

**Regular Meeting
Steel Valley School District Board of Directors
Senior High School Library
February 28, 2018**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Bulger, President, at 7:06 p.m.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

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

Absent: Mr. Blick and Mrs. Steele

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

Flag Salute

Acknowledgements

Moment of Silence

The Board acknowledged the following death in the Steel Valley School District families: *John Raymond Maddigan*, grandfather of Michele Maddigan, high school science teacher.

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

President's Report

Mr. Bulger:

- In the wake of the Parkland, Florida tragedy, safety is on the minds of everyone in the country. Mr. Bulger announced that the District has gotten better sharing information on social media. However, certain things cannot be shared due to privacy laws. He added that we live in a close-knit community, and he is thankful for living in the community that we have. The school district has steps in place that even larger school districts do not have for the safety of our students and staff.
- The elementary schools celebrated Dr. Seuss Week with different activities each day. School Board members William Blick, Mary Yuhas, Kathy Ligeros and James Bulger participated by reading to the Kindergarten classes at Barrett Elementary School.
- The Book Swap in honor of Maria Heddleston garnered hundreds of books. Maria was a large proponent of reading, and these books will leave quite a legacy.
- Mr. Bulger thanked Lieutenant Opferman for discussing careers in forensics to the high school chemistry students, as part of The Future is Mine Club activities.
- The Steel Valley Drama Club is presenting the musical *Mary Poppins* next week. Mr. Bulger is looking forward to the student performances.

Student Representatives' Reports

Ms. Isabella Furrick

Miss Abigail Ferson

- Reported that the students at Park Elementary School had a lot of fun on the 100th day of school and Valentine's Day. The Scholastic Book Fair was a big success. The 3rd and 4th grade students enjoyed the Penguins hockey practice, and the Kindergarten students learned a lot at the Children's Museum.
- The School Resource Officer from Keystone Oaks School District visited Park Elementary School to observe a lock-down drill. He was very impressed with the procedures in place, and the students and staff in KO will be safer because of what he learned during the visit.
- Dr. Seuss week got off to a great start, and everyone at Park School is looking forward to some warmer weather.

- At Barrett Elementary School, the Kindergarten students visited the Children's Museum on February 21. The Seuss Activity Day for first graders from Park and Barrett Schools went well on February 26.
- The Black History Month program will be held on March 29 at 9:00 a.m. at Barrett Elementary School. Selected students in grades 2, 3 and 4 had the opportunity to take a field trip to a Penguins hockey practice on February 5. The PTO Cash Bash will take place on March 10.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Wehrer:

- Encouraged parents to consider a career at Steel Center Career and Technical School for their high school aged children. All students are not college bound, and students who pursue career and technical education can make a positive impact on their future.
- One of our Middle School Language Arts teachers, Steven Singer, is a finalist in the Champions of Learning Awards program in the teaching category. The Consortium for Public Education will hold its dinner and awards program on April 7 to celebrate all of the finalists and announce the winners in each category. Mr. Singer is also a recently published author. Congratulations to Mr. Singer.
- We are proud of High School Senior Morgan Farrah for earning the KDKA Extra Effort Award. We will recognize Morgan at the March Board meeting
- The school district has a cooperative program with the West Mifflin School District for wrestling. Two of our high school students, Tony Salopek and Gavin Rosso, participate in the wrestling program, and they are competing in the WPIAL championships. We wish them luck.
- We are proposing the School Board approve a revision to the school calendar to make up a school closing on February 7. March 28 will now be a full day of school, and March 29 will be an early dismissal for students, and the staff will participate in professional development. Mr. Wehrer will be applying for a waiver for the school closing on February 23.
- The preliminary winter Keystone test results have arrived, and we are analyzing them. I am pleased to report that 44 students scored proficient or advanced, which is a marked increase. Kudos to our students and teachers for this improvement.

Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services Report

Mrs. Borges:

- Announced that on March 7 a meeting of the Board Co-Curricular Committee will be held in the Senior High School beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the High School Conference Room.
- The next worksession meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 19, at 7:30 p.m., and the regular Board meeting will be held on Thursday, March 22, at 7:00 p.m. Both will be held in the High School Library.
- Mrs. Borges announced that the transition meetings for new families with Kindergarten students were a success.
- Upcoming Kindergarten registration dates are April 10 at Barrett Elementary School from 5:00-7:00 p.m., and another evening registration will be held at Park Elementary School on April 30 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Registration can also be scheduled with Mrs. Cain by appointment by calling 412.464.3600 ext. 2700.
- The school district is providing counselors for our staff and students.

Director of Academics, Information and Technology Report

Mr. Colebank:

- Announced that High School Principal Dr. Duval would be informing students of their Keystone scores. The official release of scores is forthcoming.
- Invitations are open to students who want to participate on the Geek Squad for the end of the year closeout of technology. The quality and range of new camera purchases are improving so much that one new camera can replace two older cameras.

Board Meeting Minutes

Mr. Olson moved and Ms. Youngblood seconded the motion to approve the following board meeting minutes:

January 22, 2018 worksession:

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

January 25, 2018 regular meeting:

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

Motion carried.

1.0 Financial Management

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

- 1.1 List of bills:
 - 1.1.01 General Fund invoices for February 2018 in the amount of \$242,839.01
 - 1.1.02 General Fund hand checks for January 2018 in the amount of \$352,646.33
 - 1.1.03 General Fund Revenue Report for January 2018
 - 1.1.04 General Fund Expenditure Report for January 2018
 - 1.1.05 General Fund Balance Sheet for January 2018
 - 1.1.06 Food Service invoices in the amount of \$33,211.12
 - 1.1.07 Food Service Revenue Report for January 2018
 - 1.1.08 Food Service Expenditure Report for January 2018
 - 1.1.09 Food Service Balance Sheet for January 2018
 - 1.1.10 Payroll Funding Transfers for January 2018
 - 1.1.11 High School Student Activities Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for January 2018
 - 1.1.12 Middle School Activities Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for January 2018
 - 1.1.13 External Groups Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for January 2018
 - 1.1.14 Athletics Fund Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for January 2018
 - 1.1.15 Capital Projects Financials for January 2018
- 1.2 Placing out for bid the school and athletic supplies for the 2018 2019 school year.
- 1.3 The Financial Statements Auditor's Opinion and Management Letter for the year ending December 31, 2016
- 1.4 Refunds due as follows for year 2017-2018: SJ Group LLC Lot & Block 131-M-23 for \$698.17; Douglas E. Koehler, Lot & Block 132-H-54 for \$1,251.85;

Douglas E. Koehler Lot & Block 133-H-18 for \$202.97; Timothy A. Tichon, Lot & Block 180-B-191 for \$1,671.36

- 1.5 Payment to Hruska Plumbing in the amount of \$13,100.00 to be paid out of the Capital Projects Fund

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

- 1.6 **Mr. Rojtas moved and Mr. Olson seconded the motion to approve the payment to Marvana Construction Company in the amount of \$8,400.00 for the catch basin to be paid out of the Capital Projects Fund, contingent on satisfactory completion of the work.** Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Colasante, Ligeros, Olson, Rojtas, Youngblood, Yuhas and Bulger. Negative: None. Motion carried.

2.0 Operations

Mr. Yuhas 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: Colasante, Ligeros, Olson, Rojtas, Youngblood, Yuhas and Bulger. Negative: None. Motion carried.

3.0 Co-Curricular Leadership

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

- 3.1 Fundraising requests as presented

- 3.2 Authorize payment of \$600.00 for the disc jockey services at the prom to be held at Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Hall on May 18, 2018

- 3.3 The establishment of a Steel Valley Diversity Club with a volunteer sponsor to follow all guidelines, procedures and expectations that other activity groups must follow as outlined in Extracurricular Activities Policy 122

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

4.0 Special Assignments

Mr. Olson discussed the following:

- 1.) Inquired if the Board would like to tour Steel Center Career & Technical Center
- 2.) Steel Center's new process requiring new member board directors assignment not be less than three years
- 3.) Overall review of Steel Center educational performance

5.0 Educational Leadership

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

- 5.1 Revise the 2017-2018 school calendar and designate Thursday, March 29, as the make-up day for the school closing on February 7, and designate Wednesday, March 28, a full day of school and Thursday, March 29, an early dismissal day and the end of the grading period
- 5.2 The 2018-2019 Allegheny Intermediate Unit Program of Services Budget totaling \$2,086,109.00
- 5.3 Accept the donations for the Senior Breakfast event from:

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Chick-fil-A | 4 "free items" gift cards |
| Falces's Restaurant | \$20 gift card |
| Linda Squires Salon | Spa Package |
| Lion's Club of Homestead | \$500 |
| Shop 'n Go | \$25 and car wash coins |
| Yankee Candle | Candle |
| Savolskis Wasik Glenn | \$100 |
| Funeral Home | |
- 5.4 Accept the Kindergarten Transition Plan grant in the amount of \$2,000 from the United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania
- 5.5 Accept the donations for the Middle School Forge rooms from:

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| West Mifflin Lowes | \$2,808.59 |
| The Waterfront | \$1,020.00 |
| Andrews and Price Law Offices | \$100.00 |

KeyBank National Association \$1,000.00

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

Mr. Bulger extended a heartfelt thanks to the donors.

6.0 Communications and Technology

7.0 Personnel Management

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

- 7.1 Family medical leave of absence for Julie Kamnikar effective April 29, 2018, not to exceed 60 days in duration
- 7.2 Hire Gale Emery to the position of Middle School/Technology Department Secretary effective on a mutually agreed upon date at the annual salary of \$21,000 plus benefits as outlined in the collective bargaining agreement, contingent upon passing all pre-employment screenings and receipt of all current clearances
- 7.3 An intermittent family medical leave of absence for Sharon Kampe retroactive to February 8, 2018, not to exceed 60 days in duration
- 7.4 Carlisa Dixon and Emily Doyle as day-to-day substitute teachers at the approved daily rate and contingent upon passing all pre-employment screenings and receipt of all current clearances

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

Mrs. Ligeros requested meeting dates be placed on the website.

Citizen Comments

Christine Schott

- 1) Inquired regarding the pool's condition.
- 2) Questioned the sheriff sale process and return on the process.

- 3) Asked about the process a student goes through to notify that he or she is being bullied.

Jim Deutsch

- 1) Inquired if all the locks were installed in the buildings. Mr. Wehrer fielded the question and stated due to the high demand for locks they are on back order. Mr. Deutsch accused the administration of not properly securing the safety of Steel Valley students.
- 2) He again inquired regarding the process behind creating the standard for permitting entrance into the advanced classes. He also stated the Board will be voting on the handbook at next month's meeting and he hasn't been given an opportunity to voice his input in the process.

Both Mr. Colasante and Mr. Rojtas responded to Mr. Deutsch's accusation regarding his lack of input. Mr. Rojtas went as far as to state that the Board knows his stance specifically because he has voiced it at a number of prior month's meetings.

A comment came from the audience stating she feels that the communication to the parents regarding various items has been insufficient. Mr. Colasante responded that he believes Steel Valley is further ahead than most districts and he expects a standard of excellence from the district in communication, education and food service. He believes specifically, as recent as the prior week's communication, the superintendent's letter to the community regarding safety was excellent.

Adjournment

Meeting ended at 8:21 p.m.