



Steel Valley School District Board Brief

**Board Meeting
September 23, 2008**

The Board acknowledged the passing of Gayle E. Reinerth , aunt of Rick Owston, middle school science teacher; Kenneth M. Magness, brother-in-law of Cindy Kortz, 4th grade Barrett teacher; Joseph E. Popoleo, uncle of John Strom, 5th grade Barrett teacher; Eugene Beasock, uncle of Ed Wellman, middle school math teacher; Mary Litz, mother-in-law of Diane Litz, high school food service; and Fred Siyfuy, stepfather of Joe Panaia, Park School custodian. It was moved by Mrs. Kubancsek and seconded by Mrs. Cannon to place an appropriate selection of books into the Steel Valley School District Libraries in their memory.

Previous Board Action

The School Board accepted the resignation of Rose Marie Bartko from her elected position of School Board Director effective immediately and then appointed Cynthia McEnheimer and Susan Ballas to fill the unexpired terms on the Steel Valley Board of School Directors.

Oath of Office

The Honorable Thomas Torkowsky administered the Oath of Office to the newly appointed board members Cynthia McEnheimer and Susan Ballas to fill the unexpired terms through 2009.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kinavey introduced Director of Elementary Education Dr. Carole Policastro and Barrett Principal Mrs. Sharon Fisher to present Barrett's School Improvement Plan. They would be using the *Getting Results* framework recommended by the Department of Education to increase student achievement. They described the five goals:

- Implement research based assessments and a monitoring process
- Provide staff with ongoing after school professional development activities
- Strengthen the existing instructional program
- Incorporate schoolwide incentives for reading achievement
- Continue partnerships with parents and community connections

Student Representatives' Reports

Miss Miriam McBeth announced that the middle school students are participating in a character education program. Also a new non-violence program through the Social Studies department is occurring. Over 200 middle school students attended the dance on Friday evening.

The high school homecoming celebrations are scheduled for next week. The Powder Puff football game will be Thursday, October 2, followed by the bonfire and dance.

Miss Kaitlyn Baran reported that Franklin Primary students received "batchpacks" from Charlie Batch. Open House was held in September for parents. The Queen of Hearts will visit in October.

Barrett students received "batchpacks" from the Best of the Batch Foundation. Students are participating in the Accelerated Reader program, which encourages students to read and visit the library.

Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services

Mrs. Borges announced that a Steel Valley team would be attending the Least Restrictive Environment Retreat to work on a multi-year plan for our students in regular education and to place fewer students in outside placement.

Director of Academics, Information & Technology

Mr. Colebank announced that progress reports would be received on Friday. The PSAT test will be given at Steel Valley on Saturday, October 18.

Director of Elementary Education

Dr. Policastro thanked the faculty and staffs of the Barrett and Park Elementary Schools for supporting and helping to make the transition to a one-half day program go smoothly during the work on the Park School roof.

Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the meeting minutes of the August 12 and 19, 2008 board meetings.

Financial Management

The Board approved the following financial items:

- General Fund invoices for 2007-2008 in the amount of \$382,517.11
- General Fund invoices for September 2008 in the amount of \$651,780.96
- General Fund hand checks for 2007-2008 in the amount of \$4,775.83
- General Fund hand checks for August 2008 in the amount of \$1,429,350.57
- Payroll Funding Transfers for August 2008
- General Fund Revenue Report for July 2008
- General Fund Expenditure Report for July 2008
- Food Service invoices for August & September 2008 in the amount of \$42,766.18
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending July 31
- Foundation for Education Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending July 31
- Foundation for Education Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending August 31
 - Custodial hand checks in the amount of \$3,641.28
 - Athletic hand checks in the amount of \$5,420.00
 - Middle School hand checks in the amount of \$70.00

Operations

The Board approved the following items:

- Facility rental requests as presented
- Fundraising requests as presented
- Self-Certification Application for Non-Reimbursable Construction Project PDE 3074(b) giving the district permission to waive the bidding advertisement requirement for the asbestos abatement project

Co-Curricular Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Cafeteria budget for the 2008-2009 school year with revenue in the amount of \$810,539 and expenditures in the amount of \$807,670

- 8th grade field trip to Washington, DC, on May 15-16, 2009, at no cost to the school district
- Authorized payment of \$200 for the services of a disc jockey at the semi-formal dance to be held at the Bradley Center on December 20, 2008
- Attendance of History Club and chaperones to tour historical sites in Philadelphia on May 23-24, 2009, at no cost to the district
- Creation of a Middle School Art Club as a new student activity with Jennifer Pecora as a volunteer sponsor

Special Assignments

The Board held a second reading and adopted revisions to Policy No. 218 Student Discipline and a new Policy No. 249 Bullying/Cyberbullying

Personnel Management

The Board approved the following items:

- Unpaid family medical leave of absence for Jill Callahan commencing after the exhaustion of her accumulated sick leave and personal days, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- Appointed Bryan Macuga to the position of Elementary Principal assigned to Park Elementary School effective September 24, 2008, prorated upon an annual salary of \$55,000 for the 2008-2009 school year and fringe benefits based upon the Act 93 Agreement
- Appointed Jonathan Edwards to a Temporary Professional position in the area of Language Arts assigned to the Middle School retroactive to August 25, 2008
- Appointed Edward Tozzi to a Temporary Professional position in the area of Social Studies assigned to the Middle School retroactive to August 25, 2008
- Appointed Shari Koroly-Fetzko to the Temporary Professional position of Title I Instructional Resource teacher assigned to Barrett Elementary School with salary based upon Step 1 Master's level and fringe benefits as per the collective bargaining agreement retroactive to August 25, 2008, and contingent upon receipt of updated clearances, her passing a general physical examination and the mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days or the position will be re-opened
- Appointed Alex Stright to a long-term substitute position in the area of Social Studies and assigned to the Middle School retroactive to September 4, 2008, based upon Step 1 Bachelor's salary and fringe benefits as per the collective bargaining agreement, contingent upon receipt of clearances, passing a general physical examination and the mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days or the position will be re-opened
- Appointed Ann Rutkowski to a long-term substitute position in the area of Speech and Language Therapist with salary based upon Step 1 Master's level and fringe benefits as per the collective bargaining agreement effective September 24, 2008, and contingent upon her passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days or the position will be re-opened
- Kim Gennari, Nikki Shipley, Lori Kenavey and Maribeth Meals as facilitators at an hourly rate of \$30 per hour; Denise Barron, Rebecca O'Shell, Jane Kulhanek, Lisa Lawson, Denise Stephenson, Meagan O'Toole, Susie Kaufold, Bill Gentile, Tracy Findlay, Jill Wassell, Karen Catterall, Susan Fontanese, Julie Doebereiner, Tameka Akins, Scott Manns, Anthony Verbanick, Beth Kelly, Dan Condosta, Jessica Andzelik, Kathy Marzec, Cindy Kortz, Sharon Kampe, Emilee Garcia, and Vonnie Smid as tutors and substitute tutors at an hourly rate of \$30 per hour; and Michele Batch, Terri Vargo, Michael Takos, Kathy Grimm, Melissa Ladik, Jean Emro and Mary Jo Sklencar as paraprofessionals at an hourly rate of \$15 per hour for the Educational Assistance Tutoring Program at Park and Barrett Elementary Schools from September 2, 2008, through May 30, 2009
- Betty Lyons as facilitator at an hourly rate of \$15; Ivan Braszo, Marguerite Luvara, Drew Vautier and Regina Takos as tutors and substitute tutors at an hourly rate of \$30 per hour; and Mary Lou McConnell as a paraprofessional at an hourly rate of \$15 per hour for the Educational Assistance Tutoring Program at Franklin Primary Center from September 15, 2008, through May 30, 2009
- Attendance of Pat DeGore to the SNAPa Conference at Seven Springs Resort on October 21-23, 2008, with expenses to be paid by the district in the amount of approximately \$587
- Authorized the LRE Improvement Team to attend the required training at PaTTAN in Harrisburg on October 2-3, 2008, at no cost to the district

- Sharon Ellis and Rebecca Russell to attend Yamaha Music Lab training on October 23-26, 2008, at a cost of approximately \$275 for mileage and tolls
- Accepted the resignation of Emilee Garcia from the supplemental position of Middle School Girls' Assistant Volleyball Coach
- Jennifer Sunderland, Natalie Kappers, Kimberly Karnes, Carly Del Corso, Melissa Dunagan, William Medwick, Kristy Ferda, Jill Bittner, Kelly Kennedy, Bethany Swauger and Nicholas LeVasseur as day-to-day substitute teachers at a daily rate of \$75 for the first 30 days and \$100 per day beginning with the 31st day and thereafter
- List of volunteers for the 2008-2009 school year, contingent upon receipt of Act 34 & 151 clearances
- Accepted, with regret, the retirement of Dolores McDermott from the position of general worker in the high school cafeteria retroactive to June 11, 2008
- Bradley Keesecker as a substitute custodian at the rate of \$8.75 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon receipt of acceptable Act 34, Act 114 and Act 151 clearances, his passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed within 30 days
- Lynn Anderson as a substitute in the food service department at \$7.15 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon receipt of acceptable Act 34, Act 114 and Act 151 clearances, her passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days
- Stephanie McKee as a substitute secretary, instructional aide and in food service at a rate of \$7.15 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon receipt of acceptable Act 34 and Act 114 clearances, her passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days
- Patricia Semenko as a substitute instructional aide at a rate of \$7.15 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon receipt of acceptable Act 114 clearance, her passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days
- Lisa Mort as a substitute custodian at the rate of \$8.75 per hour and in food service at the rate of \$7.15 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon her passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days
- Kathleen Costa as a substitute instructional aide at the rate of \$7.15 per hour and no benefits, contingent upon receipt of acceptable Act 34, Act 114 and Act 151 clearances, her passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days