

**Worksession Meeting**  
**Steel Valley School District Board of Directors**  
**Steel Valley High School Auditorium and public was invited to observe via**  
**High School Facebook Live**  
**April 23, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Bulger, President, at 6:43 PM held at Steel Valley High School Auditorium and public was invited to observe via Facebook Live.

Roll call as follows:

In attendance: Mr. Bulger

Video conferencing: Ms. Adams, Mr. Blick, Mr. Colasante, Mrs. Fitzgerald, Mrs. Ligeros, Mr. Rojtas, Ms. Youngblood and Mrs. Yuhas

Absent: None

Also attending: Mr. Wehrer, Mr. Fetzko (video), Mr. Colebank (video), Mrs. Borges (video) and Mr. Zenone

Flag Salute

An Executive Session was held prior to the meeting to discuss personnel matters and legal matters.

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

Presentation by Paul Fisher and Jim Cerqua of Paul Fisher Insurance.

Mr. Fisher presented his insurance agency experience and made a request to provide insurance quotes to the District.

Mr. Bulger asked if the change to the minutes were incorporated in the minutes. Mr. Zenone confirmed the changes are reflected in the minutes.

## **1.0 Financial Management**

Budget Presentation: Mr. Zenone presented the budget to the Board and the Facebook community. The PowerPoint slides are accompanying.

Mr. Bulger inquired if the state subsidies will be affected. Mr. Zenone stated that as of the current date the District has not received any information regarding the subsidies being affected and the budget included modest increase for the subsidies.

Mr. Rojtas emphasized the magnitude of the charter school budget balance.

## **2.0 Operations**

Mr. Bulger inquired regarding the lifting of the pandemic restrictions, will the youth sport teams be allowed to utilize the District's fields. Mr. Wehrer stated as the restrictions are lifted the District will allow the youth sports the opportunity to utilize the fields.

## **3.0 Co-Curricular Leadership**

Mr. Bulger inquired if the fundraiser collections will be credited to the students as they graduate to the next grade level. Mr. Wehrer confirmed that the credit will carry with the student or they may assign the credit to another student. The graduating class may designate the funds to the student organization of their choice.

Mr. Rojtas recommended that the Board permit next year's ninth grade class participate with the eighth grade class trip.

Through Facebook, Ms. Schott asked if the students will be able to transfer money from cancelled trips to their High School balances. The Board stated that they will permit the transfer.

#### **4.0 Special Assignments**

Mrs. Ligeros stated that as of March 30<sup>th</sup> Steel Center has started their distance learning classes and Continuity Educational Plan. The Center's website is comprehensive and includes a means for students to enroll in next year's classes.

Mr. Bulger stated that the AIU did not meet last month. The convention will be needed to take place by June 30<sup>th</sup> or allow for a means for electronic voting of new board members.

#### **5.0 Educational Leadership**

Mr. Bulger explained the reason for the changes to the Academic Handbook. The elementary was revamped to include the intended changes that were scheduled for the Handbook but the High School changes were tweaked due to the fact the Commonwealth terminated the assessment testing for the current year in response to the pandemic restrictions. He asked if that situation was summarized adequately. Mr. Colebank confirmed his understanding of the changes.

Mr. Wehrer commented on the two student calendars submitted to the Board. He stated the two versions were constructed with the assistance of the Calendar Committee.

Version #1: Student calendar starts for the first day for students on August 30<sup>th</sup> and runs to the first week of June. This calendar takes into the consideration of added days and time due to pandemic environment.

Version #2: Student calendar starts a week earlier and ends a week earlier. The shortfall in the calendar is that it only allows for twelve weeks between the end of one student year and the beginning of the next.

Mr. Bulger stated the uncertainty of the times should take priority over our decision to which calendar to adopt. Mr. Rojtas added that the Version #1 calendar will allow for the HVAC project more time without interruptions from the staff and students. He also emphasized that if the Committee spent the time to draft Version #1 we should comply

with the Committee's recommendation. Mrs. Yuhas added that Version #1 will allow families the additional time to take vacations or added time together.

Mrs. Yuhas inquires about the summer session. She wanted to know if there was an option to limit student downtime between educational cycles. Mr. Wehrer stated that there might be funding from the Federal Government to help cover literacy that may be directed to extending education over the summer months.

## **6.0 Communications and Technology**

Ms. Fitzgerald reported that the committee spent time developing the school calendar. She inquired how we were progressing with the Sapphire Software? Mr. Colebank responded that nine meetings were held to date. He has scheduled twenty-eight days of training for all applicable staff starting tomorrow. Data has been converted from ProSoft to Sapphire.

Mrs. Fitzgerald thanked the various staff for all their hard work and District stakeholders. She also wanted to recognize the Leadership Team for the added dates on the calendar and the committee that placed the signs on the students front yards.

Mr. Rojtas thanked the individuals for placing the video on Facebook. He has stated that this is one of the few means that we have to communicate and connect with the community.

## **Adjournment**

Meeting ended at 7:31 PM

# Steel Valley School District

Preliminary Final Budget  
2020-2021

## Economist Projections

- |                                 |                                       |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| • Estimates Prior to Pandemic   | • Estimates After Pandemic            |
| • 3.4 % GDP Increase            | • GDP decrease of 3.0 %               |
| • Unemployment Environment 3.5% | • Unemployment Rate increase to 10.4% |

## Projected Decrease in Local Revenue

<b>Current Real Estate</b>	<b>199,650.00</b>
<b>Public Utility Reality Tax</b>	<b>1,700.00</b>
<b>Local Service Tax</b>	<b>3,500.00</b>
<b>Earned Income Tax</b>	<b>182,600.00</b>
<b>Real Estate Transfer Tax</b>	<b>99,500.00</b>
<b>Amusement Tax</b>	<b>10,000.00</b>
<b>Delinquent Real Estate</b>	<b><u>103,000.00</u></b>
<b>Decrease in Local Revenue</b>	<b><u>\$99,950.00</u></b>

## Real Estate Tax

- For the last three years the collection percentage of each tax collector has increase to a collection percentage of 92.1 (aver) Percent from 90.5 Percent (aver). The effect of this increase is greater amount of revenue for this year.
- The millage increase .871 would have increased revenue by \$532,000 but because of the fact of the current pandemic environment we are budgeting only an increase of \$265,111 from current year's actual.
- In a normal environment one mill would bring in \$610,300

## Earned Income Tax

- Income Projections for Earned Income Tax have been adjusted down by 10.7 percent or \$182,000

## Salaries

	2020-2021	2019-2020	Difference
<b>Administrative</b>	<b>1,504,122.00</b>	<b>1,456,830.00</b>	<b>47,292.00</b>
<b>Professional staff</b>	<b>11,019,380.00</b>	<b>10,707,958.00</b>	<b>311,422.00</b>
<b>Substitutes/other</b>	<b>335,412.00</b>	<b>402,051.00</b>	<b>(66,639.00)</b>
<b>Clerical</b>	<b>564,866.00</b>	<b>579,449.00</b>	<b>(14,583.00)</b>
<b>Instructional Aide</b>	<b>498,959.00</b>	<b>463,078.00</b>	<b>35,881.00</b>
<b>Operational</b>	<b>655,949.00</b>	<b>624,188.00</b>	<b>31,761.00</b>
	<b>14,578,688.00</b>	<b>14,233,554.00</b>	<b>345,134.00</b>

## Benefits

	2020-2021	2019-2020	Difference
Health Insurance	3,236,248.00	2,876,035.00	360,213.00
Social Security	1,084,008.00	1,085,371.00	(1,363.00)
Retirement	4,894,434.00	4,849,785.00	44,649.00
Workers Comp	168,209.00	173,440.00	(5,231.00)
Early Retirement Incentive	500,000.00	425,010.00	74,990.00
Waiver of Insurance	212,500.00	206,420.00	6,080.00
	10,095,399.00	9,616,061.00	473,258.00

## Items That Can Change between Now and the Next Meeting.

- Health Insurance (Awaiting Estimate)
- Charter School Cost (Enrollment Numbers)
- Early Retirement Incentive Payment



## Renegotiated Debt Service

- Without renegotiating the Debt Service, expenditures would have been \$1,067,072 higher.

## Charter School Cost

	Regular Ed	Special Ed	Total
<b>Cost (Estimate)</b>	16,000.00	36,500.00	
<b>Number of Students</b>			
Elementary/Secondary	195	75	270
<b>Total 2020-2021</b>	3,120,000.00	2,737,500.00	5,857,500.00
<b>2019-2020</b>	<u>3,275,400.00</u>	<u>2,916,400.00</u>	<u>6,191,800.00</u>
<b>Decrease from Prior Year</b>	(155,400.00)	(178,900.00)	(334,300.00)

## Fund Balance

- July 1, 2019 Balance was \$3,713,560
- Business Office will project effective May 1, 2020 to estimate the Balance as of June 30, 2020. The Board will receive this prior to May regular meeting.
- One time item that will effect positively the budget is the increase for Proceeds for General Long Term Debt \$4,900,000. This transaction will increase the Fund Balance for the current year.

## Excess Expenditures over Revenue

<b>Budgetary Revenues</b>	<b>36,026,900.00</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>39,198,002.00</b>
<b>Shortfall</b>	<b>(3,171,102.00)</b>

## Budgetary Shortfalls

- I have spoken about the compounding effect of utilizing Fund Balance instead of revenue source for budgetary shortfall. The future budget will have the current budget shortfall and any additional increase in expenditures added onto that budget year. At one point in the future it becomes extremely difficult to shore up differences between Revenues and Expenses. The option of using Fund Balance may not be available because it may have been depleted.