



Steel Valley School District

Board Brief

**Board Meeting
September 25, 2014**

The School Board acknowledged the passing of **Hayli M. Buckley**, sister of Holli Bobick, Park School paraprofessional; **Violet B. Recktosh**, mother-in-law of Vera Recktosh, former member of the Adult Education Committee; and **Matilda A. “Tillie” Hallas**, retired business office employee. 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 announced that students like the new science kits and are having fun while learning.

Student Representative’s Report

Student Representative **Brandon Tomasic** announced that Officer Dan talked to the kindergarten students about seat belt safety.

After school programming at Barrett Elementary School will begin the first week in October. Students from Park and Barrett Elementary Schools will visit Consol Energy Center on October 20 to watch the Pittsburgh Penguins practice. Officer Phil discussed safety issues with students at Barrett Elementary.

Park PTO will start a Closet Exchange for parents to donate and select clothing for their children to follow the dress code. On September 16, the **School Wide Positive Behavior Support CORE Team** hosted a School Wide Kick-Off for students to earn Power Cards. The big prize was to nominate **Principal Baughman** for the Ice Bucket Challenge.

At the middle school, teachers are doing a great job implementing the new science curriculum and using the hands-on science kits.

Brandon Tomasic reported that Journalism, Earth Space, Civics, Gaming and College in High School Web Design are new courses offered at the high school. These classes were added to create a rigorous and challenging curriculum to prepare students for life after high school.

The Fall sports are in progress—Cross County, Golf, Girls and Boys Soccer, Football and Girls Volleyball.

The **Gridiron Club** is sponsoring the first annual Homecoming Dance on October 4.

Superintendent’s Report

Mr. Ed Wehrer shared the thank you card received from the 4th grade students at Barrett Elementary School for the science kit to learn about energy and electromagnetism using batteries.

Mr. Bill Campbell is stepping down as the Chairman of the Board of Apple Computer, and he asked Apple to assist Steel Valley with additional technology in its schools. Apple will be partnering with Steel Valley as we plan our delivery of instruction to be more engaged in student learning. A team of educators from Steel Valley will meet with Apple representatives and tour an elementary school in Maryland as part of this ongoing partnership.

Director of Pupil Personnel, Special Services & Elementary Education

The district will undergo a special education monitoring by the Department of Education this year, with a visit in February. **Mrs. Borges** asked the parents of children with an IEP to log on to the district website (www.steelvalleysd.org) to take part in a survey.

Director of Academics, Information & Technology Report

Mr. Colebank announced that progress reports would be going out on Wednesday.

He also noted that the high school parking procedure is improving daily. He asked parents to pull down as far as possible when dropping off students to help speed up the morning drop-off.

Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the following meeting minutes:

- July 28, 2014 worksession meeting
- July 31, 2014 regular meeting
- August 11, 2014 worksession meeting
- August 14, 2014 board meeting

Financial Management

The Board approved the following financial items:

- General Fund invoices for 2013-2014 in the amount of \$147,057.04
- General Fund invoices for September 2014 in the amount of \$700,955.92
- General Fund hand checks for August 2014 in the amount of \$546,916.14
- Food Service invoices in the amount of \$18,384.86
- Payroll Funding Transfers for August 2014
- General Fund Revenue and Expenditure Reports for August 2014
- Treasurer's Report for August 2014
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for month ending August 31, 2014
- Custodial/hand checks in the amount of \$15,611.30
- Athletic invoices/hand checks in the amount of \$6,495.00
- Band Trip/hand checks in the amount of \$1,595.65
- Purchase of four-year surety bonds from Liberty Mutual Surety in the amount of \$17,996.00 for the collectors of West Homestead, Homestead and the Borough of Munhall. The agency for these bonds is Allegheny Professional Insurance Agency.
- Real estate refunds to ETC FBO Edward Benz IRA, Lot & Block 131-H-100, in the amounts of \$191.85 for year 2012 and \$104.42 for year 2013, and to Milan J. and Sharon Blazeovich, Lot & Block 133-K-295, in the amount of \$393.45 for year 2014
- Payments from Capital Projects to Weatherproofing Technologies in the amount of \$66,037.04, Honeywell in the amount of \$8,000.00, Honeywell in the amount of \$15,000.00, Quality Mechanical Services in the amount of \$11,875.00 and Franjo in the amount of \$70,000.00

Operations

The Board approved the following items:

- Facility rental requests as presented
- Authorized the Board to classify 25 television sets as surplus equipment, then to be made available to the community and the remainder safely disposed of thereafter

Co-Curricular Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Fundraising requests as presented
- Field trip request for the 8th grade students and chaperones to Washington, DC, on May 7, 8 and 9, 2015
- Field trip request by the History Club members and chaperones to Baltimore and Annapolis, Maryland, and Flight 93 Memorial on May 30, May 31 and June 1, 2015

Educational Leadership

The Board approved a school-based research study at Franklin Primary Center by **Dr. Becky A. Knickelbein** during the 2014-2015 school year.

Personnel Management

The Board approved the following items:

- Appointed **Lisa J. Runco** to the 11-month position of Director of Food Service at an annual salary of \$38,000 plus all the benefits of the Act 93 contract except vacation days
- **Jillian Braszo, Kerry Kleinhans, Stacy Vietmeier** and **Guinevere Bartley** as day-to-day substitute teachers for the 2014-2015 school year at the approved daily rate, contingent upon receipt of current clearances
- Volunteer lists as presented for the 2014-2015 school year, contingent upon receipt of current clearances
- Denied Grievances #14-240, #14-241, #14-242, #14-243, #14-244, #14-248, #14-250, #14-251, #14-252 and #14-253 from the Steel Valley Education Association
- Approve the relief sought for Grievance #14-245 from the Steel Valley Education Association
- Accepted, with regret, the retirement of **Walter Baranowski**, high school custodian, under the terms of the Early Retirement Incentive offer in the Memorandum of Understanding effective at the close of business on December 31, 2014
- Job description for the secretary in the technology office
- **Shirley A. Munch** as a substitute for food service at the rate of \$7.25 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days
- **Patricia Bracaliello-Metz** as a substitute for support staff at the rate of \$7.25 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days
- **Diane Healey** as a substitute for support staff at the rate of \$7.25 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days
- **Christine Rager** as a substitute for support staff at the rate of \$7.25 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days
- **Jennifer Merichko** as a substitute for support staff at the rate of \$7.25 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days
- Appointed **James Bartko** to the position of full-time secretary in the district with salary and benefits according to the secretarial/aide 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

- Appointed **Tonya Jenkins** to the position of part-time secretary in the district with prorated salary and benefits according to the secretarial/aide 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

Previous Board Action

The Board approved the following items:

- Accepted, with regret, the retirement of **Barry Specter** from a teaching position under the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement effective immediately
- Accepted, with regret, the retirement of **Irvin Williams** from the position of security guard at Barrett Elementary retroactive to August 20, 2014
- Appointed **Erin Noblet** to a full-time professional teaching position with a 2014-2015 assignment of districtwide special education teacher at Step 4 of the Bachelor's salary schedule (\$46,172) plus fringe benefits according to the collective bargaining agreement effective on or about September 5, 2014, and contingent upon passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days
- Appointed **Brynn Ebbitt** to a full-time temporary professional teaching position with a 2014-2015 assignment of districtwide special education teacher at Step 4 of Master's salary schedule (\$47,663) plus fringe benefits according to the collective bargaining agreement retroactive to August 20, 2014, and contingent upon receipt of current clearances, passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days
- Appointed **Amy Selick** to a full-time temporary professional teaching position with a 2014-2015 assignment of districtwide special education teacher at Step 2 of the Master's salary schedule (\$45,121) plus fringe benefits according to the collective bargaining agreement retroactive to August 20, 2014, and contingent upon passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed within 30 days.
- Appointed **Erin Dawso** to a full-time temporary professional teaching position with a 2014-2015 assignment of districtwide special education teacher at Step 2 of the Bachelor's salary schedule (\$43,632) plus fringe benefits according to the collective bargaining agreement retroactive to August 20, 2014, contingent upon receipt of current clearances, passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days
- Appointed **Tara Simm** to a half-time temporary professional teaching position with a 2014-2015 assignment of Middle School Art at Step 1 of the Bachelor's salary schedule plus fringe benefits according to the collective bargaining agreement effective September 5, 2014, contingent upon passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days
- Appointed **Dianne Furnival** to a temporary professional teaching position with a 2014-2015 assignment of Grade 3 at Barrett Elementary School with salary and fringe benefits according to the collective bargaining agreement retroactive to August 20, 2014, and contingent upon passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days
- Appointed **Mary Ellen Totin** as a half-time, long-term substitute school nurse with prorated salary and fringe benefits according to the collective bargaining agreement retroactive to August 21, 2014.
- **Tess Douglas** as a substitute teacher for the 2014-2015 school year at the approved daily rate

- **Janet Hvizdos** as a substitute secretary and in food service at the rate of \$7.25 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days
- **Tonya Jenkins** as a substitute secretary and in food service at the rate of \$7.25 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days
- Created two Elementary After School Program Coordinator supplemental positions
- Tower Engineering to perform a feasibility study at a price of \$9,500
- Awarded the bid for supplying and erecting a storage building to Swede Construction, per bid specifications, in the amount of \$178,371 inclusive of Alternate #1 through #4 and #6, to be paid from the Capital Projects fund
- Administration to place out for bid and advertise supplemental work needed to be performed to address the needed improvements surrounding the pool facility
- Created a half-time paraprofessional position
- Appointed winter supplemental head coaching positions
- Appointed spring supplemental head coaching positions
- Created a long-term substitute first grade position for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year effective September 26, 2014