

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

**MINUTES OF WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING
HELD MARCH 23, 1999**

CALL TO ORDER

A Work Session/Regular Meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on March 23, 1999, in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Grossi at 7:35 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
Frank Gallagher
Sandy Homel
Victor Lasher
Dr. Michael Masko
Dr. Nancy Reid
John Rhodes
Jean Rollo
Dr. Thomas Sexton
Timothy Vail

Public:

Juliana Rosati
Anthony Rosati
Mariel Rosati
Virginia Rosati
Andrew Midzak

Olga Midzak
Mr. Midzak
Dr. Ira Lee Riddle
John Kilker
Janet Marinoff
Harve Strouse

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Grossi announced that the Board had met in Executive Session prior to this meeting regarding a legal matter relative to a student, personnel matters and a conference matter relative to debriefing of the Board retreat.

Mr. Grossi also reported that the following appointments for School Board member liaisons had been made: Ms. Wiercinski – Davis; Mr. Grossi – Klinger; Mrs. Jankowsky – Leary; Ms. Kautz – Log College; Mrs. Huf – Longstreth; Mr. Faust – McDonald; Mr. Rosenberger – Stackpole; Mr. Priadka – Willowdale; and Mr. Reh – Tennent. (In Mr. Reh’s absence, Mr. Grossi would be substituting.)

Mr. Grossi advised that Mr. Reh had undergone surgery the previous day and was doing well.

Mrs. Huf reported that she had attended Black & White Night, which was very successful, and that everyone involved should be commended for their efforts.

Ms. Kautz reported that the LifeSmarts team from Tennent had placed third in State competition the previous day. She stated that Carolyn Fisher should be commended for the wonderful job she did with the team.

GOOD NEWS/PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Grossi presented Certificates of Achievement to Ms. Kautz and Ms. Wiercinski for participation in education programs sponsored by the Pennsylvania School Boards Association.

Mr. Lasher presented a plaque to Mr. Grossi from the Bucks County Economic Development Corporation for creating a Keystone Opportunity Zone.

Mrs. Homel congratulated two members of the Senior Class, Juliana Rosati and Andrew Midzak, for being named as National Merit Finalists. She spoke about each of their achievements. They were then presented with plaques.

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

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None.

POLICIES

Discussion:

3.11 – Prohibiting Discrimination in Education

A motion was made by Ms. Wiercinski and seconded by Ms. Kautz to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the adoption of Policy 3.11, Prohibiting Discrimination in Education.

Mrs. Jankowsky commented that throughout the text of the policy, particularly in the section on *Grievance Procedures*, the language is slanted more toward if the District has

caused a grievance, rather than an individual. She pointed out that there is no language addressing consequences of a specific person within the District being guilty of discrimination. Ms. Wiercinski felt that if an individual violated the policy, they would be subject to a hearing by the Board. Mrs. Jankowsky felt that consequences should be included in the policy. She pointed out that if a student violates a specific policy, there are consequences outlined.

Dr. Sexton advised that the original intent of the policy was to set out a prohibition on the behavior. He indicated that we could put some type of boilerplate language in the policy stating that there will be consequences if there is a violation of the policy. Mr. Grossi agreed that boilerplate language could be used, but that the consequences would be fact specific. There was a general consensus of the Board that this would be added to the policy.

A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Ms. Kautz to table this matter until the next meeting so that the language discussed above could be added.

The motion to table passed 8-0.

Final Approval:

7.28 – Terroristic Threats/Acts

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

Mrs. Jankowsky asked whether the policy had been revised to reflect the issues addressed at the previous meeting. Mr. Rosenberger indicated that the change he had requested to Section IV. A. 1. had not been made, so he would be voting against the policy.

Mrs. Jankowsky felt that if there was a rumor of a terroristic threat, then Administration should check it out first before the police are called. She was concerned that the potential perpetrator's name not be given to the police. Mr. Faust felt that if there was an alleged terroristic threat, the police should be notified since Administrators are not trained investigators.

Dr. Reid asked if it would be helpful to have this policy sent back to the solicitor for review. Mr. Faust felt that since there was a difference of opinion on the Board, the only way to settle the matter was by taking a vote.

Mrs. Huf shared her concern that the police would be involved for each little incident; however, Mr. Rosenberger felt that a terroristic threat was not a "little incident."

A motion was made by Ms. Kautz and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to table this matter so that it could be reviewed by the solicitor.

Mr. Faust felt that the Board should decide what it wanted, then request the solicitor to rewrite the policy accordingly. Mr. Rosenberger stated that it should be left up to the police to decide whether they feel a matter needs to be investigated or not. Mrs. Jankowsky wondered what harm would be done by requesting the solicitor's opinion. Dr. Reid suggested that we request the solicitor to review Mr. Rosenberger's suggested language. It was decided that if the motion to table were passed, the suggested language would be included for the solicitor's review.

The motion to table passed 8-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Special Education Student Settlement

A motion was made by Ms. Wiercinski and seconded by Ms. Kautz to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Release and Settlement Agreement for Student 10-23.

Mr. Faust advised that he was opposed to this settlement.

The motion passed 6-2. (Faust and Priadka opposed.)

2. Appointment of Auditor

A motion was made by Ms. Wiercinski and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the appointment of Stanley Booz and Company to serve as School District Auditor for the Fiscal Years Ending June 30, 1999, June 30, 2000 and June 30, 2001, at a total cost for the three-year contract of \$38,700.

Mr. Grossi pointed out that the Finance Committee had reviewed this matter and that this was the lowest bid.

The motion passed 8-0.

3. 1999/2000 Intermediate Unit Programs and Services/Instructional Materials Budget

Dr. Vantine presented the proposed I.U. budget and answered questions. He indicated that this year there was a reduction to Centennial of \$313 but that there was a total increase in the budget of 1.3%.

Dr. Reid spoke about the services Centennial receives from the I.U.

A motion was made by Ms. Wiercinski and seconded by Ms. Kautz to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the 1999/2000 Programs and Services/Instructional Materials Budget for Intermediate Unit #22 in the amount of \$76,674.

The motion passed 8-0.

4. Bid No. 99-12 – Locker Installation at Klinger Middle School
5. Bid No. 99-13 – Entrance Doors at Willow Dale School
6. Bid No. 99-14 – Partitions at William Tennent High School
7. Bid No. 99-15 – Roofing at Log College Middle School
8. Bid No. 99-16 – Concrete/Sidewalks at Davis and Stackpole Elementary Schools and Klinger Middle School
9. Bid No. 99-17 – Paving at Administration Building

A motion was made by Ms. Wiercinski and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the following bids: No. 99-12 – Locker Installation at Klinger Middle School; No. 99-13 – Entrance Doors at Willow Dale School; No. 99-14 – Partitions at William Tennent High School; No. 99-15 – Roofing at Log College Middle School; No. 99-16 – Concrete/Sidewalks at Davis and Stackpole Elementary Schools and Klinger Middle School; and No. 99-17 – Paving at Administration Building.

Mr. Faust advised that he and Mrs. Jankowsky had taken the capital tour and that he felt the proposed work was necessary. Mr. Grossi confirmed that these are necessary improvements to maintain the properties and ensure safety. Mrs. Jankowsky felt that the tour had been very helpful. She indicated that a lot of work would be done by staff members rather than contractors, so the District would be saving money.

The motion passed 8-0.

10. Extension of Science Consultant Services

A motion was made by Ms. Wiercinski and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board authorizes the extension of Science Assessment Consultant Services from Dr. Nadine McHenry through June of 1999 at a cost not to exceed \$4,900.

Mr. Grossi advised that this would be coming out of funds not expended from the current year's budget. Mrs. Jankowsky stated that this would complete the Science Assessment instrument and would complete the work that had been started. She also advised that this has the support of the Education and Finance Committees.

The motion passed 8-0.

11. Request Permission to Apply for Funding for Grant for Adult Basic Education and G.E.D. for 1999/00 School Year

A motion was made by Ms. Wiercinski and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Request to Apply for Funding for Grant for Adult Basic Education and G.E.D. for the 1999/00 school year in the amount of \$34,179;

and approves a \$2,300 Supplement from the 1999/00 General Fund as the Required Match to support these programs.

It was noted that this was a program that Centennial had supported and sponsored for years.

The motion passed 8-0.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Ms. Wiercinski and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the following Personnel items: Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absences; Appointments; Changes of Status; Per Diem Substitute Teachers; and Co-Curricular Additions, Changes and Deletions (1998/99 School Year).

Mr. Faust questioned the Asst. Special Ed Supervisor position. Mrs. Fash stated that we might look for support from the I.U.; then we would try to find out how Ms. Lepore is doing and how it looks for September.

Mr. Faust thanked Mrs. Rollo for adding the new legend at the bottom of the page.

The motion passed 8-0.

OTHER

Mr. Grossi advised that the front office renovations would be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Priadka to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 8-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie A. Detwiler
Board Secretary