

**Regular Meeting**  
**Steel Valley School District Board of Directors**  
**Senior High School Library**  
**December 7, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Bulger, President, at 7:01 p.m.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

Mr. Blick, Mr. Colasante, Mrs. Ligeros, Mr. Olson, Mr. Rojtas,  
Mrs. Steele, Ms. Youngblood, Mrs. Yuhas and Mr. Bulger

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: *Robert Firczak*, brother-in-law of Diana Merichko, high school cook; *Eugene R. Ankrom*, nephew of Diana Borges, Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services; *Brian R. Baker*, cousin of Amber Thomas, secondary school nurse; *Kermit G. Rager*, father-in-law of Christine Rager, substitute school secretary; *Lawrence R. Selick*, father-in-law of Amy Selick, Barrett special education teacher, and *Barbara Daniels*, grandmother of Rebecca Kristen, middle school teacher.

**Mr. Olson moved and Mrs. Yuhas seconded the motion to approve the purchase of memorial books to be placed into the school district libraries in memory of the above departed.** Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Blick, Colasante, Ligeros, Olson, Rojtas, Steele, Youngblood, Yuhas and Bulger. Negative: None. Motion carried.

**Ms. Youngblood moved and Mrs. Yuhas seconded the motion to adopt a resolution designating Michael Terrick as a Friend of Steel Valley.** Upon roll

call the following members voted affirmatively: Blick, Colasante, Ligeros, Olson, Rojtas, Steele, Youngblood, Yuhas and Bulger. Negative: None. Motion carried.

### **Presentation**

- Mr. Nino Pollino of Prudential Insurance highlighted a financial wellness program, which will be offered to employees focusing on: Fundamentals of Financial Wellness, Protecting Yourself and Your Loved Ones, Building Your Road to Retirement, and Creating a Solid Plan for the Future.

### **Board President's Report**

Mr. Bulger:

- Thanked Ms. Colette Youngblood for her leadership while serving as the President of the School Board for the previous two years. He will strive to continue a working relationship between Board members and the community to service the needs of our students and taxpayers.
- He noted that Senator Costa stated that he looks forward to the Steel Valley Veterans Day Program each year. Mr. Bulger thanked everyone who coordinated the event this year.

### **Student Representatives' Reports**

Miss Isabella Furrick

Miss Abigail Ferson

- Park School students are excited about their All School Holiday Revue next Tuesday and the Band Winter Concert on December 20.
- Barrett Elementary School was selected as a host site for the Kids of Steel program, and they will receive a trainer and nutritionist to assist with the training and preparation for the Great Race.
- All Barrett students had the opportunity to learn Robotics Coding with a representative from Google.
- The Veterans Day program at Barrett was successful, and a number of community members attended.
- The Barrett staff was informed that the School Performance Profile (SPP) showed a nine-point increase from last year.

- Progress reports were distributed on December 6. The Sarris Candy delivery date has been changed to December 12.
- The holiday band concert is scheduled for December 14 at 6:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium. The choir concert will be held on December 19 beginning at 7:00 p.m.
- The middle school basketball season ends on December 21 with a game against West Mifflin starting at 3:30 p.m.
- Keystone retesting occurred December 5, 6, and 7.
- The juniors won the best attendance contest for the first nine-week period. Homeroom contests are run monthly, and the students are rewarded with breakfast. Individual students who have perfect attendance are entered into a bi-weekly raffle for prizes.
- Thanked Dr. Milliner for another wonderful Harry Potter Week at the high school. Daily activities were held in the building as well as after school crafts and cooking contests.
- Announced that the Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) group was named Pennsylvania's SADD Chapter of the Year. They were chosen for the amount of quality activities the group participates in and organizes. A small group of SADD members presented a workshop at the SADD State Conference, and two members had the honor to introduce the Attorney General to the audience.
- The Student Council is hosting a blood drive on Tuesday, December 19. There were 36 donors for the September blood drive, and they are hoping for a better turnout in December. They would greatly appreciate School Board members to consider donating.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Wehrer:

- Recognized Mr. Michael Terrick as a Friend of Steel Valley. This school year was Mr. Terrick's 8<sup>th</sup> year of service to our community as a School Board member. He served as Chairperson of the Operations and Co-curricular Committees, Co-Chair of the Personnel, Educational Leadership and Operations Committees and as a member of the Negotiations Committee. He 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 Michael Terrick. He will also be presented with an Honorary Gold Card for his meritorious service. Mr. Wehrer thanked Mr. Terrick for his time and dedication while serving on the School Board.

- Academic performance of our students is measured in the School Performance Profile (SPP) scores, and academic mastery and growth are also reflected in these numbers. Mr. Wehrer reported that only five school districts improved their SPP scores, and Steel Valley is one of the five school districts out of 42 in Allegheny County that showed overall gains. Mr. Wehrer is proud of the growth in our elementary schools and thanked the elementary staff for their hard work and commitment to our students. He recognized the elementary principals and staff members in attendance with a certificate of recognition.
- Announced that the Girls Varsity Volleyball team was WPIAL qualifiers and four players made All Section. The four players who obtained All Section are Erica Irvin and Samantha Sniegocki who were nominated to 3<sup>rd</sup> team. Morgan Farrah was nominated to 2<sup>nd</sup> team, and Senior Kelsey McCafferty was selected to 1<sup>st</sup> team. Head Coach Jamie Dolton noted that she is proud of her team for playing hard on the court. A certificate of recognition was given to the team.
- Steel Valley has a proud athletic tradition, and the Ironmen Football team is part of that tradition. They have a record of 36-3 over three years including two conference championships, WPIAL championship, state championship and a WPIAL runner up. Coach Rodney Steele thanked the School Board for its commitment to the program, and he thanked the marching band, cheerleaders, fans and students for their enthusiasm and support throughout the season. He introduced his players and coaches and thanked them for their dedication and commitment. A certificate of recognition was given to the team.
- Mayor Bodnar suffered a fracture and would not be able to attend Munhall's 29<sup>th</sup> Light Up Night. Mr. Wehrer, the borough officials and high school choir members Rob Vinay, Lily Brown, Cailyn Tomasic, Diana Craycroft and Mackenzie Pohrte took light-up night to Mayor Bodnar at the Charles Morris Rehabilitation Center singing carols and cheering him up.

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

Mrs. Borges:

- Announced the upcoming dates on the district calendar:  
 December 12 at 9:30 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. Park School Holiday Revue  
 December 14 at 6:30 p.m. Middle School Band Concert – HS Auditorium  
 December 15 at 1:30 p.m. Barrett School Holiday Revue  
 December 18 at 12:20 p.m. High School Choirs at County Courthouse  
 December 19 at 7:00 p.m. Winter Vocal Concert – HS Auditorium  
 December 20 at 9:30 a.m. Elementary Band Winter Concert – Park School  
 December 20 at 1:30 p.m. Elementary Band Winter Concert-Barrett School  
 December 22 District Early Dismissal  
 December 23 - January 1 Winter Break – No School  
 January 2 – School Resumes  
 January 6 at 6:00 -10:00 p.m. Semi-Formal Dance – Westwood Country Club  
 January 12 Districtwide Early Dismissal  
 January 15 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday – No School  
 January 22 Clerical Day – No School for Students  
 January 25 Report Card Distribution

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

Mr. Colebank:

- Reported that the district would be increasing the number of gigabytes available to enhance Internet and multi-media capabilities. He reminded parents and students how to care for their iPads during the holiday break. Do not remove the iPad from its Otterbox; do not write on the screen; and use glass cleaner on the cloth not directly on the iPad screen. Before returning to school after the holiday break, clean the computer of its non-school content.

### **Board Meeting Minutes**

**Mr. Olson moved and Mr. Colasante seconded the motion to approve the worksession meeting minutes of October 23, 2017, and the regular meeting minutes of October 26, 2017.** Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Colasante, Olson, Rojtas, Steele, Youngblood, Yuhas and Bulger. Abstain: Blick and Ligeros. Negative: None. Motion carried.

## **1.0 Financial Management**

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

- 1.0 List of bills:
  - 1.1.01 General Fund invoices for November 2017 in the amount of \$477,237.26
  - 1.1.02 General Fund hand checks for October 2017 in the amount of \$1,740,672.63
  - 1.1.03 General Fund Revenue Report for September 2017
  - 1.1.04 General Fund Revenue Report for October 2017
  - 1.1.05 General Fund Expenditure Report for September 2017
  - 1.1.06 General Fund Expenditure Report for October 2017
  - 1.1.07 General Fund Balance Sheet for September 2017
  - 1.1.08 General Fund Balance Sheet for October 2017
  - 1.1.09 Food Service invoices in the amount of \$48,541.44
  - 1.1.10 Food Service Revenue Report for October 2017
  - 1.1.11 Food Service Expenditure Report for October 2017
  - 1.1.12 Food Service Balance Sheet for October 2017
  - 1.1.13 Payroll Funding Transfers for October and November 2017
  - 1.1.14 High School Student Activities Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for October 2017
  - 1.1.15 Middle School Activities Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for October 2017
- 1.2 A refund to Eric D. Mathews for Lot & Block 180-C-298 in the amount of \$716.02
- 1.3 A refund to Blaise Peterson for Lot & Block 130-N-368 in the amount of \$510.71 for year 2016 and \$517.50 for year 2017 for a total amount due of \$1,028.21
- 1.4 The ACSHIC Financial Statements and Auditor's Report as of June 30, 2017 and 2016
- 1.5 A credit card for the district to be used in addressing the needs of the Family Consumer Science Department and other Business uses.

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

1.1.16 External Groups Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for October 2017  
Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Blick, Ligeros, Olson, Rojtas, Steele, Youngblood, Yuhas and Bulger. Abstain: Colasante. Negative: None. Motion carried.

1.1.17 Athletics Fund Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for October 2017  
Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Blick, Colasante, Ligeros, Olson, Rojtas, Steele, Youngblood and Yuhas. Abstain: Bulger. Negative: None. Motion carried.

## **2.0 Operations**

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

- 2.1 Facility rental requests as presented
- 2.2 Deleted
- 2.3 Market a Request for Proposal of Security services to the public. The District will utilize direct mailing and newspaper advertisement for these services. Requests will be due January 16, 2018
- 2.4 A security contract with St. Moritz starting December 6, 2017, and ending January 31, 2018, contingent upon the solicitor's approval of the final draft. The rates on the new contract are comparable to the rates previously approved with State Security and Investigation Services (SSIS).

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

## **3.0 Co-Curricular Leadership**

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

- 3.1 Fundraising requests as presented
- 3.2 An overnight field trip for The Future is Mine students and chaperones to participate in the Annual Conference at the Pittsburgh Marriott City Center on April 19 and 20, 2018
- 3.3 Authorize payment of \$2,500 to the Senior Breakfast/Reception account to defray the costs of the Senior Breakfast for the Class of 2018

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

#### **4.0 Special Assignments**

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

- 4.1 Hold first reading of all policies in Section 800 Operations of the Board Policy Manual
- 4.2 Hold first reading of Policy 104.1 Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Website Accessibility

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

#### **5.0 Educational Leadership**

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

- 5.1 Designate 150 white 17”iMacs as unused equipment and approve disposal of the computers
- 5.2 The District’s membership in EdLeader21 at a cost of \$1,000 and to approve Ed Wehrer and Aaron Johnson to be the District’s representatives to EdLeader 21
- 5.3 Authorize the advertising of the 2018 Board meeting dates as presented

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

#### **6.0 Communications and Technology**

No update



## **7.0 Personnel Management**

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

- 7.1 Appoint Barb Ferson to a full-time, long-term substitute position with a 2017-2018 assignment of Special Education teacher at the Middle School/High School at Master's Step 2 salary plus benefits as outlined in the SVEA collective bargaining agreement retroactive to November 28, 2017
- 7.2 Catherine Matta as a day-to-day substitute teacher for the 2017-2018 school year at the approved daily rate, contingent upon compliance with Act 168, passing a physical examination and passing a controlled substances screening
- 7.3 Accept, with regret, the resignation of Arica Smith for the supplemental position of Boys Varsity Volleyball coach and the resignation of Andrew Greenhow from the supplemental position of Boys Junior Varsity Volleyball coach effective immediately
- 7.4 Accept, with regret, the retirement of Deborah Woolley, retroactive to November 13, 2017
- 7.5 A Family Medical Leave of Absence for James Bartko retroactive to October 30, 2017, not to exceed 60 days in duration
- 7.6 Hire Debra Johnson, Josephine Owens and Patricia Hoston as substitutes in food service to be paid at the rate of \$8.50 per hour, contingent upon receipt of current Act 34, 114 and 151 clearances, compliance with Act 168, passing a physical examination and passing a controlled substances screening, which must be completed within 30 days
- 7.7 Volunteers as presented for the 2017-2018 school year, contingent upon receipt current clearances
- 7.8 Hire Jada Griffin as a full-time, second shift district custodian with all benefits of the current collective bargaining agreement, contingent upon receipt of current Act 34, 114 and 151 clearances, compliance with Act 168, passing a physical examination and screening for controlled substances, which must be completed within 30 days

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Blick, Colasante, Ligeros, Olson, Rojtas, Steele, Youngblood, Yuhus and Bulger. Negative: None. Motion carried.

## **Citizen Comments**

- Donna Dreshman - Commented on both the Newsletter Print and the district's website.
- Christine Schott - Thanked the Board for the Full-Time Nurse at Park, had concerns about the student pick-up at Park Elementary at day's end.
- Jim Deutsch – Congratulated both Barrett and Park educational performance, commented regarding the change in standard for Homecoming Candidates.
- Jim Tomsula – Emphasized the football record of 36-3 for the last three seasons, believes the district and specifically the Athletic Director should support the Football Coach, believes that the Athletic Director's position should not be included in the bargaining unit.
- Amy Lyons – Requested a discussion regarding Act 93 snow days and holiday's attendance, requested security on those specific days.
- Shawn McCallister - Directed his response to Mr. Tomsula's comments, congratulated both Mr. Bulger and Mr. Olson to their new board positions, thanked the Board for recognizing the teachers from both Park and Barrett Elementary, discussed the utilization of the District's Cyber School.

An executive session was held to discuss legal/personnel items.

## **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 9:23 p.m.