

**Regular Meeting**  
**Steel Valley School District Board of Directors**  
**Senior High School Library**  
**September 28, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Youngblood, President, at 7:01 p.m.

Upon roll call the following members were present:

Mrs. Ballas, Mr. Bulger, Mr. Colasante, Mr. Olson, Mr. Rojtas,  
Mrs. Steele, Mr. Terrick (entered at 7:06 p.m.), Mrs. Yuhas and  
Ms. Youngblood

Also present: Mr. Wehrer, Mr. Zenone, Mr. Fetzko, Mr. Colebank, Mrs.  
Borges

Flag Salute

**Acknowledgements**

Moment of Silence

The Board acknowledged the following deaths in the Steel Valley School District families: *Minta J. Miner*, aunt of Edward Colebank, Director of Academics, Information & Technology; *Martin M. Giran*, brother of Jack Giran, retired Athletic/Activities Director; *Michael Cushion*, uncle of Jean Fedak, high school cafeteria worker; *Barbara Suto*, aunt of Michael Coyne, groundskeeper; *Robert E. Walendziewicz*, son of Teresa Walendziewicz, substitute food service worker; and *Mary Sobicinski*, retired secretary and mother of Karen and Joe Ducar, former School Board member.

**Mrs. Steele moved and Mrs. Yuhas seconded the motion to approve the purchase of memorial books to be placed into the district libraries in memory of the above departed.** Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Bulger, Colasante, Olson, Rojtas, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas and Youngblood. Negative: None. Motion carried.

## **Solicitor's Report**

**No report**

## **Student Representatives' Reports**

Ms. Isabella Furrick

Ms. Abigail Ferson

- Ms. Isabella Furrick introduced herself as the Junior Representative to the School Board and stated that she is looking forward to working with the School Board to relay the positive things happening in the schools. The students at Park School have been working hard and trying their best in the classroom, and more importantly, they have been very nice and kind to one another.
- The Park School Book Fair was a huge success. The students loved the Officer Phil program, where they learned about being the best person they could be. The first graders were excited about Grandparents Day, which was held on September 27.
- Senior Student Representative Abigail Ferson reported that the high school is focusing on increasing student attendance this year. They are conducting contests for grade levels, homerooms and individual students to promote the least amount of absences and tardies.
- The first blood drive was held on September 19, which was organized and run by the Student Council and Mrs. McCallister. This was the first of three blood drives that would be held this year; the next blood drives will be held on December 19 and March 8. Community members are always welcome to donate at any of the blood drives. Thirty-seven donors registered and 29 blood products were collected. One unit of blood can save up to three lives; therefore, this drive helped support life for 87 hospital patients. There is a great need for blood due to the recent hurricanes. Two states will be out of commission for blood collections for an extended time, and all of the blood centers are trying to collect as much as possible for the national need.
- The Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) sponsored a visit by the Safety Bug on September 22. The Safety Bug tested the driving skills of seniors and how their reaction time is affected when they are under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Some of the SADD student leaders will be teaching their peers how to check tire pressure and treads on their tires as part of the "Tread Wisely" campaign. They received free kits from the

National Organization for Youth Safety for this peer-to-peer activity.

- The Student Government is busy planning Homecoming Spirit Week. The themed days include:

Tired Tuesday	October 10
Color Wednesday	October 11
Throwback Thursday	October 12
Ironmen Maroon and Gold Day	October 13

- The Student Government is also planning the semi-formal dance, which will be held at the Westwood Golf Club on Saturday, January 6, from 6:00-10:00 p.m.
- At the Middle School, the weekly updates are communicated via the AlertNow system every Sunday evening at 6:00 p.m. The Middle School is utilizing an app based program called eBackpack, a cloud-based learning management system, which allows teachers to assign, annotate, collect and grade on any internet-connected device. Parental codes to the eBackpack system were sent home to parents in early September.
- Ms. Ferson added that the students are excited to start another year and look forward to making it a great year for all students.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Wehrer:

- Recognized Colette Youngblood and Michael Terrick with certificates from the Pennsylvania School Boards Association for eight years of service on the Board of School Directors. Today, school districts are expected to offer more services along with world-class instruction, with limited resources. These expectations provide a tremendous challenge for school directors who are unpaid volunteers who work tirelessly, giving of their free time, away from their families to contribute to the schools and communities they serve. He thanked our long-term school directors for their dedicated years of volunteer service to our children, the communities and public education.

## **Director of Pupil Personnel and Special Services Report**

\_\_Mrs. Borges:

- Reported that progress reports would be distributed on October 4th. A districtwide early dismissal for students is scheduled on Friday, October 6, and there will be no school for students on Monday, October 9, due to a professional development day for staff.
- Flu shots will be available for staff members on October 9 between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the Senior High School.
- Mrs. Borges added that onsite mental health therapy is available to students provided by Mon Yough Community Services. More information on warning signs is available from the Office of Pupil Personnel and Special Services.

## **Director of Academics, Information and Technology Report**

Mr. Colebank:

- Reported that parents are able to login in to Edustar, the online grade system, but not the grade card. Apple released version 11.01 and 60% of the iPads have been updated. The remaining iPads will be updated over the weekend.

## **Citizen Comments on Agenda Items**

- Ms. Donna Dreshman inquired regarding Items 1.2, 1.4, 2.2, 8.6, 8.7 and salad bar. Mr. Wehrer and Mr. Zenone fielded the inquires.

## **Board Meeting Minutes**

**Mr. Bulger moved and Mrs. Yuhás seconded the motion to approve the August 21, 2017 worksession minutes and the August 24, 2017 regular meeting minutes.** Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Bulger, Colasante, Olson, Rojtas, Steele, Terrick, Yuhás and Youngblood  
Negative: None. Motion carried.

## **1.0 Financial Management**

**Mrs. Ballas moved and Mr. Bulger seconded the motion to approve the following:**

- 1.1 List of bills:
  - 1.1.01 General Fund invoices for 2016-2017 paid in 2017-2018 in the amount of \$17,162.25
  - 1.1.02 General Fund invoices for September 2017 in the amount of \$653, 825.89
  - 1.1.03 General Fund hand checks for 2016-2017 paid in 2017-2018 in the amount of \$753.29
  - 1.1.04 General Fund hand checks for August 2017 in the amount of \$105,592.29
  - 1.1.05 General Fund Revenue Report for August 2017
  - 1.1.06 General Fund Expenditure Report for August 2017
  - 1.1.07 General Fund Balance Sheet for August 2017
  - 1.1.08 Food Service invoices in the amount of \$24,350.79
  - 1.1.09 Food Service Revenue Report for August 2017
  - 1.1.10 Food Service Expenditure Report for August 2017
  - 1.1.11 Food Service Balance Sheet for August 2017
  - 1.1.12 Payroll Funding Transfers for August 2017
  - 1.1.13 Capital Projects Revenue Report for August 2017
  - 1.1.14 Capital Projects Expenditure Report for August 2017
  - 1.1.15 Capital Projects Balance Sheet for August 2017
  - 1.1.16 High School Student Activities Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for August 2017
  - 1.1.17 Middle School Activities Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for August 2017
  - 1.1.18 External Groups Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for August 2017
  - 1.1.19 Athletics Fund Balance Sheet and Disbursement Report for August 2017
- 1.2 Worker's Compensation Panel as listed
- 1.3 Entering into a credit card for the Family and Consumer Science Department in care of Jamie Dolton, not to exceed a \$1,500 credit limit
- 1.4 Temporary transfer of \$100,000 to the Food Service Fund from the General Fund
- 1.5 Real estate refund to Donald E. Arnold and Margaret Brown in the amount of \$534.89

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Bulger, Colasante, Olson, Rojtas, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas and Youngblood. Negative: None. Motion carried.

## **2.0 Operations**

**Mr. Terrick moved and Mr. Olson seconded the motion to approve the following:**

- 2.1 Facility rental requests as presented
- 2.2 List of remaining bus/van drivers submitted by PA Coach and Mr. Walter Baranowski and Mr. Keith Caito that are currently driving for the district in the 2017-2018 school year

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Bulger, Colasante, Olson, Rojtas, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas and Youngblood. Negative: None. Motion carried.

## **3.0 Co-Curricular Leadership**

**Mrs. Yuhas moved and Mr. Bulger seconded the motion to approve the following:**

- 3.1 Fundraising requests as presented
- 3.2 Field trip request for the History Club members and chaperones to tour Boston, Massachusetts, and West Point, New York, on June 1-4, 2018, at no cost to the district.
- 3.3 Payment of \$350.00 for the disc jockey services at the winter semi-formal dance held on January 6, 2018
- 3.4 The creation of a 3D Printing Club for high school students for the 2017-2018 school year with Mr. Randy Zirkle as a volunteer sponsor

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Bulger, Colasante, Olson, Rojtas, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas and Youngblood. Negative: None. Motion carried.

## **4.0 Special Assignments**

Mr. Olson: No update

## **5.0 Educational Leadership**

**Mrs. Steele moved and Mr. Olson seconded the motion to approve the following:**

5.1 Designate the book title listed as surplus books and authorize the administration to dispose of the title listed.

Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Bulger, Colasante, Olson, Rojtas, Steele, Terrick, Yuhas and Youngblood. Negative: None. Motion carried.

## **6.0 Communication/ 7.0 Technology**

- Mr. Bulger – Chargers for the iPad, recommend getting a flyer out to explain how chargers function
- Mr. Colebank – Discussed disposing of the equipment

## **8.0 Personnel Management**

**Mrs. Steele moved and Mr. Bulger seconded the motion to approve the following:**

8.1 Family Medical Leave of Absence for Maria Heddleston retroactive to August 23, 2017, not to exceed 60 days in duration.

8.2 An intermittent Family Medical Leave of absence for Gwen Berchok retroactive to August 30, 2017, not to exceed 60 days in duration.

8.3 The employment of Christine Schott as a substitute teacher for the 2017-2018 school year

8.4 Supplemental coaches and sponsors for fall, winter and spring seasons as presented for the 2017-2018 school year, contingent upon receipt of current

8.5 volunteers as presented to the 2017-2018 school year, contingent upon receipt of clearances and a verification of volunteer ford.

8.6 The Settlement Agreement and Release and authorize the Board President to execute the agreement

8.7 The Memorandum of Understanding between the school district and the Steel Valley Education Association as presented

- 8.8 An intermittent Family Medical Leave of Absence for Colleen Andreyo, not to exceed 60 days in duration
- 8.9 Accept, with regret, the resignation of Melanie Zortea from the position of cafeteria monitor at Park School, retroactive to September 21, 2017
- 8.10 Hire Jill Conway to the 2.5 hour position as Park School Cafeteria Monitor with all benefits per the collective bargaining agreement, contingent upon compliance with Act 168 and passing a physical exam and controlled substances screening, which must be completed within 30 days
- 8.11 Hire Alexandra Wagner to the 3.5 hour position in food service at the middle School at the rate of \$12.00 per hour, with a probationary rate of 90% or \$10.80 per hour for 90 calendar days and all benefits per the collective bargaining agreement, contingent upon receipt of current Act 34, 114 and 151 clearances, compliance with Act 168, and passing a physical exam and controlled substances screening, which must be completed within 30 days.
- 8.12 Appoint Nicole Mackey to the position of full time Health Care Aide effective on a mutually agreed upon date at the hourly rate of \$10.10 per hour plus \$1.50 per hour for highly qualified status plus benefits as outlined in the collective bargaining agreement, contingent upon receipt of current clearances, passing a physical exam and screening for controlled substances and compliance with Act 168, which must be completed within 30 days
- 8.13 Hire Keith Caito as a substitute in food service to be paid at the rate of \$8.50 per hour, contingent upon passing a physical exam and controlled substances screening, which must be completed within 30 days
- 8.14 Hire Diane Lacey as a substitute secretary to be paid at the rate of \$9.00 per hour, contingent upon compliance with Act 168 and passing a physical exam and controlled substances screening, which must be completed within 30 days
- 8.15 Hire Carol Jasko as a substitute secretary to be paid at the rate of \$9.00 per hour and as a substitute food service worker at the rate of \$8.50 per hour, contingent upon compliance with Act 168 and passing a physical exam and controlled substances screening, which must be completed within 30 days
- 8.16 Hire Lyndon Thornton as a substitute custodian to be paid at the rate of \$9.00 per hour, contingent upon compliance with Act 168 and passing a physical exam and controlled substances screening, which must be completed within 30 days



Upon roll call the following members voted affirmatively: Ballas, Bulger, Colasante, Olson, Rojtas, Steele, Terrick, Yuhus and Youngblood. Negative: None. Motion carried.

### **Citizen Comments**

- Ms. Michele Casper – Expressed concerns that the student drop-off procedure is not being adhered to. The cars are backing up onto Main Street.
- Mr. Jim Deutsch – Discussed class scheduling and the unfair nature of the scheduling conversion this school year
- Ms. Donna Dreshman – Inquired regarding honors classes and inquired regarding the pool leak.
- Ms. Christine Schott – Inquired regarding the full-time nurse position. Mr. Colebank responded and explained the delay in hiring. Also thanked Mr. Keesecker for the recycling bin.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting ended adjourned at 8:14 p.m.