

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
HELD APRIL 10, 2001**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on April 10, 2001, in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Huf at 7:40 p.m. The following people registered their attendance:

Board Members:

Scott Avery
Joseph Faust
Al Hertenberger
Betty Huf
Joan Jankowsky
Jerry Locke
Harve Strouse
James Wybar

Administration:

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

CEA/Teachers:

Mick Sander
Woody Martin

Public:

Ravi Kalwari
Amy Keppol
Anita Miller

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Jankowsky commended the students, staff and parents involved in the production of *South Pacific* at Klinger and *Superman, the Musical*, at Tennent. Mr. Hertenberger commented that Mr. LoVecchio's band did a wonderful job.

Mrs. Huf announced that the Board had met in Executive Session prior to this meeting relative to a personnel matter regarding an agreement. She also indicated that they would meet again in Executive Session after this meeting to discuss a conference matter relative to evaluation of this meeting.

PRESENTATIONS

WTHS Madrigal Singers

Dr. Reid announced that the Madrigals were celebrating their 30th anniversary and that they would be representing the District at a concert in France. Also, she congratulated the Madrigals on receiving a commendation from Governor Ridge.

Four of the Madrigals were present at this meeting. Sharon Morrison, the Director, led them in a selection that they would be performing in France. Also, she announced that the anniversary concert would take place on May 24th.

Dr. Sexton asked them to bring back some photographs to be hung in the Board Room.

Standards Presentation

Dr. Masko advised that the presentation that was scheduled to be given by Mr. Gillan had to be postponed. Instead, Dr. Masko gave a brief presentation on a Standards Walkthrough. He indicated that it could be compared to an audit and that they would be checking to see whether the students had met the standards. He indicated that the walkthroughs would begin in the 2001/02 school year. He showed a video of a walkthrough at Bethlehem School District.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None

REPORTS

STUDENT COUNCIL

Ravi Kalwari reported as follows:

- The school play went very well.
- The Senior formal also went well, with over 400 students attending the dance.
- The Rage for AIDS concert would take place on May 19th.
- A Senior Picnic was being planned.
- Plans were underway for the Senior Prom.

MBIT STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Amy Keppol reported as follows:

- Dave Peppelman of Christian Heating and Air Conditioning was recognized for donating over \$12,000 of equipment to the HVAC program. Thanks were also given to Pierce Phelps for donating \$8,000 of equipment.

- MBIT and Delaware Valley College announced a joint venture to offer certificate and associate degree programs in the area of culinary arts.
- Several Health Occupation and Health Science students participated in the Pennsylvania HOSA competition in Lancaster. Three students won second place in the biomedical debate. They, along with the newly re-elected President of HOSA, would be competing at the national level in Atlanta in June.
- Several other students were currently competing in the VICA competitions.

GOOD NEWS

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

Dr. Sexton reported that at the April 5th meeting of the Parent Advisory Committee held at MBIT, Michael Myers (a Tennent student) informed the parents of all he had learned in the culinary arts program. He then prepared a special dessert for the parents, bananas flambé. Dr. Sexton complimented Michael on a fine job.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Reid presented the Superintendent's Report, highlighting a Salute to Our Schools and the Third Quarter Vandalism Report.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Jankowsky reported that the Education Committee had met on April 2nd. There was a technology update from Mr. Reed, wherein he highlighted the plan coming up for the summer where each elementary school would have their own lab.

The Committee then focused on the 6-12 educational delivery system and the International Baccalaureate Program.

Action items included the following:

- Suggested and approved high school implementation plan for a 5-period program schedule, which would be submitted to the Board by 2003. This would be coming forward as a discussion item at the next Board Meeting. This was a plan to be reviewed by the Board in case the four-period block did not seem to be working.
- Approved developing a middle school transition and implementation plan for the 2002/03 school year. The committee picked two models to look at: a 6-period schedule and a 5-period modified block schedule. The committee also asked Administration to include a rolling implementation plan for the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program, to be introduced as follows:

2002/03 – 6th grade
2003/04 – 7th grade
2004/05 – 8th grade

The next meeting of the committee would be held on May 7th. The topic would be the request to develop new courses at Tennent for the 2002/03 school year.

Middle Bucks Institute of Technology

Mr. Faust reported that the Executive Council had met the previous evening. They first held an Executive Session to review a proposal from a Board member. At the regular meeting which followed, the following items were discussed:

- The Administrative Report was presented, which was based on the special needs students at MBIT and the services provided for them.
- The Middle Bucks budget was approved with no major changes from the preliminary budget.
- The Reorganization Plan was approved.
- A revision to this year's school calendar was approved, which added two additional days due to snow days. June 14th would be the last school day for MBIT.

Intermediate Unit

No report.

PSBA

Mrs. Jankowsky reported that the Region 11 Dinner would be on May 9th at Williamson's Restaurant.

New Teacher Induction

Mrs. Jankowsky advised that she was the Board liaison to this committee. She indicated that there would be a document coming forward in May or June regarding this matter.

FINANCE & LONG RANGE BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Faust reported that a meeting had been held on April 4th, at which the following items were handled:

- A Request for Proposal was to be sent out for before and after school care.
- Review of the Board Secretary's Reappointment and salary schedule, which would be coming before the Board at an upcoming meeting.
- The preliminary budget was discussed. The committee reviewed two scenarios calling for a 25 mill tax increase and significant budget cuts. The committee requested additional information from Administration, which hoped to present additional proposals that would lower the potential tax increase.

The next meeting of the committee would be on April 18th.

Title VIII

No report.

Federal Lands Reuse Authority

No report.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Locke reported that this committee had met on March 27th. They reviewed the status of discussion regarding air conditioning the elementary schools. He indicated that this would be a comprehensive review by Mr. Lasher and Mr. Rhodes and that it would take a while before this would be presented to the Board.

The committee also discussed that fact that due to increased electrical rates, the District's electrical costs would be \$200,000 more than they were last year. He advised that fuel rates had also gone up, resulting in an approximate \$60,000 increase over last year for fuel costs.

The committee reviewed a request for a change in bus stops. This matter was still under review.

Mr. Locke advised that the next meeting of this committee had not yet been scheduled.

Citizens Policy

Mr. Strouse reported that this committee would meet on April 17th.

Legislative Liaison

Mr. Faust referred to the report included in the Board's packet. He also advised that a meeting had been held with Representative Clymer from Upper Bucks County, who is on the Education Committee of the House of Representatives. The topic was charter schools, particularly cyber charter schools. He advised that he would be introducing a Bill that would set timelines where districts would have to be notified if a student was attending a charter school, so the District could put that dollar amount in their budget. He indicated that all the representatives had great concerns about cyber charters. There is another bill already in process calling for no state sales tax on the purchase of construction materials.

Mrs. Jankowsky asked about the Alliance for School Aid Partnership getting behind a proposal to increase funding for special education. She wondered if Representative Clymer addressed this. Mr. Faust indicated that the Representative was behind this and that he would keep the Board informed.

Mr. Faust also discussed HB 8, which addressed retirement issues.

MINUTES

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

- *Education Committee – 3/7/01, 3/22/01*
- *Finance and Long Range Budget Planning – 2/26/01*

The motion passed 8-0.

OPERATIONS AND POLICIES

Initial Distribution:

Mr. Locke pointed out the following policies for initial distribution:

- 2.13 – Recruitment and Employment of Staff
- 2.14 – Processing Employees (recommended for rescission)

FINANCIAL

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

- *Schedule of Bills – March 2001*
- *Investments – March 2001*
- *Cafeteria Fund Budget Report – March 2001*

And approves the:

- *Treasurer's Report/Fund Profiles – March 2001*
- *Budgetary Transfers – April 2001*

The motion passed 8-0.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Support Staff Compensation Plan

A motion was made by Mr. Strouse and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Salary and Fringe Benefit Program as outlined in the attached Support Staff Compensation Plan for the period from July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2004. The projected average increase in cost per year is \$286,100 for the General Fund and \$19,000 for the Cafeteria Fund.

Mr. Faust stated that, as part of the Committee that worked with the Support Staff on this, they had wonderful meetings and there was a lot of give and take. He felt that everyone had done an excellent job.

Mr. Strouse thanked the committee members and the Board. He stated that there was a lot of time and effort put into this.

Mrs. Jankowsky concurred with all of the comments made and mentioned that eventually the Board would be getting a cleaned-up document for their reference. She thanked Mrs. Rollo and Mr. Vail and encouraged the Board to approve this.

The motion passed 8-0.

2. Middle School Attendance Boundary

A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the following adjustment to the middle school attendance boundary:

Effective September 2001, sixth grade students who reside in Shenandoah Woods will enroll at Log College Middle School.

Mr. Strouse asked if this was discussed and presented to the residents and/or the Navy personnel who represent the residents of Shenandoah Woods. Mrs. Homel indicated that she had had many conversations with the Navy personnel and that they were working closely on this matter. She stated that the Navy personnel will handle the families and the procedures.

Mr. Strouse asked if there had been any significant objections. Mrs. Homel indicated that there had not.

Dr. Reid stated that this had been placed on the cable also.

Mrs. Jankowsky thanked the committee for developing this plan. She felt that this would cause the least disruption to the students.

Mrs. Huf indicated that she had received two calls from parents who supported this.

Mr. Locke advised that this change would affect 25 to 30 students per year and that the implementation would take approximately three years. He indicated that there was more room at Log College than at Klinger.

The motion passed 8-0.

3. Roof Replacement Bid No. 01-6
4. Lighting Installation Bid No. 01-7
5. Suspended Ceiling Installation Bid No. 01-8
6. Asbestos Floor Tile Removal Bid No. 01-9
7. Floor Tile Replacement Bid No. 01-10

A motion was made by Mr. Strouse and seconded by Mr. Hertenberger to resolve that the Centennial School Board approve the following:

- (3) *The Roofing Bid No. 2001-6 to be awarded to Mike Kobithen's Roofing & Insulation, Inc. at the lowest responsible bid amount of \$145,000. This will be a general obligation bond expenditure.*
- (4) *The Lighting Installation Bid No. 2001-7 to be awarded to Del Val Power Contractors at the lowest responsible bid amount of \$119,999.00. This will be a general obligation bond expenditure.*
- (5) *The Suspended Ceiling Installation Bid No. 2001-8 to be awarded to A. Tripod Associates at the lowest responsible bid amount of \$95,775.00. This will be a general obligation bond expenditure.*
- (6) *The Asbestos Floor Tile Removal Bid No. 2001-9 for Davis, Leary and McDonald Elementary Schools to be awarded to UAS Automation Systems, Inc. at the lowest responsible bid amount of \$22,928.00. This will be a general obligation bond fund expenditure.*
- (7) *The Floor Tile Installation Bid No. 2001-10 for Davis, Leary and McDonald Elementary Schools to be awarded to ReSource Pennsylvania at the lowest responsible bid amount of \$47,150.00. This will be a general obligation bond expenditure.*

Mr. Faust noted that in item #3 there was a significant difference in bid amounts and wondered whether we had dealt with this company before. Mr. Lasher indicated that we had not but that he had extensive discussions with the roofer and had done extensive reference checks.

Mr. Hertenberger stated that sometimes companies will overbid just to be kept on the bid list in the future.

Mr. Faust asked if we use performance bonds on these. Mr. Lasher indicated that we do.

The motion passed 8-0.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Locke to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the following Personnel items: Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absence; Appointments; Substitute Aide; and Co-Curricular Additions, Changes and Deletions.

The motion passed 8-0.

COMMUNICATIONS

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

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None.

BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENT

District Calendar and Graduation 2001

Dr. Reid advised that when the Board adopted the calendar, the last student day was June 14th. However, since we had two snow days, the last day of school would have to be adjusted. She indicated that there had been some inquiries by parents and students as to when the last day of school would be and also about the date for graduation.

Dr. Sexton discussed various possible scenarios, as follows:

1. All students in attendance through Monday, June 18 (181 days)
2. Seniors graduate on Friday, June 15 (180 days)
3. All students finish on Friday, June 15 (180 days)
4. Open schools on primary election day, May 15, and end school on Friday, June 15 (181 days)

(Teachers work full contract year in each scenario.)

Mr. Strouse advised that he was in favor of holding graduation on Friday, June 15th.

Mrs. Jankowsky felt that everyone worked hard to make 181 instructional days and she felt that should be maintained. She was willing to look at using primary election day but wondered what other factors would impede that.

Mr. Faust was also concerned about not meeting the 181 days. He felt that they worked hard through the collective bargaining process to get 181 days. However, he understood that there were concerns, particularly with the Seniors. He recalled that the schools were open one year for primary election day and that there were concerns from the parents. He suggested possibly going with Option #2.

Dr. Reid stated that there were concerns about primary election day in one building and that accommodations were made for safety in that building.

Mrs. Jankowsky noted that there were not controversial issues on the ballot for this primary election day and that, unfortunately, there had not been large voter turnout recently. She

indicated that she could support using primary election day as long as the safety of the students was preserved. Mrs. Huf advised that she was concerned about the safety issue.

Mrs. Homel indicated that Administration might want to survey the teachers because some of them might already have plans in place for that day if they had already met the requirements for the in-lieu-of day.

After more discussion, Dr. Reid advised that more information would come forward at the next Work Session.

Mr. Hertenberger suggested that the way the calendar is set up should be changed for next year. Mr. Faust suggested that instead of adding to the end of the year first, we could take away holidays, etc. Mr. Avery suggested putting all the in-service days at the end of the year.

Class Size Policy

Mr. Strouse stated that there had been a great deal of discussion on this in the past but that it had not been brought back to the Board. He indicated that he would like to see Administration bring this forward against so that it could be resolved.

In response to a question by Mrs. Jankowsky, Dr. Sexton advised that this had gone through a full policy review.

Mrs. Jankowsky suggested that this be put forth as an initial distribution of a policy since it had been a year since the Board had last seen it. She felt that would afford the Board an opportunity to properly review this.

It was decided that this would be placed in the Board's packet for the next meeting as an initial distribution, as suggested by Mrs. Jankowsky.

SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEETINGS/CALENDAR OF EVENTS

See Schedule attached hereto.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Faust to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 8-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie A. Detwiler
Board Secretary