



## Steel Valley School District Board Brief

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**Board Meeting  
September 22, 2009**

The Board acknowledged the passing of Nicholas A. Revetta, husband of Maureen Revetta, speech and special education teacher, son-in-law of Mike Mulligan, high school custodian, and brother-in-law of Deirdre Kamauf, kindergarten teacher; Martin Oleksak, grandfather of Lori Oleksak, special education teacher; Earle V. Wittpenn, newspaperman for The Valley Mirror; Harry A. Caterino, father James Caterino, school resource officer; John Rogy Jr., father of Ellen Mooney, part-time middle school secretary; Evelyn Asson, grandmother of Nicole Asson, 3rd grade teacher; and Rose Carbisiero, aunt of Dr. Carole Policastro, instructional resource teacher. It was moved by Mr. Natale and seconded by Mrs. Kubancsek to place an appropriate selection of books into the Steel Valley School District Libraries in their memory.

### ***Superintendent's Report***

Dr. Kinavey announced that students would be dismissed early on Wednesday, September 23, and classes would be canceled on Thursday and Friday, September 24 & 25, 2009.

Steel Valley employees will participate in National Lee Denim Day on Friday, October 2, to support Breast Cancer Research. Employees are encouraged to donate \$5 to wear denim on that day.

There will be no school for students on Friday, October 23, and Monday, October 26. The faculty and staff will participate in professional development on these days.

Dr. Kinavey congratulated the Marching Band on being Grand Champions at the Preston, West Virginia, band competition.

Dr. Kinavey recognized Mr. Ed Wehrer, Director of the I-TEAM, and staff members who coordinated the I-TEAM summer camp, an educationally focused opportunity for students. 71% of the 2008 summer camp students returned to the 2009 summer camp for a total of 146 students participating. Mr. Wehrer thanked the School Board and the staff for all their help. The School Board thanked Mr. Wehrer for his work and dedication to the students of the Steel Valley School District.

### ***Director of Pupil Personnel, Special Services & Elementary Education***

Mrs. Borges announced that the Barrett Elementary staff held a breakfast for 1st grade parents/guardians; there were over 200 people in attendance. Grade level breakfasts will be held for parents/guardians throughout the school year. Parents are provided information on strategies to help their children with homework.

Schoolwide Positive Behavior Support Project is underway at Barrett Elementary School. An assembly awarding students and staff for their positive participation in the new behavioral system will be held Friday.

Park School hosted Steven Cropper from WTAE on September 16 for a weather assembly. You can review the visit on the WTAE website, [www.thepittsburghchannel.com](http://www.thepittsburghchannel.com). It was a great visit and Dukes Upper Deck donated lunch and A & B Donuts donated the cake.

The Park School Make-A-Wish Halloween Parade will be held on October 28. Fire Prevention week will be celebrated October 12-16.

Mrs. Borges announced that all special education teachers would be receiving Smart Boards through the IDEA stimulus funding.

### ***Director of Academics, Information & Technology***

Mr. Colebank reported that students have completed the Dibels, 4Sight and GMade testing, which will provide the faculty with a snapshot of students' abilities in reading and math. Faculty can then apply strategies to increase student achievement.

Letters to parents were distributed last week with Edline passwords. This is the district's third year using Edline. Parents and guardians can view their child's assignments and test scores via Edline. Progress reports are going home next week.

Mr. Colebank announced that the district is researching the creation of an online academy for students. We would like to bring back the cyber charter school students.

### ***Solicitor's Report***

The Board approved a resolution adopting the finding of fact, discussion and adjudication on the demotion and re-assignment of a professional employee.

### ***Meeting Minutes***

The Board approved the meeting minutes of:

- August 4, 2009 special board meeting
- August 11, 2009 worksession meeting
- August 18, 2009 board meeting

### ***Financial Management***

The Board approved the following financial items:

- General Fund invoices for 2008-2009 in the amount of \$63,830.57
- General Fund invoices for September 2009 in the amount of \$488,257.21
- General Fund hand checks for August 2009 in the amount of \$1,424,128.06
- Payroll Funding Transfers for August 2009
- Treasurer's Report for July 2009
- General Fund Revenue Report for July 2009
- General Fund Expenditure Report for July 2009
- Food Service Invoices for September 2009 in the amount of \$32,442.79
  
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending July 31, 2009
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending August 31, 2009
- Foundation for Education Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending July 31, 2009
- Foundation for Education Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending August 31, 2009
- Custodial hand checks in the amount of \$8,951.99
- Athletic hand checks in the amount of \$3,515.00
- Middle School hand checks in the amount of \$8.56

## ***Operations***

The Board approved the following items:

- Approved facility rental requests as presented
- Approved fundraising requests as presented with a change to the Steel Valley Literacy Team's Spirit Night from September 24 to September 29 at Chick-fil-A
- Reimburse Patty Semenko the amount of \$154.00 for the cost of replacement of her eyeglasses, which were damaged during an incident in the classroom
- Allow the Steel Valley Steelers Youth Football organization to use the facilities at Campbell Field twice this season

## ***Co-Curricular Leadership***

The Board approved the following items:

- Field trip request by the 8th grade class and chaperones to Washington, D.C. on May 13-15, 2010, at no cost to the district
- Creation of a new student activity Robotics for middle school students for the 2009-2010 school year with Larry McKern as a volunteer sponsor

## ***Special Assignments***

The Board approved the following items:

- Held first readings of Policy No. 140 Title I Districtwide Parental Involvement and Policy No. 140.4 Title I Parent Involvement Park Elementary School Program
- Held first reading of changes to Policy No. 248 Unlawful Harassment

## ***Personnel Management***

The Board approved the following items:

- Accepted, with regret, the resignation of Dana Mathews from the position of High School Chemistry teacher effective at the close of business on October 28, 2009
- Family medical leave of absence for Maria Heddleston not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- Family medical leave of absence for Nicole Adams Benjamin commencing August 24 through October 2, 2009, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- Mrs. Betty Lyons to attend the Waterford Institute Conference on September 23-25, 2009, at no cost to the district
- Attendance of Toni Besh to the 2009 PSMMLA & Millersville University Conference in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, on October 16-17, 2009, at a cost of \$279.02
- Job description for the position of Director of Academics, Information & Technology
- Alina Volper, Kathleen Szokoly, Gerald May, Anna Theys, Amy Waligorski, Andrea Knorpp-Roberts, Kathryn Deiner, Julia Damico, John Inglis, Tina Petrocelli, Cynthia Cochran, Benjamin Stewart, Melissa Williams, Allyse Mancak and Matthew Mesaros as day-to-day substitute teachers at a rate of \$75 for the first 30 days and \$100 beginning with the 31st day
- Accepted the resignation of Patrick Connelly from the supplemental position of Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach and Alex Stright from the supplemental position of Assistant Head Wrestling Coach
- Katherine Salapa as a substitute food service worker 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
- School volunteers for the 2009-2010 school year

## ***Previous Board Action***

The Board approved the following items:

- Adopted a resolution to appoint Mark Cherpak as the voting delegate to the local Act 32 Tax Collection Committee
- Facility rental permit numbers 3805 and 3806