



Steel Valley School District

Board Brief

**Board Meeting
August 20, 2015**

The School Board acknowledged the passing of **Anthony R. Noroski III**, 2013 Steel Valley graduate, and **Joanne Green-Wells**, former superintendent of Duquesne City School District. It was moved by **Mr. Olson** and seconded by **Mrs. Steele** to place an appropriate selection of books into the school libraries in their memory.

Vice President's Report

Ms. Youngblood congratulated the Ironmen football team for winning the 7 on 7 championship at the University of Pittsburgh held June 21 & 22. The team also competed in West Virginia University's 7 on 7 competition June 26 & 27 and made it to the final four. Unfortunately they lost in the semifinal game.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Wehrer announced that all students would be provided with a free breakfast and lunch every day as part of the Community Eligibility Provision. Students may purchase a la carte items, and they must purchase a drink if they bring a bagged lunch.

He added that **Mr. Tom Shaughnessy** has been appointed principal of Park Elementary School. **Mr. Bryan Macuga's** assignment has changed to Principal of the Middle School. He will also continue as the Federal Programs Coordinator and Title IX Coordinator. Mr. Macuga will lead the rollout of the iPad devices to the Middle School students in September.

Our newly appointed High School Principal is **Mrs. Lisa Duval**. Mrs. Duval comes to us from the South Allegheny School District where she held the positions of Secondary Supervisory Principal/Acting HS Principal, Middle School Principal and Dean of Students. She earned her undergraduate degree from Penn State and her Masters of Science from Drexel University. She is currently enrolled at Indiana University of PA to obtain her doctoral degree.

The teachers and paraprofessionals will be back to school on Monday, August 24.

For students entering 1st, 6th and 9th grades, school will begin Monday, August 31. The schools will hold a transition day for those grades entering a new building this year. Kindergarten teachers will be at Barrett and Park School to welcome the students; 5th grade teachers will greet the 6th grade students in the Middle School; and the 8th grade teachers will welcome students into the Senior High School. There will also be an early dismissal for students on the transition day.

All other grades will begin on Tuesday, September 1. This will be a full day of school with the exception of kindergarten students. Kindergarten students will have early dismissals on September 1 and 2. Their first full day of classes will be Thursday, September 3.

Mr. Wehrer noted that the roll out of 1:1 iPad devices to all middle school students would occur during parent events on September 10, 12 & 14. Parents must be present to receive the iPads.

This will be the first year of hands-on science curriculum in grades K-8, and the first year of complete K-12 English Language Arts curriculum.

A new sidewalk and front entranceway at the high school and Franklin Primary Center is being completed. The installation of air conditioning in the high school gym and new windows in the high school and middle school will begin once school gets underway.

Mr. Wehrer formally recognized 5th grader **Chelsea Bulger** for being one of three girls to win a nationwide essay contest through the *Girls on the Run* program. Her coach **Audrey Hinkle** stated that Chelsea exemplified what it means to be a girl on the run.

Miss **Lorraine West** who is entering 6th grade was chosen as one of three girls to receive the "2015 Strong Award." This honor is part of the *Strong Women, Strong Girls* mentoring program.

The high school boys' volleyball team was awarded the 2014-2015 American Volleyball Coaches Association Team Academic Award. The award honors collegiate and high school volleyball teams that displayed excellence in the classroom during the school year by maintaining at least a 3.0 cumulative team grade point average. The volleyball team was one of only 29 high school boys' volleyball programs nationally to be recognized with the honor. Congratulations to the **volleyball team members**, Head Coach **Alex Hinsey** and Assistant Coach **Matthew Hamilton**.

Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services Report

Mrs. Borges reported that *Meet the Principal Night* will be held at Barrett Elementary School on Monday, August 24, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

On September 8, students will be dismissed early so the teachers can participate in professional development training.

Director of Academics, Information & Technology Report

Mr. Colebank reported on the updates to our coursework. Students enrolled in the Gaming class will be taking the second level of instruction this year. The software has been upgraded for the Video Productions course along with the purchase of a new video recorder.

The planetarium has been updated to a digital system. There are plans for the elementary students to visit the planetarium as part of their science class. Mrs. Cannon thanked Mr. Deabner for his email regarding the upgrades to the planetarium and his positivity about the program.

The CAD lab has been overhauled and has upgraded software. A new printer that prints blueprints has been purchased.

The district will be providing every parent/student with an email address for better communication between school and home. Mr. Colebank has purchased new Nikon cameras.

Students will be required to keep a lock on their lockers to store their electronic devices. There will be no sharing of lockers.

Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the following meeting minutes:

- July 15, 2015 special meeting
- July 27, 2015 worksession meeting
- July 30, 2015 regular meeting

Financial Management

The Board approved the following financial items:

- General Fund invoices for 2014-2015 paid in 2015-2016 in the amount of \$275,571.39
- General Fund invoices for August 2015 in the amount of \$245,371.23
- General Fund hand checks for July 2015 in the amount of \$1,518,786.41

- General Fund Revenue Report for July 2015
- General Fund Expenditure Report for July 2015
- General Fund Trial Balance for July 2015
- Food Service Revenue Report for July 2015
- Food Service Expenditure Report for July 2015
- Food Service Balance Sheet for July 2015
- Payroll Funding Transfers for July 2015
- Authorized payments from Capital Projects to Frankl Electric, Inc., in the amount of \$27,550.00 and \$3,990.00
- Refund in the amount of \$228.34 to Mark A. Walnick, Lot & Block 133-B-208 for year 2013, as a result of a change in assessment
- Payment to Borough of Munhall for 2014 software package in the amount of \$2,939.50

Operations

The Board approved the following items:

- Facility rental requests as presented
- Purchase of a Ford F-350 truck to be paid out of the Capital Projects Fund in the amount of \$28,417.00 less trade-in. This will be a piggyback transaction with the CWCOG.

Co-Curricular Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Fundraising requests as presented
- Field trip request for **Steel Valley Marching Band** to perform at Disney World in Orlando, Florida, on March 22-26, 2016

Special Assignments

- The Board held a first reading of revisions to Policy 237 Electronic Devices.
- Mr. Olson stated that he is glad our CAD program is being upgraded since Steel Center eliminated its CAD program.

Educational Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Accepted a donation of \$500.00 from **Mr. and Mrs. Novotny** for the Creating Value project
- Accepted an \$8,500.00 donation from the **Campbell Educational and Community Foundation** to feed the football team during football camp and prior to games. This donation can be used only for meals for the players.
- Educational Services Agreement between the **Allegheny Intermediate Unit** and the Steel Valley School District for the 2015-2016 school year and authorized the appropriate officials to execute said agreement
- Design and Development Project entitled *Advancing Student Moral Development: Using Human-Centered Design and Teacher-Led Action Research to Support Model Building in K-12 Public Schools* that **Tom Shaughnessy** will oversee during the 2015-2016 school year as part of his dissertation research at Johns Hopkins University
- 2015-2016 Secondary Student Handbook, High School Faculty Handbook and Middle School Faculty Handbook as presented pending any changes to the handbooks for staff listings or corrections prior to printing
- Mr. Olson thanked Mr. and Mrs. Novotny and Mr. Campbell for the donations to the school district.

Personnel Management

The Board approved the following items:

- Appointed **Mary Ellen Totin** to a half-time, long-term substitute school nurse position for the 2015-2016 school year with prorated fringe benefits according to the collective bargaining agreement

- Contract between the Steel Valley School District and **Steel City Therapy, LLC**, to provide occupational and physical therapy services as needed for school years 2015-2016 and 2016-2017
- Mrs. **Catherine L. Matta** as a contracted speech and language pathologist to provide speech and language services as needed at a rate of \$45 per hour
- **Sandra Levin, Madhura Ranade, Amanda McGuire, James Kappernaros, Rachel Dindak** and **Wesley Baird** as day-to-day substitute teachers for the 2015-2016 school year at the approved daily rate, contingent upon compliance with Act 168 of 2014 and receipt of current clearances
- Substitute teachers and school nurses as per the attached list for the 2015-2016 school year at the approved daily rate, contingent upon compliance with Act 168 of 2014
- Created a supplemental position at a stipend of \$2,000.00 for a District Environmental Program Coordinator for the 2015-2016 school year
- Appointed Athletic, Activities and Department Head supplementals as presented for the 2015-2016 school year
- Appointed the KtO supplementals as listed for the 2015-2016 school year
- Ratified the **Steel Valley Secretarial/Aide Education Support Professionals'** contract retroactive to July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2020
- Creation of a full-time secretary position at the High School/Middle School and elimination of the half-time secretary position in the Middle School

Special Board Meeting – August 25, 2015

The Board approved the following items:

- Eliminated the positions of Assistant Principal of the Middle School and Assistant Principal of the High School and created two administrative positions of Secondary Assistant Principal and Franklin Primary Co-Principal effective immediately
- Appointed **John Strom** to the position of Secondary Assistant Principal and Franklin Primary Co-Principal at a salary of \$73,175 and benefits according to the Act 93 Administrative Compensation Plan effective immediately
- Appointed **Aaron Johnson** to the position of Secondary Assistant Principal and Franklin Primary Co-Principal at a salary of \$73,175 and benefits according to the Act 93 Administrative Compensation Plan effective on a mutually agreed upon date, contingent upon compliance with Act 168 of 2014
- Family medical leave of absence for **LeeAnn Doyle** retroactive to August 24, 2015, not to exceed 60 accumulated days
- Fundraising requests as presented
- Revised the 2015-2016 school calendar to add an early dismissal for students at Franklin Primary, Barrett and Park Schools for Elementary Open House on September 15 and 16, 2015
- Held a second reading and adopted revisions to Policy 237 Electronic Devices
- Procedure that outside organizations using District facilities are responsible to maintain current clearances for their coaches, volunteers, employees, etc., and sign an affidavit stating that they have current clearances on file for each coach, volunteer or employee
- **Rick Williams** as a volunteer coach in the Middle School Soccer program for the 2015-2016 school year
- Four additional uniforms for the Varsity Girls Soccer Team