



Steel Valley School District Board Brief

**Board Meeting
August 28, 2007**

The Board acknowledged the passing of Phyllis McNeish, mother of Kim Kubancsek, board member, and wife of Glenn McNeish, retired buildings and grounds supervisor; John P. Sobie, retired social studies teacher; Frank Gennari, uncle of Kim Gennari; Mary Sally Wassell, aunt of Mike Mulligan; Elmer K. Pavasko, father of Mickey Pavasko; Spiro N. Kamberis, former football coach; June Fowler, uncle of Ed Colebank; Charles A. Miller, father-in-law of Susan Olsen; Jehru Donaldson, cousin of Nicole Adams; William G. Noll, grandfather of Jennifer Williams; Joseph L. Vasko, brother of Martha Sloan, board member; and Nicole Smeyres, 2004 Steel Valley Graduate. It was moved by Mr. Tim McCallister and seconded by Mrs. Terrick to place books into the Steel Valley School District Libraries.

President's Comments

Mrs. Cannon announced that a meeting of the Financial Management Committee would be held on September 4, 2007, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the High School Conference Room to discuss the 2005-2006 financial audit.

She thanked Mr. Bill Campbell for his recent visit to the school district for the unveiling of the painting of his brother James Campbell.

Mrs. Cannon thanked Mr. Keesecker and his custodial staff for their hard work and dedication this summer readying the buildings and grounds for the start of the 2007-2008 school year.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kinavey announced the staggered start times for the first day of the school year. He noted that Mr. Bill Sanders delivered a very motivational talk to the teachers on August 28.

Dr. Kinavey announced the four areas of focus for the 2007-2008 school year: Early Literacy, Sustained Professional Development, Data Driven Instruction and Raise the PSSA Scores.

He also complimented Mr. Keesecker and the staff on the cleanliness of the buildings.

Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Servicest

Mrs. Borges announced that the school district received a School-based Behavior Health grant in the amount of \$79,000 for the 2007-2008 school year. Last year, the district met with 1,109 students in grades K-8 using funding from the 2006-2007 grant award. She announced that the district would receive a grant to provide sensitivity training for middle school students.

Director of Academics, Information & Technology

The school district received a donation of \$1.1 million from Mr. Bill Campbell for phase one of the six-year technology plan for the school district. Mr. Colebank announced that we would be receiving over 500 technology items, which include laptop computers, student desktop computers, wireless airports, projectors, and educational software updates.

The Point of Sale system in the cafeteria was implemented in the elementary schools this year. The Food Service department will be working with the school to refine the process to speed up the service line. Both elementary schools have made additional modification to help the students remember their pin numbers.

The school district received the *Classrooms for the Future Grant*, which includes software, projectors and student laptop computers for the high school science department.

Steel Valley is in its third year of CISCO course offerings and enrollment has steadily increased. These courses allow students to move through the curriculum and earn certification as a CISCO Tech. Students learn to design, install and implement networking systems.

Director of Elementary Education

Dr. Policastro commended all staff members for their participation at Meet the Principal Night in the elementary buildings.

She announced that the school district is partnering with the West Jefferson Hills and Gateway School Districts to participate in professional development activities free of charge.

Dr. Policastro reported that the district is piloting a new science curriculum in grades K-5. She also reported that differentiated instruction and departmentalization is being implemented in grades K-5.

Solicitor's Report

Mr. Fetzko reported that he attended a pre-hearing conference held by Judge James on the Borough of Homestead's petition for regional elections. The Judge directed the Allegheny County Board of Elections to provide maps outlining the electoral districts of the three communities, together with the census track for each voting district. Additionally, each municipality and the school district should individually prepare alternative election proposals for the Court to consider. The plan will not be in place for the November election.

Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the meeting minutes of the May 29, June 19, and June 28, 2007 board meetings.

Financial Management

The Board approved the following financial items:

General Fund Revenue Report for June 2007

General Fund Expenditure Report for June 2007

Capital Improvements 2000-2001 Statement of Income and Expenses for the month ending June 30, 2007

Capital Improvements 2000-2001 Statement of Income and Expenses
for the month ending July 31, 2007

Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month
ending June 30, 2007

General Fund Expenditure Report for April 2007

Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month
ending July 31, 2007

Foundation for Education Statement of Income and Expense for the
month ending June 30, 2007

Foundation for Education Statement of Income and Expense for the
month ending July 31, 2007

Custodial hand checks in the amount of	\$27,327.66
Athletic hand checks in the amount of	\$904.00
Middle School hand checks in the amount of	\$1,783.02
Cafeteria budget for the 2007-2008 school year in the amount of	\$767,549

District officers to sign a contract for the purchase of meals from the
district by Eloise & Edith Day School

Munhall Borough real estate tax refund to Melissa Weir for Lot & Block
132-L-113 for year 2006 in the amount of \$328.18 as a result of a
change in assessment

Munhall Borough real estate tax refund to Kenneth Weir for Lot & Block
130-S-166 for year 2006 in the amount of \$250.31 as a result of a
change in assessment

Quote from PSBA through Cusumano Agency for renewal of package,
automobile and umbrella insurance for the 2007-2008 school year for a
total cost of \$61,072.70

Plancon Part K for General Obligation Bonds Refunding Series B of
2003

Operations

The Board approved the following: Facility rental requests as presented

- Fundraising requests as presented
- Equipment list to retire items from active inventory and have the items removed by Pittsburgh Technology Council at no cost to the district
- Purchase of 5 cafeteria tables for the middle school in the amount of \$6,364.52 to be paid from the 2005 Capital Improvements Fund
- Purchase of 5 round and 2 long cafeteria tables for the Senior High School in the amount of \$3,878.24 to be paid from the 2005 Capital Improvements Fund
- Purchase and installation of hand dryers in all restrooms in the high school and faculty restrooms to be paid from the 2005 Capital Improvements Fund
- Painting of the high school lockers by Nu-Kote Electrostatic in the amount of \$18,751 to be paid from the 2005 Capital Improvements Fund

Educational Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Agreement between the Steel Valley School District and the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for Title I services in the amount of \$34,662.25 to be provided for nonpublic students for the 2007-2008 school year
- Houghton Mifflin Science pilot program at the elementary level
- 2007-2008 Elementary Student/Parent Handbook
- 2007-2008 Elementary Academic Handbook
- 2007-2008 Middle School and Senior High School Student/Parent Handbooks
- Office of Pupil Services to work with the Pennsylvania Association of Pupil Services Administrators in conducting a Peer Review of the District's School Counseling Program at a fee to include expenses only of the Peer Review Team to be paid from Title II funds

Personnel Management

The Board approved the following:

- Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Heather Pfeifer from a middle school teaching position retroactive to July 30, 2007
- Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Tammy Hall from a high school teaching position retroactive to August 20, 2007
- Appointed Patricia DeGore to the position of Food Service Supervisor at a yearly salary of \$25,000 plus all benefits as provided in the Administrative Compensation Plan (Act 93) effective August 29, 2007, contingent upon receipt of current Act 34, Act 114 and Act 151 clearances, general physical examination and screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days or the position will be re-opened
- Appointed Jonathan Edwards to a long-term substitute History position assigned to the Middle School with the salary prorated at Bachelor's Step 2 retroactive to August 27, 2007
- Appointed Jamie Fleck to a part-time, long-term substitute Spanish position assigned to the High School with the salary prorated upon Bachelor's Step 1 retroactive to August 27, 2007, contingent upon receipt of current Act 34, Act 114 and Act 151 clearances, general physical examination, screening for controlled substances and teacher certification, which must be completed in 30 days or the position will be re-opened
- Family medical leave of absence for Julie Doebereiner beginning on or about October 1, 2007, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- Family medical leave of absence for Heather Huber beginning on or about October 29, 2007, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- Unpaid leave of absence for Amanda Perne for four (4) days on September 17-20, 2007
- Appointed Erin Cain, Shanna Bradfield and Susan Wilder as the special education teachers and Therese Safko and Mary Jo Sklenkar as the special education paraeducators for the Extended School Year Program retroactive to July 16 – August 9, 2007
- List of facilitators, tutors, and substitute tutors, excluding the Park School Reading Facilitator, at a rate of \$30 per hour and appoint the list of paraprofessionals at a rate of \$15 per hour for EAP Tutoring Program during the 2007-2008 school year
- Authorized the Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services to renew the contract with Physical Rehab, Inc., for physical therapy services as required at a rate of \$59.50 per hour
- Current list of substitute teachers and school nurses for the 2007-2008 school year at a rate of \$75 per day for the first 30 days and \$100 per day thereafter
- List of substitute teachers for the 2007-2008 school year at a rate of \$75 per day for the first 30 days and \$100 per day thereafter
- District officials to execute Professional Employee Contracts for Erik Jabs, Terrie Hoffman, Jill Bakota, Anthony Natale, Shannon Fry, Debra Hrabosky, Mary Ellen Totin, Nicole Shipley and Daniel Condosta
- Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Dan Lesko from the position of special education

paraeducator effective immediately

- Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Carol Howley from the position of food service worker in the Senior High School cafeteria effective immediately
- Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Sharon McCallister from the position of part-time instructional aide at Barrett Elementary School effective immediately
- Appointed Vicki Deutsch to the position of part-time (4 hours per day) substitute calling person at a rate of \$7.15 per hour with benefits as outlined in the collective bargaining agreement effective August 29, 2007, and contingent upon receipt of current Act 114 clearance, general physical examination and screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days or the position will be re-opened
- 2007-2008 salary increases and annual salaries for two confidential secretaries as listed retroactive to July 1, 2007
- Athletic and Activity Supplementals as listed with the exception of Equipment Manager and Districtwide Intramural Director
- 2007-2008 athletic volunteers as listed contingent upon receipt of current clearances
- Jeannine Chesmer as a substitute in the food service department at the rate of \$7.15 per hour and no fringe benefits, contingent upon receipt of current Act 114 clearance, general physical examination, and screening for controlled substances