



STEEL VALLEY NEWSLETTER

District News • Stories • Events

November 2022



Steel Valley's quest for another WPIAL football championship begins in earnest this Friday at Campbell Field. The Ironmen rolled to a 9-0 record in the regular season, but now it's win or go home.

Steel Valley earned the No. 1 seed in the WPIAL Class 2A bracket. The Ironmen will host No. 8 McGuffey at 7 p.m. in the quarterfinals on Friday.

Just how dominant have the Ironmen been this year? Steel Valley leads the entire WPIAL in scoring at 42.6 points per game and in scoring defense, having allowed just 5.7 points per game. Quarterback Cruce Brookins has rushed for 1,048 yards and scored 22 touchdowns while throwing for an additional 604 yards and six more touchdowns. Sophomore Donald Barksdale has scored 12 touchdowns and rushed for 565 yards, while junior Quaron Pierce has rushed for 614 yards and three touchdowns. Senior Makhai Valentine has six touchdown receptions. Senior Jesean Wright has seven total touchdowns and is among the team leaders in tackles.

Tickets are on sale now through the WPIAL. Online tickets are \$5 for students and \$7 for adults. Tickets purchased on game day at the gate are \$7. To purchase tickets online, [visit the GoFan portal and select the Steel Valley-McGuffey game.](#)



Community Meeting



Wednesday, Nov. 16 at 7 p.m.
Park Elementary Gymnasium

Join us for our next monthly meeting aimed at making the Steel Valley School District better than ever.
To make this happen, we need you!

We're looking for parents, students, alumni, faculty, staff, business leaders, and any other member of the Steel Valley community to join us.
This meeting is open to everyone in our community.

Please note that the November meeting will also include an Educational Leadership meeting. All community members are welcome to contribute to both meetings as we strive to make Steel Valley the best it can be.

Join us and please spread the word!

STEEL VALLEY SPOTLIGHT



The fifth Funder Under the Bridge was a huge success thanks to the generosity of the Steel Valley community and some spectacular weather.

The annual event has become an October staple underneath the Homestead Grays Bridge down at the Waterfront. This year the event raised \$6,415.25 for Steel Valley academic, athletic, and creative arts programs. Over the course of the five events, the community has donated \$28,238 to support district students. This year, the money raised will be split evenly amongst the clubs who participated in the event: Art Club, Boys Soccer, Cheer, Football, French Club, Girls Soccer, Golf, SADD, Volleyball, Choir, Marching Band, Middle School Drama, and Middle School Student Government. Money was raised through entry donations, raffle baskets, the concession stand, and the pie in the face contest, which is fast becoming the most popular part of the day.

Special thanks goes out to the willing recipients of a pie to the face - Superintendent Edward Wehrer, School Board President Jim Bulger, Board Member and Funder Organizer Bill McLaughlin, Munhall Mayor Rob Falce, football coach and community liaison Kevin Clarke, and teachers Ryan

The event also featured performances from 12 current students, two alumni, the Steel Valley Marching Band, and the Steel Valley Cheerleaders.

Funder Under the Bridge would not be possible without the tireless work of all involved, as well as the kindness of those who donated time and resources. The Waterfront staff donated a substantial amount of the material needed to host the event and kicked in \$1,000; Mayor Falce made contributions; Pat Dolan of Heavy Landscaping and Tree Service donated items for the refreshment booth; the Girl Scouts volunteered to collect admissions; and John Brocato donated his D.J. services and equipment to keep the party going.





Thanks to the ongoing collaboration with The Pittsburgh Study, Steel Valley is continuing to expand and add programs and resources for students and families. During a recent professional development day, Dr. Liz Miller of The Pittsburgh Study, her team, and Steel Valley staff all provided updates on the progress these programs have been making and the plans for the future. [For more, check out the story on the district website.](#)



Ms. Caralee McGraw has taught middle school math, high school art, and elementary art. As Steel Valley's new elementary art teacher, her focus is on building their basic skills and techniques, introducing them to different materials and mediums, and boosting their confidence in the art world. Get to know more about Ms. McGraw by [checking out her story on the district website.](#)



October was full of lots of fun for Barrett students, especially around Halloween. Barrett students went all out with their Halloween costumes. Make sure you [check out the photo gallery on the district website](#) to see all the amazing costumes.

As November continues and Thanksgiving approaches, there are a few important dates to keep in mind. Parent Teacher Conferences are Thursday, November 10 from noon to 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Grief Awareness Day is November 17. Students can wear blue shirts with their uniform bottoms. Turkey Trot Tuesday is November 22 and students can wear athletic gear to school. Thanksgiving break lasts November 24 through Monday, November 28.

Barrett Elementary's 12 Days of Giving Project has become an annual November tradition. This year's round of giving began on Monday, Nov. 7 and will run through Tuesday, Nov. 22.

Whether it is through a donation, a kind word, or a simple show of appreciation, Barrett is looking for ways to make a difference in and around the community. Donations during this period will go to Steel Valley and Barrett Elementary partners like The Rainbow Kitchen, Fast Pitch for the Cure, Batch of Toys, the SV Caring Closet, and more. Donations for all days can be sent to Barrett from Nov. 7 through Nov. 22. Specific donations are listed in the image below.

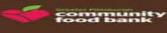
BARRETT ELEMENTARY CELEBRATES 12 DAYS OF GIVING

Ways to Donate:

1. PNC Branch
2. TEXT TO GIVE is: **KDTURKEY22 to 50155**
3. ONLINE TO GIVE is: **kdka.com/turkeyfund**
4. P.O. Box Thanks
Pittsburgh, PA 15230

PNC will match any contribution of \$50 or more made in any PNC branch up to \$75,000. Benefits Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank.



Day 1: A Turkey for a Family in Need

Purchase a \$1.00 pumpkin for our Giving Patch. Decorate it at home and return it to your teacher. All proceeds benefit the KDKA Turkey Fund. You may purchase a pumpkin to decorate from November 7th- November 18th.

**Day 2: Love for the Children**

Students will create pocket hugs for the children and their families at Children's Hospital and the Ronald McDonald House.

Day 3: Care for the Closet

Let's help stock the Steel Valley Caring Closet with small, individually wrapped travel size packs of tissues and travel size bottles of mouthwash.

**Day 4: Soup for the Kitchen**

We are collecting cans of "Hearty" or "Chunky" soup to be donated to The Rainbow Kitchen.

Day 5: Coins for the Cure

Send in your loose change and help raise money for Munhall Girls Softball's Annual Fast Pitch for the Cure.

**Day 6: A Random Act of Kindness**

It costs nothing to be kind! Today let's spread kindness around like confetti!

Day 7: Socks for the Homeless

Bring in a pair of new socks to help keep the homeless warm this winter.

Day 8: Towels for the Shelter

Bring in a roll of paper towels to help out a local animal shelter.

**Day 9: Cards for Someone Special**

Cards for someone special will be made during school.

Day 10: Smiles from the Children

Smiling snowman ornaments will be made during school and sent to our local nursing homes to help bring a smile to a special someone's face.

**Day 11: Coloring Books for Batch**

Bring in a new coloring book to donate to the Batch of Toys program.

**Day 12: A Special Gift for Students!**

A gift of thanks for the students will be provided by staff.

The Ronald McDonald Care Mobile will be making a stop at Barrett Elementary from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Monday, November 28. The Care Mobile offers medical care to children throughout the Pittsburgh area and will be available for families in the Steel Valley community with this visit to the high school. The Care Mobile can provide immunizations, routine physical exams, diagnose and treat illnesses in children, adolescent and youth adult health care, referrals for specialty care, and Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) form assistance.

All of the services are provided at no out-of-pocket cost to families. Anyone interested in stopping by the Care Mobile should make sure they arrive by 1:30 p.m. on November 28 in order to register in time. The Care Mobile is a

information before the visit can call 412-622-1000 or visit www.cnp.edu/out-services/mobile-medical-clinic.

PARK ELEMENTARY NEWS



October was full of all kinds of activity at Park Elementary. Not only did Park students get to enjoy their annual Halloween parade, as well as all of the other festivities that come along with the spookiest holiday of the year, but some of that Halloween fun spilled into November.

Third graders had a particularly busy time as they had to scramble to use their skills in math to solve riddles, decipher codes written in emojis, and use a geometry decoder to escape a horde of zombies. Their skills were so sharp that every student and staff member was able to avoid the zombies.

Park's third grade class has also begun writing letters to their pen pals with their peers in Texas. Students learned about proper letter writing, the important of good grammar to make sure that they are communicating effectively, and to keep a careful eye on their spelling. Now, it's time to wait for a response!

Parent Teacher Conferences are Thursday, November 10 from noon to 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Grief Awareness Day is November 17. Students can wear blue shirts with their uniform bottoms. Team Park Dress Down Days are Friday, November 11 and Wednesday, November 23.



Every staff member in the Steel Valley School District recently took part in an active shooter simulation and security training with the help of local first responders. The training is designed to educate staff on safety protocols, walk them through potential scenarios, and help prepare them to make smart, safe decisions in an understandably terrifying situation. For more about the security training, [check out the full story on the website.](#)

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS



As recognition for the students' positive behavior, the Middle School PBIS team put together an afternoon of activities for the students in October. Each session began with a Halloween-themed performance by the choir in the auditorium, followed by a series of activities in the crisp fall air!

Students enjoyed Trunk or Treat, Pumpkin Limbo, Hot PoPumpkin (just like Hot Potato!), Pumpkin Bucket Chuck It, Pumpkin races, and some snacks.

The Ironmen Cafe is officially back open for business. This student-run and staff-supported business works on essential communication, socialization, and math application skills. The students were excited to get working, and the staff

The Middle School Drama Club put on three performances of the comedy "Bad Auditions." The show featured a slew of characters trying to impress the director to earn a coveted spot on the fictional show "Crime Court". The wild casting process brought lots of laughs and served as a great platform for students to practice their craft as actors and for the stage crew to learn more about putting together a performance.

The Steel Valley School District is hiring for several positions for the 2022-23 school year. Qualified substitute nurses, substitute teachers, substitute secretaries, substitute paraprofessionals, substitute cafeteria workers, and more are all needed. A full list of openings [is available on the web site.](#)

HIGH SCHOOL NEWS



High school students have elected their Senior Class Officers for 2023. Chelsea Bulger was elected Secretary, Gabrielle Matusky was elected Class President, Kendall McConnell was elected Vice President, and Brenna Kern was elected Treasurer.

The Steel Valley SADD program spent the week of Oct. 24 celebrating Red Ribbon Week. The annual event is one of the largest and longest-running drug-use prevention campaigns in the country. Steel Valley SADD began the week with its officers passing out Red Ribbons to staff and students as they entered the building. On Wednesday, October 26, SADD students worked together to create an information booth during their lunch periods. The booth served as an education hub for their peers on the dangers of using drugs.

On Friday, October 30, SADD created a poster of a Red Ribbon, which high school students could sign to show they were taking the pledge to live a drug free life. Throughout the week, announcements in the high school included in Red Ribbon Week facts. SADD also participated in the Munhall Halloween Parade, where they showed off their Red Ribbons to the community and passed out candy to kids.

Parent Teacher Conferences will be held on Wednesday, November 9 from noon to 3 p.m. and from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. for the Middle School and High

Two Steel Valley students earned recognition as Students of the Month at Steel Center for Career and Technical Education. Christopher Burgman was recognized for his work in Building Trades, while Atreyu Convard was honored for his work in Computer Technology.

Stay up to date with what's happening on our social media accounts! The district has a Twitter account and Instagram account, as well as individual Facebook pages for each of our four schools. Click the respective icons at the bottom of the newsletter to make sure you're following us!



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Our mailing address is:

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