



Steel Valley School District Board Brief

**Board Meeting
May 25, 2010**

The Board acknowledged the passing of Leo K. Schlanger, retired Steel Valley Senior High School Principal; Helen G. Green, wife of George I. Green, owner of Green's Funeral Home; Catherine Tomovcsik, aunt of Denise Stephenson, Park School teacher; Tokie Warnick, sister-in-law of Kathy Marzec, Barrett School teacher; and Anne Cummings, aunt of Jamie Fleck, Spanish teacher. It was moved by Mr. Natale and seconded by Mrs. Ballas to place an appropriate selection of books into the Steel Valley School District Libraries in their memory.

President's Report

Mrs. Cannon announced that the Dr. Griffin Honor Awards Banquet held on May 6 was a fantastic event honoring the top students and presenting of scholarships. She also recognized the 178 middle school students who received academic honors and awards for perfect attendance at the Middle School Academic Awards Ceremony this morning. Mrs. Cannon complimented the students on their impressive artwork in the high school lobby.

Student Representatives' Reports

Student Representative Lance Miller announced that the Middle School Step-Up Day would begin at 9:00 a.m. on Friday. Fifth grade students from Barrett and Park Elementary Schools will participate. He reported that middle school students visited the NFL Hall of Fame, 7th grade students went to the Wildwood Nature Center and 6th graders will fish and go geocaching on Thursday at the North Shore.

He noted that teachers would be trained by Tracey Czajkowski, an educational consultant, on enhanced writing to help students improve their writing skills.

Miss Kaitlyn Baran announced that Park School students participated in Celebration in Education on May 21. Student field trips will include the Pittsburgh Zoo, PNC Park, Meadowcroft Village, Carnegie Science Center and Heinz Field and Sportworks Fun Center.

The Park School band and choral concert was held on May 6, and all students performed at the All School Revue on May 14.

Kaitlyn Baran reported the high school prom would be held on Friday at the Radisson in Greentree. Commencement will be held on June 4, and seniors will practice June 2-4.

The History Club students and chaperones leave on Saturday for Boston, Massachusetts.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kinavey recognized the passing of Mr. Schlanger, retired high school principal, stating that he brought dignity to the school district and was well respected by administrators, staff and students. His efforts to restore discipline to our high school made our schools a safe place for students.

He thanked Junior Kaitlyn Baran and Freshman Lance Miller for their commitment to serving as the Student Representatives to the School Board this year.

He recognized the winners at the Steel Valley Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner:

Beth McCallister Educator of the Year
Carly Rosso and Mike Brooks Future Leader Awards
Briana Zilko \$500 Senior Scholarship

Two Steel Valley students achieved Top of the Shop distinction at Steel Center Area Vocational-Technical School for the second semester: Jasmine Collington for Health Assistant and Stephanie Thompson for Food Service. Both students were nominated by their instructors as the overall top student in their field based on their conduct, attendance, proficiency and professionalism.

Dr. Kinavey recognized the hard work of the students from The Future is Mine Club, Environmental Club and Steel Center Vo-Tech for landscaping and improving five homes in the Steel Valley community as part of the Extreme Home Makeover Project. Also recognized were staff members: Ryan Dunmire, Shawn McCallister, Beth McCallister, Anthony Natale, Michelle Maddigan, Jill Fleming-Salopek, Denny Keesecker and instructors and the guidance counselor from Steel Center Vo-Tech who worked alongside the students. This project was funded by a \$4,000 grant from the Grable Foundation.

Secondary Academic Literacy Coach and Language Arts Department Chair Jill Fleming-Salopek recognized the following students for meeting and exceeding the Middle School Accelerated Reader Book Challenge:

RyKai Wright	Melissa Bonin	Neddy Saylor	Ashley Biehl
Sara Pounds	Natalie Reedy	Natalie Talarico	Kaylee Fuller
Chelsea Pearson	Haley Brand	Chad Navarro	Michael Kraycar
Ryan Lasek	Autumn Edmunds	Amanda Ruffing	Curtis Frazier
Delaney Lewis	Betsy Novotny	Jake Miller	Jake Eged
Michael Borsch	Nick Borsch	Cole Eged	Austin Riley
Nathan Knorpp	Connor Langan	Anthony Wright	Ike Boehme
Stephen Wisniewski	Brooke Urda	Brandon Tomasic	Gillian Brooks
Kristen Moten	Nadira Darocy	Taylor Nemcik	Jessica Chau
Jodi Joll	Derek Marcone	Austin Hohowski	Matte Harmon
Savannah Sargent	Shailyn Delgado-Lowden	Amber Travis	Alley Reichert
Josh Harter	Tyler Smith	Billy Barker	Logan McConville
Noah Alexandroff	Ryan Fossick	Alexis Cox	Logan Blazeovich
Isabelle Harris	Brandy Hohman	Adam Pasay	Megan Tuttle
Luke Pasay	Jaime Wolf	Chyna Walker	Ally Snyder
Noah Saunders			

The top readers in each grade were 6th grader Matte Harmon who read 39 books, 7th grader Delaney Lewis read 42 books, and eighth grader Sara Pounds read 196 books. Thanks to the middle school language arts teachers and Librarian Terri Hoffman for promoting and coordinating the reading challenge each year.

It was announced that high school student Stephanie Rogers had her poem entitled “True to the Breed” selected to be published in the poetry anthology of Creative Communication: A Celebration of Today’s Writers.

Mrs. Jill Fleming-Salopek recognized the Steel Valley Literacy Team for its commitment to early childhood education. On April 22, ninety (90) families attended the 4th annual Literacy Fair. The team works hard all year fundraising and coordinating this event. Thanks to Mr. Bill Campbell for his generous donation. Literacy Team members are:

Amy Ruffing	Susan Ballas	Becky Campbell	Brian Keesecker
Bridget Ellis	Christy Ruffing	Dan Condosta	Dee Lewis
Deirdre Kamauf	Denise Barron	Diana Borges	Dianne Cain
Ed Wehrer	Ellen Sabo	Jen Awenowicz	Julie Angelilli
Linda Croushore	Leisel Lengyel	Lori Kenavey	Lori Mehalik
Maria Heddleston	Melissa Pentin	Michele Batch	Michelle Maddigan
Priscilla Jackman	Regina Takos	Sharon Fisher	Sharon Kampe
Sherri Titmus	Terrie Hoffman	Vicki Deutsch	Vince Natale
Bill Edwards	Lisa Szczepankowski	Jill Fleming-Salopek	Denny Keesecker

The Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) encourages positive decision-making and saying NO to things that are not good for young people. A PowerPoint presentation was presented showing students involved in numerous projects this year—teaching an anti-tobacco lesson to 3rd graders at Barrett and Park Schools, producing a drama for prom season, participating in the Halloween parade, etc. The following students were recognized for their positive influence on kids in the community:

Allie Fisher	Amber Scharding	Angela Weir	Ashley McCallister
Audrey Gardner	Breanna Gardner	Briana Zilko	Carolee Sniegocki
Chris Cerda	Corey Keyes	Courtney Ross	Dylan Titmus
Elizabeth Pulkowski	Emily Csider	Emily Jones	Emily Olson
Erin Sullivan	Jacque Joll	Janesa Cunningham	Jen Gerhold
Jeremy Moore	Jessica Coddington	Jill Minuto	Kaitlin Craycraft
Kaitlynn Findlay	Kaleen Cunningham	Katy Ruffing	Kelli Findlay
Kelly Bennett	Kelly Cullen	Kelsey Haley	Kenny Baurle
Korey Hammel	Lacey Gori	Lauren Drane	Leena Zahir
Lindsay Connors	Liz Lengyl	Amanda Potoma	Mardeja Chapple
Meghan Wolf	Mike O’Malley	Miranda Ladik	Molly Beyer
Nate Blazeovich	Nikki Salapa	Olivia Ridgeway	Paige Mitrik
Ryan Brennan	Samantha Clark	Sara Fallon	Sarah Csider
Shannon McShane	Sydney Davis	Taylor Ferko	Taylor Stevens
Tim Ketterman	Taylor Szczepankowski	Jamie Sullivan	Jaquinn Ford
Tu Duc Ho			

Director of Pupil Personnel, Special Services & Elementary Education Report

Mrs. Borges announced that Steel Valley graduate and San Francisco 49ers James Tomsula is offering a football camp for people with Down Syndrome between the ages of 15-30. For more information, please contact Mrs. Borges at 412-464-3600 ext. 1905 or Ms. Pentin at 412-464-3600 ext. 3500.

Kindergarten registration and screening will be held on the evening of Thursday, June 10, as follows:

Barrett Elementary School 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Franklin Primary Center 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

On June 26, there will be an Autism Speaks Walk beginning at Mellon Arena. Registration is at 8:00 a.m. and the walk starts at 10:00 a.m. For more information please call 412-367-4571.

The I-TEAM is providing academic support for incoming kindergarten and 1st grade students through its Scamper Campers program from July 8-28, 2010. Eligible students can receive reinforcement of skills for school readiness.

Director of Academics, Information & Technology Report

Mr. Colebank announced dates of high school activities:

May 28 Prom June 4 Commencement
June 2 Senior Breakfast June 8 Kennywood Picnic
June 3 Commencement Practice June 9 Teacher Inservice Day

Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the meeting minutes of April 20 and April 27, 2010.

Financial Management

The Board approved the following financial items:

- General Fund invoices for May 2010 in the amount of \$590,091.84
- General Fund hand checks for April 2010 in the amount of \$372,868.44
- Payroll Funding Transfers for April 2010
- Treasurer's Report for March 2010
- Food Service invoices for April 2010 in the amount of \$47,072.65
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending April 30, 2010
- Foundation for Education Technology Account Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending April 30, 2010
- Foundation for Education Barrett Project Statement of Income and Expense for the month ending April 30, 2010
- Custodial hand checks in the amount of \$61,598.68
- Athletic hand checks in the amount of \$1,309.00
- Middle School hand checks in the amount of \$14,420.62
- Band Trip hand checks in the amount of \$546.21
- Proposed General Fund Budget for 2010-2011 with revenue in the amount of \$27,950,668 and expenditures in the amount of \$27,570,375. This budget includes a 2.86 mill increase in taxes bringing the total millage to 24.07

- Authorized the proper officers of the district to sign the engagement letter from Maher Duessel for the period June 30, 2010, 2011 and 2012, for audit services of the district's basic financial statements and the Single Audit, as well as audits of the Act 511 tax collector and the Homestead, Munhall and West Homestead real estate tax collectors

Operations

The Board approved the following items:

- Facility rental and fundraising requests as presented
- Renewal of the transportation contract with PA Coach Lines for a 10-year period beginning July 1, 2010, with terms of the agreement as presented. Documents will be executed after the Board approves the terms.
- District's participation in the Western Pennsylvania Electricity Consortium
- Disposal of the broken weight equipment, sport equipment and obsolete sport uniforms
- Mark R. Cherpak, Board Secretary, as the designated agent of the district for the FEMA program

Co-Curricular Leadership

The Board approved creation of a new high school student activity--Peer Mentoring Program--for the 2010-2011 school year with Mariann Reilly as a volunteer sponsor.

Special Assignments

The Board held first readings of the following policies:

- Revisions to Policy No. 607 School Visitors
- Revisions to Policy No. 618 Student Activity Funds
- Revisions to Policy No. 114 Gifted Education
- Revisions to Policy No. 119 Creating Effective Partnerships
- Revisions to Policy No. 203 Communicable Diseases and Immunizations
- New Policy No. 712 Service Animals
- Revisions to Policy No. 916 School Volunteers
- Revisions to Policy No. 835 Email

Educational Leadership

Mrs. Ballas congratulated all the students recognized at the Dr. Griffin Senior Awards Banquet, and she thanked everyone involved in planning and coordinating this successful event.

Personnel Management

The Board approved the following items:

- Family medical leave of absence for Denise Barron commencing May 12, 2010, not to exceed 12 weeks in duration
- Unpaid leave of absence for Leisel Lengyel retroactive to April 26, 2010
- Melissa Pentin, Lori Oleksak, Audra Bobbs, Terri Brown-Groce as the special education teachers and Melissa Ladik, Mary Jo Sklencar and Terri Vargo as the special education paraeducators for the Extended School Year Program from July 6-29, 2010
- Kelsey Cataldo, Amanda Swiontek, Jared Lombardi, Gary Porter, Mark Bonacci, Kristy Nichols and Jessica Seward as day-to-day substitutes for the 2009-2010 school year
- Diana Borges to attend the PDE Conference on June 14-16 in Hershey, Pennsylvania, with travel, meals and tolls to be paid by the district
- Maria Heddleston and Lori Kenavey to attend the PDE Conference on June 14-16 in Hershey, Pennsylvania, at no cost to the district

- Marie Kraycar as a substitute in the food service department at an hourly rate of \$7.25 per hour with no benefits and as a substitute custodian at the rate of \$8.75 per hour with no benefits, contingent upon passing a general physical examination and the district's mandated screening for controlled substances, which must be completed in 30 days
- Denied Grievance #410

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