

**Regular Meeting**  
**Steel Valley School District Board of Directors**  
**Senior High School Library**  
**September 24, 2015**

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Kiefer, President, at 7:00 p.m.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

Mrs. Ballas, Mrs. Cannon, Mr. Olson (arrived 7:01 p.m.),  
Mrs. Steele, Mr. Terrick (arrived 7:10 p.m.), Mrs. Yuhas  
and Mrs. Kiefer

Absent: Mr. Bajus and Ms. Youngblood

Also present: Mr. Wehrer, Mr. Fetzko, Mr. Zenone, Mr. Colebank and  
Mrs. Borges

Flag Salute

**Acknowledgements**

The Board acknowledged the following deaths in the Steel Valley School District families: *Richard Morgan*, husband of retired teacher Mathilda Morgan, brother-in-law of retired secretary Vivian Makusenka and cousin of Marilyn Zabelsky, Park School teacher; *Sandra L. King*, mother of middle school student Madison King and 2014 Steel Valley graduate Shane King; **Joseph Dorko**, father of Michelle Maddigan, high school science teacher; **Lawrence “Deuce” Skurcenski**, high school scorekeeper and statistician; **Mark W. Grimm**, brother-in-law of Kathy Grimm, Barrett paraprofessional; **Adeline M. Gonella**, aunt of Melissa Draganosky, Park School teacher; and **Margaret Besh**, grandmother of Toni Besh, high school French teacher.

**Mr. Olson moved and Mrs. Steele seconded the motion to approve the purchase of memorial books to be placed into the district libraries in memory of the above departed.** Upon roll call the following members voted

affirmatively: Ballas, Cannon, Olson, Steele, Yuhas and Kiefer. Negative: None. Motion carried.

### **President's Report**

Mrs. Kiefer:

- Thanked the School Board members, administrators, teachers, staff and students for a wonderful start to the new school year. Their hard work and determination in preparing for the 2015-2016 school year is paying off.
- Thank you to all those who made the middle school iPad Bash a success. Nearly all of the middle school students picked up their new iPads at one of the three iPad Bashes this month.
- The Steel Valley Marching Band is hosting a Tournament of Bands competition on Saturday, September 26, at the William V. Campbell Athletic Field beginning at 6 p.m.

### **Student Representatives' Reports**

- Mr. Wehrer welcomed and introduced the senior and junior representatives to the School Board. Elena Chaffin, the senior student representative to the Board, has been a member of student Council since her freshman year. She is also a member of students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) and was a member of the History Club. Elena has participated in a number of sports teams over the years such as basketball, softball and cheerleading.
- She played in last year's powder puff game and will be playing in this year's game. She is active in a number of organizations outside of school, such as, Investing Now, the Black Political Empowerment Project, the Coalition Against Violence, The Oasis Theater Company and Strong Women, Strong Girls.
- Abbey Caspar, the junior representative to the Board, has been a member of Student Council since her freshman year. She is on the swim team and the cross-country team. She is also a member of the French Club, History Club, Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD), The Future is Mine (TFIM) and Creating Value.
- Reported that Mrs. Lisa Duval, the new high school principal, came to us from South Allegheny High School. The students and staff have

welcomed her with open arms and are glad to have her as part of the Steel Valley family.

- The Student Government has planned some exciting activities for Homecoming Week. High School students and staff are encouraged to participate in the themed days during the week of October 12. With help from Mr. McCallister, club members and sponsors will host booths at the Homecoming Carnival on Wednesday, October 14, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. The Powder Puff game will follow at 6:30 p.m. There will be a pep rally during school for the middle school and high school on Friday. Representatives from the sports teams, cheerleaders, pep band and homecoming court will visit the elementary schools on October 16. The homecoming game will be held on Friday, October 16, starting at 7:00 p.m. The homecoming queen and runners-up will be announced during halftime of the game.
- The high school students are excited about the roll out of the iPads in January.
- The new courses offered this year have been well received by the students. In the forensics class, the students were actually measuring blood splatters and calculating date to figure the angle of impact.
- The Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) group was chosen by National SADD as one of 10 schools to participate in a new student-led group call the Youth Traffic Safety Committee. Student leaders traveled to Keystone Oaks High School to join students from other schools to come up with activities to promote safe driving among their peers.
- The SADD students and School Resource Officer Boehme will conduct seat belt checks at Franklin Primary, Barrett and Park Schools.
- Fall sports are underway and the students are representing the district in a positive manner. The marching band is hosting a band competition on Saturday evening at Campbell Field.
- Two student fan busses will travel to the away football game on Friday against Seton LaSalle. Thanks to Mrs. Besh and Mrs. McCallister for chaperoning the students.
- The History Club will be taking a field trip to tour the Carrie Furnace, the Pump House and the Bost Building.
- Miss Abby Casper reported the iPad initiative is off to a great start in the middle school. Students are actively engaged in challenging lessons and are learning new skills everyday.
- Rehearsals for the middle school chorus begin Tuesday for 6<sup>th</sup> graders, Wednesday for 7<sup>th</sup> graders and Thursday for 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

- Barrett and Park Elementary Schools will hold a School Wide Positive Behavior assembly and a safety assembly with Officer Phil. Officer Phil is the new School Resource Office at Barrett Elementary School.
- There has been a great response from students for the after school clubs at Barrett and Park Schools.
- The Park PTO had a very successful meeting on Tuesday, September 22. Following the meeting the parents and students were invited to shop at the Scholastic Book Fair.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Wehrer:

- Noted that through the Community Eligibility Program, we have an 18% increase in breakfast and 9% increase in lunch participation.

### **Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services Report**

Mrs. Borges:

- She will initiate a parent survey for parents of students with disabilities.
- There will be no school for students on Monday, October 12. This will be a professional development day for staff members.

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

Mr. Colebank:

- Reported that 22 high school students and 6 middle school students applied to be part of the Steel Valley Geek Squad.
- Middle school parent emails have been activated. Mr. Macuga will send an email to parents next week to remind them of their passwords.
- The Administration is evaluating the Academic Handbook for next school year. Suggestions for new classes may be submitted.

### **Citizen Comments on Agenda Items**

None

## **Board Meeting Minutes**

**Mr. Olson moved and Mrs. Ballas seconded the motion to approve the following meeting minutes of the August 11, 2015 special meeting, August 17, 2015 worksession meeting, August 20, 2015 regular meeting, August 25, 2015 special meeting.** Upon roll call the following members voted as follows:

- August 11, 2015: Ballas, Cannon, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas, Kiefer. Abstain: Olson. Negative: None.
- August 17, 2015: Steele, Terrick, Kiefer. Abstain: Ballas, Cannon, Olson, Yuhas. Negative: None.
- August 20, 2015: Ballas, Cannon, Olson, Steele, Terrick. Abstain: Yuhas and Kiefer. Negative: None.
- August 25, 2015: Olson, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas and Kiefer. Abstain: Ballas and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

### **1.0 Financial Management**

**Mrs. Cannon moved and Mrs. Ballas seconded the motion to approve the following:**

- 1.0 List of bills
  - 1.1.01 General Fund invoices for 2014-2015 paid in 2015-2016 in the amount of \$14,244.00
  - 1.1.02 General Fund invoices for September 2015 in the amount of \$689,065.17
  - 1.1.03 General Fund hand checks for August 2015 in the amount of \$339,427.48
  - 1.1.04 General Fund Revenue Report for August 2015
  - 1.1.05 General Fund Expenditure Report for August 2015
  - 1.1.06 General Fund Trial Balance for August 2015
  - 1.1.07 Food Service Revenue Report for August 2015
  - 1.1.08 Food Service Expenditure Report for August 2015
  - 1.1.09 Food Services invoices for August 2015
  - 1.1.10 Food Service Balance Sheet
  - 1.1.11 Payroll Funding Transfers for August 2015
  - 1.1.12 Capital Projects Statement of Income and Expense for month ending August 31, 2015
  - 1.1.13 High School Student Activities Balance Sheet for July and August 2015

- 1.1.14 Middle School Activities Balance Sheet for July and August 2015
- 1.1.15 Athletics Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expense Statements for July and August 2015
- 1.2 The Capital Projects Fund disbursements in the amount of \$318,528.68
- 1.3 The appraisal from Bodnar Real Estate Services, Inc., in the amount of \$900.00 for the two vacant lots on 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Homestead
- 1.4 The creation of a Request for Proposal for information technology services  
Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Cannon, Olson, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas, and Kiefer. Negative: None. Motion carried.

## **2.0 Operations**

**Mr. Terrick moved and Mr. Olson seconded the motion to approve the following:**

- 2.1 Facility rental requests as presented  
Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Olson, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas and Kiefer.  
Abstain: Cannon on Permit Nos. 4427 and 4428 and voted affirmatively on Permit Nos. 4421, 4422, 4423, 4424 and 4426.  
Negative: None. Motion carried.

## **3.0 Co-Curricular Leadership**

**Mr. Terrick moved and Mr. Olson seconded the motion to approve the following:**

- 3.1 Fundraising requests as presented
- 3.2 The request for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade field trip to Washington, D.C. on May 5-7, 2016, at no cost to the school district.  
Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Cannon, Olson, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas and Kiefer. Negative: None. Motion carried.

## **4.0 Special Assignments**

No report

## **5.0 Educational Leadership**

**Mrs. Yuhas moved and Mr. Olson seconded the motion to approve the following:**

- 5.1 The 2015-2016 Elementary Student Handbook and Elementary Faculty Handbook as presented
- 5.2 A donation of school supplies to the Steel Valley Middle School from Rev. Keith and Monica Kaufold of 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue Place Ministry
- 5.3 Select new dates and re-advertise for the December meetings
- 5.4 Entering into an agreement with Robert Half and Associates for technology services not to exceed \$40 per hour

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Cannon, Olson, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas and Kiefer. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Mrs. Yuhas thanked everyone who attended the Education Committee meeting.

## **6.0 Personnel Management**

**Mr. Terrick moved and Mrs. Steele seconded the motion to approve the following:**

- 6.1 The creation of one-half professional position with a 2015-2016 assignment of gifted support
- 6.2 Deleted
- 6.3 Tracy Findlay to a temporary professional position as a districtwide elementary teacher with a 2015-2016 assignment of 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher at Barrett Elementary School effective September 25, 2015, based upon Bachelor's Step 1 salary plus benefits as per the SVEA collective bargaining agreement and contingent upon passing the district's health examination and the mandated screening for controlled substances
- 6.4 Lauren Stuart as a day-to-day substitute teacher for the 2015-2016 school year at a the approved daily rate, contingent upon compliance with Act 168 of 2014

- 6.5 Accept, with regret, the resignation of Denise Williams from the supplemental position of Student Government
  - 6.6 The supplemental positions as listed
  - 6.7 The KtO supplemental positions as listed
  - 6.8 Christine Furrick to the position of districtwide paraeducator at a rate of \$10.10 per hour with benefits according to the collective bargaining agreement retroactive to August 24, 2015
  - 6.9 To create a districtwide paraeducator position to support the IEPs of students with disabilities
  - 6.10 The volunteers listed for the 2015-2016 school year, contingent upon receipt of Act 34 clearance, Act 151 clearance and a signed Verification of Volunteer form (or the FBI federal criminal history clearance)
  - 6.11 A Memorandum of Understanding with the Steel Valley Education Association
  - 6.12 A Settlement Agreement and Release as presented and authorize the appropriate officials to execute said agreement
  - 6.13 Add Judi Besnak to the substitute custodian list
- Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Cannon, Olson, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas and Kiefer. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Mr. Olson commented on a supplemental position.

### **Citizen Comments**

None

### **Adjournment**

Meeting ended at 7:52 p.m.