



# Steel Valley School District

## Board Brief

**Board Meeting  
May 29, 2014**

The School Board acknowledged the passing of **John Morgan**, nephew of Denise Blasko, paraprofessional at Park School; **Josephine Policastro**, mother of Dr. Carole Policastro, instructional resource teacher, Barrett Elementary School; **Dolores “Dolly” Gregor**, retired middle school secretary; **Ann M. Opsitos**, aunt of Holli Bobick, paraprofessional at Park School; **Rowena “Skip” Bedillion**, grandmother of Emilee Garcia, middle school/high school teacher; **Giovanni F. Onorato**, 1994 Steel Valley Graduate; and **Louis Borsos**, father of Debbie Perry, cafeteria worker at Barrett School. It was moved by **Ms. Youngblood** and seconded by **Mr. Olson** to place an appropriate selection of books into the Steel Valley School District Libraries in their memory.

### **President’s Report**

**Mrs. Donna Kiefer** congratulated the High School Baseball team on its WPIAL Championship.

### **Student Representative’s Report**

Student Representative **Brandon Tomasic** announced the Keystone exams were completed May 13-15 at the Senior High School, and final exams were conducted the week of May 19.

The Senior Breakfast is scheduled for June 4 from 8:00-10:00 a.m. in the high school cafeteria.

Spring sports teams were very successful this year. The **Girls Softball, Boys Volleyball** and **Boys Baseball** teams qualified for the WPIAL playoffs. The **Boys Volleyball** and **Boys Baseball** won their sections. The baseball team went on to win its first WPIAL championship in history.

**Brandon Tomasic** expressed his objections to the uniform dress code.

### **Superintendent’s Report**

Superintendent **Edward Wehrer** announced that Tuesday, June 3, is the districtwide Kennywood Picnic Day.

On Friday, June 6, the district will hold its commencement program highlighting a wonderful group of seniors beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the William V. Campbell Athletic Field. The public is invited to attend.

**Mr. Wehrer** congratulated the Boys Baseball team on its WPIAL Championship.

**Mr. Shawn McCallister** reported that the **Girls Softball team** had another successful year both on and off the field. The team finished with a 7-3 section record, a 10-4 overall record, and reached the playoffs for the 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive year. The overall team GPA was a 3.6. **Chelsea Rohan, Maddie Cotter** and **Alexis Toth** accepted the team’s Certificate of Recognition.

The **Boys Volleyball team** finished the season with an outstanding 16-3 overall record and an 8-2 section record. They earned the Section Championship for the first time since 1985 and they also advanced to the WPIAL quarterfinals. The team GPA this season was a 3.3. **David Grace** accepted the Certificate of Recognition from the Board.

In front of an enormous and energetic crowd, the **Boys Baseball team** won the WPIAL section title for the first time in Steel Valley history by defeating Seton LaSalle in a 6-5 thriller at Consol Energy Park. The baseball team has a GPA of 3.4. All 10 senior players achieved honor roll status and were recognized at the Dr. Griffin Academic Awards Banquet.

**Mr. Wehrer** recognized the Steel Center *Extra Effort Award* winners for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of the school year. They are:

<b>Dylan Pisarcik</b>	Advertising & Design
<b>Ryan Ackerman</b>	Building Trades
<b>Amber Piskor</b>	Cosmetology
<b>Regis Robson</b>	Electrical Construction
<b>Thomas Pepke</b>	Food Service
<b>Maria Cutone</b>	Health Assistant
<b>Brittany Connors</b>	Protective Services
<b>Mateo Leach</b>	Retail Food Merchandising & Production

The *Top of the Shop* awardees for the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of 2013-2014 are:

<b>Anthony Wright</b>	Advertising and Design
<b>Ryan Ackerman</b>	Building Trades Maintenance
<b>Brianna Miller</b>	Cosmetology
<b>Amber Birkhamer</b>	Health Assistant
<b>Brittany Connors</b>	Protective Services

During the Educational Focus, Biology Teacher **Sue Olsen** recognized the extra efforts of **Kristen Moten, Michael Kraycar, Thomas Joyce, Ryan Brown, Amber Travis, Brandon Tomasic, Milan Starr, Marissa Stahl** and **Savannah Sargent** in broadening their scientific knowledge at the Westinghouse Science Honors Institute.

**Ms. Olsen** recognized **Hannah Fallon** and **Joe Yano** who attended Saturday workshops at the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Sciences. Certificates of Recognition were presented to the students.

She thanked **Mr. Wehrer** and the **School Board** for the opportunity to participate in the math and science curriculum writing. Elementary and secondary teachers have been able to discuss science opportunities and work with professionals from the Allegheny Intermediate Unit.

**Ms. Olsen** recognized **Shativa Benton** for being chosen by the Andy Warhol Youth Invasion for her achievement in fashion design. Shativa was 1 of 15 students chosen to work on the runway portion of the Youth Invasion program.

**Ms. Olsen** announced that Sophomore **Denis McCormick** participated in the *Hear Me 101* video and was hired as a summer intern to work at Carnegie Mellon University's CREATE Lab. Denis will develop a strategy to get the message out and spend time at Pittsburgh Filmmakers Youth Media Program and at the Western PA Writing Project's Young Writers Institute.

Certificates of Recognition were distributed to **Emily Tinta, Shativa Benton, Elizabeth Kalansky, Chelsea Greenhow, Chelsea Pearson, Shane McGuire, Hannah Fallon, Brandon Tomasic, Layla Phouthavong, Trevon Murtaza, Denis McCormick, Brittany Furlong, Brittany Connors** and **Jennifer Brizes** for their commitment to the production of the 2014 Hear Me 101 Documentary. In the film, the students expressed that they are not just a ranking but they showed the complexity and diversity of Steel Valley students. Their documentary can be seen on [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com).

### **Director of Pupil Personnel, Special Services & Elementary Education**

Mrs. **Diana Borges** announced that Mon Valley School graduation would be held June 5. She will award diplomas to the Steel Valley graduates, and Board Member **Tom Olson** will join her at the ceremony.

### **Director of Academics, Information & Technology Report**

Mr. **Edward Colebank** stated that all students must meet their student obligations each year. All school district items must be returned and cafeteria bills paid.

He also noted that all students (public, private, charter and cyber) are required to take the PSSA and Keystone exams.

### **Solicitor's Report**

The Board authorized the district officers to execute the employment agreement between **John Zenone**, Business Manager, and the School Board as presented.

### **Meeting Minutes**

The Board approved the following meeting minutes:

- April 28, 2014 worksession meeting
- May 1, 2014 regular meeting

### **Financial Management**

The Board approved the following financial items:

- General Fund invoices for April 2014 in the amount of \$586,018.98
- General Fund hand checks for April 2014 in the amount of \$429,454.27
- Food Service invoices for April 2014 in the amount of \$41,107.96
- Payroll Funding Transfers for April 2014
- General Fund Revenue Report for April 2014
- General Fund Expenditure Report for April 2014
- Treasurer's Report for April 2014
- Cafeteria Revenue Report for April 2014
- Cafeteria Expenditure Report for April 2014
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for month ending April 30, 2014
- Custodial/hand checks in the amount of \$49,969.56
- Middle School/hand checks in the amount of \$9,120.58
- Athletic invoices/hand checks in the amount of \$4,271.95
- Band invoices/hand checks in the amount of \$2,922.88
- Bids for library, science, art, health and physical education supplies for the 2014-2015 school year at a total cost of \$6,833.88
- Real estate tax refund for year 2013 in the amount of \$337.86, as a result of a change in assessment, to David Khorey for Lot & Block 131-M-116
- Preliminary General Fund Budget for the 2014-2015 fiscal year with expenditures in the amount of \$30,063,944 and revenue in the amount of \$29,473,101

### **Operations**

The Board approved the following items:

- Facility rental requests as presented except Permit Nos. 4302, 4303, 4304 and 4305
- Permit soliciting of bids for repairs to Franklin Primary Center's rear parking lot
- Permit soliciting of bids for asphalt replacement of the track around Griffin Field and replace and extend the asphalt sidewalk leading from the tennis courts to the high school

### **Co-Curricular Leadership**

The Board approved the following items:

- Fundraising requests as presented

### **Special Assignments**

The Board approved the following items:

- Held first reading of revisions to Policy No. 221 Dress and Language
- Adopted the resolution permitting the Steel Center Area Vocational Technical School to change its official name and designation to the **Steel Center for Career and Technical Education**
- Held first reading of revisions to Policy No. 123 Interscholastic Athletics

### **Educational Leadership**

The Board approved the following items:

- Notices of Adoption of Policies, Procedures & Use of Funds between the Allegheny Intermediate Unit and the Steel Valley School District for the 2014-2015 school year and authorized the appropriate officials to execute said agreement

### **Personnel Management**

The Board approved the following items:

- Family medical leave of absence for **Nicole States** beginning August 20, 2014, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- Renewed the agreement with **Dr. Dennis Zabelsky** as the school dentist for the 2014-2015 school year
- **Mr. Joseph J. Garrity** as a temporary educational consultant at the rate of \$325 per day retroactive to May 7, 2014
- Appointed the staff for the 2014 Summer Camp and the KtO Supplementals for the 2014-2015 school year as presented
- Denied Grievance #14-239 from the Steel Valley Education Association
- Accepted, with regret, the resignation of **Kathy Ligeros** from the position of general worker in the high school cafeteria effective June 9, 2014
- Appointed **Jennifer Weis** to the 3.25 hours per day general worker position in the high school cafeteria, at the 90-day probationary rate of 85% of \$9.60 (\$8.16) per hour and all benefits per the collective bargaining agreement effective the first day of the 2014-2015 school year