

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 8, 2000

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on February 8, 2000, in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Huf at 7:37 p.m. The following people registered their attendance:

Board Members:

Joseph Faust
Betty Huf
Joan Jankowsky
Kristin Kolody
Jerry Locke
Robert Rosenberger
Harve Strouse

[Mr. Grossi and Ms. Kautz
were absent.]

Staff:

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

CEA/Staff:

Jon Kircher

Public:

Sina Baranski
Jason Bianco
Tony Bria
John Burke
Patty Burke
Sean Burke
Curtis Burns
John Burns
Laurie Burns
Anthony Byers
Dan Carr
Diane Carr
Tom Carvier

Chris Cascino
Evon Cascino
Sam Cascino
Mary Cattalo
Tom Clark
Bob Coates
Maureen Coates
Ricky Davis
Kevin Deissler
Rick Dziak
Joe Evangelista
Bob Glass
Susan Glass

Public (continued):

Kevin Gore
Rich Gore
Susan Gore
Cathy Harlem
Stu Harlem
Adam Hennessy
Mark Hennessy
Matt Ifkovitz
Justin Johnson
Joseph Knight
Rohan Kuthiala
Drew McErlane
Roseann McErlane
Andre McLavrin
Ryan Murphy
Janet Norman

Rick Norman
Joe Pena
Marie Purdy
Laurie Quattrone
Ryan Quattrone
Sean Reardon
Tom Reardon
Fred Reichwein, III
Fred Reichwein, Jr.
Ed Ruiz
Bill Sgrigwiali
Craig Shapiro
Rich Swartz
Evan Wasserman
Sharon Wasserman

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Huf led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Jankowsky reported that the Ad Hoc Committee on MTB had met on February 3rd.

Mr. Grossi and Ms. Kautz were absent from the meeting due to previously scheduled vacations.

Mrs. Huf announced that the Board had met in Executive Session prior to this meeting regarding a personnel matter relative to a position, benefits and objectives and real estate matters relative to a tax issue and earned income tax.

Mrs. Huf also announced that she had appointed Mrs. Jankowsky, Ms. Kautz and Mr. Locke to serve as the Strategic Planning Committee.

Dr. Reid announced that a poster of pictures from School Directors Recognition Month would be hanging in the hallway.

REPORTS

STUDENT COUNCIL

Rohan Kuthiala reported that: the Seniors were deeply involved with planning the Senior Sweetheart activities; Senior class officers would be getting measured for caps and gowns soon; and they were trying to get more leadership club involvement.

MBIT STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Matt Ifkovitz reported on the following:

- Program Planning Night had been held in January.
- A new program was being planned for next year called “Public Safety.”
- Vocational Education Week would be celebrated during the week of February 13th. Students would be participating in special events in Harrisburg.
- Several students in the Computer Networking course had attained industry certification.
- The VICA and DECA competitions had begun and the students were doing well.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Mrs. Huf announced that the Community Comments portion of the meeting was being moved up since there were so many community members present who wished to speak.

Stuart Harlem of 330 Twin Streams Drive, Warminster, addressed the Board regarding the loss of Coach Sanderson. He commented that it was a shame to lose him, that he possessed a good nature and integrity, as well as many other skills that were hard to find.

Laurie Quattrone of 647 Whittier Drive, felt that we need consistency on the coaching staff. She felt that having a coaching staff that could teach more than just football was important.

Tony Bria of 293 Kent Road, Warminster, read a note from his son, who couldn't attend the meeting. His son stated that Coach Sanderson was a great role model for everyone and that he kept the kids on the right path and encouraged them to do well in whatever they did.

On his own behalf, Mr. Bria stated that he felt the athletic program was as important as the academic program since different kids are motivated in different ways. He felt the kids respected Coach Sanderson and that he showed them how to be men. He felt that letting Coach Sanderson resign was doing a disservice to the District, that we cannot let good people go and that consistency is necessary. He felt a need to upgrade all of the District's sports programs.

Mike Salvia of 1135 Woods Lane, Warminster, indicated that he was speaking on behalf of himself and his teammates. He spoke about the requirements of a coach and the fact that Coach Sanderson had those qualities (including how a coach teaches a boy to become a man.) He felt that the District should be willing to give Coach Sanderson a job since he was a man of integrity and would do a great job teaching.

Patty Burke of 466 Ivy Street, Warminster, indicated that Coach Sanderson did not want community members to speak at the Board meeting on his behalf. He felt that his actions should speak for themselves. Mrs. Burke stated that she felt stability and consistency were important and then more participation and school spirit would follow.

Robert James Glass (a student) of 387 Camberly Road, Warminster, appeared before the Board to ask for a commitment to stability, not just in the football program but for all sports. He felt a new course of action should be taken in order to give respect to the program.

Kevin Deissler of 830 Roberts Road, Warminster, felt that the program had suffered a significant loss and that it needed stability. He also felt that the policy on wages should be reviewed. He stated that losing Coach Sanderson would be a significant setback to the program and that he was the greatest coach the school had ever had.

Craig Shapiro of 419 Nicholas Drive, Southampton, stated that Coach Sanderson and his staff was one of the finest he had ever seen. He spoke about their achievements.

Rich Gore of 748 Morning Glory Drive, Southampton, spoke about the quality of the individual, that he had an extreme interest in the students, not just for their athletic ability but for their achievement in the classroom. He asked the Board to consider doing whatever was in their power to remedy the situation.

Joe Evangelista of 736 Cheryl Drive, Warminster, (President of the Abington Chapter of PIAA Officials) indicated that he had received many calls about this matter and that Coach Sanderson was very highly regarded. He felt that stability and consistency had been lacking in the program for a long time but that that opinion had changed since Mr. Sanderson arrived here. He advised that the special ed teacher had told him that many of the players were in her classes and she could see a difference over the past two years in the respect they show in the classroom.

Robert Salvia of 1135 Woods Lane, Warminster, thanked everyone who had come out in support of Coach Sanderson. He stated that this was not just about sports, but about character. He felt that “we need this guy!”

Mrs. Huf also thanked everyone for coming out. She indicated that the Board had discussed this matter in Executive Session and that they were working on the matter.

Patty Burke again addressed the Board, requesting that if Coach Sanderson was not coming back that we move forward on this matter and have another coach in place within a reasonable time frame since the athletes needed to have direction.

The meeting recessed at 8:21 p.m. and resumed at 8:35 p.m. (Mr. Locke and Mr. Faust had not yet returned at 8:35 p.m.)

NEW BUSINESS

1. WTHS Key Club Trip to Hershey, PA

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Ms. Kolody to resolve that the Centennial School Board grants preliminary approval for the William Tennent High School Key Club trip to Hershey, PA on March 3-5, 2000. There is no cost to the School District.

The motion passed 5-0. (Mr. Locke and Mr. Faust were not present at the time of the vote.)

Mr. Locke and Mr. Faust returned to the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

GOOD NEWS/PRESENTATIONS

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

Dr. Reid and Mrs. Huf presented Mr. Lasher with a plaque in recognition of his being granted status as a Pennsylvania Registered School Official.

Mrs. Homel reported that she had just received news that Log College had been recommended for a site visit. We will then learn if it has been moved into National recognition as a Blue Ribbon School.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Reid presented the Superintendent's Report, highlighting the Advanced Placement Program and the Vandalism Report for the second quarter (see attached).

Ed Austin spoke in detail about the AP Program after distributing a report to the Board. He advised that the program was doing well and urged the Board to consider funding the AP test for our students.

Mr. Faust raised the question of whether the District could require a student to take an AP course if the District paid for the student to take the AP test. Various options were discussed briefly, including the District paying only for students who couldn't afford to pay or rebating the fee if a student achieved a certain grade.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Jankowsky reported that the Education Committee had met the previous evening. The agenda focused on programs and programming for at-risk students, as well as effective teaching strategies for block scheduling.

The committee was recommending to the Finance Committee the total fiscal note for the Reading/Language Arts materials. Curriculum Council had reviewed the materials. She advised that the final tab would be over \$600,000 but that negotiations with the publishers had not yet been completed.

There were some issues raised regarding AFG and several items were set to be placed on the Agenda. One item was the English I course. The other item was the “float” issue wherein the concepts of the written course differ from what is being taught in the classroom. There is a need for consistency in delivery

Mr. Faust agreed with Mrs. Jankowsky on this matter. He also felt that the issue of graduation requirements should be raised since some students might not be able to meet all of the requirements because of scheduling conflicts due to attendance at MBIT.

WTHS Middle States Accreditation

No report. [Mrs. Jankowsky advised that the Planning Committee would not be meeting until sometime in the summer.]

Middle Bucks Institute of Technology

No report. [Mr. Faust advised that the next meeting would be on February 14th.]

Intermediate Unit

No report.

PSBA

No report.

FINANCE & LONG RANGE BUDGET COMMITTEE

No report.

Title VIII

No report.

Federal Lands Reuse Authority

See report attached.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Rosenberger reported that the committee had met prior to this meeting. There was a recommendation from Administration that the Board approve pay rates for the census to be taken. He advised that the total estimated cost for the 2000 census was \$6,000, which is in the budget. This matter should be placed on the February Work Session Agenda.

Mr. Rosenberger advised that the bus garage was now authorized to perform inspections. Mr. Rhodes indicated that this would save the District between \$12,000 and \$15,000.

Mr. Rosenberger reported that the committee had discussed cost projections of air conditioning for the elementary schools. After the survey was completed, Mr. Lasher did not make recommendations. The committee was remaining neutral and was forwarding the matter to the Board. Mr. Lasher advised that this matter would appear on the Finance Committee's agenda.

Mr. Rosenberger informed the Board of a request for Administration to have an engineering company perform a traffic study with students and teachers driving their cars to school. There is a big increase in traffic on Street Road. Administration recommends that an engineering company look into alleviating this problem. We will be receiving costs for this and the matter will be forwarded to Finance.

Citizens Policy

Mr. Strouse reported that this committee had met on January 18th and had forwarded Policies 5.2 and 5.8 for this evening's agenda.

Legislative Liaison

Mr. Faust advised that there was a report in the Board's packet. A meeting would be held on February 28th or 29th. He also advised that he would be attending a legislative conference in Harrisburg on February 18th.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Ms. Kolody to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the minutes of Regular Board Meeting – 12/14/99 and Regular Board Meeting – 1/11/00.

Mr. Rosenberger advised that the reason he was late for the January 11th meeting was that he had been representing the Board at another School District meeting.

The motion passed 7-0.

OPERATIONS AND POLICIES

Initial Distribution:

Mr. Rosenberger noted the following policies for initial distribution:

- 5.2 – School Libraries
- 5.8 – Outside Speakers in the Instructional Program
- 7.17 – Non-Immigrant Students
- 7.21 – Exemption from Instruction.

Mr. Rosenberger also noted the following policy for rescission: 3.15 – Use of Steroids.

Final Approval:

- 1.2 – Centennial School Board Meetings
- 2.12 – Personnel Records
- 3.1 – Drug/Alcohol
- 4.3 – Playground/Physical Education Equipment

A motion was made by Mr. Rosenberger and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to the following policies: 1.2 – Centennial School Board Meetings; 2.12 – Personnel Records; 3.1 – Drug/Alcohol; and 4.3 – Playground/ Physical Education Equipment.

With regard to Policy 1.2, Ms. Kolody asked if the Board had ever considered having all meetings be combination work session/regular meeting. Mrs. Jankowsky explained the history of how the work sessions came about. She felt that having both monthly meetings be work session/regular meetings would be overkill. Mrs. Huf agreed.

Mrs. Jankowsky brought the Board’s attention to her memo dated February 3rd regarding Policy 1.2.

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Locke to resolve that the Centennial School Board approve the revisions to Policy 1.2 with regard to the use of the word “should” on page 1.2 C under the Work Session Agenda and also on page 1.2 D under the Regular Business Meeting Agenda to change the word “should” to “shall” and to include the language that is suggested on the memo dated February 3, 2000, from Mrs. Jankowsky to the Board regarding providing the presiding officer with the latitude to make changes to the agenda in the event that there is need to do so.

The motion passed 7-0.

Mrs. Jankowsky questioned page 1.2 E, section III.A. She felt that there was an inconsistency in the policy about non-residents not being permitted to speak at a meeting.

She questioned what the Board would do if a non-resident presented a facility use request. It was pointed out that such an item would be on the agenda and that the parties involved would be permitted to speak.

Mrs. Jankowsky questioned whether, on page 1.2 F, section 1, the Board really wanted to impose a thirty-minute limit on the Community Comments portion of the meeting. She also felt that on page 1.2 G, section g. was repetitive. It was the consensus of the Board to consolidate those two sections.

Page 1.2 B, Section II. A. 5. – Mr. Faust questioned what the procedure would be if it was deemed that an additional meeting was necessary. He asked that the procedure be spelled out. Mrs. Jankowsky suggested that Administration research the School Code and provide that information.

Mr. Faust requested clarification of the definition of taxpayer in the solicitor's letter attached to the policy in the Board's packet. Dr. Sexton clarified that "taxpayer" meant anyone who paid taxes directly to the District.

Regarding page 1.2 G, section IV., Ms. Kolody suggested that we add "to the President c/o Administrative Services". It was the consensus of the Board to do so.

In response to a question by Mr. Faust, Dr. Sexton confirmed that the changes to the policy that were suggested in the solicitor's letter had been made.

On page 3.1 B, Section III. A. 1., Ms. Kolody felt that clarification was needed. She suggested the addition of the words "and other personnel as needed." It was the consensus of the Board to make the suggested change.

Mr. Faust suggested that the same language be added to Section III. B. 3. It was the consensus of the Board to do so.

Mr. Rosenberger suggested the addition of the words "and drug paraphernalia" to Section G. 1 On page 3.1 D.

Regarding Policy 4.3, Mr. Faust stated that it did not seem clear as the policy was written that it would also cover athletic equipment. Dr. Reid suggested that this could be added to the title. Dr. Sexton advised that he had asked the solicitor about this and he felt that the words "Physical Education Equipment" would cover it. It was the consensus of the Board to add that language.

The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Strouse requested that since the drug policy had been passed, the Board move for rescission of the steroid policy at this meeting. Mrs. Jankowsky felt that it could wait until the next meeting. It was decided to place it on the agenda for the next meeting.

FINANCIAL

A motion was made by Mr. Strouse and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board accepts the:

- *Schedule of Bills – January 2000*
- *Investments – January 2000*
- *Cafeteria Fund Budget Report – January 2000*
- *Student Activity/Clearing Fund Reports – 4th Quarter 1999 (10/1/99 – 12/31/99)*

And approves the:

- *Treasurer’s Report/Fund Profiles – January 2000*
- *Budgetary Transfers – February 2000.*

Mr. Strouse requested a report on how much had been transferred in and out of the contingency account. Mr. Vail advised that he could provide such a report.

The motion passed 7-0.

OLD BUSINESS

A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board remove from the table the resolution to approve the agreement with Intermediate Unit #22 to operate the educational program for the students assigned to the Sanctuary Emergency Shelter at Christ’s Home.

The motion passed 7-0.

A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the agreement with Intermediate Unit #22 to operate the educational program for the students assigned to the Sanctuary Emergency Shelter at Christ’s Home in Warminster. The cost of this program is expected to be about \$95,000. Intermediate Unit #22 shall charge all costs of the program back to the students’ districts of residence.

Mr. Strouse stated that he had a big objection to Item 12 of the Agreement but felt that it was important to move forward so he would vote in favor of the motion.

Mr. Faust felt that according to the projected expenses, it might be cheaper for the District to run this program. Dr. Sexton stated that the problem with this type of program would be the administrative costs.

Dr. Reid stated that another factor would be the up-front money. She indicated that Mrs. Fash had stated that she could find no advantages to our running the program and that there are other disadvantages that are not necessarily dollar related.

Mr. Rosenberger was concerned that the language in the Agreement was not consistent in how it referred to “students”, “inmates”, etc.

A motion to table the matter until the language could be fixed was made by Mr. Rosenberger and seconded by Ms. Kolody.

The motion passed 6-1-0. (Mr. Strouse was opposed because he felt the matter should be moved forward.)

NEW BUSINESS

1. WTHS Key Club Trip to Hershey, PA

[This item was handled earlier in the meeting.]

2. Copy Paper Bid

A motion was made by Mr. Strouse and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board awards the Paper Supply Bid No. 2000-08 to WWF Paper Company at the lowest responsible bid amount of \$17,468.00. This represents the second award of copy paper for the 1999/2000 school year necessitated by increased demand for paper throughout the District as technology programs and greater amounts of in-house printing have been implemented. Funds for this unanticipated expense to be appropriated from the general fund regular education supply budget.

The motion passed 7-0.

3. School Application Network

A motion was made by Mr. Strouse and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves entering into agreement with National School Applications Network, Inc. of Alabama to provide an online applications system as developed and updated by Cooperating School District of St. Louis, as per the terms and conditions of the attached supplement. Cost for 1999/2000 will be \$1,900, which includes a one-time only set-up fee of \$950. Funds to be transferred from General Fund Contingency Account to cover this expense.

The motion passed 7-0.

4. Warminster Township Deputy Tax Collector

A motion was made by Mr. Strouse and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the appointment of Paulajane Hamm as Warminster Township Deputy Real Estate Tax Collector. Appointment is effective February 8, 2000. This action is taken in conformance with the provisions of 72 P.S. Section 5511.22 permitting a tax collector to appoint a deputy.

The motion passed 7-0.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Ms. Kolody to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the following Personnel items: Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absences; Appointments; Substitute Aide.

The motion passed 7-0.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Huf referred to the list of communications attached hereto.

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None.

BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENT

1. Board Conferences

Mrs. Jankowsky advised that the Board had received a memo from Dr. Reid regarding Board conferences. She asked if this would be discussed at the Finance meeting. Mr. Strouse advised that it was not on the agenda. Mr. Vail indicated that there was enough money for what was on the books as of this time.

Mrs. Huf stated that starting with next year's budget, there should be a monthly accounting of Board expenses. Mr. Vail advised that this is already in the monthly report.

Mrs. Jankowsky felt that this matter needed to be addressed through the Finance committee and the line items that would be dealt with at budget time.

2. Professional Development

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that she had read about Act 48 of 1999 regarding Professional Development/Continuing Professional Education. She felt that it had tremendous implications and wondered where we were headed on this. She requested Administration to provide information on how we will comply with the requirements.

Ms. Rollo advised that her involvement was specific to the certification implications and that certifications now would need to be renewed on a regular basis rather than being permanent. She indicated that the matter is being followed closely.

Pat Valentine advised that it is not yet certain how the new law would be administered and that regulations were still being developed.

Dr. Masko indicated that a committee would be convened to revise the professional development plan.

3. Fiber Network Study/Elcom

Mrs. Jankowsky advised that the Board had received a copy of a memo from Dr. Masko to Dr. Reid regarding the District Fiber Network Study with Elcom. She inquired as to the status of this matter.

Dr. Reid advised that it was her recollection that the recommendation was not to proceed at this time. Mr. Faust felt that the matter would require Board action since the bid was awarded. It was decided that the matter would be placed on a future agenda for rescission.

SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEETINGS/CALENDAR OF EVENTS

See Schedule attached hereto.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Rosenberger and seconded by Ms. Kolody to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie A. Detwiler
Board Secretary