



Steel Valley School District Board Brief

Steel Valley School District
October 10, 2014

The School Board acknowledged the passing of **Adele E. Vautier**, mother of Drew Vautier, retired teacher; **Sandra Shiner**, mother of Sherri Titmus, Franklin Primary Secretary, and grandmother of Dylan Titmus, substitute custodian; **Mary Ruth Zahir**, mother of Aliya (Class of 2012), Leena (Class of 2013) and Charles, 7th grade student; **Lawrence “Duke” Tomasic**, father of Kevin Tomasic, 4th grade Park School teacher and grandfather of Brandon, Nathan, Cailyn and Johnny, Steel Valley students; **Elizabeth B. Cmar**, mother of Lisa Vehec, substitute secretary and paraprofessional; and **Jason Pollock**, cousin of Sandy Reiner, Accounts Payable Secretary. It was moved by **Ms. Youngblood** and seconded by **Mrs. Steele** to place an appropriate selection of books into the school libraries in their memory.

President’s Report

Mrs. Donna Kiefer congratulated the Ironmen Varsity Football Team for making the WPIAL playoffs. Mrs. Kiefer read a letter from the Steel Valley Gridiron Association thanking the School Board, community businesses, parents and students for a successful 1st Annual Gridiron Homecoming Dance. She also shared a letter from St. John’s Cathedral Center complimenting the students for being polite and well mannered at the homecoming dance.

Student Representative’s Report

Student Representative **Brandon Tomasic** reported on the activities at Franklin Primary Center.

The Queen of Hearts visited the kindergarten students on October 23. The students participated in the Halloween Parade with games and activities in the afternoon of October 30.

At Park Elementary School, the PTO had a very successful fundraiser selling 1,148 Triangle hoagies. The top selling class in each grade was treated to a pizza party. On October 29 and 30, the PTO hosted Family Movie Nights to see *Monsters University* or *Hocus Pocus*.

Mrs. Lauren Baughman and the **Park PTO** are sponsoring a Closet Exchange for parents to donate uniforms they no longer use, as well as pick up uniform items they may need.

Park School hosted a fire safety day on October 10. The Park Power Parade will take place on October 31st.

A middle school dance will take place on November 16. Deposits for the 8th grade trip to Washington, D.C. are due in November. Middle School boys basketball tryouts were held this week, and the first game is Wednesday next week.

Big Brothers and Big Sisters held a launch party for its mentoring program between 6th grade students and Eat 'n Park employees.

Brandon Tomasic announced the 2014 Homecoming Court: **Sarah Parker, Leah Mooney, Kristen Veltri, Marissa Stahl** and **Jodi Joll**.

Homecoming Queen **Erin Jones** 1st Runner Up **Jessica Lentz** 2nd Runner Up **Maddie Imperatore** 3rd Runner Up **Cayley Labishak** 4th Runner Up **Kristen Moten**

He announced that the Powder Puff King candidates worked hard fundraising for **The Caring Place**. **Connor Szczepankowski** was named runner up and raised \$560, and the Powder Puff King **Tyler Lewis** raised over \$600.

On October 13, the high school staff participated in a concussion management inservice learning how to transition students into the classroom after a concussion.

Tenth grade students completed the PSATs on October 15.

Senior Jesse Cantley made All Section Playoffs in the golf competition, and the varsity football team advanced to the playoffs. They will play Washington High School on Friday.

On October 29, the **Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD)** planted red tulip bulbs in the high school garden as a way to celebrate National Red Ribbon Week.

The **Safety SIMulator** will visit the high school on November 7 giving students experience behind the wheel in various adverse conditions.

Munhall Police conducted a seat belt safety check at Park Elementary School and Franklin Primary Center with assistance of the **SADD students**. Information promoting the importance of seat belt safety was distributed to parents.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Ed Wehrer congratulated the **SADD students** on their good work this month. He also congratulated the football team on earning a spot in the WPIAL playoffs.

Director of Pupil Personnel, Special Services & Elementary Education

Mrs. Diana Borges congratulated the middle school gifted teams on their 1st and 2nd place finishes in the Eastern Suburbs Special Programs Association (ESSPA) Creative Convention competition with the theme of architecture. The 1st team comprised of **Ella Kornacki, Isabella Furrick, Diana Craycroft, Katie Proof** and **Alexis Proof** earned 1st place by writing and performing a skit and a song about Lady Liberty and making a bridge out of pasta and tape. The 2nd team of **Robby Vinay, Sydney Salinger, Josh Fossick** and **David Bujdos** took 2nd place in the competition by naming architectural landmarks and performing a skit.

On October 27 **Miss Diana Craycroft** took 2nd place out of 74 contestants in the ESSPA Gifted Vocal competition held at Greensburg-Salem Middle School.

Director of Academics, Information & Technology Report

Mr. Colebank announced that the school district is testing various alert systems.

Through the Steel Valley and **Apple Computer** partnership, we are evaluating our infrastructure and will increase bandwidth with a more high-end wireless network.

Solicitor's Report

The Board approved that the district will not relinquish either the current or delinquent realty tax liens imposed on realty designated as Block 179-A-40 as requested by the Borough of Munhall

Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the following meeting minutes:

- September 16, 2014 special meeting (revised)
- September 22, 2014 worksession meeting
- September 25, 2014 board meeting

Financial Management

The Board approved the following financial items:

- General Fund invoices for September 2014 in the amount of \$982,531.53
- General Fund hand checks for September 2014 in the amount of \$1,145,478.85
- Food Service invoices for September/October 2014 in the amount of \$57,340.47
- Payroll Funding Transfers for September 2014
- General Fund Revenue Report for September 2014
- General Fund Expenditure Report for September 2014

- Trial Balance for September 2014
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for month ending September 30, 2014
- Custodial/hand checks in the amount of \$24,118.12
- Middle School/hand checks in the amount of \$3,596.44
- Athletic invoices/hand checks in the amount of \$9,587.09
- Band Trip/hand checks in the amount of \$757.47
- Real estate tax refunds to: John D. and Lisa Maddigan, Lot & Block 131-H-286 in the amount of \$309.08 for year 2013 John D. and Lisa Maddigan, Lot & Block 133-G-98, in the amount of \$216.48 for year 2013 Mary Lou Hunt, Lot & Block 131-D-266, in the amount of \$233.89 for year 2013 Daniel M. & Paula C. Borsch, Lot & Block 133-R-200, in the amount of \$39.00 for year 2014
- Authorized the district to submit a credit application to Matheson Valley to establish an account for the purchase of CO2 tanks for the swimming pool's new filter system
- Authorized the district to submit a credit application to Barr Display to establish an account for the purchase of filing cabinets for the teachers
- Authorized payments from Capital Projects to Tremco in the amount of \$348,392.96 and to Quality Mechanical Services in the amount of \$22,770.00
- Opened the 2014-2015 budget to add and adopt to the budget the items tallying revenues of \$277,430 and expenditures of \$354,430

Operations

- The Board approved the following items:
- Facility rental requests as presented
- Purchase of a 625i Gator from Deere & Company at the Pennsylvania state contract price of \$17,854.75
- Authorized the business office to classify the 2001 16 ft. Texas Bragg Trailer as surplus equipment to be advertised for sale, in the event of no bid, trade in or dispose of
- Rejected all bids and re-advertise for a steel maintenance building

Co-Curricular Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Fundraising requests as presented
- Agreement between Steel Valley School District and the West Mifflin Area School District allowing Steel Valley players to wrestle with the **West Mifflin Boys Middle School and Varsity Wrestling Teams** starting with the 2014-2015 season according to the terms of the agreement
- Field trip request for the **marching band** and chaperones to Virginia Beach, Virginia, on April 9-12, 2015

- Authorized payment of \$500 for disc jockey services at the winter semi-formal dance held on December 13, 2014

Educational Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Revised the 2014-2015 school calendar and changed the early dismissal on December 9 to December 16
- Accepted a donation from the **Campbell Educational and Community Foundation** in the amount of \$108,922 for desktop computers to be placed in Park School, Middle School and Senior High School
- Accepted the donation of a tablet and laminator for the Secondary Math Department from CMU and the LearnLab
- Accepted a donation of \$500 from the **University of Pittsburgh** for providing an onsite visit to 11 educators from the **Indonesian Ministry of National Education and Culture**
- Accepted Pets in the Classrooms program for our schools

Personnel Management

The Board approved the following items:

- Family medical leave of absence for **Denise Williams** retroactive to September 6, 2014, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- Family medical leave of absence for **Dennis Keesecker** effective December 3, 2014, not to exceed 42 days in duration
- Appointed **Jillian L. Braszo** as a long-term substitute special education teacher at Park Elementary School retroactive to September 19, 2014, for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year at a prorated Bachelor's Step 1 salary of \$42,683 plus prorated benefits as per the SVEA collective bargaining agreement and contingent upon passing the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days
- Appointed **Brigid Laird** to a long-term substitute first grade position at Barrett Elementary School for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year at a prorated Bachelor's Step 1 salary of \$42,683 plus benefits as per the SVEA collective bargaining agreement, contingent upon passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days
- Accepted the resignation of **Carly Snyder** from the position of High School Varsity Cheerleading Coach effective immediately

- Appointed **Betty Lyons** to the After School Program Director supplemental position at Barrett Elementary School and appointed **Michelle Blasko** to the After School Program Director supplemental position at Park Elementary School for the 2014-2015 school year at a prorated stipend of \$3,500
- Created paid supplemental positions for one (1) assistant girls basketball coach, one (1) assistant boys basketball coach and one (1) assistant boys baseball coach
- Appointed athletic and activity supplemental positions as presented
- **Caitlyn Bressler** as a day-to-day substitute teacher for the 2014-2015 school year at the approved daily rate
- Volunteers listed for the 2014-2015 school year, contingent upon receipt of current clearances
- Denied Grievance #14-254 from the Steel Valley Education Association
- Accepted, with regret, the resignation of **Jennifer Weis** from the position as food service worker in the cafeteria at Barrett Elementary School, retroactive to October 9, 2014
- Appointed **Janet Hvizdos** to the position of general worker in the high school cafeteria for 3.25 hours per day at the 90-day probationary rate of 85% of \$9.89 (\$8.41) per hour and all benefits per the collective bargaining agreement effective October 31, 2014