

CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Warminster, Pennsylvania

MINUTES OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
HELD JUNE 18, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

A Special Meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on June 18, 2012, in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Pollock at 8:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following Board members were in attendance:

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

The following Administration members were in attendance at the meeting:

Dr. Jennifer Cressman	Dr. Susan Klyman
Christopher Berdnik	William Gretton
Wayne Robinson	

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 personnel matters.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Hartline read the following:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CENTENNIAL SCHOOL BOARD:

A. *Approves the proposed adjustments, as attached, for the elementary schools' start and end times beginning September 2012.*

Seconded by Mr. Miller.

Mr. Miller gave a presentation to update the Board on the actions of the Ad Hoc Bell Time & Transportation Committee.

Dr. Pollock asked Mr. Berdnik when would the buses arrive if the Board ordered Administration to buy buses tomorrow.

Mr. Berdnik responded on average six months, unless they purchased what they do not usually purchase. Mr. Berdnik said he is unable to give an estimate.

Ms. Driban stated it was asked in committee if it is correct that these buses would only be used for elementary students and drivers would have to be found who are willing to only work those select hours each day.

Mr. Robinson responded that is correct.

Mrs. Schrader Lynch stated she was furious when she read that this committee cannot reach a viable solution. You can only reach a solution when you have options that work. An option of children on the bus for forty-five to sixty minutes is not acceptable. One solution that was presented had two hundred fifty students on overcrowded buses. Mrs. Schrader Lynch stated Option 7 might be plausible. The cost is \$902,000 for buses and another \$512,000 for operational costs each year. The Board was given the option to do nothing.

Mrs. Huf stated the Board formed a committee for alternative solutions, and it could not be done. She believes that the Ad Hoc Bell Time & Transportation Committee worked hard but was stonewalled by Administration. Mrs. Huf is disappointed that a Board of nine plus the Superintendent could not find a solution.

Mr. Adams stated he looked at the parameters and asked if he thought this could be obtained. Would it be budget affordable? There are issues with McDonald Elementary School that after a year we would gain back a half a bus. We have an issue with the software, and we have an issue with the budget. Mr. Adams came to the conclusion that this is obtainable and not at a high cost. Mr. Adams does not support moving forward with this.

Mr. Miller stated he does not understand why Dr. Cressman said buy the help, and Transportation did not take advantage of that.

Dr. Cressman responded by asking Mr. Miller if the consultant was brought into the mix and did meet with Mr. Miller and other members.

Mr. Miller responded by saying it was not what they requested. The consultant came in believing she was going to leave with the data files, go back to her job site, and attempt to come up with a solution. The committee wanted the consultant to be here for the day and show the Transportation Department how to do it.

Mr. Hartline asked if this is voted down, what we would do next. We have had four weeks, really three years, to think about this.

Dr. Cressman stated it is important to understand this is not a new problem, and it has been worked on for three years. She understands it is frustrating. Something has to shift before a solution can be found. The logical shift is to put more money toward this and purchase additional buses. Administration has been laboring under a previous Board's direction that they were to find a revenue neutral solution. If the Board comes back and says Administration has additional funding to seek a solution, then Administration can move on that and act quickly.

Mrs. Schrader Lynch stated she understands what Dr. Pollock is saying. She related that at one of the meetings, Mr. Gretton stated that this was the first time that he has seen a transportation manager gather information so quickly. In his many years, he has always found that the transportation manager spent the summer gathering information. She then commented that if this is defeated, it gives Administration the summer to bring about a solution.

Mr. Adams stated we have variables that he discussed that need to be reviewed before any more money is spent. Maybe a new roof does not get put on Klinger or Log College Middle Schools for another year. There are other places we can go without spending another dollar.

Mr. Miller stated he does not remember the Board ever saying the buses needed to be revenue neutral. They knew there would be a cost. Tonight, we need to tell Administration what the bell times will be. Mr. Miller will not vote for 9:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Ms. Driban stated she wants the public to be aware that the line between what is a capital expense and what is an operating expense needs to be clear. Putting a new roof on a building could be used to buy a bus, but it cannot pay to put a driver on that bus, which is an operating expense. You cannot use capital expense money to pay a driver or put gas in the bus. The lines cannot be crossed.

Mrs. Schrader Lynch stated there are things you can do if you wanted. We just saved \$540,000 in teacher contracts, which is a savings that could be used for bus drivers. We do not have to segregate funds.

Mr. Hartline stated it was discussed that when the District was at a point when all buses were switched over to 77-passenger, the bell schedule was moveable. Mr. Hartline asked how many years out was that.

Mr. Robinson responded a maximum of eight years, possibly five depending, on what adjustments could be made with routing.

Mr. Hartline asked if the purchase of vehicles was expedited, the District retained existing vehicles in the fleet, understanding the calculation of having to hire additional drivers, was there a way to phase out in a much shorter period of time the start times.

Mr. Robinson responded five years, assuming four buses per year as we normally do.

Dr. Pollock stated he does not like the 9:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. bell schedule. He has not seen anything else that would allow the Board to do something different without spending a lot of money. Dr. Pollock is willing to buy buses ahead but not willing to spend and tax the taxpayers another mill for this when he views it as not necessary. He is not willing to spend almost \$500,000 over the next four years when we are going to be broke in five or six years if the District keeps going as it is. Dr. Pollock will not support raising the budget more than it currently is.

Mr. Miller stated the replacement schedule they received from the Transportation Department runs until 2023. There was nothing in that schedule that reflects buying anything other than replacing buses with like buses. There were no 77-passenger buses on that schedule.

Mr. Shafter stated when you buy buses up front, you only have to buy that many more down the road. We are pushing the problem down the road when things are going to be worse. The extra cost for the drivers is going to add at least 1.1% to the taxes. Mr. Shafter is not prepared to go any further than 1.7% with taxes. If the buses were bought, there is no guarantee the District could find people who have a CDL license with a bus endorsement that are willing to work only two hours a day. There are bus driver shortages everywhere. Mr. Shafter said if we put off roofs to buy buses what will the District do in a year when the roofs are leaking costing the District more money to repair. Where is that money going to come from? This is not a good allocation of resources. Mr. Shafter stated there are three alternatives. No other choice exists.

Mrs. Schrader Lynch stated she appreciates Dr. Pollock talking about the residents and the senior citizens that are having a hard time. Mrs. Schrader Lynch suggested Administration go over this during the summer and come up with alternatives.

Mr. Adams stated Centennial still has the lowest taxes, which we should be proud of. Past Board members made these decisions. We have a responsibility to continue to react to that properly.

Mr. Miller stated we need to give Administration a start and end time today. Mr. Miller would like to amend the motion that is on the agenda now to a start time of 8:45 a.m. and an end time of 3:30 p.m. at all three elementary schools. Mr. Miller stated we need to give Administration something to work with.

Dr. Pollock stated he would entertain that if there was a second.

Mr. Miller made a motion to amend the resolution to a start time of 8:45 a.m. and an end time of 3:30 p.m. at all three schools.

Dr. Cressman requested a short recess to consult with Mr. Robinson.

Dr. Pollock granted a short recess.

At 9:23 p.m., the Board took a short recess.

The Board meeting resumed at 9:51 p.m.

Mr. Miller asked if an additional mechanic was needed for an additional 9 buses when there is currently a mechanic for 17 buses.

Dr. Cressman responded that since the District will be retaining older buses in the fleet she does not want to endanger the safety of the students.

Mr. Berdnik explained the economic scenario that was handed out to the Board (attached). The effect on the average taxpayer would be \$14.78.

Mrs. Huf stated that the Board needs to give direction, and Administration needs to get an answer for the Board.

Mr. Miller added to his motion to set the start and end times for the three elementary schools as 8:45 a.m. to start and 3:30 p.m. to close. In addition, in order to meet the transportation requirement, establish an additional tax of \$0.56 mill, or a \$14.78 average per taxpayer, in the 2012-13 school year.

Seconded by Mr. Shafter.

Mrs. Schrader Lynch stated they sat there, went to meetings, the Board comes to an impasse, and then they get a solution, all in a half hour. This could have been done in the Ad Hoc Bell Time & Transportation Committee.

Dr. Pollock responded by saying the solution is over \$650,000 more in expenses, another half mill in taxes to the taxpayer. That is not a revenue neutral solution, which is what the Board had originally asked for.

Mr. Shafter said we are not at an impasse. A vote has not been taken yet. This is a good compromise.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

The following commented on the bell change schedule.

Tracy Costello, Weber Road, Warminster.

Michelle McAllister, Surrey Road, Warminster.

Michelle Maloney, Clearfield Circle, Warminster.

Jeanette Wisher, Hopwood Drive, Warminster.

Ellen Hoeferman, Meadow Glen Road, Warminster.

Emily Cohen, Andrew Drive, Warminster.

Peggy Ann Commarota, Buchanan Way, Warminster.

Mr. Adams asked Mr. Robinson if this new option would include double runs and long bus rides.

Mr. Robinson responded it will not include double runs but will include ride times of forty to sixty minutes.

Mrs. Schrader Lynch commented Scenario 7 was presented and explored at the Ad Hoc Bell Time & Transportation Committee. All of the figures that the committee received changed tonight. On June 13, the committee was told there would be a forty-five minute maximum ride time. Tonight, the Board was told there would be forty-five to sixty minute ride times. Mrs. Schrader Lynch asked how that changed.

Mr. Robinson responded he believes Mrs. Schrader Lynch was referring to Scenario 5. The difference is the number of buses that will be used. Originally, the scenario was an additional sixteen vehicles to the fleet. Administration has now presented nine additional vehicles.

Mr. Shafter asked if Scenario 5 included students being on the bus for more than forty-five minutes.

Mr. Robinson responded no.

Mr. Shafter commented with this option there would be seven runs doubled up.

Mr. Robinson explained this option entails, without adjusting the bell times at the middle schools and high school, students would be dropped off earlier in the morning in order to get the elementary students to school by 8:45 a.m. When transportation was looking at an 8:50 a.m.-3:35 p.m. schedule in May,

given the arrival time of the elementary students, the students requiring breakfast may have had to have a brown bag breakfast, which they would take to the classroom.

Mr. Shafter asked how many runs after school would be double runs.

Mr. Robinson responded there would be no double runs but potentially longer ride times.

Ms. Driban asked Administration if the Board were to go back to thirty minutes and cut it in half this year, could they accommodate a staggered schedule, and next year if we accelerate the buses, add the fifteen minutes back in. Would this even be an option?

Mrs. Schrader Lynch stated she believes this is what the Superintendent wanted to do. We are still at the forty-five to sixty minute ride time.

Mr. Adams asked if we went with Ms. Driban's suggestion are we still looking at the long ride time.

Mr. Robinson responded he could not answer that at the moment.

Mr. Miller commented he believed one of the concepts of giving extended time was for the benefit of students. He does not feel we can go back and change that. The length of the school day is not what is affecting the long bus rides.

Mrs. Schrader Lynch commented about how the Board would be able to vote on anything when it did not know the ride times.

Mr. Miller stated he is asking for the amendment to state the ride times cannot exceed forty minutes.

Mr. Miller read the amendment: *All elementary schools to start at 8:45 a.m. and end at 3:30 p.m. In addition, in order to meet the transportation requirement, establish an additional tax of \$.56 mill or \$14.78 average per taxpayer in the 2012-13 school year.*

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

<i>Mr. Hartline</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mr. Adams</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mrs. Huf</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mrs. Schrader Lynch</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mr. Miller</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Shafter</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Dr. Pollock</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mr. Kleinschmidt</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Ms. Driban</i>	<i>No</i>

Motion failed 3-6.

Dr. Pollock announced we are back to the original motion.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

<i>Mr. Adams</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mrs. Huf</i>	<i>No</i>

<i>Mrs. Schrader Lynch</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mr. Miller</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mr. Shafter</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Dr. Pollock</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Kleinschmidt</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Ms. Driban</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Hartline</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Motion failed 4-5.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Hartline read the following:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CENTENNIAL SCHOOL BOARD:

A. Approves final adoption of the 2012-13 General Fund Budget and associated tax levies per the attachment.

Seconded by Ms. Driban.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

<i>Mrs. Huf</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mrs. Schrader Lynch</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mr. Miller</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Shafter</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Dr. Pollock</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Adams</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Kleinschmidt</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Ms. Driban</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Hartline</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mr. Adams</i>	<i>No</i>

Motion failed 4-5.

Dr. Pollock announced we do not have a budget. The tax bills will not go out on time.

Before her vote, Mrs. Schrader Lynch asked where the \$540,000 is that was saved from the teachers' contract in this budget.

Mr. Berdnik responded the \$540,000 was a total over four years.

Mr. Shafter stated he voted no on this budget because the Board did not address start and stop times for September. Until the Board can do that, Mr. Shafter does not see how there can be a viable budget.

Mr. Miller stated he agrees with Mr. Shafter. He would like to modify his original resolution as follows: *Start and end time of 8:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., additional \$0.56 mill to the budget and the requirement Administration fulfill the transportation on forty minutes or less for all students.*

Seconded by Mr. Shafter.

Mrs. Schrader Lynch stated if this motion is defeated there will be another motion and then another. Send it back to Administration and tell them to come up with something better. This is a lot of money, we do not have guarantees. Mr. Robinson cannot answer, he does not know. How can anyone sensibly agree with this?

Mr. Shafter responded stating someone can agree with this because we are saying no more than forty minutes per run. If Mr. Robinson determines we need to buy seven buses instead of four buses in order to accomplish that, then something gets cut from somewhere else, or it means the fund balance has to be adjusted to accomplish that. Administration will follow the Board's direction.

Mr. Adams stated we could pass this amendment. It could be budget neutral.

Mr. Miller read the amendment again: *Start and end time of 8:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., additional \$0.56 mill to the budget, and the requirement Administration fulfill the transportation on forty minutes or less for all students.*

Mrs. Schrader Lynch stated she sees nothing in writing, nothing guaranteeing her anything. She wants buses for Willow Dale Elementary School, but until she sees it in writing, she is not supporting this idea.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

<i>Mrs. Schrader Lynch</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mr. Miller</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Shafter</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Dr. Pollock</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Kleinschmidt</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Ms. Driban</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mr. Hartline</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mr. Adams</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Huf</i>	<i>No</i>

Motion passed 5-4.

Prior to his vote, Mr. Shafter stated to Mrs. Schrader Lynch that Administration does have to do this because the Board directed them to do it.

Mr. Hartline asked Dr. Pollock if he would like to revisit the budget now.

Dr. Pollock responded yes. It will be a \$2.49 mills increase.

Mr. Shafter made the motion for tax of \$116.07 mills, which is an increase of 2.49%.

Seconded by Mr. Adams.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

<i>Mr. Miller</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Shafter</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Dr. Pollock</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Kleinschmidt</i>	<i>Yes</i>

<i>Ms. Driban</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mr. Hartline</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mr. Adams</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Huf</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mrs. Schrader Lynch</i>	<i>No</i>

Motion passed 5-4.

Mrs. Huf read the following:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CENTENNIAL SCHOOL BOARD:

B. Approves the Assurances for the Operation of Special Education Services and Programs School Years: 2012-15 as per attached.

Seconded by Mr. Hartline.

Mr. Miller asked if this was passed previously or if this is for six years.

Dr. Cressman responded by saying this is the first time it has come before the Board.

Motion passed 8-0-1. (Mr. Miller abstained because the Director of Special Education was unable to provide satisfactory answers to his questions.)

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Schrader Lynch and seconded by Mrs. Huf to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting was adjourned at 10:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen L. Miller
Board Secretary

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY. THANK YOU.

Name	Address	Organization
B. Joffe		Top Collector
M. Maloney		Parent
TRACY COSTELLO		PARENT
Paul Bakuskis	481 Acorn Drive Warrington	Parent
Jennette Wisner	520 Hopwood Dr Warrington	PARENT
Michelle M. Allister	232 Surrey Rd	Parent
Sheri Greco	1147 Weber Rd	parent
Nicole Williams	1144 Dorrah Rd.	wid Parent
Robert A. Shaffer	1150 Mill Creek Rd, Southampton	Community Member
Lauren Jordan		Community Member
Laura Poust	1143 Dixon Road 18974	wid Parent
Peggy Anne Cammerata	91 Buchanan Way	Parent
Ann McAnulty	1353 Glazar Rd	Parent
Ellen Hoekman	1814 Meadow Glen Rd	parent
Emily Cohen	580 Andrew Dr, Southampton	parent
Dawn Van Arman	1404 Maguire Ln	parent
Joe Green	901 Rozentor Road	

Centennial School District **6/18/2012**
Bus Scenario - 4 new busses, 8:45 AM target

New Revenue (1)		New Operating Costs	
0.56 mil of taxes for ongoing costs	\$ 302,767	1 Mechanic	\$ 86,775
		9 Part time drivers	188,918
		Parts/fuel/insurance/etc.	54,991
Projected increase Soc Sec reimbursement	8,384	Amortization of one-time expenses (12 years, 0% interest)	27,083
Projected increase Retirement reimbursement	13,546		
Project increase Transportation subsidy (starts in 13/14)	-		
Subtotal	<u>324,697</u>	Subtotal	<u>357,765</u>
 One Time Funds (2)		 One Time Costs	
For 9 busses (buy 4, retain 5)	300,000	For 9 busses (buy 4, retain 5)	300,000
Allowance for site improvements	25,000	Allowance for site improvements	25,000
Transportation subsidy not received in 12/13	33,088		
Less 2012-13 amortization of one-time expense	(27,083)	Less 2012-13 amortization of one-time expense	(27,083)
Subtotal	<u>330,985</u>	Subtotal	<u>297,917</u>
Total impact on 2012-13 budget	<u>\$ 655,682</u>	Total impact on 2012-13 budget	<u>\$ 655,682</u>

Notes:

- (1) The impact to the average Centennial taxpayer: \$ 14.78
- (2) Fund balance to be replenished with offsetting reduction in bus purchases 2013-14.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CENTENNIAL SCHOOL BOARD

ADOPTS THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012-2013 (7/1/12-6/30/13) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$98,421,412 AS PRESENTED, AND HEREBY AUTHORIZES THE EXPENDITURES AS SET FORTH THEREIN DURING THE YEAR 2012-13, AND LEVYING A TAX OF 116.07 MILLS PER \$1,000 OF ASSESSED REAL ESTATE VALUATION:

General Fund Revenues	Amount	% Total
6000 Local Revenue	\$ 71,249,240	72.39%
7000 State Subsidies	23,818,489	24.20%
8000 Federal Programs	1,152,288	1.17%
9000 Other Financing Sources	1,370,430	1.39%
From Fund Balance	830,985	0.84%
10 Total	\$ 98,421,412	100.00%

General Fund Expenditures	Amount	% Total
1100 Regular Programs	\$ 40,973,579	41.63%
1200 Special Programs - Elem/Sec	15,367,174	15.61%
1300 Vocational Education Programs	1,470,658	1.49%
1400 Other Instruction Prog-ele/sec	48,206	0.05%
2100 Support Svcs-Pupil Personnel	4,448,137	4.52%
2200 Support Services-Instruc Staff	2,098,511	2.13%
2300 Support Services-Administration	5,108,537	5.19%
2400 Support Services-Pupil Health	908,412	0.92%
2500 Business Office	978,112	0.99%
2600 Operation & Maint Plant Svcs	7,320,535	7.44%
2700 Student Transportation Service	4,583,020	4.66%
2800 Support Services - Central	2,008,562	2.04%
2900 Other Support Services	37,500	0.04%
3200 Student Activities	1,299,516	1.32%
3300 Community Services	46,153	0.05%
5100 Debt Service	9,280,496	9.43%
5200 Fund Transfers	1,948,304	1.98%
5900 Budgetary Reserve	500,000	0.51%
10 Total	\$ 98,421,412	100.00%

The 2012-13 Budget increases Real Estate Millage by 2.49 Mills for a total 2012-2013 rate of 116.07 Mills.

Further directs that Real Estate Tax Bills be dated and mailed July, 1, 2012, and approves that the real estate tax for the 2012-13 Fiscal Year be payable with a 2% discount on or before August 31, 2012, and shall bear a penalty of 10% if paid on or after October 31, 2012.

Installment payment of Real Estate Taxes shall be as set forth in Board Resolution of February 8, 2012.

The 2012 real estate tax notice issued to the owner of each approved homestead within the School District shall reflect a homestead exclusion real estate assessed value reduction equal to the lesser of (a) the County-established assessed value of the homestead; or (b) the maximum real estate assessed value reduction of \$1,452. The tax notice issued to the owner of each approved farmstead within the School

Centennial School District

433 Centennial Road
Warminster, PA 18974-5455



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ABSTENTION FORM

This form is to be filed with the Board Secretary following any vote of “abstain” at any duly advertised Centennial School Board meeting.

Meeting Date: June 18, 2012

Agenda Item: New Business Item B

Board Member: Mr. Miller

Reason: Mr. Miller stated he abstained because the Director of Special Education was unable to provide satisfactory answers to his questions.

This form must be attached to the minutes of each meeting where an abstention vote is recorded.