



STEEL VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Memorial Books

The School Board acknowledged the passing of **Paul E. Staudt**, Munhall crossing guard; **Raymond Merisko**, uncle of Kevin Tomasic, 4th grade teacher at Park School; **Susan R. Milanak**, aunt of Lynn Bohin, high school cafeteria worker; **Marie Vickers**, mother of Timothy Vickers, high school math teacher; **Ruth E. Cherpak**, mother of Mark Cherpak, former business manager; **Joseph Keenan**, father-in-law of Bradley Thompson, elementary music teacher; **Todd A. Steele**, brother of Rodney Steele, former head football coach; and **Nathaniel L. Carter**, father-in-law of Joyce Fletcher, high school paraprofessional. It was moved by **Ms. Adams** and seconded by **Mrs. Fitzgerald** to place appropriate books into the school libraries in their memory.

Board President's Report

Mr. Bulger began his report congratulating the Class of 2021. He also thanked the Steel Valley staff members and the School Directors that he serves with. He introduced Student Representative **Kristen Craycraft** and noted how thankful he was for her dedication as the Student Representative to the Board for the last two years.

Student Representative's Report

Kristen Craycraft, Senior Student Representative to the School Board, reported the Prom was held on May 6, and the students received compliments from the staff on their behavior and politeness. Students took the AP Biology and History exams. The National Honor Society Induction Ceremony and Senior Honors Awards Ceremony were held on May 5.

The eighth grade students were asked to select courses from the High School Academic Handbook. Free physicals were scheduled for students. **UPMC** will be holding a community vaccination clinic on May 21. Selective service materials were provided to all male students that are 18 years old.

Chorus and band concerts were organized and broadcasted on the YouTube page. The senior students would be participating in a parade on May 24 driving around all three communities. **KDKA News** ran a story about Richard Bazzy and the 11 scholarships he provided to Steel Valley students.

Ms. Craycraft reported on the elementary school happenings since Mr. Novotny was performing in the spring musical. Things have been going great at Park Elementary! The third graders in Mrs. Callahan's ELA classes have been studying commonly misspelled homophones. To practice two of the more common ones, "your" and "you're," they wrote kindness cards to their friends. It was so nice to see the kids write things like: "You're so special," and "You're a kind person."

Third grade Career Day was a huge success. Students presented informative writing about their career goals in their language arts class. Parent volunteers Zoomed in to talk to the students about their jobs and how vital school was to their careers.

Some of the kindergarten students were very curious about what students in the Life Skills and Autistic Support classes do during the day. April was **Autism Awareness and Acceptance Month**, so it was the perfect time for Mrs. Oleksak to stop by and talk to the kindergarteners about how students with autism might need a little more support to complete assignments. She showed students a video and then talked with them about how they can include students with disabilities and all be friends!

Spring is here, and all of the kids had the chance to get their hands dirty and do a little gardening! Kindergarteners worked right outside the building, and 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th graders walked to the Franklin Garden. Everyone had a great time!

Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week was awesome. Ms. Craycraft thanked the teachers and staff for all they do!

At Barrett Elementary School, the kindergarten, first and second graders went on a field trip to the **Carnegie Library** last week. The third and fourth grade students will be taking a field trip to the **Dragon's Den** for team building activities in the upcoming week.

Family Night will take place next week. Chocolate Chip Cookie Day was celebrated on May 13, and every student received a bag of **Famous Amos Cookies**.

MAP testing and DIBELS assessments were completed the past two weeks. PSSA testing is scheduled for in-school and remote students during the last two weeks of May. Kindergarten registration has been taking place throughout the month. The **lunch ladies** and **Mr. Wimbs** were honored for their great work for the students on **School Lunch Hero Day**.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Wehrer announced that the school district partnered with UPMC to vaccinate our community members and students 12 years and older with the Pfizer vaccine. Parents must submit a permission slip for children less than 18 years of age. The first clinic was held Friday, May 21, in the high school gym from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and the second dose will be given on Friday, June 11. A second clinic will be held on Friday, May 28, at Barrett Elementary School from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. with the second dose administered on June 18. Scheduling for these clinics will be done through UPMC's Vaccine Scheduling Line 1-833-653-0518.

Mr. Wehrer recognized the School Board's Student Representatives for their service throughout the school year. **Kristen Craycraft**, Senior Student Board Representative, served two years as student representative, and Mr. Wehrer congratulated Kristen on her diligence and dedication. He wished her well as she continues her studies of English, Writing and Education at Slippery Rock University. Mr. Wehrer recognized **Ben Novotny**, and added that he is excited to have Ben back as the Senior Student Representative to the School Board next year.

Certificates of Recognition were presented to the following Steel Center students:

Marianly Maria-Antigua	Extra Effort Award in Cosmetology for the 3 rd quarter
Shanay Arrington	Extra Effort Award in Health Assistant for the 4 th quarter

Mr. Wehrer congratulated the **Varsity Girls' Softball Team** for making the WPIAL playoffs. He will recognize the Lady Ironmen and **Coaches Tozzi** and **McConnell** at a future meeting.

Due to multiple retirements in the administrative staff, Mr. Wehrer discussed restructuring of the Administrative team effective July 1. With the retirement of **Mr. Zenone**, Director of Operational Services, the District will contract business and financial services through the Allegheny Intermediate Unit. The agreement is for three full days of business and financial support at an annual cost of \$100,000.

The current positions of Secondary Associate Principals, which are currently being held by **Dr. Johnson** and **Mr. Strom**, are being eliminated. Mr. Wehrer recommended Mr. Strom to the position of High School Principal, and due to the retirement of Dr. Johnson, the District hired **Ms. Rebecca Bragan** for the position of Middle School Principal. Ms. Bragan will be completing her Superintendent's Letter of Eligibility from Point Park University in July. She

currently has a Master's of Administration and Supervision from Duquesne University and a Bachelor's of Science in Physical Education from St. Bonaventure University. She has 11 years of K-12 work experience, including her current role as Assistant Middle School Principal in the Highlands School District. She also served as the High School Dean of Students and Assistant Athletic Director for Highlands. In the Derry Area School District, Ms. Bragan served as the Elementary Dean of Students. She also taught Middle School/High School Physical Education for Hempfield Area School District and High School Physical Education in the Bethel Park School District. In these positions, she served as various team leaders and coordinators. She also has extensive coaching experience in swimming and lacrosse.

The responsibilities of **Mr. Keesecker**, who will be retiring, will be split between our building principals and **Mr. Colebank**, whose title will change to Director of Academics, Information and Infrastructure. We are not hiring a Director of Facilities at this time.

The position of Secondary Campus Principal/Federal Programs Director will be eliminated. Mr. Wehrer recommended that **Mr. Macuga** be appointed to the position of Assistant Superintendent.

With the retirement of **Mrs. Diana Borges**, there is a vacancy in the position of Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services. This position will be renamed Director of Pupil Services, and Mr. Wehrer recommended hiring **Dr. Lisa Mumau** to this position. Dr. Mumau will oversee Special Education services as one of her duties. Dr. Mumau earned her Doctorate in Educational Leadership and a Supervisor of K-12 Pupil Personnel Services certificate from Duquesne University, Master's of Education in School Counseling from California University of Pennsylvania, K-12 Administrative certification from University of Scranton, and a Bachelor's of Science in Psychology from the University of Pittsburgh. She is coming to us from Yough School District where she worked as the Elementary School Counselor. At Derry Area School District, Dr. Mumau held the positions of Middle School Counselor and Assistant Director of Alternative Education. She was also the Elementary School Counselor in the Connellsville Area School District.

Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services

Mrs. Borges reported that on Monday, May 31, the students and staff are off for the Memorial Day holiday. June 4 is the last day for students and commencement for our seniors. On June 7, the teachers will have a transition day.

The **Extended School Year (ESY)** begins July 5 through July 29. It will operate Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Director of Academics, Information & Technology's Report

Mr. Colebank reported moving one cable line to fiber. Students will be turning in their iPads before leaving for summer break.

Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the meeting minutes of:

- April 12, 2021 worksession
- April 15, 2021 regular meeting

Financial Management

The Board approved the following items:

- General Fund invoices for May 2021 in the amount of \$481,888.00
- General Fund hand checks for April 2021 in the amount of \$1,044,867.54
- General Fund Revenue Report for March 2021
- General Fund Revenue Report for April 2021
- General Fund Expenditure Report for March 2021

- General Fund Expenditure Report for April 2021
- General Fund Balance Sheet for March 2021
- General Fund Balance Sheet for April 2021
- Food Service invoices for April 2021 in the amount of \$17,748.32
- Food Service Revenue Report for March 2021
- Food Service Revenue Report for April 2021
- Food Service Expenditure Report for March 2021
- Food Service Expenditure Report for April 2021
- Food Service Balance Sheet for March 2021
- Food Service Balance Sheet for April 2021
- Payroll Funding Transfers for April 2021
- Athletics Fund Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for April 2021
- High School Student Activities Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for April 2021
- Middle School Activities Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for April 2021
- External Groups Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for April 2021
- **Maher Duessel** to perform the financial and single audit compliance and three real estate audits in the amount of \$25,600 for the year 2021 plus \$300 for reimbursement of expenses and \$26,400 for the year 2022 plus \$300 for reimbursement of expenses
- Awarded the bid list as presented to the selected vendors at a total amount of \$8,291.48
- Proposed **Final General Fund Budget** for the 2021-2022 school year with a millage rate of 26.1081, an increase of 1.0281 mill. The General Fund Revenues are projected at \$37,559,074 and the Expenditures are projected to be \$40,557,681. The Deficit of \$2,998,607 will be partially absorbed by the General Fund's Fund Balance.
- Homestead/Farmstead Exclusion as presented in the amount of \$256.38
- Finance Services Agreement between the **Allegheny Intermediate Unit** and the District to provide finance services for the 2021-2022 school year

Operations

The Board approved the following items:

- Facility usage requests as presented
- **Honeywell's** quote to purchase and install a condense tank at Barrett Elementary School in the amount of \$20,124.00. The district is looking to install equipment prior to the fall/winter season.

Co-Curricular Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Fundraising requests as presented
- **Dr. Randolph Antoncic** as the School Doctor for school years 2021-2022, 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 at an annual compensation of \$20,000 per year according to the terms of the contract

Special Assignments

The Board approved the 2021-2022 **Steel Center for Career and Technical Education** Combined Budget (Administrative, Operating, Perkins and Workforce Development) and the 2021-2022 Southeast Area Special School Administrative Budget as presented

Mrs. Ligeros presented an update on Steel Center for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year. Steel Center has 100 more students enrolled than at this time last year. The Senior Recognition ceremony would be conducted on June 2 from 7:00-8:00 p.m. at the Baldwin High School Stadium, with a rain date of Friday, June 4. The last day for most students will be June 3. Mrs. Ligeros congratulated the seniors getting awards. **Mon Valley School's** graduation will be held on June 8 at 7:00 p.m. It is in-person for students and immediate family members,

but there will be a live stream for other guests. There are 22 students graduating this year from Mon Valley, making this one of the larger classes.

Educational Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Steel Valley **Middle School Academic Handbook** as presented for the 2021-2022 school year
- Application in accordance with the resolution adopted September 26, 2019, allowing the District to participate in the FID (**Flexible Instructional Day**) Program Round 2 to be used as an alternate approach to delivering instruction if a circumstance arises that prevents instruction in a customary manner
- In-person Barrett and Park **Summer Programs** including English/Language Arts, Math and Physical Education from June 14 through July 1, Monday through Thursday, from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. to be paid out of the CARES Act funds

Communications

The Board approved a Communication/Marketing Services Agreement between the **Allegheny Intermediate Unit** and the District to provide communication services for the 2021-2022 school year.

Mrs. Fitzgerald reported that the first **Parent Liaison Group** meeting was held, and they are eager to get working. This is a small group of people who will act as an in-between for community members, parents and school board members. They discussed communications between the schools, parents and the community. She thanked all the groups who acknowledged Teacher Appreciation Week. Mrs. Fitzgerald added that it was fantastic to see so many high school seniors receiving awards at the Senior Honors Award ceremony. She reported that the 8th grade class would be having a field day at Griffin Field. The Steel Valley Drama Club is performing the musical *Godspell* in the auditorium this weekend.

Mr. Bulger reported that **Ms. Sarah McCluan**, Supervisor of Communication Services for the Allegheny Intermediate Unit, has helped guide the District through difficult situations during the pandemic. He feels Ms. McCluan will continue to do a good job on communications and marketing for the District.

Personnel

The Board approved the following personnel items:

- Elimination of the positions of Secondary Associate Principals and created the positions of High School Principal and Middle School Principal; elimination of the position of Director of Academics, Information & Technology and create the position of Director of Academics, Information & Infrastructure; elimination of the position of Secondary Campus Principal/Federal Programs Director and created the position of Assistant Superintendent contingent upon agreement to Employment Contract; elimination of the position of Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services and created the position of Director of Pupil Services; and all of these actions are effective July 1, 2021
- **Dr. Lisa Mumau** to the position of Director of Pupil Services at an annual salary of \$80,000 effective on a mutually agreed upon date, contingent upon receipt of current clearances, passing required pre-employment screenings and compliance with Act 168
- **Mr. John Strom** to the position of High School Principal effective July 1, 2021
- **Ms. Rebecca E. Bragan** to the position of Middle School Principal at an annual salary of \$90,000 effective July 1, 2021, contingent upon receipt of current clearances, passing required pre-employment screenings and compliance with Act 168
- **Mr. Edward Colebank** to the position of Director of Academics, Information and Infrastructure effective July 1, 2021

- **Mr. Bryan Macuga** to the position of Assistant Superintendent contingent upon agreement to Employment Contract effective July 1, 2021
- **Ms. Kerry Kleinhans** to a full-time professional teaching position with a 2021-2022 assignment of Elementary Music Teacher at a salary of Bachelor's Step 4 (\$48,722) according to Policy No. 328.1 plus benefits as outlined in the current SVEA collective bargaining agreement effective at the start of the 2021-2022 school year
- **Ms. Jenna Conrad** and **Ms. Amber Randol** as Special Education Teachers and **Ms. Kristie Spotti** as a Speech and Language Therapist for the 2021 Extended School Year (ESY) program at a rate of \$32.00 per hour; and appointed **Ms. Vicki Deutsch**, **Ms. Mary Jo Craycraft**, **Ms. Christine Furrick**, **Ms. Holli Bobick** and **Ms. Betty Lyons** as special education paraeducators for ESY 2021 at their hourly rates
- Accepted, with regret, the resignation of **Mr. Mark Perhacs** from the position of High School Boys Varsity Soccer Coach effective immediately
- Hired **Ms. Ellen Baker** as a full-time district custodian with all benefits of the current collective bargaining agreement, effective July 1, 2021
- Hired **Vada Epps** as a contracted mental health provider to provide professional services at a rate of \$45 per hour for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year

Mr. Wehrer added that **Ms. Kerry Kleinhans** has been a dedicated substitute music teacher, building substitute and long-term substitute teacher in the District for seven years. For the past three years she has led the elementary band. What you might not be aware of is she is Principal Oboist for the **Pittsburgh Civic Orchestra**. She has done a phenomenal job for us, and we are thrilled to hire her as a full-time elementary music teacher.

Ms. Ellen Baker has worked with our security contractor since 2016. She has proven to be loyal and dependable, and her leadership and energy have earned her the position of on-site security supervisor. Prior to security work, Ms. Baker did cleaning work at UPMC-Shadyside for a number of years. We are excited to bring her into the District as a full-time custodian.

Mr. Bulger introduced **Dr. Lisa Mumau**, who was in the audience, and she stated that it is an honor and a privilege to be appointed the Director of Pupil Services.

Ms. Rebecca Bragan was introduced to the community members. She expressed her thankfulness, and she is looking forward to working with the Steel Valley School District community as the Middle School Principal.

Ms. Adams welcomed the new appointees to the District.