



STEEL VALLEY NEWSLETTER

District News • Stories • Events

September 2022



The Steel Valley School District could not be more excited to welcome back its students - and to greet a new class of kindergarten students - for the 2022-23 school year. This year will be full of wonderful opportunities, amazing new memories, and lots of learning!

The first day is always full of smiles and hugs. Check out some of the photos captured from the first day in our [gallery on the district website](#).



Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼



Steel Valley School District Community Meeting



Wednesday, Sept. 14 at 7 p.m.
High School Library

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 (current and former),
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.

We want to know what you think already makes Steel Valley great,
but we also want to know what we can do to make it better!

Join us and please spread the word!

STEEL VALLEY SPOTLIGHT



It's been a whirlwind start for Steel Valley's new Director of Pupil Services. Ms. Renee Kozusko started her new job shortly before the school year began and she has devoted these first few weeks to immersing herself in the ins and outs of her role. It's been hectic, but it's exactly where Ms.

Kozusko wants to be.

"I was looking for a location where I could utilize the skills that I've been able to develop over the years and really kind of work with staff, families and a school community to be able to make some changes for students to grow their skills," Ms. Kozusko said.

To learn more about Ms. Kozusko, [check out her story on the district website.](#)

BARRETT ELEMENTARY NEWS



The Barrett Elementary staff would like to invite all of its families to stop by for Open House on Wednesday, Sept. 7 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The Open House is an excellent opportunity to meet teachers and get a sense of what your child's school day is like. It's also a chance to learn more about the various programs that are available for students at Barrett Elementary. Students will be dismissed at 12:15 that day.

During the school day on Wednesday, Sept. 7, students will learn about Barrett's PBIS program. The program sets expectations that Barrett students are expected to model and it rewards students who demonstrate what it means to be a Barrett student. Barrett staff work with the students throughout the year to help them understand and reach those expectations. Students are rewarded for meeting and exceeding expectations through the use of bear paws at the school store, teacher treasure boxes, and PAWS for treats during lunch time, as well as with special events throughout the school year.

There will be school spirit days on Sept. 9, Sept. 16 and Sept. 30 where students can wear maroon and gold or a Steel Valley t-shirt with their uniform bottom to support the high school football team.

The Ronald McDonald Care Mobile will be making a stop at Steel Valley High School from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday, September 9. 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 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 one of the listed days in order to register in time. The Care Mobile is a collaboration between UPMC Children's Hospital and the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Pittsburgh and Morgantown. Anyone in need of more information before the visit can call 412-352-1059 or visit www.chp.edu/our-services/mobile-medical-clinic.

PARK ELEMENTARY NEWS



The school year is off to a strong start at Park Elementary. Students had a chance to meet a number of new teachers and staff, including learning support teacher [Mrs. Maureen Fagan](#), life skills/autistic support teacher [Ms. Kaitlyn Craycraft](#), and cafeteria monitor [Mrs. Jessica Michaels](#).

Families can meet those new faces and the rest of the Park staff during the Open House on Wednesday, Sept. 7 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Not only is it a chance to meet and talk with the staff, but it's an excellent opportunity to go around the school with your child and see what their day is like at Park.

Park's PBIS program is also underway, as the teachers have been working with the students on learning the school rules and what it means to be a Park student. Students who showcase that they are prepared, accountable, respectful and kind will be recognized for their positive influence. Park's PBIS program has been recognized by the state for the last five years, so the students have high expectations!

September will also bring the Park Scholastic Book Fair, which will run from September 19 through September 23. It's a great event to stock up on some good books and spend some time reading with your child. September 21 will be School Picture Day.

Park staff and students are also excited to once again work with visiting artists

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.](#)

MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS



September is a great time to start participating in all of the extracurricular activities that the middle school has to offer.

The middle school sports season is getting underway. Middle school sports are for seventh and eighth grade students and offer an opportunity to learn more about the sport while improving individual skill and athletic ability. The middle school soccer team [has kicked off the season](#) under coach Rick Williams; the girls volleyball team is preparing for its [season opener against South Park on Sept. 13](#) under coach Alexis Lucas. [Cross country](#), led by coach Emily Doyle, and swimming, led by coach [Virginia Carr](#), are also set to get started this month. Finally, coach Dontez Williams and the middle school football team make their highly anticipated debut [at Campbell Field on Sept. 7.](#)

There are numerous other opportunities away from the athletic field for students to get involved at the middle school. The Drama Club is open to all students and welcomes students who may be interested in performing as well as those who might want to work on the crew. Student government provides all students with the opportunity to make a difference through serving their school and community. Stand Together works to decrease negative attitudes and beliefs among adolescents towards peers and adults with mental illness and/or substance use disorders.

There are other programs and activities available, as well. Information is available through the middle school office and guidance office.



High school students may still be getting used to their schedules and the flow of their classes, but a couple of important dates are coming up in the first half of September. Students who would like to make any changes to their schedules must do so by Friday, September 9. That is the last day that any schedule change requests will be accepted. Changes can be done through the guidance office and through the form available in the main office.

Wednesday, September 14 is Picture Day for the high school.

Our athletic teams are kicking their fall seasons into high gear. The football team got the season started with a bang by defeating Sto-Rox in the season opener. The first home game of the season is [Friday night at Campbell Field against Seton LaSalle](#). The girls soccer team has begun its WPIAL title defense and will [jump into the heart of Section 1-1A play this month](#). The [boys soccer team](#), [girls volleyball team](#), the [cross country team](#) and the [golf team](#) have all begun their seasons, as well, and could use support from the Steel Valley community.

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!



In December 2021, superintendent Edward Wehrer made a presentation to the Steel Valley School District Board of Directors and the community. The presentation detailed Mr. Wehrer's plan to position the district for the future by addressing the district's primary needs and by emphasizing Steel Valley's commitment to academics, health, equity and inclusion, and career readiness.

The four pillars of Steel Valley Stronger do not exist in isolation. How well someone does academically depends on their health, their support system and the opportunities they are provided. Academics, health, careers and equity are intertwined in education. These four pillars have been significant components of the Steel Valley experience in the past. The goal through Steel Valley Stronger is to turn them into strategic focal points so that they become areas of even greater strength.

For more information about Steel Valley Stronger, [please visit the new portion of our web site dedicated to the initiative](#) and check out the videos on the Academics, Careers, Equity and Inclusion, and Health pages for insight from Steel Valley administrators and staff.



*Copyright © 2022 Steel Valley School District.
All rights reserved.*

Our mailing address is:
Steel Valley School District
220 E. Oliver Rd. Homestead, PA 15120

To submit information for the newsletter, please email: communications@steelvalleysd.org

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.