



Steel Valley School District Board Brief

**Board Meeting
March 26, 2013**

The Board acknowledged the passing of **Regis V. Shalley**, former band director at Munhall High School; **William D. Stevens**, father of Roslyn Stulga, elementary art teacher; **Sonny Lomans**, uncle of Colette Youngblood, board member; **Karen Hartz**, former art teacher in the Steel Valley School District; and **Alice Bette Palaschak**, mother Susan Ballas, board member. It was moved by Mr. Natale and seconded by Mr. Olson to place an appropriate selection of books into the Steel Valley School District Libraries in their memory.

Student Representative's Report

Senior **Melissa Cerda** reported Mrs. Spotti, speech teacher at Barrett Elementary School, was approved for a Great Idea Grant through The Consortium for Public Education. Her class will receive \$2,500 to purchase four iPads, protective covers and apps.

Barrett families celebrated Read Across America on March 5 with a Title I Family Night. The evening included Dr. Seuss reading activities, trivia, parent discussion groups with the principal and a PTO sponsored book swap. Each student left with a Truffula tree of cotton candy, too.

Both Barrett Elementary and Park Elementary Schools received a grant from the NFL *Fuel Up to Play 60* program to promote more physical activity and healthy eating habits at school. The grant will provide pedometers for all staff members to track their walking miles. Each building will purchase a Wii Dance, Dance Revolution game, projector and a fruit smoothie machine for their cafeteria. Recently each school held Milk Mustache Monday to promote drinking milk.

Today Barrett held its All School Revue entitled *JAZZ: A Swingin' Celebration*. The Barrett PTO is planning a red carpet event to honor student achievement. Report cards will be distributed on April 5.

The SV Drama Club presented the musical, *Beauty and the Beast*, and all performances were well attended. Former Steel Valley graduate and current actor, **Montae Russell**, spoke to the Drama Club students on March 19.

Students in grades 9-11 are preparing for this year's Keystone exams -

May 14	Literature
May 15	Algebra
May 16	Biology

Miss Kristen Moten reported that 8th grade students would be taking the PSSAs from April 9-11. Mr. Walsh will meet with the students to discuss the expectations.

On May 24, all fifth grade students will participate in Step Up Day at the middle school.

Guidance Counselor **Alyson Fisher** held *Coffee with the Counselor* for parents and guardians at Franklin, Park and Barrett Elementary Schools this month. The topic of discussion was school safety. Superintendent **Ed Wehrer**, School Resource Office **Dan Boehme** and Security Supervisor **Brian Scott** participated in the discussion.

Progress reports were distributed to all students on February 19.

Superintendent's Report

High School Principal **Mr. Macuga** congratulated the Extra Effort Award winners at Steel Center Vo-Tech School for the 2nd quarter of the school year. Certificates of Recognition were given to **Asata Owens** for her extra effort in Baking; **Ryan Ackerman** in the Building Trades; **Brittany Taylor** in Food Service; and **Anthony Romagna** in Retail Food Merchandising and Production.

Mrs. Sharon Fisher, Barrett Elementary School Principal, discussed the collaboration between Point Park University and the school district. **Dr. Janice Glunk** and her Reading Methods II and Differentiated Reading Instruction students from Point Park have been tutoring 24 fourth grade students at Barrett Elementary School. Next year, they would like to continue the partnership in the primary grades. On behalf of the district, **Mr. Wehrer** thanked **Dr. Glunk** for remembering her roots and bringing extra help to our schools.

Mr. Wehrer recognized **Alyson Fisher**, **Brandi Chalus**, **Matt Janov** and **Cindy DeLuca** for their teamwork in writing the *Fuel Up to Play 60* grant. Both Barrett and Park Elementary Schools received \$5,000 to increase healthy eating choices and physical activity in our schools. The funds will be used to purchase a gaming system, projector, speakers, dance and fitness games. Mrs. Fisher noted that well nourished and active kids can be more successful in school. Barrett Elementary School will hold a Health and Wellness Fair on Thursday, April 4, from 5:00-6:30 pm. Families will participate in aerobic activities, such as, Zumba and yoga, and healthy snacks will be provided.

Senior English Teacher **Gary Goga** discussed the graduation requirements for the Senior Project. Students choose a topic of interest or a career to research. The students participate in job shadowing experiences, write a five-page paper and present their findings in front of the class. Seniors **Aarron Garland-Moore**, **Tyler Kirkland** and **Leena Zahir** were recognized for their outstanding presentations. Aaron researched a career as an orthopedic surgeon; Tyler's presentation focused on a career in photography; and Leena was invited to job shadow at Thorpe Reed law firm. The staff has been impressed with the talent of the senior class.

Director of Pupil Personnel, Special Services and Elementary Education

Mrs. Borges announced that Barrett Elementary School would hold a Health and Wellness Fair on April 4. An All School Revue, *JAZZ: A Swingin' Celebration*, was performed at Barrett today.

The annual Literacy Fair will be held on April 25 starting at 5:00 p.m. in the Senior High School. Parents can register their kindergarten age children for the 2013-2014 school year. Incoming kindergarten students will be given a tour of the Franklin Primary Center.

Director of Academics, Information & Technology

Mr. Colebank reported that a presentation on Keystone exam results would be conducted at the April 16 worksession.

Solicitor's Report

The Board accepted the bids from **Anthony Barna** and **Gary Bodnar** as presented to perform appraisals for tax assessment appeals pending in the Court of Common Pleas.

Meeting Minutes

The Board approved the meeting minutes of February 19, 2013 worksession meeting and the February 26, 2013 regular meeting.

Financial Management

The Board approved the following financial items:

- General Fund invoices for March 2013 in the amount of \$283,629.08

- General Fund hand checks for February 2013 in the amount of \$460,453.48
- Food Service invoices for March 2013 in the amount of \$43,072.39
- Payroll Funding Transfers for February 2013
- Capital Projects 2005 Statement of Income and Expense for month ending February 28, 2013
- Custodial/hand checks in the amount of \$15,692.08
- Middle School/hand checks in the amount of \$140.00
- Athletic invoices/hand checks in the amount of \$2,045.00
- Band Trip/hand checks in the amount of \$342.00
- Exonerated the Homestead, Munhall and West Homestead tax collectors for year 2012 for uncollected amounts of \$352,920.48, \$1,039,081.92 and \$158,652.66 respectively
- Authorized payment to Otis Elevator Company in the amount of \$19,615.00 to be paid from the Capital Projects account, for repair of the elevator in the high school
- Adopted a resolution urging pension reform Adopted a resolution calling for reform of the Commonwealth_s Charter and Cyber Charter School Funding Formula

Operations

The Board approved the following items:

- Facility rental requests as presented
- Purchase of a John Deere Front Loader in the amount of \$3,668.21
- ProGrass LLC to repair and maintain the surface of Campbell Athletic Field at a cost of \$3,800
- Services of Honeywell for ventilation of the team room_s equipment space not to exceed \$9,000
- Awarded the bid from Honeywell for the installation of air conditioning in the middle school cafeteria, per bid specifications, to be paid from the Capital Projects account

Co-Curricular Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Fundraising requests as presented
- Payment of \$2,500 to the Senior Breakfast / Reception account to defray the costs of the Senior Breakfast for the Class of 2013
- Districtwide video services from HUDL at a cost of \$1,695

Educational Leadership

The Board approved the following items:

- Adopted the 2013-2014 school calendar as presented
- Revised schedule for May 14, 15 and 16, 2013, for the High School Keystone Exams
- Early dismissal for Barrett Elementary School students on May 9 and 16, 2013, in order to provide professional development for staff on the Olweus Bullying Prevention Program
- Accepted the funds for the *Fuel Up to Play 60* grant from the Mid-Atlantic Dairy Association and the H.J. Heinz Foundation in the amount of \$10,000
- Accepted a \$1,200 donation from **Paul Lienhardt** to establish a fund to enhance historic educational opportunities for students in the school district
- Adopted the 2013-2014 Middle School Academic Handbook
- Adopted the 2013-2014 High School Academic Handbook
- Accepted the donation of a 32_ television from **Dan and Sue Kinzel** for Park Elementary School
- Allegheny Intermediate Unit_s 2013-2014 Program of Services Budget totaling \$3,809,028.

Personnel Management

The Board approved the following items:

- Family medical leave of absence for **Susan Wright** from April 4, 2013, through May 10, 2013, not to exceed 60 days in duration
- **Luke Healey** and **Ashley Levino** as day-to-day substitute teachers for the 2012-2013 school year at a pay rate of \$90 per day for the 1st 30 days and \$120 per day beginning with the 31st day, contingent upon receipt of current clearances
- **Kimberly Devine** as substitute staff for the KtO program for the 2012-2013 school year, contingent upon receipt of current clearances
- **Adam Mitchell** as a volunteer for Boys Volleyball for the 2012-2013 school year, contingent upon receipt of current clearances
- Agreed to pay 50% of the cost for crossing guards in Munhall Borough with an increased rate to \$10 per hour