

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING  
HELD JUNE 12, 2001**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on June 12, 2001, in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Huf at 8:40 p.m. The following people registered their attendance:

Board Members:

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

Administration:

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

CEA/Teachers:

None

Public:

Sina Baranski  
Megan Lenox  
Dave Lenox  
Eileen Lenox  
Sandy Scott  
Christine Sterling  
Maureen Bahr  
Donna Marie Saul  
Marcia Van Osten  
Donna Curci  
Mark Toroniewski  
Valarie Toroniewski

Adam Toroniewski  
Jordan Toroniewski  
Mark Beseris, Sr.  
Mark Beseris  
Debbie Oswald  
John Pulire  
Pat Valentine  
Debbie Plotnick  
Steve Biddle  
Chelsea Seidler  
Paul Midzak

## **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 real estate appraisal, legal matters regarding a tax collector issue and a student issue, personnel matters regarding a retirement, extension of leave and personnel records. Mrs. Huf advised that the Board would meet again in Executive Session subsequent to the meeting regarding a conference matter relative to evaluation of this Board meeting.

Mrs. Huf advised that Mr. Wybar and Mr. Grossi were absent from this meeting due to personal commitments. She then introduced Ray Feick, the Interim Superintendent.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### Fine Arts Purchase Prize

Dr. Masko spoke about the Fine Arts Purchase Prize. This year's winner was Abby Schmultze, a Senior at Tennent. He spoke about her accomplishments and presented her with the prize.

### Bucks County Special Olympics Participants

Mrs. Homel spoke about the Bucks County Special Olympics held at Council Rock High School on April 28<sup>th</sup> and introduced four of the participants who were in the Track and Field Events who were in attendance at this meeting. She presented these students with certificates for their participation.

## **GOOD NEWS**

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

Dr. Reid advised that she had received a letter from the Acting Secretary of Education congratulating Tim Vail on his renewal as a Pennsylvania Registered School Business Administrator. Dr. Reid, Mr. Strouse and Mr. Faust presented Mr. Vail with a certificate.

## **COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

Valarie Toroniewski of 629 Jefferson Avenue, Warminster, advised that in October she had requested that the bus come closer to their home to pick up their daughter since she had to walk by herself three blocks to the bus stop in the dark in the morning. Her request was denied. One week after she received the denial, she received a letter from the District stating that a sex offender had moved into the area.

Mark Toroniewski of 629 Jefferson Avenue, Warminster, reiterated the comments of his wife (above) and stated that he felt this was a safety issue.

Mr. Locke advised that the Operations Committee reviewed this matter and performed an on-site inspection. It was their opinion that this was not a safety problem requiring a change in the bus route. This was prior to the sex offender moving into the neighborhood. However, the Committee still stands by its decision.

Mrs. Toroniewski stated that she did not understand why this request continues to be denied. She did not feel that it was a monetary or a time issue. She stated that every other child was being picked up almost at their front doors and she was only requesting equal treatment for her daughter.

Mrs. Huf indicated that she did not understand why this request was denied. Mr. Locke stated that the committee did not feel that this was a safety issue. Mrs. Huf advised that if the committee was not willing to review this again, there was no other option. She suggested that the police be alerted so that they would be aware of the situation.

Marcia Van Osten of 855 Primrose Drive, Warminster, advised that she was the parent of a 9<sup>th</sup> grader and of a student of the class of 2000. Her concern was regarding illness and absence of teachers under block scheduling. She spoke about the absence of the Geometry teacher in her daughter's class over the length of the course. She indicated that she requested additional support for her daughter and wanted to know what would happen as far as the other 75 students. She asked what plans were being made to prevent this situation from happening again.

Dr. Reid responded that Mrs. Van Osten and the other parents would be receiving information about this by the end of the week in an attempt to resolve this issue. She advised that the teacher had been ill.

Mrs. Homel advised that she had been working on this problem and that a meeting would be held the following day to put a final plan in place. She stated that she expected to send a letter home on Thursday setting forth what the plan would be.

Mrs. Van Osten stated that she was concerned about getting substitutes since she had heard that it was difficult to get quality substitutes because of the pay scale. Dr. Reid explained that the substitute situation was nationwide because there was a shortage of teachers. She advised that the District had increased its pay rate and had taken several other measures to assure that classes would be covered. However, this was still not fail-proof.

Debbie Oswald of 916 Log College Drive, Warminster, stated that she was still concerned about the changes to the middle schools. She felt that we would be spending money on something we didn't know was going to work. She wondered why we were looking to make changes.

## REPORTS

### STUDENT COUNCIL

Paul Midzak advised that he had recently been elected Senior Class President. He indicated that the Senior Class was going to try to continue community fundraisers.

### MBIT STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

No report.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Reid presented the Superintendent's Report (see attached), highlighting her past eight years as Superintendent. She spoke about cabinet members and Central Office administrators, as well as the changes to the Administration Building. She recognized members of the media and spoke about Dr. Sexton, Dr. Masko, Mrs. Homel, Mr. Vail and Mr. Lasher.

Mrs. Huf thanked Dr. Reid for her passion for education and her passion for the students. She felt that she had done a great job and that she would be missed.

### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Jankowsky advised that this committee had met on June 5<sup>th</sup>. Topics for discussion were as follows:

- Additional electives submitted by High School Administration and staff.
- Three clustering concepts for the high school. Administration would be developing more in-depth information on those which would come before the Board in the fall.

### Middle Bucks Institute of Technology

Mr. Faust reported that the Executive Council had met the previous evening. The following items were discussed:

- Administrative Report regarding projected enrollment for next year. Applications were up 14% but overall student population would be basically the same due to large graduating class.
- MBIT Calendar was discussed and revised. Centennial's conflict days went down slightly. A copy of the calendar would be distributed.
- Personnel issues:
  - Approved administrative pay increase
  - Made adjustments for non-bargaining personnel
  - Marketing and Management Program was curtailed for next year
  - Several programs were reduced to ½-time status
  - Reappointed Palley Simon as broker of record

- Motion to transfer \$131,000 from the MBIT General Fund to the Capital Reserve pending availability of funds.
- Motion to reappoint Solicitor was tabled due to need for more information.

#### Intermediate Unit

No report.

#### PSBA

Mrs. Jankowsky spoke about two upcoming programs, as follows:

- Summer Workshop in July in Johnstown
- State Conference in October in Hershey

She reminded everyone that Dr. Masko had distributed a form for possible Education Committee topics for the next school year.

### **FINANCE & LONG RANGE BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Mr. Faust advised that the committee had had several meetings to prepare the final budget document.

#### Title VIII

No report.

#### Federal Lands Reuse Authority

No report.

### **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Locke noted that because of increased electrical rates this year and increases in fuel rates, the increase to the community had been factored into the budget by the Finance Committee.

#### Citizens Policy

Mr. Strouse advised that this committee had met the previous evening and reviewed the policies on the agenda for this meeting for initial distribution.

#### Legislative Liaison

No report.

## **SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH COMMITTEE**

Mrs. Jankowsky advised that the deadline for applications was June 15<sup>th</sup>. She indicated that the position was advertising in the Philadelphia Inquirer, PSBA publications and *Education Week*. She indicated that the committee hoped to have a permanent Superintendent by the August meeting.

## **MINUTES**

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

- *Regular School Board Meeting – 4/10/01*
- *Work Session/Regular Board Meeting – 4/24/01*

*And accepts the minutes of:*

- *Education Committee – 4/2/01, 5/7/01*
- *Finance and Long Range Budget Planning – 4/18/01*

*The motion passed 7-0.*

## **OPERATIONS AND POLICIES**

### Final Adoption:

#### 3.1 – Drug/Alcohol

*A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 3.1, Drug/Alcohol.*

*The motion passed 7-0.*

#### 4.2 – Conferences

*A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 4.2, Conferences.*

*The motion passed 7-0.*

#### 7.16 – Class Size

*A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 7.16, Class Size.*

Mr. Strouse stated that there had been substantial changes to this policy since it was last discussed. He indicated that he would like to table this matter until further discussions could be held.

*A motion was made by Mr. Strouse and seconded by Mr. Avery to table this motion.*

*The motion to table passed 7-0.*

**Initial Distribution:**

Mr. Strouse enumerated the following policies for initial distribution:

- 3.4 – Student Trips
- 3.8 – Exclusion
- 5.4 – Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Development
- 5.12 – Planning for Instruction

**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 – May 2001*
- *Investments – May 2001*
- *Cafeteria Fund Budget Report – May 2001*

*And approves the:*

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

*The motion passed 7-0.*

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Student Disciplinary Matter**

*A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Strouse to resolve that the Centennial School Board adopts Adjudication pertaining to Student 4-12. The School District Administration is directed to take the action necessary to effectuate the Adjudication and to properly serve the Adjudication on Student 4-12.*

Mr. Faust noted that he would be abstaining due to a direct involvement of one of his family members.

*The motion passed 6-0-1. (Faust abstained.)*

2. Exception to Policy 7.18, Resident, Non-Resident and Tuition Status

*A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mr. Avery to resolve that the Centennial School Board grants an exception to Policy 7.18, Resident, Non-resident and tuition Status, for Student 3-16 to attend Klinger Middle School for Grade 8 during the 2001/02 school year. The District will not provide transportation.*

*The motion passed 5-2. (Mr. Faust and Mrs. Jankowsky opposed.)*

Mr. Strouse stated that this was a truly exceptional case and that he felt the exception was warranted. Mr. Avery agreed.

3. 2001/02 District Goals

*A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Strouse to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the following District Goals for the 2001-02 school year (See attached.)*

Mrs. Jankowsky felt that Administration had done a good job of condensing the numerous goals submitted and getting them into concise form.

*The motion passed 7-0.*

4. 2001/02 General Fund Budget

*A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mr. Strouse to resolve that the Centennial School Board adopts the General Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2001/02 in the amount of \$58,365,708 as presented per the attached supplement, and hereby authorizes the expenditures as set forth therein during the Fiscal Year 2001/02. (See attached.)*

Mrs. Huf advised that she would be opposing this budget. She had hoped for less of a tax increase. She indicated that she knew the Finance Committee had worked long hours and put in a lot of work.

*A roll call vote was taken as follows:*

<i>Mr. Strouse</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Locke</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Hertenberger</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mr. Avery</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Faust</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Jankowsky</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mrs. Huf</i>	<i>No</i>

*The motion failed 4-3. Mrs. Huf explained that the budget did not pass because five votes were needed in favor.*

Dr. Reid advised that the Board needed to pass a budget by June 30<sup>th</sup> so this matter would need to come before the Board at the June 26<sup>th</sup> meeting. There would be a Finance Committee meeting on June 18<sup>th</sup>, at which the budget could be discussed.

Donna Marie Saul of 589 Lowell Road, Warminster, thanked those who voted to approve the budget. For those who did not, she was suspicious of the reasons. She asked when the next public meeting would be where this would be discussed. Mrs. Huf advised that it would be at the Finance Committee meeting on June 18<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Saul stated that she would urge the Board to vote for this budget, which included a full-time Gifted Coordinator position. She advised that Mr. Grossi had previously stated that this would be a prime item to pull from the budget. Mrs. Saul spoke about the Gifted Program Evaluation that had been prepared. She cited page 5 of the audit, which recommended that a Gifted Program Coordinator position be created. She felt that this could not be handled by someone who already had a full-time position, although she felt that Sheila Buckley had done a wonderful job with the time she had available.

Debbie Plotnick of 1225 Woods Road, Southampton, commended the Board for taking positive steps with regard to gifted education. She also felt that Mrs. Buckley had done a great job but that if there was a full-time coordinator, many of the issues brought out in the audit could be addressed.

5. WTHS Graduation Requirements

Mrs. Jankowsky advised that earlier in the day Administration had requested that this item be removed from the agenda since the issue needed further development. This item would probably be placed on the agenda sometime in the fall.

6. Contracted Sports Medicine Services

*A motion was made by Mr. Strouse and seconded by Mr. Avery to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves entering into an Agreement with Holy Redeemer Sports Medicine Center for Contracted Sports Medicine Services, as per the attached supplement for the period July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2004.. Estimated cost to the District will be \$27,300 over the three year period.*

Mr. Faust was concerned that this was not the lowest bid and that we were looking at who was providing the services rather than the services themselves.

Mr. Vail responded that this was not a bid, but a quote for services; therefore, it did not require that the Board take the lowest one. He indicated that there had been a lot of conversation about this. There were some concerns about going with Warminster Hospital because theirs was a new program and they were going to subcontract some of the services. It was determined that it was not worth saving a few extra dollars for this.

Dr. Reid indicated that she had the same concerns as Mr. Faust.

Lou Patchioli, the Athletic Director, stated that they had a great working relationship with Warminster Hospital and also a 12-year relationship with Holy Redeemer, which has been great. He felt that Warminster did not seem ready for us. He indicated that he spent a lot of time looking at this and felt that we needed to go with Holy Redeemer now.

Mrs. Jankowsky pointed out that bids were sent to other places also; however, none of them responded. She urged that we not get "person-specific."

Mr. Avery stated that he felt having consistency was important.

*The motion passed 7-0.*

7. Permission to Apply for Funding
8. Bread and Rolls Bid
9. Milk Bid
10. Door Replacement Bid
11. 3-COM NBX Telephone System

*A motion was made by Mr. Strouse and seconded by Mr. Locke to resolve that the Centennial School Board:*

- (7) *Approves permission to apply for the following competitive grants for the 2001/02 school year in the amounts indicated:*

<i>Safe Schools Grant</i>	<i>\$10,500 *</i>
<i>Alternative for Disruptive Youth</i>	<i>\$46,690</i>
<i>Reed to Succeed (Leary)</i>	<i>\$39,287</i>
<i>Read to Succeed (Stackpole)</i>	<i>\$28,572</i>
<i>Students Achieving Standards</i>	<i>\$90,000 *</i>
<i>Bureau of Special Education</i>	
<i>Mini-Grant Programs</i>	<i>\$ 7,500</i>

*\* Estimated Amount of Funds*

- (8) *Approves the Centennial School District to participate in the Suburban Schools Food Service purchasing Co-Op Bread & Rolls Bid No. 2001-24 to be awarded as follows:*

*Stroehmann Bakeries Inc.*

*Group A All items with commodities*

*Group B Items 11, 12, 14, 15 with commodities*

*Morabito Baking Company*

*Group A None*

*Group B Items 8, 9, 10, 13 with commodities*

*Item 16 without commodities*

*The approximate total value of this award as it pertains to Centennial School District is \$32,000.*

- (9) *Approves the Milk Bid No. 2001-22 to be awarded to Rosenberger's Dairies for the lowest responsible bid amounts as follows:*

<u>½ Pint Container</u>	<u>Price</u>
<i>Fat Free White</i>	<i>.1643</i>
<i>1% Low Fat White</i>	<i>.1734</i>
<i>2% Reduced Fat White</i>	<i>.1832</i>
<i>Whole White</i>	<i>.1959</i>
<i>1% Low Fate Choc/Strawberry</i>	<i>.1777</i>

(10) *Approves the Door Replacement Bid No. 01-23 to be awarded to James Doorcheck, Inc. at the lowest responsible Bid amount of \$59,000.00. This will be a capital reserve account expenditure.*

(11) *Approves the 3-COM NBX Telephone System proposal to be awarded to Datastore at the lowest responsible proposal cost of \$116,626.18 plus additional labor at \$115/hour plus components. This will be a capital reserve expenditure.*

*The motion passed 7-0.*

## **PERSONNEL**

*A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Strouse to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the following Personnel items: Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absence; Appointments; Elementary Summer School Staff; Substitute Bus Drivers; and Support Staff Substitutes.*

*At the request of Mr. Faust, a motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Strouse to amend the motion by removing the 8<sup>th</sup> item from the top under "Resignations".*

*The motion to amend passed 7-0.*

*The amended motion passed 7-0.*

*A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Avery to approve the 8<sup>th</sup> item under "Resignations."*

Mr. Faust advised that he would be opposing this due to the fact that it would be a special exception that he felt would be setting a dangerous precedent.

*The motion failed 0-7.*

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

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

Mr. Strouse advised that he had received an e-mail regarding Math competitions and the Gifted Coordinator position, which he would pass on to Administration for distribution to the Board.

**ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

None.

**BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENT**

None.

**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 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Vickie A. Detwiler  
Board Secretary