



## Steel Valley School District Board Brief

Board Meeting  
January 29, 2015

The School Board acknowledged the passing of **Gerald A. Tremblay**, retired music teacher and band director; **Aldine F. Coleman**, retired teacher and administrator; **Jack Spelman**, cousin of Dianne Cain, attendance/residency checker; **Joseph F. McCarthy III**, cousin of Beth Cannon, Board member; **Mark S. Marcinko**, cousin of **Lisa Vehec**, substitute secretary and paraprofessional; **William N. Pyle**, father of Traci and Kerry Riley, food service worker and substitute custodian; **Jay Jabbour**, stepfather of Traci Riley, food service worker at Park School; **Catherine Wintruba**, mother-in-law of Tony Verbanick, Barrett instructional resource teacher; **Frances W. Capone**, mother of Robert Capone, retired librarian; **Joanne M. Fetsko**, mother of Mary Jo Craycraft, paraprofessional at Park School; and **Gaze Miskovich**, brother of Rose Bartko, former Board member and uncle of Jim Bartko, high school secretary. It was moved by **Ms. Youngblood** and seconded by **Mrs. Steele** to place an appropriate selection of books into the school libraries in their memory.

### Student Representatives' Reports

Senior Student Representative **Brandon Tomasic** introduced **Elena Chaffin** to the School Board as the newly elected Junior Representative to the School Board. **Miss Chaffin** reported that in December, kindergarten students performed the *Littlest Christmas Tree* play, and a *Polar Express Family Night* was held for students and their families.

In January, the **Queen of Hearts** visited Franklin Primary to read to the students. A field trip to the Children's Museum is planned for January 30. On February 2, students will celebrate the 100th day of school.

At Park Elementary School, the After School Program is off to a great start. Program Director **Michelle Blasko** is working hard to begin new programs. The current activities are *Chess Club* on Tuesdays from 2:50-3:50 p.m. with sponsors **Mrs. Banyas** and b. Mentors from the University of Pittsburgh are conducting *Strong Women, Strong Girls* and they meet on Wednesdays from 3:00-4:30 p.m. On Thursdays, Game Board Club will meet from 3:00-4:00 p.m. starting February 5 with **Ms. Ladik** as its sponsor. **Mrs. Hinkle** and **Mrs. Sklencar** will be sponsoring Girls on the Run from 3:00-4:30 p.m. on Mondays and Thursdays starting February 23.

Senior **Brandon Tomasic** reported that a Family Math Night was held at Barrett Elementary School in January. Students in grades 4 and 5 will participate in the St. Jude's Math-A-Thon during the month of February. On February 10, families can participate in Skate Night at the Schenley Park Ice Rink from 7:00-9:00 p.m.

A Black History Month assembly will be held at Barrett School on February 19 at 9:00 a.m.

The Parent Workshop is scheduled for February 11 from 6:00-7:30 p.m. The PTO is sponsoring a Valentine's Day Dance on February 12 from 5:00-6:30 p.m.

**Mr. Tomasic** reported that **Mr. Wes Lyons**, a motivational speaker, will be talking with 7th grade students during the Keystone classes focusing on the values of working hard, respect and discipline in school.

**Mr. Hofbauer's** and **Mr. Large's** classes are piloting the iPads in their math classes. The middle school PTO will be selling SV jackets as a fundraiser.

At the high school, six scholarships have been awarded to juniors and seniors by CCAC to cover the cost of tuition and books for one college class during the spring semester.

The **Steel Valley Drama Club** will perform *The Wizard of Oz* on March 12-14 at 7:30 p.m. and on March 15 beginning at 2:00 p.m.

In February, students will begin selecting courses for the 2015-2016 school year. New courses include College in High School (CHS) Spanish, CHS Psychology Forensic and Gaming Program 1 and 2.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

The Board adopted a resolution declaring Jim Tomsula a *Friend of Steel Valley* in honor and recognition of his distinguished achievement as Head Coach of the San Francisco 49ers. Mr. Tomsula was a 1985 Steel Valley graduate with charisma and determination. He was named All Conference player when the Ironmen won the Big 10 Conference title in 1984. Jim wrestled as a heavy weight and was named section runner-up during the 1983-1984 school year. The Tomsula family supports and organizes the annual *Football Camp for the Stars* in Pittsburgh for athletes with Down Syndrome who love football. An appropriate selection of books will be placed in the high school library in honor of Jim Tomsula, and a Steel Valley Honorary Gold Card will be presented to him for his meritorious career achievement.

Mr. Wehrer stated that if we work hard, all of us have the capability of doing amazing things. It has been done and will continue to be done by the students of the Steel Valley communities.

Mr. Wehrer recognized the School Board members for their service to the children and citizens of the Steel Valley School District, and Certificates of Recognition were distributed to the Board members. Middle and High School Students Danielle Long, Octavia Stover and Angelina Graham Bell read original poems of appreciation, and students from Park Elementary School distributed a framed picture to each School Board member. Park School students were Nate Yuhas, Ty Yuhas, Nolan McConnell, Kendall McConnell, David Packer, Ryan Packer, Haley McKee and Rico Steele. Principals Lauren Baughman and Melissa Cheslock assisted the students with their presentation. The Board members shared a cake with the students.

## MEETING MINUTES

The Board approved the following meeting minutes:

- November 24, 2014 worksession meeting
- December 2, 2014 re-organization meeting
- December 2, 2014 regular meeting
- December 16, 2014 special meeting

## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The Board approved the following financial items:

- General Fund invoices for November and December 2014 in the amount of \$1,414,252.06
- General Fund hand checks for November 2014 in the amount of \$603,925.75
- General Fund hand checks for December 2014 in the amount of \$970,589.86
- Food Service invoices for November and December 2014 in the amount of \$62,714.43
- Payroll Funding Transfers for November and December 2014
- General Fund Revenue Report for November 2014
- General Fund Revenue Report for December 2014
- General Fund Expenditure Report for November 2014
- General Fund Expenditure Report for December 2014
- Trial Balance for November 2014
- Trial Balance for December 2014
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for month ending December 31, 2014
- Custodial/hand checks in the amount of \$27,018.29
- Middle School/hand checks in the amount of \$14,958.54
- Athletic invoices/hand checks in the amount of \$7,244.00
- Band Trip/hand checks in the amount of \$1,239.23
- Payments from Capital Projects in the following amounts listed to: Emcor Services Scalise Industries \$16,550.00; Emcor Services Scalise Industries \$148,950.00; Tremco Weatherproofing Technologies \$49,318.93; and Blair Construction LLC \$34,589.00
- Transfer from the General Fund to the Capital Projects Fund of \$750,000
- Real estate tax refunds:

Marcy Suttles, Lot & Block 131-C-82 Homestead Borough, in the amount of \$770.61 for year 2013

Vincent & Doris Nigrelli, Lot & Block 131-M-51 Munhall Borough, in the amount of \$31.99 for year 2014 Irene Gyongyosy, Lot & Block 132-C-84 West Homestead Borough, in the amount of \$634.86 for year 2013 Dean Thomas Tree &

Landscaping, Lot & Block 179-P-80 Munhall Borough, in the amount of \$158.76 for year 2014 Daye Properties, Lot & Block 133-G-346 Munhall Borough, in the amount of \$162.24 for year 2014 Cynthia M. Herwitt, Lot & Block 180-F-75 Munhall Borough, in the amount of \$50.08 for year 2014

John J. Vamos III, Lot & Block 131-D-393 Munhall Borough, in the amount of \$21.63 for year 2014

3KG LLC, Lot & Block 133-M-53 Munhall Borough, in the amount of \$396.79 for year 2014

- Resolution to limit prospective tax increase not to exceed Act I Index
- School Leaders Errors and Omissions policy with PSBA. The district endeavors to place all their insurance policies to cover a fiscal basis. Therefore, this policy will cover February 8, 2015, to June 30, 2015, in the amount of \$11,310. Then the subsequent fiscal policy covering July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016, is in the amount of \$28,852. The following years' policy will be billed and budgeted in the preceding budget year
- Change order in the amount of \$1,507.00 for the Park Elementary annex heating to Emcor Services Scalise Industries

## **OPERATIONS**

The Board approved the following items:

- Facility rental requests as presented
- Placed out for bid the following projects:

Window replacement for high school and middle school buildings

Air conditioning in the high school gymnasium

Concrete replacement surrounding the high school and middle school building, inclusive with radiant heating under concrete at main entrance

Increasing the electrical service for Franklin Primary Center

## **CO-CURRICULAR LEADERSHIP**

The Board approved the following items:

- Fundraising requests as presented
- Request from The Future is Mine student group and Sponsor Mrs. Dunmire-Kuftic to participate in the Annual Conference at the Pittsburgh Marriott City Center on April 16-17, 2015

## **SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS**

The Board held a second reading and adopted the revisions to Policy No. 117 Homebound Instruction

### **EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP**

The Board approved the following items:

- Revised the April early dismissal from April 14 to April 9
- Facility rental requests as presented
- Accepted a donation of Jim O'Brien's 20-book series entitled, "Pittsburgh Proud Sports Series," from Bill Campbell in memory of his brother, Jim Campbell
- Accepted a Direct Certification Technology Upgrade Incentive Award in the amount of \$750.00 for improvements to the Direct Certification process in our schools from the Pennsylvania
- Department of Education Division of Food and Nutrition
- Accepted a donation of sweat suits and bags for the Swim Team from Franjo Construction
- Accepted a donation of materials and labor for the construction of platforms in the high school weight room from Franjo Construction
- Accepted a donation of \$1,000.00 from Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens for the Let's
- Move Pittsburgh Champion Schools program at Barrett Elementary School to be used for hands- on materials for educating students about food and health
- Accepted a donation of \$3,500.00 from the T. R. Paul Family Foundation for the Boys Volleyball program
- Accepted the funds from the Pennsylvania Department of Education Special Education RENEW
- Grant in the amount of \$6,500.00 for the 2014-2015 school year
- High School Academic Handbook for the 2015-2016 school year

### **PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT**

The Board approved the following items:

- Appointed Kerry Kleinhans as a long-term substitute music teacher retroactive to January 20, 2015, for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year prorated upon Bachelor's Step 1 salary schedule of \$42,683 plus prorated benefits according to the collective bargaining agreement.

- Supplemental positions of two (2) facilitators at a stipend of \$2,000 each and four (4) project leaders at a stipend of \$1,500 each for the Creating Value Program with prorated stipends for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year
- Appointed Dr. Bethany Fenyus and Albert Lesutis to supplemental positions of facilitator at a prorated stipend of \$2,000 each and appointed Ryan Dunmire-Kuftic, Julie Miller, Rebecca Kristen and Traci Churilla to supplemental positions of project leader at a prorated stipend of \$1,500 each for the Creating Value Program effective immediately for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year.
- Creation of an administrative supplemental position of Special Projects Manager with a stipend of \$3,000 per year
- Appointed Tom Shaughnessy to the administrative supplemental position of Special Projects Manager with a stipend of \$3,000 per year
- Permit the Administration to designate week-to-week substitute teachers as district substitutes for daily substitute needs for the remainder of the 2014-2015 school year
- Supplemental stipend of \$1,768.80 for the position of Boys Jr. High Volleyball Coach for the 2014-2015 school year
- Michael Perlaky to the supplemental position of Boys Jr. High Volleyball Coach for the 2014-2015 school year
- Randy Taylor as an athletic volunteer for the Middle School Girls Basketball program for the 2014-2015 school year
- Aaron Kidder as a day-to-day substitute teacher for the 2014-2015 school year at the approved daily rate
- Jennifer Thompson as a substitute instructional aide at the 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
- John Reiner as a substitute custodian at the 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
- Patrick Eagle as a substitute custodian at the 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
- Teresa Walendziewicz as a substitute for food service at the 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

### **PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION**

The Board approved the following items:

- Fall supplemental positions for the 2015-2016 school year
- Coyleen Steele as the Steel Valley Board of School Directors' representative for a two-year term on the Steel Valley Enterprise Zone Corporation Board of Directors through December 31, 2016

- Accepted a donation of 20 pairs of basketball shorts for the boys basketball team from Rev.
- Keith Kaufold and Monica Kaufold of 8th Avenue Place