



April 2017 Board Brief

STEEL VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Memorial Books

The School Board acknowledged the passing of **Alice Ann (Cottone) Novosel**, retired art teacher; **Patti Karadus**, aunt of Mary Yuhas, Board member, and aunt of Clay Karadus, Cyber School Coordinator; **Gladys Rossey**, aunt of Donald Packer, high school custodian; **Ocie Anderson**, father-in-law of Leslie Hairston, Park paraprofessional; **Mafalda Zenone**, aunt of John Zenone, Director of Operational Services/Board Secretary; **William M. McCormley**, stepfather of Susan Large, middle school counselor, and Steve Large, iPad Implementation Specialist; **Wayne Overholt**, grandfather of Maria Heddleston, Title I Instructional Resource teacher and Brian Heddleston, former School Board member; **Barbara M. Broadwater**, sister of Wanda Burwell, Barrett cafeteria monitor; **Helen Seech**, grandmother of Nick Seech, high school Social Studies teacher; and **Daniel M. Rooney**, former U.S. Ambassador to Ireland, member of the Pro Football Hall of Fame and Chairman of the Pittsburgh Steelers. It was moved by **Mrs. Steele** and seconded by **Mrs. Yuhas** to place an appropriate selection of books into the school libraries in their memory.

Student Representatives' Reports

Miss Abby Ferson reported that students at Barrett Elementary School are taking the PSSA math exams this week. Barrett School is participating in Take Your Child to Work Day on Thursday, and students planted flowers for Earth Day. On April 26, a Volunteer Recognition Dinner will be held to recognize the school volunteers. Representatives from the Red Cross taught safety lessons to all students.

In May fourth grade students at Barrett will take the PSSA Science tests. A parent meeting will be held on May 2 at 5:45 p.m. **Kids of Steel** will participate in a race on May 6 at 9:00 a.m. in Pittsburgh. On May 10, Barrett will hold its annual Carnival from 5:00-7:00 pm. **Girls on the Run** will participate in a 5K race at Hartwood Acres at 9:00 a.m. on May 21. On May 23, Barrett will hold its Red Carpet Dinner and Awards Ceremony in the evening.

Miss Abbey Caspar stated that middle school students are taking the PSSA Math exams; the eighth grade students will take the PSSA Science exams on May 3 and 4. The choral groups and stage bands will be performing during the **Spring Arts Festival** May 1-3. The middle school and high school choral concerts will be held May 1, and the band concerts will be held on May 3 starting at 6:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium. The high school **Honor Awards Banquet** will be held at St. John's Cathedral Center on May 4. AP exams will be conducted May 3-11.

Remake Learning Night will be conducted on May 18 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. showcasing the high school's new robotics program, the planetarium and other ways technology is incorporated into learning.

A Keystone boot camp will be held after school from May 15-18. Students taking or re-taking the Keystone exams in any area should sign up with their math, English or science teacher. There will be daily prize drawings and a grand prize drawing for anyone who attends all four days. Keystone testing is May 23-25, and senior finals are also being held the same days.

The prom will be held on May 19 at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial.

Abbey reminded everyone that two months ago, members of SADD shared a public service message about the devastating effects of heroin. She was happy to report that Steel Valley tied for 3rd place in the Judges Choice category in the FBI Hope outreach contest. The students received a trophy and cash award for their service announcement video on the opioid epidemic.

Abbey Caspar added that the “really cool part about this was that we actually made a difference.” Combined viewers and sharers from all of the submitted videos noted that Steel Valley’s video reached over 1,000 people.

Abbey noted that students should stay on the safe schools route and not use Homestead Duquesne Road for walking to and from school.

Superintendent’s Report

Mr. Wehrer congratulated **Maribeth Meals** for her dedicated years of teaching at Barrett Elementary School. Mrs. Meals will be retiring after 19 years as a special education teacher. She began her career at Steel Valley as an autistic teacher, and her latest assignment has been with the learning support class.

Another retiree is **Mary Ellen Totin** who began as a substitute school nurse in the school district and then served as a Health Services Aide at Barrett Elementary School. She has served as a School Nurse at the elementary and middle schools since 2004 and has contributed to the well being and safety of our students. Mr. Wehrer wished both of them the best in their retirement.

Mr. Wehrer announced that the District would be acknowledging its volunteers for the vital role they play in making a difference in our schools at a Volunteer Recognition Dinner on April 26.

Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services Report

Mrs. Borges announced school calendar events:

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| May 1-3 | Spring Arts Festival |
| May 9 | Last Early Dismissal for Students and Staff Professional Development |
| May 17 | Parent Information Meeting |

Director of Academics, Information and Technology Report

Mr. Colebank reported scheduling has begun at the high school for next school year. An AlertNow message will be sent asking parents to return their children’s course selection sheets. The scheduling process will begin soon in the middle school.

The Technology Department will begin student iPad collection in the near future. Mr. Colebank invited students to join the **Geek Squad** to assist with end of the year responsibilities. He announced that Apple slashed the costs of iPads for education to \$299 each, which will be a cost savings to all school districts. Mr. Colebank announced that camera repair and new camera installation would take place at Park Elementary School entrance and other areas.

Mr. Colebank thanked **Mrs. Beth McCallister** for spearheading the testing initiatives; she has done a remarkable job. He also announced the possibility of holding summer school at the high school.

Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the following meeting minutes:

- March 27, 2017 worksession meeting
- March 30, 2017 regular meeting

Financial Management

The Board approved the following financial items:

- General Fund invoices for April 2017 in the amount of \$227,465.86
- General Fund hand checks for March 2017 in the amount of \$1,189,535.32
- General Fund Revenue Report for March 2017
- General Fund Expenditure Report for March 2017
- General Fund Balance Sheet for March 2017
- Food Service invoices for March 2017 in the amount of \$51,514.60
- Food Service Revenue Report for March 2017
- Food Service Expenditure Report for March 2017

- Food Service Balance Sheet for March 2017
- Payroll Funding Transfers for March 2017
- Capital Projects Revenue Report for March 2017
- Capital Projects Expenditure Report for March 2017
- Capital Projects Balance Sheet Report for March 2017
- High School Student Activities Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for March 2017
- Middle School Activities Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for March 2017
- External Groups Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for March 2017
- Athletics Fund Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for March 2017

Operations

The Board approved the following items:

- Facility rental requests as presented plus an additional request from the Girl Scouts
- District officials to execute the Memorandum of Agreement between the school district and the local police departments effective for the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 school years
- Date change for the Meet the Candidate facility rental to May 9 from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Co-Curricular Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Fundraising requests as presented
- NovaCare as the Athletic Trainer services provider at the cost as presented, contingent that the district solicitor can come to an agreement on contract language and that the terms include a thirty day termination notice after the first year, if services are not acceptable

Educational Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Educational Services Agreement between the Allegheny Intermediate Unit and the school district for the 2017-2018 school year and authorized the appropriate officials to execute said agreement
- Use of Funds Agreement between the Allegheny Intermediate Unit and the school district for the 2017-2018 school year and authorized the appropriate officials to execute said agreement
- Notice of Adoption of Policies, Procedures and Use of Funds Agreement between the Allegheny Intermediate Unit and the school district for the 2017-2018 school year and authorized the appropriate officials to execute said agreement

Personnel Management

The Board approved the following items:

- Accepted, with regret, the resignation of **Maribeth Meals** from the position of special education teacher according to the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding dated March 30, 2017
- Intermittent family medical leave of absence for **Patrick Loughran** retroactive to April 4, 2017, not to exceed 60 days in duration
- Appointed **Virginia Carr** to the supplemental position of Middle School Swim Coach for the 2017-2018 school year, contingent upon receipt of current clearances
- Family medical leave of absence for **Ellen Kelly** from April 17, 2017, through April 28, 2017
- Accepted, with regret, the resignation of **Mary Ellen Totin** according to the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding dated March 30, 2017
- **Memorandum of Understanding** for an early retirement incentive for the Steel Valley Education Association dated April 24, 2017