

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
HELD MAY 8, 2001**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on May 8, 2001, in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Huf at 8:10 p.m. The following people registered their attendance:

Board Members:

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

Administration:

Sandy Homel (arrived at 9:40 p.m.)
Victor Lasher
Dr. Michael Masko
Dr. Nancy Reid
John Rhodes
Jean Rollo
Dr. Thomas Sexton
Timothy Vail

CEA/Teachers:

Cindy Anderson
Ed Austin
Terry Travis

Aaron Francis
Mary Ellen Donnelly
Woody Martin

Public:

Rick Kozub
Cindy Kozub
William Ream
Leonard Plewes
Dottie Thomas
Eileen Tagmeyer
Bob Tagmeyer
Janet Marinoff
Charles Metzger

Judith Branstow
Vicki Boruta
Terry Graham Waugh
Robin Cohen
Stan Camson
Sharon Camson
Steve Gresh
Larry Roach
Michael Pagano

Public (Continued)

Beverly Kreibick
Gus Witzel
Joe Matkowski
Therese Ganther
Robin Areias
Maureen Lichtner
Grant Gifford
Nancy Reale Gifford
Jackie Kline
Patty Hudson
Lorraine Zlupke
Steven Zlupke
Bob Kalwari
Michael Simko
Jason Wismann
Eileen Wismann
Tricia Hoffman
Kaye Maxwell-Martin
Patti Zuzelo
Patricia Valentine
Patty Behan
Elaine McFarlin
Susan Curtis
Kaitlyn Rauchut
Mark S. Foster
Debbie Kanefsky

Gerard Doherty
Lucy Ann Centafont
Cindy Weiss
Cindy Harkins
Bob Richey
Sina Baranski
Michelle Pfeiffer
Shari Rabenstine
Maryanne Robold
Dale Bennett
Debbie Oswald
Laura Martin
Stephanie Benan
Puja Patel
Suzanne Robold
Donna Breece
Beverly Pfeiffer
Becky Heim
Joan Rauchut
Kaitlyn Rauchut
Peggy Huttick
Joanne Heim
Darla Glantz
Robert Vining
Kay Ostrander
Barbara Keronca

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Huf announced that the Board had met in Executive Session prior to this meeting relative to a personnel matter regarding an appointment and that the Board would meet again in Executive Session immediately following this meeting relative to a conference matter regarding evaluation of this Board Meeting.

Mrs. Huf also announced that she had appointed the following Board members to serve on a Superintendent Search Committee: Mr. Grossi (Chairman), Mr. Faust, Mrs. Jankowsky and Mr. Strouse.

Mrs. Jankowsky thanked everyone who participated in the Fine Arts Festival.

PRESENTATION

Dr. Reid announced that there would be a presentation by Ed Austin regarding Dr. William Tennent.

Mr. Austin spoke about Dr. William Tennent, his background and history, Log College School and what they have found of the original old buildings. He showed slides and spoke about interviewing relatives of Dr. Tennent.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Gus Witzel of 703 Middle Avenue, Warminster, spoke about implementing block scheduling for the middle school. His immediate concern was for the threat to the music and arts program, which he heard would be held after school. He wondered what the basis was for such a drastic change in the classroom activity.

Mrs. Huf explained that the Board had asked Administration to develop a plan and that they were interested in doing what was best for the students. She stated that they were looking for better results from the middle school program but that nothing had been decided yet. She indicated that she was not aware that the Board was going to disrupt the music program. She explained that we are in the talking and listening stage and that there would be quite a bit of discussion before anything was done.

Mr. Witzel asked when the earliest was that something would be done. Mr. Grossi responded that the earliest implementation would be September of 2002. Mrs. Jankowsky stated that the earliest the Board would vote would be September 2001.

Mr. Witzel stated that having music as an after-school program would put a lot less emphasis on it.

Mr. Avery pointed out that just because a 5-period block would be implemented did not automatically mean that the music program would be moved to after school. He indicated that the Board realized the importance of the music program to the community.

Mr. Grossi spoke about the International Baccalaureate Program.

Dr. Patti Zuzelo of 68 Hamilton Drive, Warminster, stated that she had just found out about this the previous week. She indicated that there seemed to be mixed reviews on block scheduling and that there were many ramifications that needed to be looked at. She asked if thought was being given to such issues as professional development and illness of teachers and students.

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that each of the Board members recognized the importance of the music program but not at the expense of the academic program. However, they felt that we could do both and do them well. She indicated that other issues were being considered and would be looked at as the plan was developed. The IB Program was designed to make the students competitive.

Dr. Zuzelo asked if we were looking at block scheduling with the IB Program or without it.

Mrs. Jankowsky explained that the scheduled was independent of the program. She spoke about the rolling implementation of the IB program.

Dr. Reid advised that one of the key points was the fact that at all levels we have looked at performance targets. The program drives the schedule. What the Board approved was the exploration of the schedule, not the implementation. In September, the Board would be reviewing this again and would decide how to proceed.

Janet Marinoff of 51 Fern Road, Southampton, stated that approximately three years ago there was a review of the middle school program and the basic philosophy of the 8-period day and the team approach was left the same. They were previously told we would have to wait three years to discuss any changes. However, now the Board has approved a resolution. They were supposed to wait until the end of the 2002/03 school year. She questioned why they were not waiting and why the 5-period modified block was chosen. She felt that 75 minute classes were too long and was concerned about decreasing time in Reading, English, Social Studies and Science. She also raised the issues of foreign languages, the music program, remedial students and the gifted program. She also asked about reducing class sizes. She requested the Board to wait to do anything until the data was reviewed from the current changes under the sunset provision.

Kaye Maxwell-Martin of 178 Ann Lane, Warminster, stated that she felt the music program should be kept as part of the regular day. She felt that it looked like team teaching was working and that the teachers knew the students' abilities. She was not sure that the students' needs would be met under block scheduling.

Steve Gresh of 441 Citation Lane, Warminster, felt that everyone wanted what was best for the children. He asked if block scheduling saved money and teachers. Mr. Grossi responded that it would probably cause a reduction of staff in some areas and an increase in others.

Mr. Gresh hoped that we would not try to save money at the expense of the children. He asked the Board to keep in mind that you can't continue to reduce services. Mr. Faust stated that he did not feel there had been any cuts in service. He felt services had expanded. He indicated that he was a middle school parent and that he would be looking closely at this plan.

Mr. Avery stated that the Board was trying to improve so that the District would be competitive with neighboring districts and also to raise our test scores..

Jason Wissmann of 97 Buchanan Way, Warminster, (a 6th grade student) stated that he did not approve of block scheduling and that he was not happy about the music program being held after school. He indicated that he had heard that the high school students were doing their homework during class time.

Mrs. Huf thanked Mr. Wissmann for speaking.

Mr. Avery stated that he would like Administration to look into whether homework was being done during class time at the high school.

Susan Curtis of 801 Cypress Road, Warminster, pointed out that Log College was a National Blue Ribbon School, so we must be doing something right! She felt that there was a lot being done right at the middle schools and that one of the things that was good for the students was to be well-rounded. She felt the teams were important and that the students needed to feel that they were in a small setting since the transition to middle school was very difficult. She was concerned about the combination of the English and Reading programs. She wondered what options the parents would have if this was approved in September. She was also concerned about the high school since she felt that homework was being done during class time.

REPORTS

STUDENT COUNCIL

Bob Kalwari, Senior Class President, reported as follows:

- The Junior Prom was held in mid-April.
- The Fine Arts Festival had been held the previous week and was wonderful.
- The Rage for AIDS Concert would be on May 19th. The money from this would be donated to pediatric AIDS.
- The Senior Prom would be held on Friday, May 11th.
- The Senior Class appreciated that graduation was changed from Monday to Friday.
- New class officers were elected for next year. Paul Midzak was elected President.

Mrs. Huf indicated that she had received a letter from the Senior Class thanking the Board for moving the date of graduation.

MBIT STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

None.

GOOD NEWS

Dr. Sexton presented the Good News Report (see attached.) Dr. Sexton also reported that he had received a copy of a Certificate from the National Science Foundation representing the President's Award for Math & Science Teaching, which was awarded to Bob Stremme. Dr. Sexton advised that this would be hung in the Board Room.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Reid presented the Superintendent's Report (see attached), which consisted of an Update on the Renewal Plan for Mathematics Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Jankowsky reported that the Education Committee had met the previous evening. There was a presentation by the high school staff of 13 new courses they are asking the committee to endorse for presentation to the full Board. The committee decided it did not have enough information and requested more.

Middle Bucks Institute of Technology

Mr. Faust reported that a meeting would be held the following Monday and that he would give his report at the next Work Session.

Intermediate Unit

Mr. Grossi reported that a meeting would be held the following week. He also advised that he had been unable to attend the previous meeting.

PSBA

Mrs. Jankowsky reported that the PSBA Region 11 Dinner Meeting was scheduled for the following evening.

FINANCE & LONG RANGE BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Grossi reported that a meeting was scheduled for the following Monday to conduct a line-by-line review of the budget.

Title VIII

No report.

Federal Lands Reuse Authority

No report.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Locke advised that the committee had physically reviewed the bus route sites for the request by parents to change the routing system.

Citizens Policy

Mr. Strouse reported that this committee had met the previous month and reviewed school trips. That policy would be coming forward. The next meeting would be on may 15th.

Legislative Liaison

Mr. Faust reported that no meeting had been held the previous month so there was no formal report. He indicated that there had been some interesting developments regarding pensions lately and that hopefully by the next meeting he would have more information.

Mr. Avery left the meeting at 10:08 p.m.

MINUTES

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

- *Regular School Board Meeting – 3/13/01*
- *School Board Meeting/Work Session – 3/27/01*

And accepts the minutes of:

- *Finance and Long Range Budget Planning – 3/19/01, 4/4/01*

The motion passed 8-0. (Mr. Avery was absent at this time.)

OPERATIONS AND POLICIES

Initial Distribution:

Mr. Locke noted the following policies for initial distribution:

- 3.1 – Drug/Alcohol
- 4.2 – Conferences
- 7.16 – Class Size
- 7.19 – Weapons/Explosive Devices and Caustic Substances

Mr. Strouse stated that upon reviewing the minutes of the previous Board meeting, he noted that Policy 7.16 was intended to be placed on this agenda for initial distribution only and for discussion at the next meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Strouse and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that Policy 7.16 be withdrawn from this meeting's agenda.

The motion passed 8-0.

Final Adoption:

2.13 – Recruitment and Employment of Staff

A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 2.13, Recruitment and Employment of Staff.

The motion passed 8-0.

Rescission:

2.14 – Processing Employees

A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the rescission of Policy 2.14, Processing Employees.

Mr. Faust indicated that he would be opposing this rescission because there were parts of this policy that had not been moved into other policies.

The motion passed 7-1. (Mr. Faust opposed, Mr. Avery absent.)

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 – April 2001*
- *Investments – April 2001*
- *Cafeteria Fund Budget Report – April 2001*
- *Student Activity/Clearing Funds – January 1-March 31, 2001*

And approves the:

- *Treasurer’s Report/Fund Profiles – April 2001*
- *Budgetary Transfers – May 2001*

The motion passed 8-0. (Mr. Avery absent.)

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Middle Bucks Institute of Technology 2001/02 Budget

A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mr. Strouse to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Middle Bucks Institute of Technology 2001/02 budget in the amount of \$5,570,869.

Mr. Avery returned to the meeting at 10:14 p.m.

Mr. Grossi stated that he planned to vote against this motion for the reasons stated at the previous meeting. He felt that we could better serve the children within the District in

some of these programs. He hoped that this could be looked at. He also stated that he knew some of the other districts were doing so and that others were planning to do so.

Mr. Locke felt that Mr. Grossi had a lot of valid points but wondered what Mr. Grossi was proposing to do in the interim until a new plan could be developed.

Mr. Grossi stated that he didn't have any question that this would pass but was proposing that the committee look long range at bringing a proposed to the Education Committee. He indicated that his vote against this budget was a protest.

Mr. Faust advised that he was in favor of looking at the programs and that if we could do a better job here, then we should. However, in the meantime, he felt this budget was realistic although there were some things he didn't agree with. He felt that it was a fair budget for the next school year. Mr. Locke agreed, although he stated that he understood where Mr. Grossi was coming from.

Mr. Hertenberger asked if we had notified MBIT that we were not satisfied. Mr. Grossi replied that he had requested to speak to the Board of MBIT but was not permitted to do so, therefore this was the only means he had of protesting.

Mrs. Huf felt that if Mr. Grossi wished to speak before the MBIT Board, he would be permitted to do so. Mr. Faust advised that if any member of the Board had a problem, they could always contact Dr. Lees and that issues could also be addressed at Executive Council.

Dr. Glantz (from MBIT) stated that she had been in vo-tech education for 28 years and she felt that MBIT was the finest. She indicated that a lot of issues had been raised in terms of the delivery systems and that there were advantages and disadvantages to different delivery systems. She felt MBIT's had been successful.

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that she would not be voting for the budget. She felt that MBIT's administrative costs of 47% were way out of line compared to Centennial's administrative costs of only 4%.

Mr. Faust stated that it would be helpful if we could have a breakdown of figures of other school districts.

A roll call vote was taken, as follows:

<i>Mr. Wybar</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Avery</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Grossi</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mr. Faust</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Jankowsky</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mr. Strouse</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mr. Locke</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Mr. Hertenberger *Yes*
Mrs. Huf *Yes*

The motion passed 6-3.

Mr. Faust left the meeting at 10:50 p.m.

2. High School Transition and Implementation Plan

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Strouse to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves development of a high school transition and implementation plan for a five-period block schedule, to be submitted to the Board by September of 2002. The schedule shall include a STAR period as currently scheduled, and a STAR period as one of the five blocks. The schedule shall enable all students to meet the WTHS graduation requirements and shall accommodate the delivery of the MBIT program. Costs for development of the transition and implementation plan shall not exceed \$70,000.

Mr. Grossi stated that he could not support the motion as written. He was in favor of the five-period block but not with the inclusion of the STAR period in all options.

Mrs. Huf left the meeting at 10:55 p.m.

Mr. Avery challenged several statements in the backup material, including the fact that a STAR period would be creating a study hall for each student. He felt that this type of statement was an indication of thinking “inside the box.” He was also concerned that the backup material was not identified as to authorship.

Dr. Reid apologized for the form of the backup material and indicated that she, Mrs. Homel and Dr. Masko had authored the material.

Mrs. Huf returned to the meeting at 10:59 p.m. Mr. Faust returned to the meeting at 11:00 p.m.

Mr. Strouse felt that no new information had been presented to the Board by way of this backup material.

Mrs. Homel stated that flexibility was needed in a schedule if students need remediation. Whether we leave the STAR period inside or outside makes a big difference in how we move forward in helping students. She also felt that we can’t have everything up in the air at one time and that there are a lot of things up in the air right now.

A motion was made by Mr. Hertenberger and seconded by Mr. Locke to table this motion and send it back to the Education Committee.

Mr. Strouse advised that this had been the topic of much discussion at the Education Committee and that the Board requested that this come forward as it is. He felt that it was relatively simple and straightforward as it was presented here.

The motion to table failed 2-7. (Mr. Locke and Mr. Hertenberger in favor, everyone else opposed.)

Dr. Masko stated that the whole question of remediation was written into the Strategic Plan in detail and that workshops were scheduled for this summer for bringing remediation plans forward. The point of the meetings was to determine the appropriate strategies, where they need to be put in place, and what form the courses should take for students who are not meeting the standards at the high school. He felt that some of these could be put into place for next year but some would have to wait until 2002.

Mrs. Jankowsky suggested several amendments as follows:

- Amend the current motion to delete the words “and a STAR period as one of the five blocks” in the fourth line and revise the next sentence to read: “The schedule shall and shall not include a STAR period.”
- Delete the words “high school transition and implementation” in the second line.
- Change the last sentence to read as follows: “Costs for development of the plan shall be submitted to the Board at the next meeting.”

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Strouse to revise the motion to read as follows: To resolve that the Centennial School Board approves development of a plan for a five-period block schedule, to be submitted to the Board by September of 2002. The schedule shall and shall not include a STAR period. The schedule shall enable all students to meet the WTHS graduation requirements and shall accommodate the delivery of the MBIT program. Costs for development of the plan shall be submitted to the Board at the next meeting.

Mr. Faust questioned the level of detail to be included in the plan. This was discussed. Also, Mr. Avery stated that he would like to see how the students would travel through their day and what their schedules would look like.

A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mr. Strouse to call the question on the amendment.

The motion to call the question on the amendment passed 8-1. (Mr. Faust opposed.)

The amendment passed 8-1. (Mr. Faust opposed.)

A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to call the question on the amended motion.

The motion to call the question on the amended motion passed 8-1. (Mr. Faust opposed.)

The amended motion passed 8-1. (Mr. Faust opposed.)

Dr. Masko asked if it was the intention that the STAR period be remediation for students who were not meeting the standards. There was a consensus that it could also be for enrichment.

- 3. Paper Supply Bid
- 4. Door Replacement Bid
- 5. Medical Supplies Bid
- 6. Aluminum Roof Coating Bid
- 7. Band Uniform Bid

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

- (3) Approves the Paper Supply Bid No. 2001-21 be awarded to Unisource at the lowest responsible bid amount of \$74,056.65.
- (4) Reject and re-bid the Door Replacement Bid No. 01-18. A bid was received from only one vendor in the amount of \$81,000.00.
- (5) Approves the Medical Supplies Bid No. 2001-14 to be awarded to the following vendors for a total cost of \$9,561.53.

	<u>Athletic</u>	<u>School Health</u>
Micro Bio-Medics	602.13	\$1,399.43
Delcrest Medical	\$ 44.78	5,679.96
School Health		1,052.24
Sportsman's	<u>441.72</u>	<u>341.27</u>
	\$1,088.63	\$8,472.90

- (6) Approves the Aluminum Roof Coating Bid No. 01-19 to be awarded to A. Brooks Construction at the lowest responsible bid amount of \$14,000.00.
- (7) Approves the Band Uniform Bid No. 2001-20 for the William Tennent High School to be awarded to Stanbury Uniforms at the lowest responsible bid amount of \$342.89 per uniform for a total award of \$34,974.78.

The motion passed 9-0.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Avery to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the following Personnel items: Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absences; Appointments; Change of Status; Substitute Bus Drivers; and Substitute Aide/Secretary.

The motion passed 9-0.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Huf referred to the list of communications attached hereto. Mrs. Jankowsky advised that she had received an e-mail from Richard Krouse of Warminster regarding the middle school curriculum.

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None.

BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENT

Fiscal Note for Middle School Transition and Implementation Plan

Mrs. Jankowsky advised that the amount needed to conduct an exploratory period at the middle school was \$109,470. The amount approved by the Board was approximately \$101,200.

Mr. Faust stated that, due to the motion on the high school plan voted on at this meeting, he would like something from Administration setting forth their definition of a plan.

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 9-0. The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie A. Detwiler
Board Secretary