

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

**MINUTES OF WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING
HELD OCTOBER 26, 1999**

CALL TO ORDER

A Work Session/Regular Meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on October 26, 1999, in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Grossi at 7:07 p.m. The following people registered their attendance:

Board Members:

Joseph Faust
Eugene Grossi
Betty Huf
Joan Jankowsky
Rose Marie Kautz
Kristin Kolody
John Priadka
Kristina Wiercinski (left at 7:11 p.m.)

Administration:

Barbara Fash
Frank Gallagher
Sandy Homel
Victor Lasher
Dr. Michael Masko
Dr. Nancy Reid
John Rhodes
Dr. Thomas Sexton
Timothy Vail

CEA/Teachers:

None

Public:

Jacqueline Cooper	Vicki Boruta
Robert Luebbe	Dan Smith
Jim Smith	Kristin Waryga
Pat Lenchen	Ira Lee Riddle
Donna Marie Saul	Sina Baranski

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. Grossi then announced that there would be a change in the order of the Agenda. He asked if there were any community comments on the items under new business. There were none.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Superintendent’s Salary – 1999/2000

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Ms. Kautz to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the salary of \$110,000 for Dr. Nancy A. Reid, Superintendent of Schools, for the 1999/2000 school year. The Superintendent will also receive a performance bonus of \$1,000 for the 1998/99 school year.

Mrs. Huf stated that she felt Dr. Reid was doing a good job and that she would be supporting the motion. She thanked Dr. Reid for the good work she has done.

Mr. Grossi stated that he supported Mrs. Huf’s comments and that he felt Dr. Reid does an outstanding job for the District.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion, as follows:

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

The motion passed 8-0.

Ms. Wiercinski left the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

3. WTHS Yearbook Account Donation

Mr. Grossi explained the background of this matter. Mrs. Huf stated that she would support this motion but would like to be sure that this kind of thing would not occur again.

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the use of 1999/2000 general fund contingency account allocation in the amount of \$12,855 to pay the balance due on the 1998/99 WTHS PER ANNOS yearbook. This action is taken in recognition of the large number of prior yearbooks that are stored in inventory for which intended revenues were never collected and to offset the costs of complimentary books over the past ten years.

The Board further directs that the WTHS administration oversee the formulation of an annual budget for the yearbook production to be submitted to the Business Administrator

by October 1 of each year for review and approval in order to make certain that projected annual revenues are sufficient to cover the costs of yearbook production.

A roll call vote was taken on the motion, as follows:

Mr. Priadka	Yes
Mr. Faust	Yes
Mrs. Huf	Yes
Ms. Kolody	Yes
Mrs. Jankowsky	Yes
Ms. Kautz	Yes
Mr. Grossi	Yes

The motion passed 7-0.

6. Request for Waiver of Policy 6.2 – Our Lady of Good Counsel

Jim Smith, a representative from Our Lady of Good Counsel, addressed the Board, explaining that their gym was no longer usable due to the effects of Hurricane Floyd. That was the reason for the request to use the Klinger gym.

Mr. Lasher clarified that the gym was available on the dates requested.

Mrs. Huf pointed out that 90% of the students were Centennial students.

A motion was made by Mrs. Huf and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the request for waiver of policy 6.2 (which prohibits building use on Sunday) from Our Lady of Good Counsel for use of Klinger gymnasium on Sunday, November 14, to Sunday, December 19, 1999, at no cost to the District.

The motion passed 7-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Huf announced that the next morning there would be a teleconference at MBIT with Lt. Governor Schweiker in Harrisburg and another vo-tech in western Pennsylvania. The teleconference would be in recognition of MBIT’s 30th year in education.

The next meeting would be on November 8th.

Dr. Reid announced that Mr. Rosenberger was absent from this meeting due to illness.

GOOD NEWS

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

Ms. Kautz announced that Tennent student Kristen Kind has been named to greet area business owners, executives and marketing personnel attending the Philadelphia Advertising and Business Show at the Convention Center. Ms. Kautz also announced that Greg Graves, a Senior, would be the next speaker at the Southampton Business and Professional Association luncheon. Greg would be presenting his business plan, which came in first in the Commonwealth at the competition at Seven Springs.

PRESENTATION – KLINGER SUMMER PROGRAM

Mrs. Homel introduced Tom Lavinia, the Acting Principal at Klinger, who introduced the teachers involved in the Personal Enrichment Program (PEP) held at Klinger over the summer. The teachers included Francis Curran, Jennifer Clark, Ronald Husted, Kelly Kohler, Janice Spirk, Julie Goodling, Sherri Weiss and David Jones.

Mr. Curran gave some background on the program. Mr. Husted spoke about the qualities that the teachers tried to develop in the students during the course of the program, including communications skills, resolving conflicts, developing group skills, leadership, improving self-esteem, organizational skills and time management.

Ms. Clark introduced the students, who spoke individually about what they had learned from the program. They presented posters to be hung to remind the Board and community members about the program's success. Some of the parents also spoke about the results of the program and changes they had noticed in their children since their participation.

Mr. Jones addressed the issue of follow-up to the program during the school year where students get together to discuss how they are doing.

The meeting was recessed at 7:56 p.m. and resumed at 8:03 p.m.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Vicki Boruta of Southampton presented a question that had arisen at a recent PTO meeting regarding whether or not the District still had a newsletter. Dr. Reid responded that since Mr. Alexander had been responsible for the newsletter and he was no longer with the District, they were currently getting proposals for having it done.

Mr. Grossi announced that there were several students present from Bucks County Community College, who were working on an assignment for their "Foundations of Education" class. Their assignment was to attend the meeting and report on what occurred.

POLICIES

Initial Distribution:

7.17 – Non-Immigrant Students

Mr. Grossi pointed out that this policy was included in the Board's packet for initial review.

Final Approval:

7.12 – Home Education

A motion was made by Ms. Kautz and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 7.12, Home Education.

Mr. Faust stated that there had been some questions asked about this policy at the previous meeting and also a solicitor's opinion was requested.

Dr. Sexton pointed out changes on Pages G and H that had been made in accordance with discussions at the previous meeting. Mrs. Huf pointed out the caption on Appendix A that should have been removed. Mr. Faust indicated that at the previous meeting the Board had requested the solicitor's opinion. He stated that he would like to see it. Dr. Sexton advised that the solicitor's comments had been incorporated into the revised policy and that he had the solicitor's letter. Dr. Reid stated that since the solicitor's comments had been incorporated into the revised policy, they felt it would be sufficient to move the policy forward.

Discussion ensued about criteria for Wood students versus home schooled students. Mrs. Huf did not feel that the Board wanted to single out Wood students. She felt that we were trying to follow the solicitor's advice that what we do for one we must do for the other. Dr. Sexton said that it was his understanding that the Board wanted to prevent Tennent students from being precluded because of space restrictions. The solicitor advised that we cannot single out Wood students as coming after Tennent students. All non-Tennent students must be treated equally after Tennent students.

Mrs. Jankowsky felt that the MBIT Board should address this. Mrs. Huf stated that she would present this issue to them.

The motion passed 6-1. (Mr. Faust opposed.)

NEW BUSINESS1. Superintendent's Salary – 1999/2000

[This matter was handled earlier in the meeting.]

2. Ad Hoc Committee Recommendations – Administrative Interviews

Mrs. Jankowsky gave some background on this matter.

Mrs. Huf stated that she would like the Supervisor of Special Education and Special Services position to involve the Board. She felt that it was a very important position and the Board should be involved in the decision.

Mr. Faust did not feel that this was a good system and that the Board should be involved in hiring. He felt that there had been some poor recommendations in the past. He felt that since the Board is ultimately responsible for hiring, it should be involved. He was not willing to rubber stamp high salary positions.

Mrs. Jankowsky agreed that the Board is ultimately responsible for hiring. She explained that the rationale for this system was to hold the Superintendent accountable for the positions that report to her. She discussed some of the reasons for the Committee's recommendations.

Mr. Grossi felt that the Board should seriously consider the Special Education position as a cabinet level position.

Mrs. Jankowsky felt that Mrs. Huf's suggestion was a good one. She felt that a voting Board member should be involved on the selection committee.

Mrs. Huf stated that she felt the full Board should be involved in the Special Education position and also the Principals' positions.

Mr. Faust questioned the procedure to be used if a Board member had a question at an interview at which he/she was sitting in. It was decided that the Board member would need to channel his/her question through the Chair.

A motion was made by Mrs. Huf and seconded by Mr. Faust to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee on administrative interviews as contained in the final report dated August 17, 1999, as revised, including full Board participation on level 2 and level 3 for all principals and the Supervisor of Special Education. Board members would be able to question through the Chair on the balance of level 3 and level 4.

In response to a question by Mr. Faust, Mrs. Jankowsky clarified that the Board would have no involvement in the hiring of Part-time Lead Teachers, which would be on level 5.

The motion passed 6-1. (Mrs. Jankowsky opposed since the motion did not reflect the Committee's recommendations.)

3. WTHS Yearbook Account Donation

[This matter was handled earlier in the meeting.]

4. Request Permission to Accept Funding

A motion was made by Ms. Kautz and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves permission to accept funding for ABE/GED grant, Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration Program, DARE, LEEP, Title I, Title I Capital Expense, Title I Parent Involvement at McDonald and Willow Dale Schools and Title II.

Mrs. Jankowsky asked where the trending was for Title I money. Mr. Gallagher advised that it was \$441,000 last year and that it was on an upward trend.

The motion passed 7-0.

5. Request Permission to Apply for Funding

A motion was made by Ms. Kautz and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves permission to apply for funding for Read-to-Succeed grant at Stackpole School and Project Link-to-Learn.

The motion passed 7-0.

6. Request for Waiver of Policy 6.2 – Our Lady of Good Counsel

[This matter was handled earlier in the meeting.]

7. Christ Home Shelter

Dr. Sexton advised that the copy of the Agreement that the Board had received was a draft agreement that was being reviewed by the attorney for the I.U. He also reported that our attorney had reviewed it and made some minor changes. He requested Mrs. Fash to describe the program.

Mrs. Fash advised that the program had a start-up date of February 1st and that there would be approximately 12 students housed at this facility. The average age was 14 but

there could also be 16-17 year olds. She indicated that this would be similar to the program with Bethanna.

Dr. Sexton advised that he was not asking for Board action at this meeting since the agreement was only in draft form.

Mrs. Huf asked if there was a cost associated with this matter. Mrs. Fash responded that there could be if we were not reimbursed as expected.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mrs. Huf and seconded by Mrs. Kautz to resolve that the Centennial School Board accepts all personnel recommendations.

Mrs. Jankowsky requested that the last item under Appointments be separated. Mr. Faust requested that the first item under Resignations be separated.

Under the Change of Status section Mrs. Jankowsky requested, for purposes of clarification, that Frank Gallagher's additional responsibilities should be listed in the minutes. Dr. Reid indicated that the additional responsibilities included business partnerships, including the role of Executive Director of the Centennial Education Foundation, ongoing business partnerships and ones we are hoping to develop; coordination of the retired senior volunteer program; and development of the School District calendar.

The motion passed 7-0.

A motion was made by Mrs. Huf and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board accepts the first item under Resignations regarding the Supervisor of Special Ed/Special Services.

Mr. Faust stated that Mrs. Fash had done an excellent job and had improved many of the District's programs, that she was able to place every student properly and still appease the Board in its budgetary concerns and that she would be greatly missed by the District. He indicated that he would not be supporting her resignation.

Mrs. Huf stated she felt this would be a great loss to the District and that Mrs. Fash would be missed.

Mr. Priadka stated that he remembered the interview process with Mrs. Fash and that at that time she was referred to as "our diamond in the rough." He felt that she has turned into the "Hope Diamond."

Mr. Grossi felt that her resignation would be accepted with reluctance. He stated that Mrs. Fash's services were truly outstanding and that he wished her all the luck in the world.

The motion passed 5-2. (Mr. Faust and Mr. Priadka opposed.)

Dr. Reid then spoke about Mrs. Fash's 25 years of service to the District and wished her well in her future endeavors.

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board accepts the last item under Appointments.

Mrs. Jankowsky advised that she did not intend to support this motion since she felt the position was unnecessary. She felt that we need to have the teachers engaging with students in the hallways and classrooms and that we need to have programs addressing bullying and related topics.

Ms. Kautz agreed with Mrs. Jankowsky's position. She also stated her opinion that another guidance counselor was needed at the high school. She indicated that she would rather see the resources put toward working with the children in a more positive manner. She stated that she would not support the motion.

Mrs. Huf disagreed, stating her opinion that these positions were necessary. She pointed out that this is a pilot program.

Mr. Faust stated that he would be supporting this motion because it was a pilot program.

Ms. Kolody advised that she would support the motion. She felt that this would not address all of the issues but that it would help.

Mr. Grossi stated that this program was not the solution to the problem. He felt that self-esteem and decision-making were part of the solution and that the matter needed to be worked on long range.

The motion passed 4-3. (Mrs. Jankowsky, Ms. Kautz and Mr. Grossi opposed.)

DISCUSSION

Mr. Faust requested that Administration place on the Agenda for the next Work Session a discussion about requesting the U. S. Navy and the U. S. Department of Defense to look into privatizing the housing at Shenandoah Woods.

Ms. Kautz had a list of items to be placed on the agendas of future meetings, including an agreement with D&D Marketing, approval of safe schools, impact aid letter to Senator Santorum, increasing tax collector security bonds, substitute bus driver rates and audits for school district authorities. She also requested that the matter of the Business Office reorganization – Phase 2 be placed on the agenda of a future Executive Session.

Mr. Rhodes stated that Ms. Wiercinski had requested that bids for buses be placed on the next meeting's agenda.

Mr. Faust requested that the subject of the gifted situation in both middle schools be placed on the next meeting's agenda. He indicated that he would provide resolutions.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mrs. Huf to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie A. Detwiler
Board Secretary