



Steel Valley School District

Board Brief

**Board Meeting
December 10, 2015**

The School Board acknowledged the passing of **Margaret R. Ferson**, grandmother of Barb Hurley, high school substitute teacher; **Barbara L. Fedak**, mother of Jean Fedak, high school cafeteria worker; **Gary J. Barron**, uncle of Denise Barron, Barrett reading resource teacher; **Mary Jean (MJ) Hill**, retired secretary to the superintendent in the Munhall and Steel Valley School Districts; **Robert J. Riley**, father of Amy Lyons, secretary in the Athletic/Activities Office, father of Kerry Riley, substitute custodian, father-in-law of Traci Riley, Park School cafeteria worker and grandfather of students Austin and Evan Riley and great grandfather of student Garrett Cherpak; **Joseph Wasko**, uncle of Jodi Geyer, Academic Literacy Coach; **Harry Runco**, father-in-law of Lisa Runco, Director of Food Services; **Kerry L. Turner**, brother of Tonya Jenkins, secretary in the middle and high schools and uncle of high school students Taniyah Price and Octavia Stover; **Patricia Petruzzi**, wife of James “Putts” Petruzzi, retired custodian; **Robert W. Szatkowski**, father-in-law of Michael Coyne, groundskeeper; and **Florence L. Burechson**, mother of Judi Bonacorso, former substitute secretary and mother-in-law of Joe Bonacorso, former Board member. It was moved by **Mrs. Steele** and seconded by **Mr. Bulger** to place an appropriate selection of books into the school libraries in their memory.

President’s Report

Ms. Youngblood welcomed the new Board members to the re-organization of the School Board. She is looking forward to working together as a Board and supporting one another.

Student Representatives’ Reports

Student Representatives **Elena Chaffin** and **Abbey Caspar** were unable to attend the Board meeting. Elena was playing in a home girls basketball game and Abbey was participating in a home swim meet. In their absence, **Austin Riley** and **Savannah Merrill** read the Student Representatives’ Report.

Every kindergarten student received a new book through the Reading is Fundamental program, and the **Queen of Hearts** helped the children choose their books. The Parent Teacher Conferences were a huge success with 80 out of 110 families showing up on November 19.

During assemblies in the schools, students received a message from **Kim Resh** and her daughter, **Mikayla**. Mikayla’s Voice shares a message of acceptance for people with disabilities.

The kindergarten class toured the **Carnegie of Homestead** on November 24, visiting the library, music hall, swimming pool and gymnasium. The Franklin Primary Center families donated non-perishable items to fill four baskets to be delivered to families before Thanksgiving. A \$10 gift card to Giant Eagle was included in each basket.

The 4th and 5th grade girls from Barrett and Park Elementary Schools attended a Pitt Women’s Basketball game.

At Park School, meteorologist **Mike Harvey** from WTAE and a representative from the Carnegie Science Center presented a weather assembly for the students.

Barrett Elementary School hosted a Veterans Day celebration on November 6. **Katie Pisula, Jonette Bost** and **Brad Thompson** did a great job coordinating the program.

An academic awards assembly was held at Barrett on November 16 to recognize students with perfect attendance and students who made honor roll. Students who scored proficient or advanced on the Math or English Language Arts section of the 2015 PSSA were also rewarded with a Barrett SWAG shirt. SWAG stands for **Students With Academic Goals**. Students who received the shirts were permitted to wear them to school on November 17.

The Barrett PTO hosted a Scholastic Book Fair during the week of Parent Teacher Conferences. They will also host a Soup and Santa family activity on December 12 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Eat n Park cookie grams will be sold and delivered for the holiday.

Upcoming events include penny wars between classrooms, and each grade level chooses a charity to support for the holidays.

Fifth grade students from Barrett and Park Schools visited Steel Center for Career and Technical Education on December 10. They participated in hands-on activities in Cosmetology, Auto Mechanics, Food Service, Protective Services, Health Services and Building Trades.

Barrett Elementary School's **All School Holiday Revue** will be held on December 17 at 1:00 p.m.

At the Middle School, the PTO will hold a meeting on December 15. The Middle School Choral concert will be held on December 16 at 6:00 p.m.

The middle school boys basketball season ends December 22, and the girls basketball season will start in January.

On December 21 and 22, seventh grade students will test out a STEAM class.

At the high school, students will participate in two days of Digital Citizenship Training on December 21 and 22. The high school staff completed two days of iPad training.

Rachel's Challenge was a huge success in the schools, and over 100 people attended the community event.

The fall play, *Chemistry*, was well attended, and we have so many talented students.

A group of students from **The Future is Mine** club visited IUP for Stand Together training.

Steel Valley SADD held a Health & Safety Expo for high school students on November 23. They thanked all of the organizations that supported and presented information tables and activities at the expo. They included the **Munhall & Homestead Police Departments, Munhall Fire Department, MAPS, AAA Safety Department, Allegheny Health System, Children's Hospital, Allegheny County Police, All State Insurance, Pennsylvania State Police** and all the **SADD** members who participated.

Semi-formal tickets will be on sale through December 18.

Student Government President **Gillian Brooks** thanked the School Board for all they do, and spread some holiday joy with candy canes for the School Board and Administrative staff.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Wehrer announced that the Transforming Twelfth project has received two donations. The **Homestead-area Economic Revitalization Corporation (HERC)** is disbanding and is donating \$7,737.23 to the Transforming Twelfth Project. **The Pittsburgh Foundation** has donated \$62,500 for the design and architectural costs for the project.

Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services Report

Mrs. Borges announced that on December 15, Park Elementary School would hold its Holiday Revue at 9:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. On December 21, the Franklin Primary Center students will hold a Sing-A-Long in the High School Auditorium at 12:30 p.m.

Director of Academics, Information & Technology Report

Mr. Colebank reported that the Administration is working on the Academic Handbook with new classes for next year.

The high school students will be taking the Digital Citizenship classes on December 21 and 22. In January, the iPads will be distributed to students.

Solicitor's Report

Mr. Fetzko reported that the Board has thirty days from December 7, 2015, to address the vacancy in the Board membership. Although the vacancy is for a four-year at large position, the person appointed will actually be appointed for two years. The last two years of the term will be awarded to whoever is successful in running in the next municipal election for the remaining two years of the term.

The Board adopted a resolution to appoint Tom Olson to the vacancy on the School Board.

The auditors from Maher Duessel presented their report on the single audit for the year ending June 30, 2015.

Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the following meeting minutes:

- October 26, 2015 worksession meeting
- October 29, 2015 regular meeting

Financial Management

The Board approved the following financial items:

- General Fund invoices for November 2015 in the amount of \$1,055,072.62
- General Fund hand checks for October 2015 in the amount of \$1,661,229.86
- General Fund hand checks for November 2015 in the amount of \$126,304.75
- General Fund Revenue Report for October 2015
- General Fund Revenue Report for November 2015
- General Fund Expenditure Report for October 2015
- General Fund Expenditure Report for November 2015
- General Fund Balance Sheet for October 2015
- General Fund Balance Sheet for November 2015
- Food Service Revenue Report for October 2015
- Food Service Revenue Report for November 2015
- Food Service Expenditure Report for October 2015
- Food Service Expenditure Report for November 2015
- Food Service invoices for October and November 2015 in the amount of \$76,021.41
- Food Service Balance Sheet for October 2015
- Food Service Balance Sheet for November 2015
- Payroll Funding Transfers for October and November 2015

- Capital Projects Statement of Income and Expense for two months ending November 30, 2015
- Temporarily suspended the Committed Fund Balance restriction until the state adopts a budget for the 2015 year and disburses funds to the school district
- Refund to Robert or Michaelene Aber, Lot and Block 133-A-252, as a result of exoneration, for year 2014 in the amount of \$864.59, pending confirming reports from the tax collector
- Refund to Harold Chau, Lot & Block 131-D-60, as a result of reassessment, for year 2014 in the amount of \$436.47, pending confirming reports from the tax collector
- Authorized Administration to commence the process of preparing all necessary paperwork in the event the district is in need of a Revenue Anticipation Note at the end of January. The district will not initiate any borrowing until after the Board approves the Revenue Anticipation Note and its terms
- Adopted a resolution certifying tax rate within inflation index for the 2016-2017 school year
- Payments from the Capital Projects Fund to:

Tower Engineering	\$741.00
Tower Engineering	\$885.00
Honeywell	\$16,616.70
Frankl Electric	\$10,460.00
Golon, Inc.	\$36,000.00
Golon, Inc.	\$36,865.20
DelRoy Windows	\$64,480.50
Murin & Murn, Inc. (Application 1)	\$138,210.75
Murin & Murn, Inc. (Application 2)	\$13,180.50
Murin & Murn, Inc. (Application 3)	\$8,738.75
Deere & Company (Tractor)	\$21,279.24
- Refund to Munhall Homestead Housing Association, Lot & Block 132-J-100, in the amount of \$36,669.10 for year 2014, as a result of exoneration

Operations

The Board approved the following items:

- Facility rental requests as presented
- Accepted the ADA Evaluation and Report for students and staff restroom compliance at the Senior High School, Middle School, Park School, Barrett School, Franklin Primary Center and Campbell Field Sports Complex
- Contract with Kudravy Architects to create architectural drawings that will eventually be used for construction bid documents. The cost of the service is \$18,500.00
- Place out for bid the digitally automated controls for the district buildings. The cost will be accounted for within the Capital Projects Fund
- Designated 45 desks and chairs as surplus furniture and authorized the district to donate the surplus 45 desks and chairs to the South Allegheny School District

Co-Curricular Leadership

The Board approved the fundraising requests as presented.

Special Assignments

The Board held readings of the following policies:

- Held second reading and adopted new Policy 824 Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries
- Held second reading and adopted revisions to policies in Section 600 of the Steel Valley Board Policy Manual with the exception of Policy 601
- Held first reading of new Policy 622.1 Capitalization of Fixed Assets
- Held first reading of revisions to Policy 601 Fiscal Objectives

Educational Leadership

The Board approved and authorized the advertising of the schedule of Board meeting dates for year 2016.

Personnel Management

The Board approved the following items:

- Family medical leave of absence for **Jill Callahan** retroactive to October 1, 2015, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- Family medical leave of absence for **Kevin Walsh** retroactive to October 12, 2015, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- Family medical leave of absence for **Lisa Lawson** effective January 4, 2016, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- Family medical leave of absence for **Nicole Strom** effective January 11, 2016, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- Intermittent family medical leave of absence for **Rebecca O'Shell** retroactive to December 8, 2015, not to exceed 60 days in duration
- Loren Ford as the paid interim 9th Grade Boys Basketball Coach retroactive to November 23, 2015, for the 2015-2016 season
- **Donna Perhacs** in the food service department, with benefits per the current collective bargaining agreement, and contingent upon receipt of the Act 151, compliance with Act 168, and passing a physical exam and the district's mandated controlled substances screening
- **Melissa McMahon** to a four-hour cleaning position effective December 11, 2015. The position has a rate of \$11.50 per hour with benefits per the collective bargaining agreement and contingent upon receipt of updated clearances
- **Renee Gelston** as a substitute in the food service department at the rate of \$8.25 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon passing a physical exam and the district's mandated controlled substances screening
- **Robert Mangis** as a full-time custodian with benefits per the current collective bargaining agreement, and contingent upon compliance with Act 168, and passing a physical exam and the district's mandated controlled substances screening
- **Lauren Varacalli** and **Doreen Dolton** as athletic volunteers for the 2015-2016 school year
- **Christine Richie** and **Cassandra Maloney** as day-to-day substitute teachers for the 2015-2016 school year at the approved daily rate, contingent upon receipt of updated clearances and compliance with Act 168

Special Meeting November 11, 2015

The Board approved the following items:

- Named Mrs. **Beth Cannon**, President Pro Tem for the special meeting
- Accepted, with regret, the retirement of **Sandra Fry**, Park School 5th grade teacher, under the provisions of Article XXVIII of the collective bargaining agreement effective at the end of the 2015-2016 school year
- Appointed **Melissa Scanga** to a full-time long-term substitute position retroactive to November 10, 2015, for the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year based upon Master's Step 1 salary plus benefits according to the collective bargaining agreement, contingent upon passing the district's mandated screening for controlled substances and compliance with Act 168
- Appointed **Noranne Yarbough** to a half-time long-term substitute position retroactive to November 10, 2015, for the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year prorated upon Master's Step 1 salary plus benefits according to the collective bargaining agreement, contingent upon passing the district's health examination and mandated screening for controlled substances, receipt of current clearances and compliance with Act 168

- Held a first reading of Policy 824 Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries
- Opened the supplemental position of Varsity Boys Basketball Head Coach
- Directed Administration to name an interim volunteer Boys Basketball Coach

Special Meeting November 24, 2015

The Board approved the following items:

- Ratified the collective bargaining agreement between the Steel Valley Educational Support Personnel Association and the school district for the period July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2020
- Appointed **Dale Chapman** as the paid, interim Varsity Boys Basketball Head Coach retroactive to November 16, 2015, for the 2015-2016 season
- Appointed **Shawn McCallister** and **Jamaal Anderson** as paid, interim Varsity Boys Basketball Assistant Coaches retroactive to November 16, 2015, for the 2015-2016 season