



Steel Valley School District Board Brief

**Board Meeting
February 28, 2006**

The Board acknowledged the passing of of Mr. William Ward, Father-in-law of Michael Benca, Park School Teacher; Mrs. Anna Sekura, Aunt of Carol Sekura, High School Teacher; Mr. George McDermott, Husband of Dolores McDermott, High School Food Service; Mrs. Alice L. Miller, retired English Teacher; Mr. Kermit Thomas Jr., Uncle of Sharon Fisher, Interim Barrett Principal; Mrs. Emily Serbic, Grandmother of Sue and Steve Large, High School Teacher and Middle School Dean of Students; and Mrs. Myrtle M. Yaklich, Mother of John Yaklich, retired Business Manager. It was moved by Mrs. Cannon and seconded by Mrs. Terrick to place books into the Steel Valley School District Libraries.

President's Comments

Mr. Ducar announced that the testimonial dinner for the Campbell Brothers scheduled in June has been cancelled due to Jim Campbell's serious illness.

Mr. Ducar read a letter from Arynn Frankenberry thanking the School Board for instituting the Dual Enrollment Program.

Solicitor's Report

The Board expelled three minor female students for the remainder of the 2005-2006 school year.

The Board approved Robert Costello, Esq., as hearing examiner and/or advisor to the Board regarding arbitration matter docketed as No. SA04-1388.

Assistant Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kinavey announced that on March 2, Barrett celebrated Read Across America Day and held a Family Night in the evening.

The Steel Valley Drama Club will present *The Music Man* in the High School Auditorium from March 9-12 under the direction of Michael Altman.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Warren introduced representatives of SmartEd Services who presented SmartBoard technology and ways teachers can use a SmartBoard in the classroom.

The bid opening for the remodeling of the auditorium will be held on March 14.

The installation of the hardware and software for the Waterford Early Literacy Program has been completed. The Franklin Primary students are eagerly working with the software.

The fiber optic cabling installation between the school buildings has been completed.

Dr. Warren is pleased with the Governor's budget proposal for public schools.

Dr. Warren appreciated the help and support of faculty members who organized the Professional Development Day conducted on February 21.

The District is working with Munhall Mayor Ray Bodnar and Council Members on adjusting the traffic patterns at Park School.

Director of Operational Services' Report

Mrs. Sabo, Coordinator of Grants and Special Programs, presented an analysis of the operational and cost effectiveness of two financial/educational systems provided by Pentamation and ProSoft. Based on the analysis, Edward Colebank, Andrew Vettel and Ellen Sabo recommended using ProSoft's web-based system for the district's financial and student accounting systems.

The Board approved the following meeting minutes:

- December 5, 2005 Re-organization Meeting
- December 5, 2005 Regular Board Meeting
- January 17, 2006 Special Meeting
- January 17, 2006 Workshop Meeting
- January 24, 2006 Regular Board Meeting

Financial Management

The Board approved the following financial items:

- General Fund invoices for February 2006 in the amount of \$427,504.55
- General Fund hand checks for January 2006 in the amount of \$549,098.86
- Revenue Report for December 2005
- Expenditure Report for December 2005
- Food Service invoices in the amount of \$34,904.01
- Steel Valley Foundation for Education Statement of Income and Expense
- Custodial invoices in the amount of \$1,274.02
- Middle School invoices in the amount of \$1,014.58
- Athletic invoices/hand checks in the amount of \$6,760.16
- Custodial/hand checks in the amount of \$16,041.05

The Board approved the following items:

- Payment of \$15,100.00 to the Allegheny County Prothonotary for the cost of filing liens on 755 residential properties with cumulative real estate taxes due to the district in the amount of \$486,271.09
- Allocation of the \$144.14 from the Exceptional Student Award Account to the Dual Enrollment Program
- Retroactively the renewal of the District's School Leaders Legal Liability Insurance for the period of February 8, 2006, through February 8, 2007, at the renewal premium of \$18,056.00 with the PSBA Insurance Trust
- Exonerated the West Homestead Borough real estate tax collector for year 2005 in the amount of \$121,016.09
- Allocation and expenditure of \$11,000.00 of the Pepsi contract proceeds into the district's Dual Enrollment Program to subsidize the State Grant and create opportunities for more students to participate in this valuable, educational program
- Retroactively the transfer of \$1,001,621.58 from the 2005 Capital Projects Account to the General Fund
- Annual membership of the Director of Operational Services/Board Secretary in the Association of School Business Officials at the expense of the School District
- Resolution authorizing the change of sinking fund depository services from JPMorgan/Chase to The Bank of New York
- West Homestead Borough real estate tax refund for ASKO, Inc., for various years, for a total amount of \$23,714.66

Operations

The Board approved the following:

- Facility rental requests as presented
- Fundraising requests as presented
- Payment of \$243.76 to Burt Hill as presented on their progress billing for the Middle School Science Classroom Project
- Payment of \$3,656.44 to Burt Hill as presented on their progress billing for the Middle School Science Classroom Project
- Payment of \$1,492.80 to Burt Hill as presented on their progress billing for the High School Auditorium Renovation Project
- Payment of \$4,733.70 to Burt Hill as presented on their progress billing for the High School Kitchen Renovation Project
- Payment of \$10,656.76 to M.D.A. Mechanical Contractors, Inc., as presented on Payment Application Number 5 for the Middle School Classroom Project Plumbing Contract
- Payment of \$7,173.10 to Right Electric, Inc., as presented on Payment Application No. 7 for the Middle School Science Classroom Project
- Payment of \$84,498.00 to SUNESYS for the installation of the district's fiber optics network connecting all district buildings and the first of 60 installments of the monthly license fee for the fiber network
- Business Office to advertise for proposals for security services, which will meet the changing needs of the district
- Payment of \$2,436.70 to Burt Hill as presented on their progress billing for the High School Kitchen Renovation Project
- Payment of \$4,441.80 to Burt Hill as presented on their progress billing for the High School Auditorium Renovation Project
- Payment of \$9,640.00 to M.D.A. Mechanical Contractors, Inc., as presented on payment application number 5 for the Middle School Science Classroom Project HVAC Contract
- Purchase of choral risers for the Barrett Elementary School from Morgan Interiors at the State Contract Bid Price of \$579 per unit, or a total of \$5,790 for the required ten (10) units, with payment to be made from the 2000-2001 Capital Projects Account
- Payment of \$755 from the 2005 Capital Projects Fund to the Center for Environmental & Occupational Training Inc. for services rendered in conducting the required environmental survey of the High School Auditorium and High School Kitchen
- Allocation from the 2005 Capital Projects Fund not to exceed \$25,000 toward the new district message board planned for the entrance of the High School/Middle School Complex

Co-Curricular Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Payment of \$700 for the services of a disc jockey and up to \$300 for security at the prom to be held at the Omni Westin William Penn Hotel on May 12, 2006
- Field trip by the Spanish Club to the Hispanic-Flamenco Ballet in Barberton, Ohio, on March 27, 2006
- Field trip by the high school cheerleaders to compete at Six Flags American in Largo, Maryland, and funds in the amount of \$3,176 to the Cheerleader Parent Group to cover the expenses for the trip

Special Assignments

The Board approved the following:

- Held second reading and adopted the PSBA recommended Standards for Effective School Governance and the revised Code of Conduct for Members of the Pennsylvania School Boards and authorized the Board Secretary to provide the PSBA with certification of this action
- Held a first reading on revisions to Policy No. 202 Eligibility of Non-Resident Students, Policy No. 202.1 Proof of Residence and Policy No. 202.2 Court Orders

- Voted for Kathleen M. Bracco to School Board Trustee for the Southeastern Region of the Allegheny County Schools Health Insurance Consortium by the Steel Valley Board of School Directors

Educational Leadership

The Board approved the following:

- 30-minute student early dismissal on March 21, 22 and 23 for middle school students who make a serious effort while taking the PSSA tests and have appropriate behavior and approved a late start at 10:15 am on March 20, 21 and 22 for 9th, 10th and 12th grade students
- Resolution seeking changes in the funding mechanism, oversight and accountability with respect to all cyber charter schools as presented
- Adopted the proposed PSSA Improvement Plan and directed the administration to implement the plan effective with the Class of 2007 and thereafter

Personnel Management

The Board approved the following:

- Accepted, with regret, the retirements of George Farkal, Paulette Smart, Carole Smart, Michael Benca, Shirley Feschuk, Cecilia Wenisch, Rosemary Tyler, Gary Matthews and Carol Resko according to the terms and conditions of Article XXIX of the current collective bargaining agreement effective at the end of the 2005-2006 school term
- Accepted, with regret, the retirement of Martha Thomas according to the terms and conditions of Article XXIX of the current collective bargaining agreement effective August 1, 2006
- Accepted, with regret, the retirement of Dr. Carol McKenna according to the terms and conditions of Article XXIX of the current collective bargaining agreement effective March 17, 2006
- Payment of the \$15,000 retirement incentive to Dr. Carol McKenna on or before March 31, 2006, and each year thereafter for a total of ten years
- Appointed Thomas M. Kendro to a permanent full-time position in Mathematics assigned to the Middle School with salary and benefits based on 3rd step Bachelor's salary (to be determined) as per the collective bargaining agreement effective the beginning of the 2006-2007 school year
Appointed Marguerite Luvara to a permanent full-time position in English assigned to the Senior High School with salary and benefits based on 1st step Bachelor's salary (to be determined) as per the collective bargaining agreement effective the beginning of the 2006-2007 school year
- Denied an unpaid leave of absence for Denise Hayes from March 1-6, 2006
Chereen Fenus, Lisa Fetzko, Brian Bungard, Lindsey Rich, Isaiah Doebereiner, Sara Doty and Meredith Shuster as substitute teachers for the remainder of the 2005-2006 school year at the rate of \$75/day for the first 30 days and \$100/day thereafter
- Appointed Ellen Mooney as the part-time secretary in the Middle School office with salary and benefits to be prorated with the district's past practices and the current collective bargaining agreement
- Change in employment status for the district's Residency Checker from a 5-hour per day part-time position to an 8-hour per day full-time position effective immediately
- Approved, retroactively, the request for a leave of absence without pay for the period of October 4, 2005, through and including December 4, 2005, under the Family Medical Leave Act, for Rudolph Valiska
- Retained the services of Mrs. Patricia Keener to train the replacement secretary in the Activities/Athletic Office, on an as needed basis determined by the Director of Activities and Athletics in conjunction with the Superintendent, with compensation determined by prorating her current salary on a per diem or per hour basis
- Unpaid Family Medical leave of absence for Mariann (Scott) Reilly effective on or about May 8, 2006, through the end of the school term
- Joseph D. Garofolo as a substitute principal for the remainder of the 2005-2006 school year at a per diem rate to be determined but not to exceed \$225 and contingent upon receipt of his Act 34 and 151 clearances
- Employment of Sharon McCallister as a part-time, five-hour per day instructional aide at Barrett Elementary School at a rate of \$7.00 per hour, which is in accordance with the current collective bargaining agreement and pending receipt of current CPR and First Aid certifications
- Posting of the Athletic/Activities Office Secretary position

- Appointed Raymond Braszo to the supplemental position of Head Varsity Football Coach for the fall 2006 season at a stipend to be determined by the successor collective bargaining agreement and contingent upon receipt of his current clearances
- Appointed Raymond Braszo to a permanent full-time position in Health and Physical Education with salary and benefits based on 16th Step Master's (\$59,839) to be effective upon a mutually agreed upon date