



Steel Valley School District Board Brief

**Board Meeting
April 22, 2008**

The Board acknowledged the passing of Olive M. Rock, mother of Janet Brezicky, high school teacher; Mary Penta, grandmother of Dianne Cornetta, former secretary in the Superintendent's Office; Irene E. Bodnar, mother of Priscilla Jackman, Elementary Academic Literacy Coach; Edward L. Wargo, brother of Bob Wargo, former board member; and Adam John Otlano, former Steel Valley student. It was moved by Mrs. Terrick and seconded by Mrs. Cannon to place an appropriate selection of books into the Steel Valley School District Libraries in their memory.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kinavey recognized the accomplishments of Sophomore Ajoura Gwinn, National Winner of the Young Adult Library Services Association Wrestlemania Reading Challenge. Ajoura won two tickets to Wrestlemania 24, an all-expense paid trip for two to Orlando, Florida, and \$2,000 for the Carnegie Library of Homestead. Miss Gwinn will also be competing this summer in the International Presentation for Performers. Mr. Ducar offered to ask Mr. Campbell to assist with her expenses for this trip.

Middle School Teachers Bryan Macuga and Larry McKern demonstrated the technology utilized in the middle school science classrooms. A new textbook series was purchased for grades 6, 7 and 8, and students have access to the textbooks online. Teachers are using an integrated approach with the textbooks to address the science standards. Eight computers, an LCD projector, a DVD player and an airliner are used in the classrooms for lab videos, research, projects and reinforcement of the material. Third grade students from Park Elementary School under the direction of Mrs. Denise Blasko and Mr. William Gentile performed What a Wonderful World using sign language.

Dr. Tully reported that the Parent Night Out/Literacy Fair coordinated by the Student Literacy Team (formerly Student Learning Team) was a tremendous success. Ninety families and over 100 children participated in parenting and CPR classes as well as age appropriate activities for the children. Sixty students were enrolled for Kindergarten for the 2008-2009 school year. Volunteers recognized for their work and dedication were: Bobbi Vargo, Maria Heddleston, Priscilla Jackman, Lori Kenavey, Kathy Grimm, Mary Lou McConnell, Bethany Fenyus, Lori Mehalik, Bill Edwards, Jen Awenowicz, Christy Ruffing, Deirdre Kamauf, Julie Angelilli, Bridget Ellis, Kim Gennari, Sue Kaufold, Dan Condosta, Dianne Cain, Leisel Lengyel, Dana White, Sherri Titmus, Chief Irvin Williams, Dr. Mary Cay Rojtas-Milliner, Michelle Maddigan, Terrie Hoffman, Jill Fleming-Salopek, Lisa Szczepankowski, Amy Ruffing, Vicki Deutsch, Dee Lewis, Ed Wehrer, Vince Natale, Karen Bayus, Traci Riley, Dr. Linda Croushore, Sharon Fisher and Dr. Beth Tully.

Dr. Kinavey shared his educational goals for the 2008-2009 school year.

- Enhance communication
- Continue school safety practices
- Address requirements of No Child Left Behind Act
- Update and review curriculum
- Maintain financial integrity
- Improve graduation rate

Student Representatives' Reports

- Senior Thomas Barefoot reported that Christian Maola was voted Mr. Steel Valley. Seniors Carolyn Foley and AJ Breznai were recognized at the Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Citizens Dinner and received \$500 scholarships.
- On Tuesday, April 29, students will be demonstrating the new science technology funded by the state through the Classrooms for the Future grant. The community is invited to attend. The prom will be held May 23 at the Omni William Penn Hotel.
- Ms. Miriam MacBeth, junior student representative to the School Board, reported that Park School will hold its All School Musical Review on Friday. Park School students are also celebrating Earth Week and cleaning up the school grounds. Barrett Elementary School held a breakfast for Moms on Tuesday and over 300 moms and children participated.
- Kennywood ticket sales will be held in all buildings on May 7.
- Barrett and Park Elementary students will have their artwork on display at Artspace 105 Gallery from May 8-10.
- Thomas Barefoot thanked the Board for the opportunity to contribute as the Student Representative to the Board.

Director of Academics, Information & Technology

Mr. Colebank reported that a Parent Information Meeting regarding Dual Enrollment would be held on Wednesday, April 23, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the high school.

The high school will be showcasing the latest science technology received thanks to the Classrooms for the Future grant. This Flip the Switch event will be held Tuesday, April 29, at 6:00 p.m. Students will provide demonstrations of the new equipment.

Director of Elementary Education

Director of Elementary Education Dr. Policastro announced that Park School students would perform their All School Musical Review on Friday, April 25, at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the meeting minutes of the March 18 and 25, 2008 board meetings.

Financial Management

The Board approved the following financial items:

- General Fund invoices for April 2008 in the amount of \$515,749.71
- General Fund hand checks for March 2008 in the amount of \$619,593.93
- Payroll Funding Transfers for March 2008
- General Fund Revenue Report for February 2008
- General Fund Expenditure Report for February 2008
- Food Service invoices for March 2008 in the amount of \$42,233.96
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending March 31, 2008
- Foundation for Education Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending March 31, 2008
- Custodial hand checks in the amount of \$27,486.71
- Athletic hand checks in the amount of \$27,520.82
- Middle School hand checks in the amount of \$3,335.55
- Band Trip invoices in the amount of \$7,261.94
- Opened the position of special counsel and will request proposals for such work effective July 1, 2008

Operations

The Board approved the following items:

- Facility rental requests as presented
- Fundraising requests as presented
- Changed the Board meeting dates from May 20, 27 and June 30 to May 12, 20 and June 24, 2008, for the 2008-2009 budget adoption
- Awarded bid for renovation of the current sound system in the high school/middle school auditorium to CZ Sound at a price of \$23,526.50, to be paid from the Capital Projects 2005 fund
- Renewed Software Maintenance Agreement with ProSoft Technologies, Inc., effective July 1, 2008, for the 2008-2009 school year at a monthly cost of \$1,585.00
- Awarded bid for installation of two (2) grease interceptors to Hruska Plumbing at a price of \$9,200.00, per specifications to be paid from Capital Projects 2005 fund
- Awarded bid for enclosing the dock area of the middle school/high school complex to AB Specialties, Inc., per specifications at a price of \$48,740.00 to be paid from Capital Projects 2005 Fund
- Awarded a three-year AHERA required re-inspection service to Environmental and Safety Training, Inc., at a cost of \$995.00
- Awarded bid for roof replacement at Park Elementary School to Phoenix Roofing per specifications at a price of \$449,000.00, to be paid from Capital Projects 2005 fund
- Awarded bid for installation of a closed circuit television system per specifications to Dagostino Electronics at the price of \$184,217.00, which includes equipment, installation and three years of maintenance, to be paid from the Capital Projects 2005 fund

Co-Curricular Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Attendance of Park School's third grade students and chaperones to Laurel Caverns in Hopwood, Pennsylvania, on April 30, 2008, at no cost to the district
- Attendance of Barrett School's third grade students and chaperones to Laurel Caverns in Hopwood, Pennsylvania, on May 22, 2008, at no cost to the district
- Attendance of 30 4th & 5th grade students and 70 Middle School students to the NFL Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio, on May 15, 2008, at no cost to the school district

Educational Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Accepted the donation of a Spinnet piano to the Senior High School from Mrs. Barnett
- Adopted the resolution opposing the proposed state high school graduation competency assessments

Personnel Management

The Board approved the following items:

- Unpaid family medical leave of absence for Beth Catterall commencing after the exhaustion of her accumulated sick leave and personal days through the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year
- Unpaid family medical leave of absence for Mary Ellen Totin retroactive to March 25, 2008, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- Kelly Luznar, Jamie Thompson, Danielle Sloan, Jessica Zuber, and Erin Tisot as day-to-day substitutes for the 2007-2008 school year
- Stephanie Hilewick, Daniel Pomposelli, Rebecca Harrison, Amanda McCarthy, Melanie

Tunney, Louis Colorito, Melissa Stump, Marc DiSilvio, and Ashley Majernik as day-to-day substitutes for the 2007-2008 school year

- Traci L. Riley as a substitute in the food service department at \$7.15 per hour and no benefits contingent upon receipt of acceptable Act 34, 114 and 151 clearances, passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days