



Steel Valley School District Board Brief

**Board Meeting
December 5, 2006**

Re-Organization Meeting

- Congratulations to Mrs. Beth Cannon, newly elected Board President.

The Board acknowledged the passing of Mrs. Zana Thompson, mother of Brad Thompson, Senior High teacher; Mrs. Betty Fisher, mother of Tom Fisher, retired teacher; Mrs. Marjorie Johnstone, retired Superintendent's Secretary for the Munhall and Steel Valley School Districts; Mr. Harry C. Zekany, father of Lee Ann Doyle, Barrett paraeducator; Mrs. Julia Rots, aunt of Dan Lesko, Barrett paraeducator; Mr. Findley C. Wylie, uncle of Donald Packer, Middle School custodian; Dr. Richard Hoffman, uncle of Jennifer Williams, Barrett teacher; Mrs. LaRue Dillard, aunt of Alyson Fisher, Barrett Guidance Counselor; Mrs. Elenore Churilla, grandmother of Traci Churilla, Senior High teacher; Mrs. G. M. Kearns, mother-in-law of Norma Kearns, Park Food Service Staff; Mr. Harvey Serene, uncle of Tracey Michalak, Senior High teacher; Mr. Robert Sanchez, uncle of Lily Phouthavong, Park paraeducator. In their memory, books will be placed into the Steel Valley School District Libraries

Superintendent's Report

Congratulations to Laquana McGinnis on her Steel Center Vo-Tech School Extra Effort Award in Baking.

- Mr. Michael Sarraino announced the following winners of a student essay contest sponsored through Green_s Funeral Home:

Derek Morrison	Park Elementary School
Amina Wilson	Barrett Elementary School
Elizabeth Guckes	Senior High School

Solicitor_s Reports

- The Board adopted a resolution permanently expelling a minor male student.

Pupil Personnel & Special Services Report

- Mrs. Diana Borges, Director of Pupil Personnel & Special Services, announced that the Steel Valley School District received a \$10,000 special education grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Education to service students with severe disabilities

and autism.

Secondary Education Report

- Mrs. Bethany Fenyus, Director of Secondary Education, discussed the upcoming PSSA tests as well as possible curriculum revisions to enhance instruction.

Elementary Education Report

- A Steel Valley welcome is extended to Ms. Carole Policastro, newly appointed Director of Elementary Education. Ms. Policastro has high expectations for the student at Steel Valley and has started meeting with parents, administrators and staff at Park, Barrett and Franklin.

Board Secretary's Report

- Mr. Bichko announced that a Tax Study Commission meeting will be held on Monday, December 11, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Conference Room. He also responded to questions regarding two vendors.
- The Board approved the corrected minutes of September 26, 2006, corrected minutes of October 17, 2006 and the minutes of October 24, 2006.

Student Representatives' Report

- The Japanese language is now being taught at the Middle School by Mrs. Toni Besh.
- Mr. William Sanders, author of *Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul*, spoke to Middle School students on the problems of being a teenager and their impact in the world.
- SADD and the Middle School Student Government are hosting a toy drive until December 15.

Financial Management

- The Board approved the following financial items:

General Fund accounts payable checks for October 20, 23, 26, and 31	\$337,159.87
General Fund invoices for November 2006	\$596,933.05
General Fund hand checks for November 2006	\$160,568.80
Payroll Funding Transfers for October and November 2006	
General Fund Revenue Report for October 2006	
General Fund Expenditure Report for October 2006	
Food Service invoices	\$57,379.34
Capital Improvements 2000-01 Statement of Income and Expenses for October 31, 2006	
Capital Improvements 2005 Statement of Income and Expenses for October 31, 2006	
Steel Valley Foundation for Education Statement of Income and Expenses for October 31, 2006	
Hand Checks/Custodial	\$8,154.11

Hand Checks/Middle School	\$2,487.85
Hand Check/Athletic	\$21,587.03

Approved the transfer of \$36,799.40 from the district's General Fund to Lisa Guckes, West Homestead Borough Tax Collector for deposit into the Waterfront Tax Receipt Account to correct error created by the original deposit being made to the wrong account

Operations

The Board approved the following:

Facility Rentals as presented

Facility rental requests as presented

Fundraising requests as presented

Payment of \$887.50 to Burt Hill for services on the corridor replacement locker project Payment of \$904.20 to Burt Hill for services on the High School auditorium renovation project

Payment of \$4,032.88 to Burt Hill on their progress billing for the High School auditorium renovation project

Adopted the resolution authorizing the district's participation in the Joint Purchasing Board for 2007

2007 Board meeting dates as presented

Payment of \$3,970 to Right Electric as final payment on the High School auditorium renovation project

Payment of \$750 to Right Electric as final payment on the Middle School renovation project

Awarded the bid for PHASE II door replacement at the High School/Middle School Complex to AB Specialties in the amount of \$116,820 to be paid from the 2005 Capital Projects account

Awarded the bid for painting Park Elementary School Gymnasium to NASOCO, LLC, in the amount of \$6,840 with work to be completed over the holiday recess and payment made from the 2000-01 Capital Projects account

Authorized the Business Office to dispose of unused and/or obsolete textbooks from Park Elementary

Co-Curricular Leadership

The Board approved the following:

Creation of a new student activity Rube Goldberg Machine Design Team for Senior High school students with Mr. Ben Lander as the volunteer sponsor

Field Trip request to New York City by the Senior High Concert Choir on February 9-11, 2007 to perform at South Street Seaport

Payment of \$325 for 3-D Sound Productions to provide the music at the winter formal on January 14, 2007

Educational Leadership

- The Board approved the District_s Strategic Plan for 2006-2012

Personnel Management

The Board approved the following Personnel items :

Appointed Brian Bungard to a permanent teaching position in Language Arts at the Middle School effective immediately

Appointed Patrick S. Connelly to a permanent teaching position in Social Studies at the Middle School effective immediately

Appointed Laura Paff as a long-term substitute in Spanish at the Senior High School retroactive to October 16, 2006 for the duration of Mrs. Guenther_s leave

Appointed Dennis Keesecker to the administrative position of Director of Facilities at a yearly salary prorated upon \$45,100 effective on or about December 11, 2006

A sabbatical leave of absence for Gary Stretavski effective January 17, 2007 for the remainder of the 2006-07 school year

Unpaid Family Medical Leave of Absence for Tameka Hutcherson retroactive to November 3, 2006 through January 5, 2007

Appointed John Strom, Megan Davern and Stacey Overton to the position of tutor at a rate of \$30 per hour and appoint Mike Takos to the position of paraeducator at a rate of \$15 per hour per the EAP Tutoring Grant

Authorized the Office of Pupil Services to work with the PA Association of Pupil Services Administrators in conducting a Peer Review of the District_s School Counseling Program at a fee to include expenses only

Eugene Bujdos and James Hay as administrative substitutes for the 2006-07 school year at the rate of \$225 per day

Accepted the resignations of Ryan Ellis as Head Varsity Baseball Coach, Debra Kostelnik as Varsity Cheerleading Coach and Jackie Knudsen as Jr. Varsity Cheerleading Coach effective immediately

Appointed winter athletic supplemental positions as presented.

Appointments for Ms. Goga, Ms. Kollar and Mr. Borsch are contingent upon receipt of current clearances Ratified the agreement between the Steel Valley Education

Support Professionals and the Board of School Directors as presented

Appointed Carol Howley to the three-hour position in the cafeteria in the Senior High School at the 90-day probationary rate of 85% of \$10.10 per hour (\$8.59) and all benefits accruing as a result of the collective bargaining agreement effective December 6, 2006

Appointed Jean Emro to the position of paraeducator in special education districtwide with compensation to be \$7.00 per hour or the current hourly rate with benefits as per the proposed collective bargaining agreement and contingent upon receipt of mandated physical and drug screening

Approved Cindy Toth and Giordano Maola as substitute paraeducators at the rate of \$6.50 per hour pending receipt of mandated physical examinations and screening for controlled substances and contingent upon receipt of current clearances

Authorized the Board President and Board Secretary to execute the Memorandum of Understanding between the Steel Valley Educational Support Personnel Association and the Steel Valley School District relative to Grievance No. 11-05

Approved the list of volunteers for the 2006-07 school year contingent upon receipt of current Act 34 and 151 clearances

Approved the appointment of Attorney William Andrews to serve as the district's chief negotiator with the custodians_ and cafeteria workers_ union in regard to a successor collective bargaining agreement to the current contract which expires on June 30, 2007, at a rate of \$95 per hour

Approved Adam Stover as a substitute teacher for the 2006-07 school year at the rate of \$75 per day for the first 30 days and \$100 per day thereafter

Approved Maureen Gemeinhart as a substitute teacher for the 2006-07 school year at the rate of \$75 per day for the first 30 days and \$100 per day thereafter