

**Regular Meeting**  
**Steel Valley School District Board of Directors**  
**Senior High School Library**  
**October 26, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Youngblood, President, at 7:11 p.m.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

Mrs. Ballas, Mr. Bulger, Mr. Colasante, Mr. Olson, Mrs. Steele,  
Mrs. Yuhás and Ms. Youngblood

Absent: Mr. Rojtas (Excused Town Hall Meeting) and Mr. Terrick

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

Flag Salute

**Acknowledgements**

Moment of Silence

The Board acknowledged the following deaths in the Steel Valley School District families: *Teresa Walendziewicz*, substitute cafeteria worker; *Joseph S. Pilot*, retired Homestead and Steel Valley Teacher and Coach.

**Mrs. Steele moved and Mrs. Yuhás 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, Bulger, Colasante, Olson, Steele, Yuhás and Youngblood. Negative: None. Motion carried.

**President's Report**

Ms. Youngblood:

- Recognized Mrs. Susan Wright, Secondary Art Teacher, and the High School Art Club for their talent in creating a fall display in front of the West Homestead Borough Building. West Homestead Council Member Ashley Cain thanked them in a letter for their cooperation and partnership with the borough.

### **Student Representative's Reports**

Ms. Isabella Furrick

Ms. Abigail Ferson

- Park Elementary students loved eating lunch with the fire fighters, and they learned a lot in their classes during Fire Safety Week. Students enjoyed participating in homecoming week activities, too.
- The kindergarteners and 1<sup>st</sup> graders are excited for Halloween Movie Night on Wednesday and the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders are looking forward to the Halloween dance on Friday. Everyone is really looking forward to the parade on Friday.
- At Barrett Elementary School, the kindergarten staff is using a new assessment tool ESGI, which allows teachers to gather basic information related to numbers, letters, and colors as well as basic reading and math skills. The MAPS assessment tool is being utilized at the K-2 level in reading and math, and the staff is currently receiving professional development on the full use of the tool.
- Barrett students enjoyed a pep rally from the high school band, cheerleaders and football players during homecoming week. They learned about sportsmanship and the value of a good education.
- Students from Park and Barrett Schools attended a roller skating party at Eden Park Roller Rink earlier in the month, and the evening was successful and well attended.
- Sophomores and freshman took the PSAT test. The USA Test Prep website is available for all students retesting, and they will be able to obtain extra practice before the winter testing season.
- Congratulations to Miss Ricci Wright the 2017 Homecoming Queen and the entire homecoming court. This year's young ladies represented Steel Valley High School very well. Abby thanked Mr. and Mrs. McCallister for their work to make the week special. The dress-up days were a lot of fun, the assembly was great, the elementary assemblies were filled with energy, and

the behavior of the students all week was fantastic. Even though the weather forced the postponement of the bonfire, it is going to be rescheduled during playoffs.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Wehrer:

- Recognized the middle school students and staff for organizing a collection drive for school supplies for students in Sarasota, Florida, and Houston, Texas, affected by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma in September. The organizers Mrs. MacDonald and Mrs. Ryan Dunmire-Kuftic and their 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade students shared the results of their project. The students in the middle school collected 300 pounds of school supplies and held a denim day collecting \$400 to use for shipping the supplies. Mrs. MacDonald has a friend in the Sarasota school system that accepted the supplies on behalf of her school, and Mrs. Dunmire-Kuftic's brother-in-law lives in Houston so he was able to deliver the school supplies to an elementary school. Both schools were thankful for the donations, and the middle school students enjoyed live video Face Time with each other. Kudos to the staff and students for their leadership on this project.
- Certificates of Recognition were presented to the following fifth and sixth grade students: Madison McClain, James Fletcher, Patrick Flynn, Thomas Anstiss, Atreyu Convard, Kylie Salopek, Madeline Wedig and Madison Gillespie.
- The Board recognized Mrs. Susan Ballas as a Friend of Steel Valley. This school year was Sue's 21<sup>st</sup> year of service to our community as a School Board member. She served from 1986-1999 and again from 2008 until now. She served as Vice President of the School Board and Chairperson of the Financial, Educational Leadership and Co-Curricular Committees. She has provided leadership and direction to the Steel Valley educational community and demonstrated a commitment to our school district. As a Friend of Steel Valley, a shelf of books shall be placed in the Senior High School Library in honor of Susan Ballas. She was also presented with an Honorary Gold Card for her meritorious service.
- Thanked Mrs. Ballas for her time and dedication while serving on the School Board. She has been a voice of reason, and she will be greatly missed. He also recognized her support of the students, parents, staff, administrators,

and all things Steel Valley. Mrs. Ballas shared that it has been an honor to serve on the School Board. She encouraged parents, Board members and administrators to work together to become an even stronger school district.

- Encouraged the community to support the Steel Valley students at a fundraiser by our athletic, academic and creative arts students. Funder Under the Bridge will be held at The Waterfront on Sunday, November 5, beginning at noon until 3:00 p.m. The student groups will be offering games, prizes, crafts, and face painting for participants. There is a \$5 fee to purchase a wristband for admission. In addition to activity booths, a refreshment booth and raffle basket booth will also be available. Performances by the district chorus, marching band and cheerleaders will also be part of the afternoon.
- Thanked Mr. Bill McLaughlin, President of the Band Parents' Association and Funder Under the Bridge Coordinator, for his work to bring about this event. Many thanks to General Manager Carey Kann of The Waterfront for promoting the event with banners, flyers and posters in the communities.
- The school district is extremely honored to recognize our local veterans, and this year marks the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Veterans Day Program in the Steel Valley High School with the theme, "Overcoming Challenges." It will be held on Thursday, November 9, beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the high school auditorium. This program is one of the longest running in Western Pennsylvania. Veteran Eugene Pido, Jr., (USMC (ret) will be honored during the event. Barrett and Park Elementary Schools are also holding recognition programs for veterans on November 8.

**Mr. Bulger moved and Mr. Olson seconded the motion to adopt the resolution designating Susan Ballas as a Friend of Steel Valley.** Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bulger, Colasante, Olson, Steele, Yuhas and Youngblood. Abstain: Ballas. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Mrs. Ballas spoke and Mr. McCallister thanked Mrs. Ballas.

Ms. Donna Dreshman asked for explanation for the following: refund of taxes, software Forecast5 Analytics and water bills.

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

Mrs. Borges:

- Reported that Park Elementary School would hold its annual Halloween parade on Friday, October 27 at 1:00 p.m. and Barrett will celebrate its Fall Festival and Parade on October 31 at 1:00 p.m.
- Report cards will be distributed on November 8, and the Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled as follows:

November 13	Barrett and Park Schools	12:00-3:00 and 5:00-8:00 p.m.
November 14	Middle School	12:00-3:00 and 5:00-8:00 p.m.
November 15	Senior High School	12:00-3:00 and 5:00-8:00 p.m.
- The High School Drama Club will be performing *Web of Murder* on November 16, 17 and 19 beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium.
- An inservice day for staff is scheduled on Wednesday, November 22, so there will be no school for students on that day. The Thanksgiving break will be November 23-27; school will resume on Tuesday, November 28.

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

Mr. Colebank:

- Reported secondary students would be trained on using iCloud and Image Capture.

## **Solicitor's Report**

No report

## **Board Meeting Minutes**

**Mr. Bulger moved and Mrs. Ballas seconded the motion to approve the September 25, 2017 worksession meeting minutes and the September 28, 2017 regular meeting minutes.** Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Bulger, Colasante, Olson, Steele, Yuhus and Youngblood. Negative: None. Motion carried.

## **1.0 Financial Management**

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

- 1.1 List of bills
  - 1.1.01 General Fund invoices for October 2017 in the amount of \$433,414.76
  - 1.1.02 General Fund hand checks for 2016-2017 paid in 2017-2018 in the amount of \$105,980.45
  - 1.1.03 General Fund hand checks for September 2017 in the amount of \$1,257,655.36
  - 1.1.04 Food Service invoices in the amount of \$47,088.70
  - 1.1.05 Food Service Revenue Report for September 2017
  - 1.1.06 Food Service Expenditure Report for September 2017
  - 1.1.07 Food Service Balance Sheet for September 2017
  - 1.1.08 Payroll Funding Transfers for September 2017
  - 1.1.09 Capital Projects Revenue Report for September 2017
  - 1.1.10 Capital Projects Expenditure Report for September 2017
  - 1.1.11 Capital Projects Balance Sheet for September 2017
  - 1.1.12 High School Student Activities Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report
  - 1.1.13 Middle School Activities Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for September 2017
  - 1.1.14 External Groups Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for September 2017
  - 1.1.15 Athletics Fund Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for September 2017
- 1.2 A refund to Gerald Gilchrist in the amount of \$44.33 for year 2015
- 1.3 A refund due for Lot & Blocks 130-N-372, 130-N-373 and 130-N-374 to 107 Knox-LP for a total amount due of \$834.87 for year 2016

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Bulger, Colasante, Olson, Steele, Yuhas and Youngblood. Negative: None. Motion carried.

## **2.0 Operations**

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

- 2.1 Facility rental requests as presented
- 2.2 Permission for Elite Electric Systems LLC to perform Campbell Field Electrical Infrastructure and Field Lighting Project

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Bulger, Colasante, Olson, Steele, Yuhás and Youngblood. Negative: None. Motion carried.

### **3.0 Co-Curricular Leadership**

**Mr. Bulger moved and Mr. Olson seconded the motion to revise Item 3.1 to include additional fundraisers.** Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Bulger, Colasante, Olson, Steele, Yuhás and Youngblood. Negative: None. Motion carried.

**Mrs. Yuhás moved and Mr. Bulger seconded the motion to approve the following:**

- 3.1 Fundraising requests as presented
- 3.2 A overnight field trip for the Marching Band and chaperones to perform at Universal Studios in Orlando, Florida, Aril 5-8, 2018, at no cost to the district

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Bulger, Colasante, Olson, Steele, Yuhás and Youngblood. Negative: None. Motion carried.

### **4.0 Special Assignments**

No update

### **5.0 Educational Leadership**

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

- 5.1 Accept the donation from Colasante's Flowers in the Park for the homecoming flower bouquets for the homecoming queens, the runners-up and the boutonnieres for the escorts

5.2 Designate surplus supplies and equipment, old band uniforms, 11 televisions, 13 overhead projectors, 1 VCR, 1 phonograph and broken desks and chairs as unused uniforms, equipment and furniture and approve disposal of these items

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Bulger, Colasante, Olson, Steele, Yuhas and Youngblood. Negative: None. Motion carried.

## **6.0 Communications and Technology**

Mr. Bulger commented on the bistro at the AIU and how this is a positive community relation activity.

## **7.0 Personnel Management**

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

7.1 Joanna Graham as a day-to-day substitute teacher or the 2017-2018 school year at the approved daily rate, contingent upon compliance with Act 168 of 2014, passing a physical exam and passing the controlled substances screening test

7.2 The winter sports supplementals as presented for the 2017-2018 school year

7.3 Rescind the hire of Jill Conway due to her not starting employment in the District

7.4 Create a long-term substitute special education teaching position for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Bulger, Colasante, Olson, Steele, Yuhas and Youngblood. Negative: None. Motion carried.

## **Citizen Comments**

- Ms. Donna Dreshman inquired about the following: iCloud, Barrett classroom student to teacher classroom ratio; Veterans Day parking issue.



- Mr. McCallister thanked Joe Ducar and the Campbell Foundation for Item 2.2 (the lighting project at Campbell Field).
- Mr. Deustch commented on the change in class scheduling and the effect that it has on students. Ms. Youngblood fielded comment and Mr. Deutsch's questions.

### **Adjournment**

Meeting ended at 8:11 p.m.