effort in their academics and sports.

Mr. McCallister congratulated Michael Borsch, Ryan Wissinger, Keith Blasko and Joseph Ruffing who wrestled on the West Mifflin team under a cooperative agreement this year.

Mr. McCallister also reported that Girls Basketball Coach Kelly Sabo was awarded The Daily News Basketball Coach of the Year. Coach Sabo led the Lady Ironmen to a 19-7 record and their first postseason victory since 2001. The girls placed 3rd in the WPIAL section, and they also qualified for the PIAA state playoffs.

Congratulations to CC Dixon, Ashley McCallister, and Taylor Szczepankowski for being named to The Daily News Fabulous 15 and to Ashley McCallister for being chosen for the Roundball Classic All-Star Team where she will join other all-stars from the area to play in an all-star game to be held at Geneva College on April 21.

The middle school students participated in the annual Math-A-Thon and raised \$1,207 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. This was the 21st consecutive year the middle school participated in the event and has contributed over \$38,000 to St. Jude to help with its fight against childhood diseases.

Middle School Principal Kevin Walsh and Teacher Dr. Bethany Fenyus reported on the 10th annual 8th grade trip to Washington, D.C., on May 10-12, 2012. The 80 students are looking forward to this opportunity of a lifetime and to expand their world beyond their neighborhood. They will visit the war memorials, Holocaust Museum, Air and Space Museum, National History Museum, many of the monuments and the new Martin Luther King Jr. memorial.

Dr. Kinavey announced that he is proud that Steel Valley was listed as one of the best schools in student attendance. We have a lot of caring adults, teachers, administrators, parents, residency checker/attendance officer and the magistrate who have contributed to our low truancy rate and low dropout rate.

Director of Pupil Personnel, Special Services and Elementary Education

Mrs. Borges announced that Barrett Elementary School would hold its All School Revue on April 4 at 9:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Hi5! Here We Come Kindergarten Fair will be held on Thursday, April 12, from 5:00-8:00 p.m. at the Franklin Primary Center. Parents will be able to register their children for full-day kindergarten, and the staff will conduct student screenings. There are also activities planned for families.

Mrs. Borges announced that WTAE conducted a weather assembly at Barrett Elementary School last week.

Director of Academics, Information & Technology Report

Mr. Colebank announced that report cards were distributed districtwide on Thursday. He stated that student rankings and QPAs are calculated through the end of the school year and asked parents to reinforce with their children to keep up the hard work through June.

The PSSA Math and Reading assessments have been completed, and the upcoming PSSA Science and Writing assessments are just as important.

The district would participate in a statewide weather exercise on March 29.

Mr. Colebank reported that next year's schedule is almost complete.

Solicitor's Report

The Board adopted two resolutions to authorize First Commonwealth Bank to be the depository bank for Legal Tax Service and Donald Fetzko for real estate and Act 511 tax deposits.

Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the meeting minutes of the February 21, 2012 worksession and the February 28, 2012 board meeting.

Financial Management

The Board approved the following financial items:

- General Fund invoices for March 2012 in the amount of \$409,989.52
- General Fund hand checks for February 2012 in the amount of \$651,556.35
- Payroll Funding Transfers for February 2012
- Food Service invoices for March 2012 in the amount of \$49,357.58
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for month ending February 29, 2012
- Foundation for Education Technology Statement of Income and Expense for month ending February 29, 2012
- Custodial/hand checks in the amount of \$6,661.52
- Middle School/hand checks in the amount of \$2,259.33
- Athletic invoices/hand checks in the amount of \$1,840.68
- Real estate tax refund for year 2011 to Darryl K. and Sandra L. Wolfe in the amount of \$221.10 for Lot & Block 131-M-106
- Business Manager to transfer the district's banking relationship to PSDLAF (Pennsylvania School District Liquid Asset Fund) with the deposits of the school district being housed at PNC Bank

Operations

The Board approved the following items:

- Facility rental requests as presented
- Business Manager to solicit bids for the purchase and installation of air conditioners at Park Elementary School

Co-Curricular Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Fundraising requests as presented
- Payment of \$2,500 to the Senior Breakfast/Reception account to defray the costs of the Senior Breakfast for the Class of 2012

Educational Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- 2012-2013 school calendar as presented
- Allegheny Intermediate Unit's 2012-2013 Program of Services Budget totaling \$3,807,403

Personnel Management

The Board approved the following items:

- Family medical leave of absence for Beth Catterall effective April 20, 2012, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- Family medical leave of absence for Sara Sullivan effective June 1, 2012, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- Accepted, with regret, the retirement of Judith Stokes from a full-time teaching position effective at the end of the 2011-2012 school year
- Recalled Deirdre Kamauf to a substitute teaching position assigned to Barrett Elementary School effective on or about April 20, 2012, continuing until June 4, 2012
- Family medical leave of absence for Dennis Keesecker effective April 12, 2012, for approximately eight (8) weeks in duration
- John Skeels III as a volunteer for the 2011-2012 school year, contingent upon receipt of clearances

Special Meeting: March 12, 2012

The Board appointed John Skeels IV to the supplemental position of assistant baseball coach, contingent upon receipt of clearances.

