Chartiers Valley schools

Board sets maximum cost on high school

By Deana Carpenter

In an effort to move forward with the renovation and expansion of Chartiers Valley's high school/middle school complex, the school board authorized a maximum projectors of \$200.5 board authorized a maxi-mum project cost of \$88.5 million at its Nov. 24 meet-ing. Of that number, \$66.1 million would be the top building construction cost. The building construction cost includes general con-struction, eating and venti-

lation, plumbing, electrical iation, piumoing, electrical and other structural ex-penses as well as fixtures and equipment and architec-tural and engineering fees. The project cost also in-cludes site acquisition, site development, grading, ac-

ess roads, sewage and legal

The board also voted to The board also voted to hold an Act 34 public hearing at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 22 in the district assembly room. The hearing, required by state law for any school construction project, will address why the expansion is needed and detail costs, financing plans and awas silved to the project of the and any possible tax impacts.

PETERS, FROM S-1

it for the past month." Mom Jennifer Pasquale

worm Jennier Pasquale agreed.
"The teachers missed 21 days of school for something they thought was important, so we're keeping our kids home for for traditions we

feel are important," said Ms. Pasquale, who kept her four

kids home so the family could go Black Friday shop-ping as they have every

Turnout low in Peters

The district has hired Downtown-based architects IKM, Inc. for the project and P.J. Dick, located on the North Shore, as its construc-tion management firm.

tion management firm.

"Both the architect and construction management company agreed on these estimates," said Brian White,

timates," said Brian White, superintendent of Chartiers Valley. However, Mr. White added that P.J. Dick is still looking at the numbers. "We would like to proceed with the hearing," he said.

He added that the district is slated to seek bids for the middle school project in March and the high school project about six weeks after that.

that.

In other business at the meeting, the board approved several new high school ocurses for the 2016-17 school year. They include: pre-advanced placement studio art, pre-AP digital, keystone algebra, and principles of accounting 1.

Deana Carpenter, free-lance writer: suburbanlit ing@post-gazette.com.

trict is going to be understanding about pre-planned family activities over the

family activities over the holidays. She said teacher attendance last week was outstanding. "We did encourage par-ents to complete educational try forms for the absences, otherwise they just need the standard excuse for any days missed," she said. On Monday about 5.4 per-

On Monday, about 5.4 per-cent of students were absent — more than a typical day but not nearly as many as

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Resume: A newsmaker vou should know

His doves help him help others

By Kathleen Ganste

It was a hobby that turned into a career—and then into somewhat of a calling.

Kan Hasehig of Hampton had been interested in doves for a long time, so he started raising raising the birds as a pastime. Eventually, he decided to turn his interest into a full-time business.

The former Pittiskurgh Public Schools teacher began volunteering to take his doves to nursing homes and senior care homes to provide pet therapy for residents pet therapy for residents there.

there.
And the residents love the birds, said Melissa Tomko, recreation service director at Longwoodat Oakmont. "They are beneficial for so many reasons. The birds are

"They are beneficial for so many reasons. The birds are very calming and the social interaction is wonderful, she said. Mr. Hasefrig takes the birds to the resident so if someone is hesitant about group settings, the person can still take part in the pet therapy program.

"Ken also writes up a report on each resident each time he visits so we can see the progress and how they do," Ms. Tromkosaid. He also volunteers with his birds at Harbour Senior Living of the South Hills in Green Tree, the Southwestern Veterans Center in Lin coln-Lemington, Woodhaven Care Center in Monroeville and a couple of the Good Samaritan Hospice locations.

Mr. Hassebrig, 50, doesn't or the wederatking.

To read complete of these stories, visit was the stories, visit was considered to the second samaritan Hospice locations.

Mr. Hassebrig, 50, doesn't of the set stories, visit was the second samaritan Hospice locations.

ocations.

Mr. Haselrig, 50, doesn't remember when he developed an interest in doves, but the more he learned the more he

but the more he learned about them, the more he wanted them. His wife, Cline, fostered the interest. One day, their son, Ben, told his mother he wanted "one of those birds that return home." It helped the couple decide to get some birds, and Mrs. Haselrig or-dered the building plans for



The family considered raising chickens, and when they visited a chicken farm, oddly enough, they came home with a few doves.

"The farmer told me to take a few for my kids. They were rollers—birds that roll in the sky — but take them 200 yards away, and they can't find their way back home," Mr. Hasehrig said. Because their dove house were received.

EXCAUSE their dove house was nearly complete, they accepted the birds.

But Mr. Haselrig was somewhat nervous about the undertaking.

"I think the panic was evi-

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Mt. Lebanon to provide loca-tions of its deer hunt pro-

Snapshot

KEN HASELRIG
Age: 50
Hometown: Hampton
Occupation: Owner of
Dovecote; funeral officiate; retired school

Family: Wife, Celine; children, Ann, 12, Ben, 11, and Will, 8

Education: Bachelor's degree, Clarion State University; master's de-gree, Virginia Tech Univer-

Hobbies: Fishing, gar-ening, watching sports

dent when he looked at my face." Mr. Haselrig said of the farmer. "I started firing off the questions when he reached over, put his hand on my shoulder and said, 'Ken, they are pigeons. You cand othis."

They took the birds home and the experience made them want more, so they got the birds their son had asked for — homing doves.

-homing doves

"I bought my first birds sight unseen, which I learned really wasn't a good idea, but I went to the post of-fice and picked up a box of baby birds," he said.

At the time, Mr. Haselrig was a science teacher and he figured he would get a few ngured ne would get a lew birds and raise them for fun until he retired. Then, he would turn the hobby into a part-time business. But he found himself spending more and more time with the birds.

e birus. He created an educational He created an educational history program, titled "Pi-geon Heroes," that incorporates the birds. And, he started doing releases of the white doves at weddings, funerals and other events. He enjoyed working with the birds so much that he left full-time tacching in the

birds so much that he left full-time teaching in the summer of 2014 to run his dove business, Dovecote. Mr. Haselrig got the idea to bring the birds to nursing homes and senior care cen-ters after seeing the reaction of these attention by other of those attending his educa of those attending his educa-tional programs and bird re-leases. For Mr. Haselrig, pro-viding an opportunity for people to visit with the birds is all about helping them find peace.

"I prayed long and hard before I made a career

before I made a career change," he said. "I wanted to do something that brought peace and comfort to other people.

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