

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD MARCH 9, 1999

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on March 9, 1999, in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Grossi at 7:42 p.m. The following people registered their attendance:

Board Members:

Joseph Faust
Eugene Grossi
Betty Huf
Joan Jankowsky
Rose Marie Kautz
John Priadka *
Robert Rosenberger
Kristina Wiercinski

Staff:

Elliott Alexander
Barbara Fash
Sandy Homel
Victor Lasher
Dr. Michael Masko
Dr. Nancy Reid
John Rhodes
Jean Rollo
Timothy Vail

CEA/Teachers:

Janice Spirk
Bucky Clark
Elizabeth Campbell
Janet Holmes
Paul Hvizda
Tom Mokes
Woody Martin

Public:

Mrs. K. Nice
Spencer Davis
Elliott Seif
John Kilker
Katie Martin
Harve Strouse

*Mr. Priadka arrived at the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Grossi led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Grossi welcomed Mr. Rosenberger back after his illness and announced that Mr. Reh would be absent from this meeting but was recuperating. Also, Dr. Sexton was absent due to illness.

Mr. Grossi announced that the Board had met in Executive Session prior to this meeting regarding a labor issue relative to the tentative contract agreement and a personnel issue.

REPORTS

STUDENT COUNCIL

Ari Gottlieb reported as follows: plans were being made for the upcoming Black & White Night; the 9th, 10th, and 11th grades had recently sponsored a ski trip; the Senior Class officers were working on a “Mr. Tennent” competition to be held in April; plans were being made for Rage for AIDS on May 15th; the AFG recently held a student informational session; the National Honor Society was holding a school clean up and also proceeding with a blanket drive; the Academic Team sponsored a Brainy Bunch competition, which was won by Klinger; mock trial competitions were held recently; and the sports teams were doing well.

MBIT STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Kevin Brown reported that the VICA skills competition had been held recently and twenty-four MBIT students received awards at the district level. Ten of these students were from Tennent. At the DECA competitions there were eight winners at the district level and four at the state level. MBIT is involved in new partnership programs with Bell Atlantic PA and with Bucks County Community College. The student built house is nearing completion and will be advertised for bids during March and April. The new restaurant, *Aspirations*, has been open since January.

GOOD NEWS/PRESENTATIONS

Mrs. Homel presented the Good News Report (see attached).

Mr. Grossi announced at this point that there would be a change in the order of the Agenda.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None.

OPERATIONS AND POLICY

Final Approval:

2.17 – Retirement Incentive Program

A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the adoption of Policy 2.17, Retirement Incentive Program.

The motion passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

5. Tentative Collective Bargaining Agreement

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Ms. Kautz to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the ratification of the tentative agreement between the Centennial School District and the Centennial Education Association to extend the Collective Bargaining Agreement until June 30, 2003, per the Memorandum of Understanding between Centennial School District and the Centennial Education Association dated March 4, 1999, which states that this approval is contingent on the successful implementation of the District’s Retirement Incentive Program as outlined in Policy 2.17 and per the Memorandum of Understanding between Centennial School District and the Centennial Education Foundation dated March 9, 1999. Both memorandums are attached hereto.

Mrs. Huf advised that she would be supporting this motion and that she felt it was a good contract. She also stated that she felt the early retirement incentive was a plus and that this has enabled us to avoid a tax increase.

Mrs. Jankowsky expressed her appreciation to the CEA negotiating team for the professional manner in which the negotiations were conducted. She thanked Dr. Reid, Dr. Sexton and Mr. Vail for their work on this and also thanked Mr. Faust and Mr. Grossi for their patience and hard work.

Mr. Faust stated that he thought the rapport with the CEA team had been good and very professional. He thanked the administrative team and also Mrs. Jankowsky since she was the “language person/secretary” who reviewed the wording. He also stated that Mr. Grossi was an excellent delegator.

Mr. Grossi felt that the contract was a “win” for everyone concerned.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Mrs. Jankowsky	Yes
Mr. Rosenberger	Yes
Ms. Kautz	Yes
Mr. Faust	Yes
Mrs. Huf	Yes
Ms. Wiercinski	Yes
Mr. Grossi	Yes

The motion passed 7-0.

3. Middle School Performance Targets

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Ms. Kautz to resolve that the Centennial School Board grants approval for the *Middle School Performance Targets* with the end of three-year period goals established and individual/annual year goals established as follows:

PSSA Scores Annual increases of 25 points in reading and 45 points in mathematics over the next three years (1999-2000, 2000-2001, 2001-2002) that result in scores at the top of the range (using 1998 data) of similar schools by 2002:

Reading	1425
Mathematics	1460

Quartile Distribution Each year the high middle and the top quartiles will increase by 2% resulting in the quartile distribution being identical to the current similar schools distribution.

IOWA Each year the standard score will increase by five points.

Mrs. Homel introduced three representatives from Davidoff Associates, who worked with us in developing these targets. She then reviewed and explained the backup information that had been provided to the Board. Mr. Spencer Davis from Davidoff Associates addressed several questions and explained differences between the types of tests. Pros and cons were discussed between testing each year and testing only some years.

Dr. Steve Davidoff spoke about various types of tests and how frequently they should be administered. He also spoke about state mandated tests.

Mrs. Jankowsky asked which staff members had been involved in this process. Mrs. Homel advised that teachers from each of the middle schools were involved, as well as curriculum personnel.

Mr. Grossi felt that the middle school scores should not be averaged together, but reported separately.

Ms. Wiercinski stated her feeling that a big change would be seen in the year 2000 when all schools will be required to include their special education students in the testing.

Mr. Faust stated that he continually hears concerns about why Centennial is not doing as well as neighboring districts. He was also concerned about combining the schools' scores.

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that she had respect for the work that had gone into this project and indicated that she would support it as long as supporting information was provided.

She asked if it were possible, if this was approved, to find out where Centennial ranks compared to similar schools demographically, and suggested that Mr. Grossi's "select 16" be run to see how we compare. Mrs. Homel stated that it would be possible to do that.

Mr. Priadka arrived at the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that she felt the percentage of special needs children taking the tests should be included in any report to the Board. She also felt that it was important to have comparisons with results of other schools in the area since those are the ones with whom our students would be competing for jobs, colleges, etc.

Mr. Faust stated that he would not support this motion unless it referenced how we plan to improve against the "Grossi 16". Mr. Rosenberger and Mr. Priadka agreed.

Dr. Masko pointed out that it was important that we show not only improvement in rank but also that we show gains in student learning.

A short discussion ensued regarding the timing of this motion. It was decided that it could wait until the next meeting with no ill effects.

Ms. Wiercinski left the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

A motion to table was made by Mr. Rosenberger and seconded by Mrs. Huf.

The motion to table passed 7-0.

Mr. Grossi and Mr. Faust left the meeting at 9:19 p.m. Ms. Wiercinski returned to the meeting at 9:19 p.m.

REPORTS (Continued):

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Reid presented the Superintendent's Report (see attached), highlighting an update on business partnerships and the vandalism report for the second quarter of 1998/99.

Mr. Priadka left the meeting at 9:22 p.m. Mr. Grossi returned to the meeting at 9:23 p.m.

Mr. Alexander spoke about a tutoring program with the Willow Grove Naval Air Station's 94th Helicopter Squad.

Mr. Faust and Mr. Priadka returned to the meeting at 9:25 p.m. Mr. Rosenberger left the meeting at 9:27 p.m.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Jankowsky reported that the Education Committee had met on March 1st and had a terrific presentation by members of the Technology Department and staff, as well as some teachers. Mrs. Jankowsky expressed the committee's gratitude to the following people, in addition to Dr. Reid and Dr. Masko: Robert Reed, Amy Campbell, Debbie Doebler, Peggy Cadwallader, Ann Van Zelst, Barbara Blanco, Tom Quinn and Barbara Fikaris from the Technology Department; Arlene Shank and Susan Bootel from Davis; Margaret Primola, Archie Jamieson and Mel Gindin from Log College; and Wendy Collins and Ray Crismond from Tennent. There were also many of the Tennent students in attendance.

Mrs. Huf left the meeting at 9:30 p.m. Mr. Rosenberger returned to the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

WTHS Middle States Accreditation

Mrs. Jankowsky reported that there had been no steering committee meeting. Mr. Faust advised that he had attended an implementation team meeting and that they were basically getting feedback from stakeholder groups. A presentation was made to students and staff and would be shared with parents soon. He advised that there would be another team meeting later in the week.

Mrs. Huf returned to the meeting at 9:34 p.m.

Intermediate Unit

Ms. Kautz reported on the following items:

- A meeting had been held on February 16th, at which the I.U. approved the programs and services budget. The new budget emphasizes technology and staff development. There was no increase to the school districts for the 1999/2000 school year. Ms. Kautz advised that Dr. Vantine and Warren Likens would be attending our next meeting for the purpose of answering questions.
- Dr. Vantine announced his retirement, effective July 7th.
- On March 2nd the personnel committee met and came up with recommendations that they will report to the I.U. Board at its next meeting on March 16th.
- The employee's newsletter focused on Dr. Vantine's retirement and the Education Foundation. It reported that \$8,000 in grants had been awarded. Also highlighted was Seymour Joseph, the new technology director.
- The Education Foundation would be having a golf tournament on September 27th. The Foundation's By-laws committee had met and reviewed by-laws for term limits for Board members.

- Richard Coe had gone to Harrisburg regarding the \$1 million deficit on the early intervention funding. The budget should eliminate this deficit.
- The four-county energy consortium generated \$1.5 million in savings for Bucks County Schools.

Ms. Kautz also advised that she had the Link to Learn Report from the I.U. if anyone was interested in seeing it and also a list of which Centennial personnel had taken part in the I.U.'s programs during the past year.

Middle Bucks Institute of Technology

Mrs. Huf reported that a meeting had been held the previous evening, at which the VICA and DECA winners were honored and Dr. Darla Glanz, the new principal, was introduced.

Mr. Grossi advised that the new budget was presented and it was suggested that the bills process be a three-year process. He indicated that Centennial's share of the budget would be an estimated \$1,359,000 (a reduction from last year).

PSBA

Ms. Kautz advised that PSBA representatives have a newsletter coming out called *District Link* and that on May 5 the Region 11 dinner meeting would be held at Williamson's Restaurant.

FINANCE & LONG RANGE BUDGET COMMITTEE

Ms. Kautz reported that the committee had met on February 23rd and did a first pass on the budget. She indicated that there is a lot more work to be done. Meetings were scheduled for March 15th, 22nd and 25th for additional work on the budget.

Title VIII

Mr. Faust reported that Mr. Vail and the Business Office had done a wonderful job of preparing our application.

FLRA

Mr. Faust reported that he, Mr. Grossi, Dr. Reid, and Ms. Kautz had attended a reception earlier in the day where the Secretary of Commerce had awarded FLRA a grant and spoke about NAWC being awarded the Keystone Opportunity Zone.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Ms. Wiercinski advised that she had received a petition to review a bus stop and that a meeting would be scheduled for March 23rd to review this matter.

Citizens Policy

No report.

Legislative Liaison

Mr. Grossi advised that he would pass Mr. Priadka's report on to Dr. Reid for inclusion in the Friday Update.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board accepts the minutes of: Regular School Board Meeting – 1/12/99; School Board Meeting/Work Session – 1/26/99; Regular School Board Meeting – 2/9/99; and accept the minutes of: Finance & Long Range Budget Planning Committee – 1/20/99; and Education Committee Meeting – 2/1/99.

Ms. Kautz requested that the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of 2/9/99 be separated since she was absent from that meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Faust and agreed to by Mrs. Huf to change the word “accepts” to “approves” in regard to the first three items (Regular School Board Meetings and Regular School Board Meeting/Work Session).

The motion passed 8-0.

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Faust to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of 2/9/99.

The motion passed 7-0-1 (Kautz abstained).

OPERATIONS AND POLICIES

Final Approval:

3.14 – Sexual Harassment of Students

3.28 – Student Health Services

4.1 – Grants

5.3 – Standardized Testing

7.29 – Safety.

A motion was made by Ms. Wiercinski and seconded by Ms. Kautz to resolve that the Centennial School Board approve the adoption of the following policies: 3.14 – Sexual Harassment of Students; 3.28 – Student Health Services; 4.1 – Grants; 5.3 – Standardized Testing; and 7.29 – Safety.

The motion passed 8-0.

7.28 – Terroristic Threats/Acts

A motion was made by Ms. Wiercinski and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the adoption of Policy 7.28, Terroristic Threats/Acts.

Mr. Rosenberger suggested a change to Section IV. A. 1. to reflect that the threat and/or act be reported to the appropriate law enforcement officials immediately after receiving notice and prior to investigation. There was discussion on the merits of this proposed revision. Mr. Grossi recommended that this matter be tabled so that it could be reviewed and reworded. Mrs. Jankowsky pointed out that since the solicitor had previously reviewed this policy, it should be returned to him for further review if changes were made.

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Ms. Kautz to table this motion.

The motion to table passed 8-0.

Mr. Grossi advised that this would appear on the agenda for the next meeting.

FINANCIAL

A motion was made by Ms. Kautz and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board accepts the: Schedule of Bills – February 1999 (all funds); Investments – February 1999; Cafeteria Fund Budget Report – January 1999; General Fund Budget Report - January 1999; and approves the Treasurer’s Report – January 1999.

The motion passed 8-0.

Mrs. Jankowsky requested that the font be changed on one of the reports to make it easier to read. Mr. Vail stated he would see if this could be done.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Request for Expulsion

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Ms. Kautz to resolve that the Centennial School Board adopts the Adjudication pertaining to student 19-11. The School District administration is directed to take the action necessary to effectuate the Adjudication and to properly serve the Adjudication on student 19-11, parents and attorney.

Mrs. Huf, Mr. Priadka, Ms. Kautz, and Mr. Rosenberger indicated that they had read the documents pertaining to this matter and were prepared to vote.

A roll call vote was taken, as follows:

Mr. Priadka	Yes
Mr. Faust	Yes
Mrs. Huf	Yes
Ms. Wiercinski	Yes
Mrs. Jankowsky	Yes
Mr. Rosenberger	Yes
Ms. Kautz	Yes
Mr. Grossi	Yes

The motion passed 8-0.

2. Key Club Trip to Hershey, PA

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board grants final approval for the William Tennent High School Key Club trip to Hershey, PA on March 13 & 14, 1999.

The motion passed 8-0. (Ms. Kautz pointed out that in Section II of the attachment, the correct date was March 12 rather than March 13.)

3. Middle School Performance Targets

[This matter was handled earlier in the meeting.]

4. Act 50 Consulting Services

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Ms. Kautz to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves retaining Public Financial Management (PFM) at an initial fee of \$2,000 to meet with the Board of School Directors to review their customized analysis of enacting Act 50 on the Centennial School District. A total fee not to exceed \$5,000 would be charged should PFM be asked to return for a follow-up

meeting and preparation of a revised report based on Board input from the initial meeting.

The Board also hereby retains the services of the PA School Boards Association (PSBA) to provide an analysis and report their assessment of Act 50's impact on the Centennial School District. This package would include analysis, preparation of report and presentation of findings to the Board of School Directors at a cost not to exceed \$750.00.

Funds to be appropriated from the General Fund Budgetary Reserve Account.

After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and agreed to by Ms. Kautz to amend the second paragraph of the motion (regarding PSBA presentation) by adding at the end the words "plus expenses."

The motion passed 8-0.

5. Tentative Collective Bargaining Agreement

[This matter was handled earlier in the meeting.]

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Ms. Wiercinski and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves: Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absence; Appointments; Change of Status.

Mr. Faust requested that an expanded legend/code be added to these forms in the future. Mrs. Rollo agreed that this could be done.

The motion passed 8-0.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Grossi referred to the list of communications attached hereto.

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None.

BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENT

Mr. Grossi spoke about letters that had been sent to the Senators regarding impact aid. He felt that one should also be sent to the White House. Dr. Reid indicated that this could be done.

SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEETINGS/CALENDAR OF EVENTS

See Schedule attached hereto.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Ms. Wiercinski to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 8-0. The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie A. Detwiler
Board Secretary