

CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Warminster, Pennsylvania

MINUTES OF WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING
HELD FEBRUARY 28, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

A Work Session/Regular Meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on February 28, 2012, in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Pollock at 7:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following Board members were in attendance:

Steven Adams	Jane Schrader Lynch
Katherine Driban	Mark B. Miller
Michael Hartline	Dr. Andrew Pollock
Betty Huf	David Shafter
Charles Kleinschmidt	

The following Administration members were in attendance at the meeting:

Dr. Jennifer Cressman	William Gretton
Christopher Berdnik	Robert Reed
Dr. Barbara Burke-Stevenson	Dr. Susan Klyman

Additional meeting attendees are listed on the attached sheet.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dr. Pollock led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Pollock announced that the Board had met in executive session prior to this Board meeting to discuss legal, personnel, and real estate matters.

GOOD NEWS

Mr. William Gretton read the Good News! for February 28, 2012.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None.

PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Barbara Burke-Stevenson, Acting Principal at William Tennent High School, spoke to the Board regarding two requests (complete presentation attached):

- On behalf of the senior representatives, to allow graduation to be held outside in the stadium this year, weather permitting.

- On behalf of Matt Kelly, a student at William Tennent High School, to establish a partnership with Centennial School District and The New Hope Charity, a charity Matt started to provide toys all yearlong for children hospitalized at the Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia.

Dr. Pollock stated at the end of March-beginning of April the Board will discuss graduation.

A request was made for graduation discussion to be put on the Operations Committee agenda.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Huf, seconded by Mr. Hartline, to resolve that the Centennial School Board accepts the minutes from the following meetings:

Education Committee – January 18, 2012, January 23, 2012

Finance Committee – January 17, 2012

Operations Committee – January 4, 2012

Motion passed 9-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Miller read the following:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CENTENNIAL SCHOOL BOARD:

1. *Hereby reaffirms its prior adoption of the attached PSBA Standards for Effective School Governance and PSBA Code of Conduct for Board Members, intending to abide by and be observant thereunto.*

Seconded by Ms. Driban.

Mr. Shafter asked if there is a place to add “the Community’s ability to pay.”

Mr. Miller responded yes.

Mr. Shafter made a motion to add to the resolution on Page 1, Part D, under “effective planning occurs by”, to read “*Adopting a financial plan that considers short-term and long-term needs and the Community’s ability to pay*”.

Mr. Miller stated we need to advise PSBA of the amendment we made.

A vote was taken for the amendment.

Motion passed 9-0.

A vote was taken on the resolution as amended.

Motion passed 9-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Pollock asked if anyone would like to have any items pulled from consent agenda 1 through 13. The following items were pulled: 8 and 9.

Mrs. Huf read the consent agenda:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CENTENNIAL SCHOOL BOARD:

1. *Approves the attached Facilities Use Waiver for the Kid Shape Program.*
2. *Accepts the 2010-11 Local Audit Report as submitted by Barbacane, Thornton & Company, LLP, for the year ended June 30, 2011.*
3. *Authorizes payment in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 to the Levin Legal Group for turn-key compliance assistance and training on HIPAA and HITECH.*
4. *Ratifies the replacement of the Select Core Opportunities Fund with the Select Blue Chip Growth Fund in the District's 403b Plan, as recommended by our independent advisor, Henderson Brothers.*
5. *Authorizes payment to the Peace Center in the amount of \$1,000 for the District's share of Bucks County's anti-bullying initiative.*
6. *Approves a contingency contract with SpyGlass Group, Inc., to audit the District's telecommunications services contracts.*
7. *Approves the attached two-year rental agreement from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2014, between Centennial School District and Tot Time Child Development Centers.*
10. *Appoints Christopher M. Berdnik and Linda R. Fanelli as primary and secondary alternate delegates, respectively, to the Bucks County Tax Collection Committee, per the attached.*
11. *Approves the 2012-13 Programs and Services and Instructional Materials and Research Services Budget for the Bucks County Schools Intermediate Unit #22, as attached.*
12. *Rejects the Auxiliary Drain Pan Bid No. 2012-18 as indicated on the attached schedule.*
13. *Approves the 2012-13 school year payment of approximately \$49,055.08 to ECA Education Services per the attached agreement with Centennial School District for science kit management and refurbishment services. This price reflects a five percent (5%) early decision discount.*

Seconded by Ms. Driban.

Ms. Driban asked, regarding Item 10, why Mr. Berdnik and Mrs. Fanelli were on as delegates. She thought a Board member needed to be a delegate. She further inquired if they were alternates.

Mr. Berdnik stated this is for alternates.

Motion passed 9-0.

Mr. Hartline read the following:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CENTENNIAL SCHOOL BOARD:

8. *Approves the Furniture Bid No. 2012-14 and awards same to the vendors as indicated on the schedule attached with the estimated cost so noted.*

Seconded by Ms. Driban.

Mr. Shafter stated he has a concern about the durability of the furniture that is being purchased. He believed a more durable, hard surface material would be more appropriate than vinyl padded seating.

Dr. Cressman asked Dr. Stevenson to please speak about why they chose the furniture they did for the high school.

Dr. Stevenson explained that when you enter the lower and upper lobbies, there is a lot of granite, hard walls, and pillars. They felt in those seating areas, having upholstered furniture would soften the atmosphere, rather than wooden benches.

Mrs. Schrader Lynch inquired what the durability is of this furniture.

Dr. Stevenson responded it is a highly durable vinyl. She has communicated with Mr. Berdnik regarding comparative fabrics that would be of that high grade. It is a high quality furniture cover much like the quality in a Borders or Barnes and Noble bookstores.

Mr. Berdnik stated that the vinyl selected is abrasion resistance, called double rubs, which is how many times you can sit on it before it starts to wear out. It is a hundred thousand double rubs, which is equivalent to what would go into a hospital setting.

Mr. Shafter stated his concern is not how many times the furniture is sat on; his concern is sticking something into it.

Dr. Pollock agrees with Mr. Shafter by saying the more durable you can make something in a school, the longer it will last. Fabric has a tendency of not lasting as long as other items.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

<i>Mr. Hartline</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Kleinschmidt</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Huf</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Schrader Lynch</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Miller</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Shafter</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Dr. Pollock</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Adams</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Ms. Driban</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Motion passed 9-0.

Mr. Hartline read the following:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CENTENNIAL SCHOOL BOARD:

- 9. Adopts the Real Estate Tax Universal Installment Payment Plan Resolution, as attached, providing for installment payment option of real estate taxes for all taxpayers pursuant to the Taxpayer Relief Act, effective July 1, 2012.*

Seconded by Mrs. Huf.

Mrs. Schrader Lynch asked, under the bill that was effective August 29, 2011, it states “permits taxpayers’ homesteads to be eligible to pay school/real estate taxes in installments”, can all taxpayers, every resident, pay in installments?

Mr. Berdnik responded yes.

Mr. Miller asked if there is a plan on how this would be advertised to the community to make them aware of the option.

Mrs. Schrader Lynch stated it would be printed on their tax bills.

Motion passed 9-0.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mrs. Huf and seconded by Mr. Hartline to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the following Personnel items: Resignations, Retirements, Leaves of Absence; Substitute Support Staff; Homebound Tutors; and Co-Curricular.

Motion passed 9-0.

FINANCIAL

Financial Statement Highlights as of January 31, 2012, were accepted.

Ms. Driban requested Administration to please write this as a resolution.

OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mr. Shafter stated at the Finance meeting they had a discussion regarding how to close the gap between revenues and appropriations. He feels this should be addressed by the full Board as soon as possible, because if personnel cuts are made, it is important they be made known sooner rather than later.

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None.

REPORTS

Mr. Miller reported a PSBA Leadership Proposal Conference was recently held. They had several presentations. Some of which he would like to bring back to the Board to share. One of interest was given by Dr. Robert Viereck, who told Mr. Miller how impressed he was when he first started as a principal, the year that McDonald Elementary opened; he took a tour of the building because of its novel design. Mr. Viereck shared his fifteen-minute presentation with Mr. Miller, and Mr. Miller would like to have an opportunity to share that presentation with the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Huf and seconded by Mrs. Schrader Lynch to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen L. Miller
Board Secretary

**Centennial School District
Presentation to Board of School Directors
Dr. Barbara Stevenson, Acting High School Principal
February 28, 2012**

“The State of the High School”

William Tennent High School is a wonderful place! The students are capable, friendly and respectful. The staff and the administrators have been supportive and helpful. There are many good things going on in the school that focus on supporting the students who attend.

Since my first day, I have observed high level teacher conversations about helping students to be successful, hard working support staff members and students who, for the most part, are excited about learning. I have experienced a strong and supportive administrative team with members who plan well, offer options and work together to insure that systems go into place as the team has agreed they would.

I have become active in many activities. At this point in time, I am working

- * to refine the systems that make the high school work
- * to clarify responsibilities within the building
- * to foster accountability
- * to encourage clear and consistent communication among all partners
- * to schedule and hold team meetings at which planning together and setting high and consistent expectations is a regular part of the agenda
- * to initiate “stand ups” which are a form of short administrative team meeting in a highly visible location to assess the status of the day and set goals for the next
- * to meet with student groups and individual groups to assess the “pulse” of the school
- * to attend student performance and social events
- * to examine and refine discipline practices
- * to expand good publicity about the school and its students
- * to track absences and grades and develop action plans to deal with the findings
- * to assess schedules and calendars to determine any areas of improvement that might be needed
- * to work with the Special Education team to strengthen the supports for students
- * to examine the gifted program and develop recommendations to strengthen it
- * to be actively involved in the building project
- * to read all instructional observations and analyze them to determine the instructional trends in the school
- * to meet with the CEA leadership in the building to encourage strong communication, mutual respect and planning together
- * to work with the athletic department to strengthen our programs

I am proud of the many awards our students have achieved! Many of these have been noted in athletics, music, art and with the debate team. I am very proud of our two merit finalists, Kathleen Hanley and Samuel Vilknyansky. I come to you with news of a Cafeteria Initiative that grew out of a conversation that I had with two of our students. In addition, I understand that one of our students had come before you asking for some changes to our cafeteria. Together, in a partnership with district administrators, food service administrators and students, we have come up with a plan to work together to determine what changes we can make. I can't find the words to describe the pride that I felt when I heard the students quoting research from Harvard and the New York Times and the receptivity and respect that was shown to them by the administrative representatives.

I come to you, as well, with two requests. One is your consideration of a request that senior representatives and I discussed. This centers on the hope that graduation can be held outside, with an alternative plan being developed for the potential of inclement weather. It is our hope to hold the event in the stadium. We would like to start our planning for graduation at this point and would like to have your endorsement so that we can move ahead.

The second request, I make on behalf of one of our students. Matt Kelly, one of our students, has formed a foundation. Matt has doctored at Children's Hospital for most of his life. He has developed a love for the staff and the children who he has met and worked with there. Matt has started a foundation that has as its goal to provide gifts for these children year round, not just during the holiday season. Matt has begun to work with some very influential people who are supporting his foundation. Matt would like to establish a partnership with our school district in doing this work for children who are experiencing difficult treatments and long stays away from their homes. If you will agree to forming this partnership with "The New Hope Charity," where kids will work for kids, I will work with Matt and our Business Office to put the right systems into place. This, to me, is an example of the kinds of things we hope our students will do as they leave us to make the world a better place. I am touched by Matt's commitment to working for others and excited to work with him to make his dream a reality. I ask for your endorsement of this partnership.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to work with the staff and students in the William Tennent High School. It is truly a privilege to represent you.

New Hope Foundation
Mission and Client Base
2012

The New Hope Foundation was founded by Matt Kelly as a year-round toy drive for the benefit of children in need, in particular those at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP). This foundation supplements the works of other similar charities like the Marine Corps' Toys for Tots by working directly with the Child Life Office of CHOP and local shelter directors to satisfy the following additional needs:

- a. To provide toys all year long, not just Christmas, including for birthdays and during hospitalization in the summer.
- b. To target groups of kids who might be under-served by more general toy drives.
- c. To coach donors on the types of toys that are more appropriate in hospital situations such as those which can be cleaned or otherwise not retain germs as well as coaching on the processing of "test running" toys to ensure immediate usability for those children with disabilities that disallow assembly, even putting in batteries

This foundation also has as an expressed goal to provide opportunities for families who have suffered the loss of a child to illness or other circumstances to channel their grief in support of other children and families who need help as well as receiving emotional and moral support.

Matt Kelly has been a lifelong patient of CHOP since he was born with a rare blood disorder. He started this endeavor on two years ago. For the 2011 Christmas season, he collected over 300 toys and more than [\$500] in donations (directed to CHOP) in association with his family, friends and school community. In establishing the New Hope Foundation, his goal is to expand to a complete year-round toy drive. He has recruited members of three Bucks County families with extensive personal experience with CHOP. He envisions that this Foundation will serve not only the children at CHOP but the families as well who have received care and wish to reciprocate in a manner that brings direct happiness to the patients themselves.

For More Information

(267) 209-0392

Email newhope@newhopecharity.org

or check out our website at www.newhopecharity.org

How are YOU spending your Spring/Summer?

Vacationing

Swimming

Playing Sports

Relaxing in the Summer Sun



Unfortunately, the average child in-patient's
Summer looks a Lot Different:

- Treatment ● Surgery ● Recovery ●

Please help improve the quality of a patient's summer by donating a toy to *The New Hope Charity* whose mission is to collect toys, electronics and monetary support and distribute them to local hospitals and shelters including The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia!

Help to bring new hope to children in need this spring/
summer by donating to the New Hope Charity.

Drop a toy in the bin; support a child in the
hospital this spring /summer!

The New Hope Charity

Spring into Summer Toy Campaign

Spring - Summer 2012

For More Information, visit New Hope at our webpage: