

**Worksession Meeting**  
**Steel Valley School District Board of Directors**  
**Senior High School Library**  
**March 19, 2018**

Mr. Bulger, President, called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

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

Absent: Mrs. Steele

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

Items on the agenda were discussed. No action was taken.

Presentation by Dr. Duval/John Strom Academic Handbook

Dr. Duval explained the Academic Handbook development process and provided specific information regarding the changes to the handbook.

- In November – The Department Chairs were given the handbook to be taken back to the various departments for consultation and suggestion to be brought back to administration.
- All changes to the handbook were discussed in February’s meeting with the Department Chairs. The committee was not in the favor of a blanket waiver but wasn’t opposed to a waiver with some flexibility. Waiver can be found on page 6 of handbook.
- Page 10 – Academic literacy, proposing “no lab” in order to increase time for literacy comprehension.
- Page 15 – Proposing another math class prior to “Intro to Algebra” class.
- Page 17 - For the 11<sup>th</sup> grade students that are at risk of not passing the Department Chairs are proposing intensive remediation.

- Page 23 – Prior to admission into higher-level French a minimum of a “B” grade must be carried.
- Page 27 – The word “Rotational” was placed to better explain the class offering.
- Page 36 – Requirement waiver for Keystone. Mr. Rojtas inquired how often a waiver can be taken. Dr. Duval responded to the question that a waiver could be taken once per subject matter. Jim Bulger requested that the changes to the handbook be in red or highlighted by the administration in some correspondence to the parents.

Mr. Rojtas inquired about the Homestead Tax Collector. Mr. Zenone fielded the question and shared with the Board the number of attempts the district had to retrieve collection information and how the lack of such information is affecting the T.I.F. funding that the district receives by year-end. Mr. Zenone highlighted for the Board, Mr. Fetzko’s attempt to issue an injunction in order to force the collector to submit all collection documents and equipment to the district.

Mr. Bulger inquired about the Munhall Tax Collector. Mr. Zenone stated that he has setup a meeting with the collector for this Friday and will attempt to reconcile her docket then.

### **Educational Leadership**

Dan Rojtas – Inquired about the Act 80 day approval – Mr. Wehrer stated that he has not heard back from the Department of Education.

### **Communication and Technology**

Mrs. Ligeros – Asked to set up a date to meet regarding website. Mr. Colebank added by handing out a presentation pages of the layout of the future website and gave an overview of the website and content.

Mr. Rojtas thought it might be a positive experience for those students that are studying journalism to prepare some of the content for the website.

## **Audience Concerns**

Mr. Jim Deutsch handed out a document. Then he again spoke about the PSSA testing and about how his Right to Know Request uncovered information that wasn't shared with the Board. He stated that 112 students initially were denied advance placement. Mr. Bulger responded that the Board had received similar information in prior meetings.

Mr. Rojtas interjected that in light of the current presentation by Dr. Duval that the district goals and system that is in place is working.

Mrs. Yuhas and Mr. Blick both interjected and shared their views why the requirements for advance placement are necessary.

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

## **Adjournment**

The meeting ended at 8:15 p.m.