

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
HELD JUNE 13, 2000**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on June 13, 2000, in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Huf at 7:55 p.m. The following people registered their attendance:

Board Members:

Scott Avery
Joseph Faust
Eugene Grossi
Betty Huf
Joan Jankowsky
Jerry Locke
Robert Rosenberger
Harve Strouse

Administration:

Barbara Fash
Sandy Homel
Victor Lasher
Dr. Michael Masko
Helene Peyton
Dr. Nancy Reid
John Rhodes
Jean Rollo
Timothy Vail
W. S. Wallace

CEA/Teachers:

Cliff Bowen
Susie Boyle
Beth Campbell
Colleen Cerino
Michelle Chiodo
Joanne Fabian
Evelyn Fetterman
Ray Garritt
Dee Hallowell
Patricia Hill
Bonnie Klein

Susan Klenk
George Leigh
Jan McIlhenny
Tom Michaud
Michele Mielziner
Kathy Patton
Barbara Poole
Mick Sander
Brian Sayre
Gary Scott

Public:

Mary Accetta
Georgia Ballard
Edward Bangs
Sina Baranski
Mindy Barish
Linda Bielawski
Taishary Buil
Janet Cooper
Rose Marie Doh
Bill George
Larry Hannon
Walt Hartman
Robert Herbert
Cathy Kalbfleisch
Rich Linke
Marilyn Matos
Sandra Matus
Tracey Miller

Shayla Miranda
Debbie Oswald
Sandy Polk
Denise Rehill
Shannon Rehill
Betty Sawyer
Armando Serrano
Benjamin Serrano
Evelyn Serrano
Neila Serrano
Judy Stanfield
Mark Thomas
Kelly Uro
Pat Valentine
Dixie Williams
Elma Yanes
Josue Yanes
Nubie Yanes

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Huf welcomed Scott Avery and advised that he had been sworn in as a School Board Director the previous evening. She indicated that she had appointed him to the Education Committee.

Mrs. Huf advised that Ms. Kautz was absent from the meeting since she was recovering from a recent illness. She wished her a speedy recovery. Mrs. Huf noted that Joe Reh, a former Board member, was in attendance at this meeting. She also offered condolences to the family of Shelly Salaman, who had recently died in an accident.

Mrs. Huf announced that the Board had met in Executive Session prior to this meeting relative to a negotiations matter regarding an agreement, a real estate matter regarding an assessment, a personnel matter regarding a health issue and a policy exception regarding attendance.

PRESENTATIONS

Fine Arts Festival Purchase Prize

Dr. Masko advised that the Fine Arts Festival Purchase Prize was being awarded to Brad Blackway of the Class of 2000 for his photo "Untitled 2." Dr. Masko advised that the photo would be on display. Dr. Reid and Mrs. Huf made the presentation to Mr. Blackway.

Dr. Reid advised that there was a gallery of purchase prizes in Room 16.

Outstanding Achievement Awards

Mrs. Jankowsky spoke about the process used in nominating and selecting personnel for the outstanding achievement awards. The awards were presented to the following: Debra Walker, Monica Fournier, Maureen Walker, David Bangs, Carol Jerden and Mark Thomas.

Mrs. Jankowsky congratulated the award recipients and thanked everyone involved in the nomination and selection process.

Log College Blue Ribbon

Mrs. Homel spoke about the process involved in being selected as a blue ribbon school and also about the site visit. She felt that this was not a stopping place but a confirmation of our mission and goals. She congratulated everyone at Log College and noted the new signs in place referring to Log College as a National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence, as well as a Pennsylvania Blue Ribbon School of Excellence.

Mrs. Huf and Dr. Reid presented a plaque to Dr. Clark and the Log College staff, many of whom were in attendance. Dr. Clark spoke about what a wonderful year it had been for Log College. He thanked Joe Reh and the Board, Dr. Reid, Vic Lasher, the elementary principals, Dr. Sexton, the assistant principal, Mr. Sewell, and Mrs. Homel, and most especially, the staff at Log College. He dedicated his "portion" of the blue ribbon to his wife.

A recess was called at 8:48 p.m. The meeting resumed at 9:00 p.m.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Jose Rivera of 649 Worthington Drive, Warminster, addressed the Board regarding the ESL Program. He stated that he had grown up in a bilingual family and felt that he had been able to accomplish what he had because of that. He indicated that he was attending the meeting on behalf of the people who did not speak English well and stated that he was concerned about some of the changes taking place in the District regarding the ESL program. He requested the Board to take into consideration the needs of the people to learn ESL. He believed that everyone should have a chance to learn and be successful.

Mrs. Homel explained that the current faculty member would still be in place for this program and that we would be running English, Science and Social Studies classes as ESL. She advised that we would continue to keep in place the two tutors that were in the program.

Mr. Faust requested Mrs. Homel to prepare for the Board a summary of what the program currently was and how it was changing for the next school year. He felt that he would then be better informed as to the community's concerns. Mrs. Homel agreed to do so.

Lynn Miller of 723 Henry Avenue, Warminster, informed the Board that her son was just completing his sophomore year at Tennent and that he needed learning support. She stated that she felt block scheduling was a good thing but believed that so far there had been some poor execution in the implementation, specifically for children with special needs. She stated that she understood that there had been a lot of work done by the Special Education teachers at the high school regarding implementation of block scheduling but that that information was completely set aside when it was decided how block scheduling would be implemented. She advised that her son currently receives the maximum amount of special education support while being fully mainstreamed but that next year there will be a large decrease in the amount of support he receives. She stated that she was very concerned.

Mrs. Miller also spoke about a student from Kosovo, Tony Lipovizza, who had been in this country for ten months. She wondered how he could get the help he needed in such a large ESL class (22 students.) She was concerned that there would not be a level playing field for these students.

Mrs. Huf asked Mrs. Homel to provide information to Mrs. Miller and the Board members about this.

Mr. Grossi stated that he was concerned also but was confident that Administration would follow this matter closely. Mr. Faust indicated that he would also be following this matter.

Bill George of 122 Iris Road, Warminster, spoke regarding ice hockey. He asked if the ice hockey club donation was out of the preliminary budget. Mr. Faust advised that it was.

Mr. George asked what could be done about getting the donation voted back in.

Mr. Grossi advised that it was not in the preliminary budget. Mr. Faust advised that there would have to be a motion by the Board to add this donation back in, then five Board members would have to vote in favor of it.

Mr. George stated that at the previous meeting it was indicated that no program had been cut for this budget. He felt that the ice hockey program had been cut and that they were the only athletic program that took a cut. He enumerated how much money would be spent on other sports while ice hockey would get nothing. He was disappointed in this and felt that it showed that the Board felt the hockey players were not important.

Mr. George also stated that he could not understand why the donation was being taken away since the hockey program was very successful this past year. He felt the hockey program was being discriminated against.

Mrs. Huf advised that this was a one-time donation last year and that this year the budget was very tight.

Janet Marinoff of 51 Fern Road, Southampton, addressed the Board regarding block scheduling. She felt that the needs of all students should be addressed and stated that she was concerned about class sizes. She indicated that the class sizes had been extremely large during the past year and provided statistics. She asked why more classes and teachers could not be added and stated that she hoped that the two contingent staff would be added, as well as considering adding more. She requested that the Board give the students and staff what they needed to succeed under block scheduling. She also asked if there was a class size policy.

Dr. Reid responded that there was one in process.

Mr. Grossi felt that class sizes had gotten smaller over the years and that the District had been operating at an average class size of 23½ over the past five years.

Mr. Faust stated that the addition of 9½ teachers would have kept class sizes the same, but that only 6½ positions were included in the preliminary budget. He felt fairly confident, however, that the contingency would come into effect at some point in time.

Mrs. Huf requested the Board's consent to change the order of the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Klinger Middle School Handicap Accessibility

A motion was made by Mr. Rosenberger and seconded by Mr. Faust to resolve that the Centennial School Board directs Administration to provide access for handicapped students at Klinger Middle School. Access to the lower level will be gained by installing a curb cut and handicap ramp in the sidewalk in the upper level and using the driveway to reach the ramp located on the parking lot side of the auditorium lobby. During inclement weather, the indoor ramp would be used with employee assistance. Any additional costs will be determined on a case by case basis. This will be re-evaluated after one year.

Mrs. Jankowsky was concerned about the safety of the location of the proposed ramp. She indicated that she was willing to spend the money to put something in but felt that the proposed setup was not safe, particularly since it would require a student in a wheelchair to travel on the parking lot.

Mr. Faust stated that he was told that probably only three or four cars use that parking area during the day.

Mr. Grossi felt that we should do whatever was necessary to make the buildings accessible and that if an architect was needed, one should be hired.

Mr. Faust felt that if we were going to do something, we should do it correctly.

Mr. Rosenberger stated that the other options were prohibitive but this one seemed like a good option.

Mr. Lasher explained the setup and the fact that the driveway was not used during the day and that the students would be using this ramp during the day. He felt that this would be an immediate solution, with no major cost.

Mr. Faust left the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

Mr. Grossi felt that the problem should be fixed permanently but that if a solution was needed by September and this was the only solution that could be implemented by then, it should be done. However, he did emphasize finding a permanent solution.

Mr. Faust returned to the meeting at 9:52 p.m.

Mrs. Jankowsky and Mrs. Huf expressed their continuing concern with this solution. Mrs. Huf suggested chaining off the area to keep cars out.

John Feeley, a parent of one of the handicapped boys, advised that Barbara Fash had checked and found out that an aide is permitted to push a child up a ramp. He indicated that the other student has an aide but at this point his son does not because he has not needed one. The option of getting an electric wheelchair was discussed.

Mr. Lasher suggested that for now the student use the aide to negotiate the ramp.

Mr. Strouse stated that the parents agreed to the proposed solution as a solution to get them through next year. He felt that the proposal, as presented, was a good interim solution and that we should then look for a permanent solution.

Mrs. Jankowsky advised that she could not accept the proposal as written. She felt that if the child could use the aide, then there was no need for an interim solution.

Mr. Strouse stated that he would still like to see the curb cuts put in since there would be an insignificant expense. Mrs. Jankowsky did not want to encourage anyone to use this and felt that it would be an "attractive nuisance." Mr. Grossi agreed with Mrs. Jankowsky.

Mr. Faust pointed out that although in this case the student had an aide, it might not always be the case. He pointed out that there could be a case of a student breaking a leg,

who would not have an aide. He felt this would be the temporary fix until a permanent solution was found.

Mr. Strouse asked where we would be if the motion was defeated.

A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to amend the current motion to read as follows: *"...that the Centennial School Board directs Administration to provide access for handicapped students at Klinger Middle School. Alternative options will be presented for evaluation to the Operations/Finance Committees in February 2001."*

Concern was expressed regarding the safety of the children in the interim. Mrs. Huf stated that in the past whenever there were occasions of children with injuries in a wheelchair, the nurse could usually handle it. Operationally, appropriate support must be provided.

The motion to amend passed 6-2. (Mr. Rosenberger and Mr. Faust were opposed.)

The Feeleys indicated that this was acceptable to them.

Mr. Johnson indicated that his son was the student who has an aide and that he would be attending Klinger first. He stated that this option was acceptable to them also.

The amended motion passed 8-0.

Mr. Johnson thanked everyone for their help on this matter and expressed his family's appreciation.

Mr. Feeley also thanked everyone for acting so quickly. He stated that this would make a big difference in the students' lives.

REPORTS

STUDENT COUNCIL

No report.

MBIT STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

No report.

GOOD NEWS

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Huf advised that Dr. Reid had left the meeting early due to an emergency, so the Board could read the Superintendent's Report included in their packets.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Jankowsky advised that the next Education Committee meeting would be held in October.

Middle Bucks Institute of Technology

No report.

Intermediate Unit

No report.

PSBA

No report.

AFG

Mrs. Jankowsky reported that the next AFG meeting would be held sometime during the summer.

Strategic Planning Committee

Mrs. Jankowsky indicated that this committee had met on May 31st and had substantially completed its work.

Act 48 Report

Mrs. Jankowsky reported that this committee had met several times and that there were meetings scheduled for over the summer. She further indicated that the target date for supplying a report to the Board was at the October meeting.

FINANCE & LONG RANGE BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Grossi reported that the next meeting of this committee was scheduled for June 19th.

Title VIII

No report.

Federal Lands Reuse Authority

No report.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

No report.

Citizens Policy

Mr. Strouse reported that this committee last met in May and that the policies discussed at that meeting would come up for discussion later in this meeting.

Legislative Liaison

No report.

Mr. Avery, Mr. Faust and Mr. Rosenberger left the meeting at 10:30 p.m.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Grossi to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the minutes of:

- *Work Session/Regular Board Meeting – 4/8/00*
- *Special Meeting – 4/24/00*
- *Regular School Board Meeting – 5/9/00*

And accepts the minutes of:

- *Education Committee – 5/8/00*

The motion passed 5-0. (Mr. Avery, Mr. Faust and Mr. Rosenberger were out of the room.)

FINANCIAL

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

- Schedule of Bills – May 2000
- Investments – May 2000
- Cafeteria Fund Budget Report – May 2000
- Student Activity/Clearing Fund Reports – January 1-March 31, 2000

And approves the:

- Treasurer's Report/Fund Profiles – May 2000
- Budgetary Transfers – June 2000.

The motion passed 5-0. (Mr. Avery, Mr. Faust and Mr. Rosenberger were out of the room.)

Mr. Avery, Mr. Faust and Mr. Rosenberger returned to the meeting at 10:36 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

- 2. Technology Roll-Out Plan
- 4. Athletic Equipment Bid
- 5. Network Wiring Bid

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

- (2) *Approves the third year of the Technology Roll-Out Plan, funded by the 1998 General Obligation Bond, at a cost of \$660,150. This plan includes the purchase of student personal computer workstations, associated tables and lab equipment.*
- (4) *Approves Athletic Equipment Bid No. 2000-22 for Athletic and Physical Education Equipment for the 2000/01 school year to be awarded to the vendors listed below. Total award as recommended is \$45,367.50.*

<i>Aluminum Athletic</i>	<i>\$ 570.00</i>
<i>Gopher Sport</i>	<i>2,107.44</i>
<i>JDL Equipment</i>	<i>849.95</i>
<i>Kelly's Sports</i>	<i>15,713.92</i>
<i>Locker Room Sporting Goods</i>	<i>7,551.47</i>
<i>Longstreth Sporting Goods</i>	<i>1,058.65</i>
<i>Passon's Sports</i>	<i>1,184.23</i>
<i>Sportsman's</i>	<i>14,262.81</i>
<i>Sportmaster</i>	<i>2,069.03</i>

- (5) *Approves the Network Wiring Bid No. 2000-30 to be awarded to Tucker Technologies, the lowest responsible bidder, in the amount of \$45,000.00 for the base bid and \$15,600.00 for the alternate. Bid award to also allow the following alternate prices for surface mount changes.*

<u>Option</u>	<u>Surface Mount</u>	
	<u>Add</u>	<u>Delete</u>
<i>T</i>	<i>350.00</i>	<i>200.00</i>
<i>S-4</i>	<i>600.00</i>	<i>400.00</i>
<i>V</i>	<i>150.00</i>	<i>100.00</i>

“T” is to add two drops plus 1 video

“S-4” is to add four drops

“V” is to add one video

Mrs. Jankowsky asked if the amounts in item 2 were actual numbers or estimates. Dr. Masko advised that they were actual numbers.

Relative to item 5, Mrs. Jankowsky asked what an alternate was. Mr. Lasher explained that it was for the wiring of the Bucks County I.U. space at McDonald, for which the I.U. has agreed to reimburse us.

Mr. Faust asked why, under item 2, we were purchasing Dell computers rather than IBM. Dr. Masko advised that the decision to buy Dell computers was based on a combination of price and service.

The motion passed 8-0.

3. Conference Requests

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Locke to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the overnight conference requests for Board, Administration and staff for 2000/01.

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that under the Board section, there were several items which she would like to have included: PSBA seminars, usually \$65 per person and PSBA legislative conference, usually held in Hershey at about \$220 per person. Also, she questioned the \$1,000 allotted for NSBA, indicating that the information she had shows that it usually cost more than that. Mr. Vail clarified that it was actually around \$1,700.

Mr. Faust suggested that the NAFIS conference should be around \$1,000, rather than the \$500 indicated on the list.

Mrs. Jankowsky felt that the NSBA Annual Conference could be deleted. She also pointed out that the Board had discussed whether a Board member needed to attend the NAFIS conference. She suggested that she could move to delete it.

Mr. Grossi agreed that the District could forego the National Conference this year and also a Board member need not attend NAFIS. He agreed that the legislative conference in Hershey and the other ones Mrs. Jankowsky suggested that we add were important.

Mrs. Huf felt that these were all important for a new Board member and also the PSBA Academy. Mr. Rosenberger agreed.

Mr. Strouse pointed out that the two that were recommended for deletion were not Pennsylvania conferences.

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that the confusion was that she did not recommend adding the Pennsylvania School Board Academy but that she could recommend that this be added. She felt that the Board should live by the same rules as it expects Administration to live by.

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Grossi to amend the motion by eliminating the NSBA Annual Conference and National Association of Federally Impacted Schools from the list of Board activities and by adding the Pennsylvania School Board Academy sessions to the list, as well as the PSBA seminars and Legislative Conference.

On the Administrative side, Mr. Faust had some questions that there might be differences in the prices. He asked if we were keeping the prices at what was listed even if they were incorrect.

Mr. Grossi asked if they were within the current budget limitations. Mr. Vail stated that they were. Mr. Grossi stated that these would then be the official caps.

Mrs. Jankowsky asked if we would keep the block, or each specific conference. Mr. Faust stated that his intent was to keep the block (i.e., the Board cap would be \$6,000.)

After further discussion, it was agreed that the Board's limit would be kept at \$6,000 and the administrators' limits would be kept at those amounts contained in the approved budget.

The motion to amend passed 7-1. (Mrs. Huf opposed.)

The amended motion passed 7-1. (Mrs. Huf opposed.)

OPERATIONS AND POLICIES

Final Approval:

- 2.9 – Workers Compensation
- 3.7 – Student Responsibility/Discipline
- 5.2 – Libraries
- 5.12 – Planning for Instruction
- 7.20 – Curriculum Review by Parents

A motion was made by Mr. Rosenberger and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that Centennial School Board approves the revisions to the following policies: 2.9 – Workers Compensation; 3.7 – Student Responsibility/Discipline; 5.2 – Libraries; 5.12 – Planning for Instruction; and 7.20 – Curriculum Review by Parents.

The motion passed 8-0.

Initial Distribution:

Mr. Rosenberger noted the following policies for initial distribution:

- 5.7 – Reporting Student Progress
- 5.11 – Recognition of Religious Beliefs and Customs
- 6.1 – Community/School Fund Raising
- 7.23 – Excusing Students From State Assessments

OLD BUSINESS

None

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Grossi to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the following Personnel items: Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absences; Change of Status; Summer School Teachers; Summer School Safety Officer; Substitute Bus Driver; and Co-Curricular Additions, Changes and Deletions.

Mr. Faust explained that the Summer School Safety Officer position was new and that the funding would come out of the Summer School program.

The motion passed 8-0.

COMMUNICATIONS

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

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None.

BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENT

CAA Compensation Plan

Mr. Grossi advised that the committee had met with the CAA and completed a compensation plan that had been reviewed by the Board. The plan basically calls for increases. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

Legislative Report

Mr. Faust stated that he wished to call to Mr. Grossi's attention to the legislative report since there were some items that might be of interest regarding financial reporting. He also indicated that Mr. Strouse should read the report since it addressed some changes regarding reporting requirements.

MBIT Report

Mr. Faust stated that he had been out of the room earlier so he would like to give the MBIT Report at this point. He stated that the following occurred at the MBIT meeting:

- Increases were approved for support staff
- Salary adjustments were made for the principal and assistant principal
- The increase to the administrative compensation plan was 3.7%
- The Computer Concepts program was eliminated
- Three courses were going from full-time to part-time status: Electronics Technology, Engineering and Related Technology and Math

- Three courses were put on probation because of low enrollment: Marketing and Management, Precision Machine Technology and Welding
- Appointments were made for solicitor and insurance broker
- Approved job description for in-school suspension aide
- Canceled July meeting

Mr. Faust indicated that after that meeting, he went to CB West to attend the Senior Recognition Program.

Mr. Grossi questioned the assistant principal's raise and the hiring of the in-school suspension aide. Mr. Faust was asked to get information on this.

After a question from Mrs. Jankowsky, the organizational structure was discussed. Mr. Avery asked if we could request the organizational structure from now and from four years ago. Mrs. Huf asked Mr. Faust to obtain this information. Mrs. Jankowsky requested the enrollment figures also.

SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEETINGS/CALENDAR OF EVENTS

See Schedule attached hereto.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Avery to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 8-0. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie A. Detwiler
Board Secretary