

Regular Meeting
Steel Valley School District Board of Directors
Senior High School Auditorium
December 7, 2010

Meeting was called to order by Mrs. Cannon, President at 7:03 p.m.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

Mr. Bajus, Mrs. Ballas, Mr. Ducar, Mr. Natale, Mr. Olson,
Mr. Terrick, Ms. Youngblood, Mrs. Kubancsek and Mrs.
Cannon

Also present: Dr. Kinavey, Mr. Cherpak, Mr. Fetzko, Mr. Colebank and
Mrs. Borges

Acknowledgements

Moment of Silence

The Board acknowledged the following deaths in the Steel Valley School District families: *Norman McMillan*, uncle of Ben Lander, high school teacher; *Vincent Milano*, uncle of Steve Large, middle school teacher; *Patricia Bevan*, grandmother of Deirdre Kamauf, kindergarten teacher; *Irene Hess*, aunt of Mary Ellen Totin, elementary school nurse; *Dr. Nick J. Staresinic*, retired superintendent of Highlands School District; *Betty Johnson*, aunt of Joyce Kornacki, part-time high school secretary; *Dolores Sutton*, mother of Toni Besh, high school teacher; and *Regis N. Urban*, father-in-law of Darla Urban, substitute secretary.

Mrs. Kubancsek moved and Mr. Ducar seconded the motion to approve the purchase of memorial books to be placed into the district libraries in memory of the above departed. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Natale, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood, Kubancsek and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

President's Comments

Mrs. Cannon:

- Announced that the school district staff, board members and community members are supporting Mrs. Maria Heddlestone, Park School teacher, by wearing “Team Maria” pink t-shirts. Mrs. Heddlestone was recently diagnosed with breast cancer and is undergoing chemotherapy. To follow Maria’s journey you can go to the Lotsa Helping Hands website: <http://ncfa.lotsahelpinghands.com/c/634255/>.
- Announced that the high school students and volunteers would be participating in the Steel Valley Extreme Home Makeover project to improve homes in the Steel Valley Community. To apply for a home makeover, applications are available on the Steel Valley website: www.svsd.k12.pa.us or from Teacher Ryan Dunmire. Applications are due January 7, 2011.

Student Representatives’ Report

Miss Kaitlyn Baran:

- Announced that Park School held a schoolwide book fair in November. Parent/teacher conferences were well attended during the afternoon and evening of November 9. The annual Veterans Day program was held November 12 uniting the school and community and providing an opportunity for the staff and students to express gratitude to these distinguished service men and women.
- At the middle school, a Title I Family Night was held that provided reading, games and tips to help parents work with their children at home. Both boys and girls groups are underway helping students with decision-making, organization, anger management and cyber bullying. *Safe School Route* street signs will be installed on proper paths to and from school. The school has invested in purchasing copies of the *Black Chronicle* created by Arthur Bloom. The articles will be used with the African American studies in social Studies and Language Arts classes.
- An outstanding high school Veterans Day program was held on November 11. A blood drive was held on November 24 for students and residents sixteen and older. A Festival of Trees coordinated by the Student Government can be viewed in the high school lobby. Members of various high school clubs decorated the trees.

- The Future is Mine Club is accepting donations and contributions toward Santa Paws. Donations will be given to Fallen Timber Animal Shelter. The choral and band concert is scheduled for December 15 beginning at 7:00 p.m. The annual Financial Aid Seminar will be conducted on December 16 from 7:00-8:00 p.m. to inform students and parents about financial aid. The anticipated holiday break begins with an early dismissal on December 22.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kinavey:

- Introduced Principal Bryan Macuga who presented information on Park Elementary School's Bullying Prevention Program. He shared some statistics on bullying from an article entitled, "School Bullying Statistics—The ABCs of Harassment." Over 75% of school aged students are subjected to verbal or physical harassment. In a survey conducted in 2009 over 100,000 children carried guns to school as a result of being bullied. On a daily average 160,000 children miss school because they fear they will be bullied if they attend classes. Every 7 minutes a child is bullied on a school playground with over 85% of those instances occurring without any intervention. Finally, the top 5 states in regard to reported incidents of bullying are California, New York, Illinois, Pennsylvania and Washington. Bullying is a major epidemic!
- Mr. Macuga stated that Park Elementary School has become proactive by instituting the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program. All school staff has been trained and can intervene when bullying occurs. A group of students in grades 1-5 performed to their school's bullying message "Be a Buddy not a Bully." The students also distributed bookmarks and "bully bands" with the same message.
- Mr. Colebank recognized the Steel Center Vocational-Technical School's *Extra Effort Award* winners for the first grading period.

Iyauna Maloy	Health Assistance
Lakijai Bynum	Cosmetology
Stephanie Keane	Cosmetology
Danielle Peoples	Computer Information Systems
Jessica Coddington	Advertising and Design
Stephen Spence	Collision Repair and Refinishing

- Athletic/Activities Director Shawn McCallister recognized all the fall sports teams, coaches and outstanding student athletes for the 2010 season. Certificates of Recognition were presented to representative members of the girls volleyball team, varsity boys soccer team, varsity girls soccer team, varsity football team, golf team, boys and girls cross country teams, marching band and varsity cheerleaders.
- Boys soccer team players Craig Hixon and Cory Joyce made All Section and Jared Ruffing achieved All Section Honorable Mention. Junior Bre Gardner was named to the All Section Girls Volleyball Team for the 3rd consecutive year. Varsity Football Team players James Caldwell, Delrece Williams, Gilbert Carswell, Nolan McGuire, Brett Gilliam and Terrell Hart were named to All Section and Kevin Early received Honorable Mention.
- Mr. McCallister also recognized Senior Delrece Williams for setting a new Steel Valley football rushing record and breaking the WPIAL record for most yards rushing in a regular season.
- Dr. Kinavey congratulated Lori Kenavey, Elementary Literacy Coach, Jodi Geyer, High School Language Arts teacher and Steve Singer, Middle School Language Arts teacher for earning National Board Certification. National Board certified teachers are highly accomplished educators who meet high and rigorous standards. The school district has nine teachers with National Board Certification.
- Mr. William Carnahan, Vice President External Affairs of Verizon-Pennsylvania, presented the district with an investment of \$15,000 to promote child Internet safety. Partners in this project will be the school district and the Munhall Police Department. Certificates of Recognition were presented to Jill Fleming-Salopek, Chief Pat Campbell and Officer Dan Boehme.
- Dr. Kinavey announced that several grants have recently been awarded to the Music Department. Bradley Thompson, Sharon Ellis, Rebecca Russell and Ed Wehrer were recognized for their efforts in receiving a Great Idea Grant from The Consortium for Public Education for *Music Technology for the 3rd Millennium* in the amount of \$5,000. Other grants received included a School Demonstration Grant for \$15,000, McDonald's MAC Grant for \$500 and another grant for \$15,000 is pending approval. Mr. Thompson stated that these funds would be used to create an interactive music learning center.
- Also recognized was a team of middle school teachers who were awarded a Great Idea Grant from The Consortium for Public Education in the amount of \$2,500 for *Greenhouse Effect with a Side of Salsa* to continue the pond

area beautification project. Dr. Kinavey congratulated Beth McCallister, Math Department Chair and Secondary Math Coach and 6th grade math teachers Sara Sullivan, Mike Hofbauer, and Steve Large and presented them with Certificates of Recognition.

- Dr. Kinavey thanked Beth McCallister for promoting our students and accompanying a group of juniors and seniors to the Arnold Ross lecture for gifted math students at the Carnegie Science Center. One of the students was a contestant in the *Who Wants to be a Mathematician* game show and took 2nd place in the competition.

Director of Pupil Personnel, Special Services and Elementary Education

Mrs. Borges:

- Announced the schedule of elementary holiday concerts and plays as follows:

December 17	Park Elementary School	9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
December 20	Barrett Elementary School	9:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.
December 21	Franklin Primary Center	12:45 p.m. HS Auditorium

The Littlest Christmas Tree
- An early dismissal for students will be held on Wednesday, December 22, as follows:

Franklin Primary Center	12 Noon
Barrett and Park Elementary Schools	12:30 p.m.

Director of Academics, Information & Technology

Mr. Colebank:

- Reported that the district will use the AlertNow system to notify parents and employees by telephone of two-hour delays and cancellations of school.
- The 2009-2010 District Report Card is available on the Steel Valley website: www.svsd.k12.pa.us.

Solicitor's Report

None

Citizen Comments on Agenda Items

- Ms. Donna Dreshman questions - Item 3.3 (Steel Valley Varsity Marching Band to Winchester, Virginia) will this replace Florida trip; Item 6.0 (Personnel Management) is anyone related to an administrator or Board member; Item 6.6 (Temporary assignment of floater substitute at Barrett Elementary) what will this person do at Barrett; Item 6.14 (Hiring substitute for instructional aide and secretary) can this person wear two hats at one time; Item 6.12 (Revised job description for part-time school secretary) will this add time to her day.

Board Meeting Minutes

Mrs. Cannon moved and Mr. Natale seconded the motion to approve the meeting minutes of the special meeting October 12, worksession of October 19, special meeting of October 19 and regular meeting of October 26, 2010. Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Natale, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood, Kubancsek and Cannon. Abstain: Ballas on worksession and special meetings of October 19 and Ducar on worksession and special meetings of October 19 and regular meeting of October 26, 2010. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Financial Management

Mr. Natale moved and Mr. Ducar seconded the motion to approve the following:

- General Fund invoices for November 2010 in the amount of \$700,627.80
- General Fund hand checks for October 2010 in the amount of \$354,225.68
- Payroll Funding Transfers for October 2010
- Treasurer's Report for September and October 2010
- Food Service invoices for October 2010 in the amount of \$68,162.66
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending October 31, 2010
- Foundation for Education Technology Account Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending October 31, 2010

- Foundation for Education Barrett Project Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending October 31, 2010
- Custodial hand checks in the amount of \$36,749.02
- Athletic hand checks in the amount of \$5,092.94
- Middle School hand checks in the amount of \$17,491.79
- Band Trip hand checks in the amount of \$193.00

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Natale, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood, Kubancsek and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Operations

Mr. Ducar moved and Mrs. Kubancsek seconded the motion to approve the following:

- Facility rental requests as presented
- Award the bid for the purchase of a 2011 4x4 dump truck to New Holland Auto Group at the bid price of \$46,123.02 to be paid from the Capital Projects 2005 fund

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Natale, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood, Kubancsek and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Co-Curricular Leadership

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

- Fundraising requests as presented
- Request for The Future is Mine students and chaperones to participate in the Annual Conference at the Pittsburgh Marriott City Center on April 14-15, 2011, at a cost of \$400 for substitute teachers
- Request for the Steel Valley Varsity Marching Band to attend the Apple Blossom Festival Parade in Winchester, Virginia, on April 27 – May 1, 2011, at no cost to the district

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Natale, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood, Kubancsek and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Special Assignments

No report

Educational Leadership

Mrs. Ballas moved and Mr. Ducar seconded the motion to approve the following:

- Special Education Performance Grant/School Based Behavioral Health Grant Contract for Services and authorize the appropriate officials to execute said agreement
- Accept a grant from the National Education Association (NEA) to Steel Valley Middle School in the amount of \$5,000 to implement educational strategies in the middle school classrooms
- Accept a \$15,000 grant from the Verizon Foundation
- 2011 School Board meeting dates and authorize the advertising of meetings for the upcoming year
- Purchase of the Harcourt Social Studies textbooks for grades 4 and 5 at a cost of \$7,700.99

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Natale, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood, Kubancsek and Cannon. Negative: None. Motion carried.

Personnel Management

Mr. Natale moved and Mr. Terrick seconded the motion to approve the following:

- An intermittent family medical leave of absence for Mary Ellen Totin retroactive to November 10, 2010, not to exceed 60 days in duration
- A family medical leave of absence for Rebecca Kristen commencing January 3, 2011, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration

- A family medical leave of absence for Jennifer Pecora commencing January 20, 2011, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- A family medical leave of absence for Emilee Garcia commencing February 13, 2011, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- Two (2) additional paid bereavement days for Tracy McGrew on October 1 and 20, 2010
- A temporary assignment of floater substitute at Barrett Elementary School for the remainder of the 2010-2011 school year at the day-to-day substitute rate plus \$25 per day
- Ryan Brown as a day-to-day substitute teacher for the 2010-2011 school year at the rate of \$75 per day for the first 30 days and \$100 per day beginning with the 31st day
- Diana Borges to attend the Department of Education Conference January 12-14, 2011, at no cost to the district
- Supplemental appointments of Jeffrey Pingor to 7th & 8th grade assistant boys basketball coach and Jena Bence to middle school cheerleading coach for the 2010-2011 school year
- Deny Grievance #10-205 from the Steel Valley Education Association due to no violation in the original or amended grievance
- Accept, with regret, the retirement of Suellen Swinkle from her position as security aide at Barrett Elementary School effective December 22, 2010, and in accordance with all benefits per the collective bargaining agreement
- An unpaid leave of absence for Dorothy Miller retroactive to November 30, 2010, to January 3, 2011
- The revised part-time school secretary job description as presented
- Charles M. Kinavey as a substitute custodian at the hourly rate of \$8.75 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed within 30 days
- Angela Hafen as a substitute instructional aide and substitute secretary at the hourly rate of \$7.25 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed within 30 days
- School volunteers as presented for the 2010-2011 school year
- The activities volunteers as presented for the 2010-2011 school year contingent upon receipt of Act 34 and 151 clearances
- Preparation of a proclamation in honor of Mark Hornak to be presented in January 2011

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Bajus, Ballas, Ducar, Natale, Olson, Terrick, Youngblood, Kubancsek and Cannon. Abstain: Olson on Item 6.9 (Grievance #10-205), Item 6.15 (School volunteers) and Item 6.16 (Activities volunteers). Negative: None. Motion carried.

Citizen Comments

- Ms. Donna Dreshman questions - will Item 6.6.1 (Ryan Brown as substitute) fill Item 6.6 (Temporary floater), is the pool issue resolved, is the district going forward with property sales, how is school bullying handled in our schools, have senior PSSA retake results come in yet.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m. by a motion of Mr. Ducar, seconded by Mrs. Kubancsek.