



Steel Valley School District
Board Brief

Board
March 26, 2015

Meeting

The School Board acknowledged the passing of **Jane L. Keenan**, mother of Jennifer Thompson, substitute paraprofessional and Bradley Thompson, elementary music teacher; **Robert L. Mortimer**, uncle of Marilyn Zabelsky, 2nd grade teacher, **Denise Barron**, 1st grade teacher and brother-in-law of retired teacher Jack Garrity; **Milan Vandriak**, husband of retired secretary Bernie Vandriak; **Ann E. Barone**, retired West Homestead crossing guard; **Jack Maskil**, cousin of Diana Borges, Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services; **Joel Bonzer**, nephew of Kim Watkins, superintendent's secretary; **Anna J. Buchek**, mother of Dr. Linda Hippert, Executive Director of the Allegheny Intermediate Unit; **Edward Monkelis**, brother-in-law of Denise Blasko, Park School paraprofessional; and Sarah E. Smith, retired cafeteria worker. It was moved by **Ms. Youngblood** and seconded by **Mr. Olson** to place an appropriate selection of books into the school libraries in their memory.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Donna Kiefer congratulated the **Steel Valley Drama Club** for an outstanding performance of the musical, *The Wizard of Oz*. She was impressed with the performances by the high school students, the set design and costumes. Mrs. Kiefer thanked **Mike Altman** and all those behind the scenes who contributed to an amazing show.

The History Club is hosting a Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, March 28, from 4:00-7:00 p.m. at Homestead Park United Methodist Church. Tickets can be purchased at the door, and take-out dinners would be available. Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children under 12. This dinner is a fundraiser for the History Club's upcoming trip to Baltimore and Annapolis, Maryland.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS

Miss Elena Chaffin, Junior Student Representative to the Board, reported that Park School celebrated Read Across America with activities in the school and a Title I Family Reading Night. In April, students will begin PSSA testing. Senior Student Representative **Brandon Tomasic** reported the dates for PSSA testing in the Middle School are as follows:

April 13-16	English/Language Arts
April 21-23	Mathematics
April 28-29	Science

High School students will take the Keystone exams on May 19-21. He announced that Kennywood tickets would be sold in the schools on April 17. **The National Honor Society** Induction ceremony will be held on May 1. A blood drive will be held on April 16.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Edward Wehrer congratulated high school student **Dusten Pisarcik** on the completion of his Eagle Scout project. On behalf of the school district, Mr. Wehrer thanked Dusten for selecting to beautify and expand the outdoor classroom space in the pond area.

Dusten presented the Board with two plaques to be mounted on the observation decks. He thanked the school district and sponsors for their support, and he is grateful to the 46 people who volunteered 825 hours to the outdoor classroom project.

DIRECTOR OF PUPIL PERSONNEL AND SPECIAL SERVICES' REPORT

Diana Borges announced there would be no school for students on Friday, March 27, since it is a clerical day for teachers. The next early dismissal for teacher professional development will be Thursday, April 9.

DIRECTOR OF ACADEMICS, INFORMATION & TECHNOLOGY REPORT

Ed Colebank reported that the school district would install a new robust wireless network to handle additional wireless devices. The reimbursement from E-rate would be 70%. He stressed to parents that it is important to submit their free and reduced meal applications because the percentage of students who qualify for free and reduced meals determines the E-rate reimbursement and Federal funding to the school district.

The course selection sheets are being collected from students. A new elective course entitled Technology Etiquette is being offered and a new state of the art CAD lab with a 3D printer will be available for student learning.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

The Board authorized the proper officers of the school district to sign the written Collective Bargaining Agreement in duplicate originals and forward both originals to the Bargaining Unit for their signature with a request to return one of the signed original agreements to the District for its records.

MEETING MINUTES

The Board approved the following meeting minutes:

- February 23, 2015 worksession meeting
- February 26, 2015 regular meeting
- March 12, 2015 special meeting

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

- The Board approved the following financial items:
- General Fund invoices for March 2015 in the amount of \$742,424.49
- General Fund hand checks for February 2015 in the amount of \$454,683.13
- Food Service invoices for February 2015 in the amount of \$30,333.64
- Payroll Funding Transfers for February 2015
- General Fund Revenue Report for February 2015
- General Fund Expenditure Report for February 2015
- General Fund Trial Balance for February 2015
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for month ending February 28, 2015
- High School Activities in the amount of \$7,083.02
- Middle School Activities in the amount of \$13,460.29
- Athletics in the amount of \$240.00
- Food Service Trial Balance for February 2015
- Food Service Revenue Report for February 2015
- Food Service Expenditure Report for February 2015
- High School Activities, Middle School Activities and Athletics Balance Sheets up through March 20, 2015
- Custodial/Hand Checks in the amount of \$9,674.86
- Middle School/Hand Checks in the amount of \$4,612.80
- Athletic Invoices/Hand Checks in the amount of \$462.00
- Renewal of the ProSoft Student Information System through **Harris School Solutions**, at an estimated cost of \$13,515.48, effective July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016
- Access to a credit card by Mr. Colebank for purchases of technology on eBay and to authorize the central office to maintain the card until there is a use for it
- General fund transfer to the High School Activity Fund \$3,694.44 and to the Middle School Activity Fund \$4,286.45
- Authorized payment from Capital Projects in the amount of \$34,589.00 to **Blair Construction LLC**
- Authorized a real estate tax refund for year 2013 in the amount of \$260.00, as a result of a change in assessment to **Mitchell and Dana Lynn Freed** for Lot & Block 130-K-336

OPERATIONS

The Board approved the following items:

- Facility rental requests as revised except Permit Nos. 4363, 4374 and 4376
- Wireless Project bid from Netch Corporation for \$182,740.78 under the E-rate 470 form #459360001322060 pending the funding approval from Schools and Libraries
- Bid from Allegheny City Electric in the amount of \$51,700.00 for the electrical service project at Franklin Primary Center to be awarded as recommended by Tower Engineering

- To bid extending the asphalt walkway from the tennis courts to the Campbell Gym and to make repairs and additional asphalt work to the track around Griffin Field

CO-CURRICULAR LEADERSHIP

The Board approved the fundraising requests as presented.

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

The School Board held a first reading of all policies in Section 000 of the Board Policy Manual.

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

The Board approved the following items:

- Revised the 2014-2015 school calendar to make-up three (3) school closings on April 2, June 8 and June 9, 2015, and change the teacher clerical day from June 8 to Wednesday, June 10, 2015
- Adopted the 2015-2016 school calendar as presented
- Allegheny Intermediate Unit's 2015-2016 Program of Services Budget totaling \$4,005,898
- Accepted a donation of \$618.10 from Dusten Pisarcik who has completed his Eagle Scout project
- Accepted the donation of 75 seed packets from **Baker Creek Heirloom Seed Company** for beans, some herbs and a few vegetables to be planted in the Franklin Garden this summer, and thanks to **Christine Schott**, a school volunteer and garden coordinator, for pursuing this donation

PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

The Board approved the following items:

- Re-created the Environmental Club supplemental position and stipend for the 2014-2015 school year
- Denied Grievance #14-261 from the Steel Valley Education Association
- **Robin Fichter** as a substitute for support staff at the rate of \$7.25 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon passing a general physical examination, the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, and upon compliance with Act 168 of 2014, which must be completed within 30 days

PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION

The Board approved the following items:

- Collective bargaining agreement between the Steel Valley Education Association and the Steel Valley School District for the 2014-2015 through 2018-2019 school years
- Lease for the **Whitaker Ball Field** from March 2015 through October 2015.