

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING  
HELD AUGUST 14, 2001**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on August 14, 2001, in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Huf at 7:35 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:

David Blatt  
Sandy Homel  
Dr. Michael Masko  
John Rhodes  
Jean Rollo  
Dr. Thomas Sexton  
Timothy Vail

CEA/Teachers:

Bob Stremme  
Mick Sander

Public:

Debbie Oswald  
Sina Baranski  
Vicki Boruta

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**SWEARING-IN OF SUPERINTENDENT**

Judge Alan Rubenstein administered the oath of office to David P. Blatt, the new Superintendent of Centennial School District. Mr. Blatt was welcomed by the Board members.

**PRESENTATIONS TO BOARD MEMBERS**

Mr. Blatt presented PSBA awards to Mrs. Huf and Mrs. Jankowsky.

## **COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

None.

## **REPORTS**

### **GOOD NEWS**

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

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Blatt indicated that he had received a warm and gracious reception as Superintendent, from the Board, the staff, the administrators and the public. He stated that he was extremely gratified and excited. He stated his desire to build upon the work of his predecessors and take Centennial to another level.

Mr. Blatt advised that on opening day he would meet with the staff at the high school. He requested all to attend. He indicated that he had met with each Board member over the past few weeks. He thanked them for taking time out of their schedules to do so.

He also indicated that there had been a planning meeting at the high school, chaired by Dr. Devitt, on the day of his arrival in the District. He was able to attend and was encouraged to also see some of the Board members there.

Dr. Blatt advised that he had spoken to several people about the football position and he felt that there was a fine gentleman coming on board as the head football coach.

### **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Mrs. Jankowsky reported that a tentative schedule for the Education Committee had been set up and would be distributed to the Board, probably at the September meeting. She indicated that the first meeting of the committee would take place on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### Middle Bucks Institute of Technology

Mr. Faust reported that the Executive Council had met the previous evening and that there was a long presentation by Dr. Lees about MBIT's goals, accomplishments and initiatives. He indicated that he would distribute copies of these to the Board.

Mr. Faust also reported on the following items from the meeting:

- Reviewed assessment system for school improvement and MBIT's strategic plan, which was still in draft form.
- Approval of the hiring of a Technology Coordinator at a salary of \$65,000 and a Computer Application Support Specialist at \$41,000.

- Approval of the Student Handbook.

Mr. Faust indicated that he had expressed concern about the size of the support staff. Dr. Lees indicated that he would prepare a report for Centennial justifying these positions. There was additional discussion on this matter.

#### Intermediate Unit

No report.

#### PSBA

Mrs. Jankowsky reported that the Annual School Leadership Conference would be held in October and that it was very informative. She recommended that Board members attend.

Mr. Faust suggested that Mrs. Jankowsky request PSBA to hold more programs on weekends since many Board members were not employed by school districts and found it hard to attend programs during the week. Mrs. Jankowsky agreed to do so.

Mrs. Jankowsky advised that Joe Oravitz, Executive Director of PSBA for many years, had announced his retirement, effective in November.

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

Mr. Grossi advised that the next meeting would be held in September.

#### Title VIII

Mr. Grossi advised that we are hoping to get \$400,000 in impact aid this year.

#### Federal Lands Reuse Authority

No report.

#### **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Mr. Locke reported that the committee would be reviewing the situation of the access road behind Centennial Station and also the status of the survey on the air conditioning.

#### Citizens Policy

Mr. Strouse reported that Dr. Sexton had sent out letters to four of the committee members requesting that they retain their membership for another year. He also indicated that they were looking for volunteers and that the next meeting would be on September 18<sup>th</sup>.

### Legislative Liaison

Mr. Faust advised that there had been no meetings but that he had distributed several reports (see attached.)

Mrs. Jankowsky called to the Board's attention HB 375, which would create a state grant program to help more school districts provide advanced placement classes and examinations, and to help more students take those classes and exams. Mrs. Jankowsky felt that, if passed, this would be very beneficial to students.

Mrs. Huf requested that item #2 under New Business be moved up.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### 2. Longstreth Fifth Grade Student Trip

*A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board grants approval for the Longstreth fifth grade student trip to Camp Canadensis September 12, 13 and 14, 2001, at a cost to the District of approximately \$450 for substitute service.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

### **MINUTES**

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

- *Regular School Board Meeting/Work Session – 5/22/01*
- *Special School Board Meeting – 6/7/01*
- *Regular School Board Meeting – 6/12/01*
- *Regular School Board Meeting – 6/26/01*
- *Special School Board Meeting – 7/12/01*

*The motion passed 9-0, except regarding Regular School Board Meeting of 6/26/01. Mr. Strouse abstained from voting on that meeting since he was not present at that time. Therefore, the vote regarding the Regular School Board Meeting of 6/26/01 was 8-0-1.*

### **OPERATIONS AND POLICIES**

#### Final Adoption:

#### 3.4 – Student Trips

*A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 3.4, Student Trips.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

3.8. – Exclusion

*A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 3.8, Exclusion.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

5.4 – Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Development

Mr. Locke indicated that he had received a request from members of the Board to remove this item from the meeting.

5.12 – Planning for Instruction

*A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 5.12, Planning for Instruction.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

**FINANCIAL**

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

- *Schedule of Bills – June 2001, July 2001*
- *Investments – June 2001, July 2001*
- *Cafeteria Fund Budget Report – June and July 2001*
- *Student Activity/Clearing Funds – April 1 through June 30, 2001*

*And approves the:*

- *Fund Profiles/Treasurer's Report– June 2001, July 2001*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**NEW BUSINESS (Continued)**

1. Auxiliary Pay Rates 2001/02

*A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves pay rates for all auxiliary positions for the 2001/02 school year as per the attached supplement.*

Mr. Strouse asked if these were the pay rates used in preparing the budget for the current year. Mr. Grossi responded affirmatively.

*The motion passed 9-0.*

3. Permission to Apply for Grants for 2001/02

*A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves permission to apply for the following 2001/02 school year entitlement grants in the amounts indicated:*

<i>Title I</i>	<i>\$483,712</i>
<i>Title II</i>	<i>\$ 26,627</i>
<i>Title VI</i>	<i>\$ 24,116</i>
<i>Class Size Reduction</i>	<i>\$171,681</i>

*The motion passed 9-0.*

4. Creation of Part-time Assistant Athletic Director Position

*A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mr. Strouse to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves amending the Support Staff Agreement to reflect the creation of the part-time, 12 month, Assistant Athletic Director position with no benefits attached, at an annual salary of \$12,700, effective August 14, 2001, and further directs Administration to make the necessary budgetary transfers within the two salary accounts.*

Mr. Faust was concerned that there was a contract with the staff calling for a football coach to be paid \$6,000 or \$6,500. Also, they were working on the gifted position, which did not make this agenda although the football position did.

Mr. Blatt stated that some of this was the result of timing since the state mandates that football practice must start by this week and we needed someone in place. Also, interviews were scheduled for the gifted lead teacher this week. Discussion was also held regarding the job description for the gifted teacher position. It was decided that this would be included in the Board's next packet.

Mr. Faust requested copies of the June 26<sup>th</sup> meeting tapes for his review.

*A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Strouse to call the question.*

*The motion to call the question passed 9-0.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

## **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*
- *Appointments*
- *Change of Status*
- *Homebound Instructor*
- *Kindergarten Bus Aides*
- *Co-Curricular Additions, Changes and Deletions*

Mr. Faust requested that on page 2, the 14<sup>th</sup> item be pulled for a separate vote.

Mrs. Rollo advised that the 6<sup>th</sup> item from the bottom on page 2, under Appointments, should be removed since that person declined the offer of employment.

*The motion passed 9-0.*

*A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Grossi to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the 14<sup>th</sup> item on page 2 under Appointments.*

Mr. Faust advised that he would be opposing this motion because he wanted to be consistent. He has always opposed when we are granting people additional steps, rather than having them come in at step 1.

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

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

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

## **ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

Vicki Boruta of 102 Stahl Road, Southampton, asked when the next Board meeting would be. Mrs. Huf advised that it would be on September 11<sup>th</sup>.

## **BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENT**

Mrs. Jankowsky requested Administration to give a comparative or historical trend for the past 2-3 years on the vandalism reports that it prepares.

## **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 9-0. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:30 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

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Vickie A. Detwiler  
Board Secretary

[Note: The Board Secretary was absent from this meeting. Minutes were prepared from notes of Mr. Faust, Assistant Board Secretary, and from tapes of the meeting.]