

# STEEL VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### **Memorial Books**

The School Board acknowledged the passing of **Kara L. Bodnar Kosanovich**, Steel Valley Graduate, Class of 1993; **Carolyn "Joyce" Rice**, aunt of Edward Wellman, math resource teacher, Barrett Elementary School; **Eleanor A. Csider**, mother of Susan Wilder, 4<sup>th</sup> grade Barrett teacher; and **Anne Safko**, mother-in-law of Therese Safko, retired middle school paraprofessional. It was moved by **Mr. Colasante** and seconded by **Mrs. Yuhas** to place appropriate books into the school libraries in their memory.

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

**Mr. Bulger** thanked all of the teachers, administrators, custodians, food service, support staff and families of the school district for a fairly successful return to learning. Everyone is doing the best that they can during this time. He announced that **Mr. Zenone** would be discussing the budget tonight and over the next several meetings. A budget is an estimate. Unexpected things happen. Mr. Zenone is going to discuss our revenue forecast for the 2021-2022 school year.

### **Student Representatives' Reports**

Ben Novotny, Junior Student Representative to the School Board, reported on the events held at Park Elementary School. Dr. Seuss Read Across America Week went virtual this year. Instead of having a traditional Title I family night in person, students and staff participated in four nights of activities and stories via Zoom. Every night there was a guest reader who read a famous Dr. Seuss story, and the story was followed by a fun activity. Stories included <a href="The Cat in the Hat">The Cat in the Hat</a>, <a href="Green Eggs and Ham</a>, <a href="Wacky Wednesday">Wacky Wednesday</a>, and <a href="Fox in Socks">Fox in Socks</a>. After listening to the stories, students created reading spots, made green eggs and ham, colored and designed bookmarks, and made Seuss quote posters. Oh no, that was not all! Students also celebrated Seuss Week when they came to school wearing silly socks, and doing all kinds of other crazy things that would have made Dr. Seuss proud.

The kids looked great for their school pictures, and they cannot wait until COVID is behind them--the masks are gone and they can see smiling faces everyday.

At Barrett Elementary School, the celebration for Dr. Seuss took place during the first week of March. On March 5, students celebrated **Pet Day** sharing their pet virtually during the announcements. School pictures took place on March 9. All of the students were provided with an assembly on **Fire Safety** sponsored by the **Red Cross**. **Johnny Appleseed Day** was celebrated on March 11, and all of the students received an apple treat at lunch. The pepperoni roll fundraiser was very successful and funds will be used for end-of-the-year activities. The **Queen of Hearts** will be visiting Friday virtually. Perfect attendance awards will be distributed later this week.

**Kristen Craycraft**, Senior Student Representative shared that the **Middle School Student Government** conducted an online team-building event. **Ms. Noblet** is finalizing the spring calendar events including **Autism Awareness Day** on April 7, coffee hour on the 15th, community cleanup day on the 28th, and the end-of-the-year celebration on May 12.

Kristen also announced that the **Steel Valley Students Against Destructive Decisions** (**SADD**) ran the personal perspectives campaign and interviewed people giving advice about the importance of driving safely. **High School Student Council** will be hosting a **blood drive** on April 15. The **Prom** will be held on May 6, but the promenade is canceled due to COVID-19

precautions. Prom tickets will be on sale April 7 through 15.

Two high school students have been selected to attend the **Health Career Scholars Academy** at the University of Pittsburgh this summer. Local scholarship packets have been distributed to seniors and are available on the district website or in the library. Plans for **Senior Awards, National Honor Society**, and **Prom** will be finalized soon. School pictures were taken on March 17 and 18. The spring sports regular season will begin next week. Fall sports have begun preseason workouts. Free physical exams will be given on March 29.

### Superintendent's Report

**Mr. Wehrer** announced that **Spartan Pharmacy** would be providing the second Moderna vaccine to Phase 1A Steel Valley employees on Saturday, April 10. Approximately 70 employees took advantage of the first shot on March 6.

He is also grateful to the **Allegheny Intermediate Unit** for coordinating the Johnson & Johnson vaccine that the **Governor** set aside for K-12 educators. Again approximately 70 folks took advantage of the one shot alternative. The second round of J & J vaccines at the AIU will be administered on March 29 and 30. He thanked everyone for working to help employees get vaccinated.

He noted that we have a lot of students in school. He added that if any families want to move their children from remote to in-person learning at this time, please notify your building principal by Tuesday, March 30. The 4<sup>th</sup> nine-week grading period will start April 7.

**Spring break** for students starts Thursday, April 1, through Tuesday, April 6. School will resume on Wednesday, April 7.

### **Director of Pupil Personnel and Student Services' Report**

**Mrs. Borges** announced April 6 would be a clerical day to work on report cards that would be distributed on April 8.

# Director of Academics, Information & Technology's Report

**Mr. Colebank** reminded everyone that the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> grading period is next week. He said that many parents are using Sapphire to look into their children's records. He told parents to call the office for assistance to set up your own account.

Assessment testing will take place this school year. Last year, we received an exception to not take the **Keystone** exams, but first-time students in algebra, biology and literature will take the Keystone exams this year. The **Department of Education** extended the testing window for the **PSSA**, and the District will be testing students in the spring. We will spread out the testing dates, and offer remote students testing times in small groups in the buildings.

Mr. Colebank will announce new updated technology for the teachers next month.

# **Meeting Minutes**

The Board approved the meeting minutes of:

- February 22, 2021 worksession
- February 25, 2021 regular meeting

#### **Financial Management**

Mr. Zenone made a presentation on the anticipated revenue for the 2021-2022 General Fund budget. He discussed the main areas of revenue.

- 1. <u>Real Estate Tax</u> collection projections are \$16,130,000. Tax collectors collect approximately 92% of real estate taxes. The collection rate trend is increasing.
- 2. Real Estate Transfer Tax: \$138,000 from Homestead and \$205,000 from Munhall

- 3. Earned Income Tax: \$1.7 million for the budget
- 4. Delinguent Real Estate Taxes:

These amounts come through in the final quarter. Mr. Zenone estimates \$370,000 from Homestead, \$850,000 from Munhall, and \$143,000 from West Homestead

5. Other Larger Revenue Sources:

\$9.6 million State budget \$1.558.000 Special education

\$2.4 million ESSER Funding (new to the budget)

Mr. Zenone stated that the current real estate taxes, delinquent real estate taxes, real estate transfer taxes and the earned income taxes are seeing an increase in their revenues. We are estimating \$1 million in savings for the 2020-2021 budget year.

The Board approved the following items:

- General Fund invoices for March 2021 in the amount of \$486,069.90
- General Fund hand checks for February 2021 in the amount of \$707,677.48
- General Fund Revenue Report for February 2021
- General Fund Expenditure Report for February 2021
- General Fund Balance Sheet for February 2021
- Food Service invoices for February 2021 in the amount of \$15,949.13
- Food Service Revenue Report for February 2021
- Food Service Expenditure Report for February 2021
- Food Service Balance Sheet for February 2021
- Payroll Funding Transfers for February 2021
- Athletics Fund Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for February 2021
- High School Student Activities Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for February 2021
- Middle School Activities Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for February 2021
- External Groups Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for February 2021
- Refund to L7 Holdings Limited LLC, Lot & Block 131-D-164, in the amount of \$1,432.07 for year 2020
- Payments to:

**BDA Engineering, Inc.** Invoice # 191101-12 \$2,126.50 BDA Engineering, Inc. Invoice # 191101-13 \$1,336.94

- June 30, 2020 Financial Statements and Management Report as submitted by Maher Duessel CPAs
- Exonerated the Boroughs of Homestead, Munhall and West Homestead real estate tax collectors for the 2020 real estates taxes

### **Operations**

The Board approved the facility usage requests as presented.

# Co-Curricular Leadership

The Board approved the fundraising requests as presented.

# Special Assignments

Mrs. Ligeros reported that Steel Center would hold its 1<sup>st</sup> Annual CTE Job Fair on April 14 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Businesses that may want to participate should go to the website <a href="https://www.steelcentertech.com">www.steelcentertech.com</a>. Steel Center will hold an in-person senior recognition ceremony on June 2, and they are looking for an outdoor location. They are considering conducting summer classes for Steel Center students to offset the lost time and loss of skill development due to COVID-19. Steel Center will be hiring new teachers for the veterinarian and exercise science programs.

They have also partnered with **Mon Valley Hospital** to administer vaccines to the staff.

Mon Valley School completed seven videos showing the vocational programs offered at the school. These videos can be viewed on the website: <a href="www.aiu3.net">www.aiu3.net</a> under schools and Mon Valley. The school held a talent show on March 19. Each act was filmed individually, and they will be creating a document to watch the talent show on Google. Mon Valley is creating a peer mentoring program for its students.

#### **Communications**

Mrs. Fitzgerald will be emailing the Parent Liaison Group for an upcoming meeting.

#### **Personnel**

The Board approved the following items:

- Closed the Middle School/Technology Department Secretary position, effective immediately
- Closed the vacant position of High School/Buildings & Grounds Department Secretary position, effective immediately
- Created the position of High School/Middle School Secretary
- Intermittent Family Medical Leave of Absence (FMLA) not to exceed 60 days in duration for Employee No. 808 retroactive to February 4, 2021
- Hired Kimberly Devine as a Districtwide Paraeducator at a rate of \$10.70 per hour plus \$1.50 per hour for highly qualified status effective on a mutually agreed upon date, contingent upon passing the District's mandated pre-employment screenings and receipt of updated clearances, which must be completed within 30 days