

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
HELD JANUARY 8, 2002**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on January 8, 2002, in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Jankowsky at 7:48 p.m. The following people registered their attendance:

Board Members:

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

Administration:

David Blatt
Sandy Homel
Victor Lasher
Jean Rollo
Dr. Thomas Sexton
Timothy Vail

Public:

Cynthia Mueller
Liz Watts

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

PRESENTATION

Recognition of School Board Members

Mr. Blatt announced that January was School Board Recognition Month and spoke about the important work that the Board members do. Mrs. Jankowsky spoke about the gifts the Board members were receiving in recognition of their service.

Mrs. Jankowsky spoke about Mr. Blatt's role as "10th member of the Board" and stated that she would like to recognize him by presenting him with a Centennial sweatshirt, to be worn to all sporting events. Mr. Blatt put on the sweatshirt and remarked that he would wear it with pride.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Cynthia Mueller of 228 Gravel Hill Road, Huntingdon Valley, stated that she was disappointed with the small public turnout at the meeting. She went on to explain that there were two good, established means of communication within the District, i.e., the website and TV channel. She was disappointed that these were not kept up to date with current Board agendas and committee meeting information.

Mrs. Jankowsky asked Administration to look into this matter.

Mr. Hertenberger felt that the TV channel could be used for a lot more than it was currently being used.

REPORTS

STUDENT COUNCIL

None

MBIT STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

None

GOOD NEWS

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Blatt stated that he had shared with the Board in a timely fashion whatever matters needed to be communicated. Therefore, there was nothing further to report.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Huf reported that the Education Committee had met the previous evening. Some of the topics discussed were:

- The Reading Curriculum Resource teachers shared information about our District reading programs, student assessment of reading and intervention for students who need assistance in learning to read.
- The elementary school instructional support teachers described their team approach to working with individual students one-on-one, their parents and their teachers to help the students succeed in school.
- Dr. Sexton and Mrs. Homel provided an update on school improvement information.

The next meeting was scheduled for February 4th. Topics to be discussed include curriculum renewal in mathematics and technology education and allocation of personal computers to classrooms.

Middle Bucks Institute of Technology

Mr. Strouse stated that there had been no meeting in December.

Intermediate Unit

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that the I.U. Board would meet on January 14th.

PSBA

Mrs. Jankowsky advised that PSBA had a new Executive Director, Tom Gentzel, since Joe Oravitz had retired. She felt that Mr. Gentzel was an excellent choice. She also advised that PSBA would be running two seminars in January: Testing and Assessment on January 16th and the 3 R's program on January 31st. She encouraged all Board members to attend.

FINANCE & LONG RANGE BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Grossi advised that the Finance Committee would meet on January 14th and that they would be preparing for the budget cycle.

Title VIII

Mr. Faust advised that Congressman Greenwood was able to get the entitlement approved for Centennial's \$500,000 and an extra assessment due to the base closing and Centennial retaining Naval housing.

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that she would like to send Mr. Greenwood a thank you if the Board concurred. Mr. Grossi felt we should send the marching band.

Mrs. Jankowsky felt that she would also like to thank Congressman Greenwood's top legislative staffer, Judy Borger, for her hard work on our behalf.

Mr. Faust pointed out that legislation does not go through without support from both Houses and that Senator Specter and his staff also helped to get this through. Mrs. Jankowsky added Senator Santorum to the list also.

Federal Lands Reuse Authority

No report. (Mr. Lasher mentioned that another installment payment was due from Erickson within the next week.)

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

No report.

Citizens Policy

Mr. Locke reported that the next meeting would be on January 15th.

Legislative Liaison

Mr. Faust advised that both Houses had been on recess for the holidays. He also reported that PSBA would be holding a Legislative Leadership Conference at the end of the month.

Mrs. Jankowsky advised that the Accreditation for Growth planning team had met earlier in the day. They reviewed all information generated from the summer meetings, which was very productive. The two focus areas will be:

- 9th Grade transition issues
- Technology and the use of the website for communications.

Mr. Grossi felt that there was something the AFG team needed to look at. Last month the Board heard a lot about the destruction of the music program and there were a number of issues brought up by the students that should be addressed.

Mrs. Homel advised that right after the December meeting she spoke to Mr. LoVecchio about the music program. The sequencing of courses was what was causing the problem of not having room for music. They are communicating with the students about some of the options available.

Mr. Grossi reiterated that there were other issues that also needed to be addressed.

MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Strouse and seconded by Mr. Locke to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Minutes of the Finance and Long Range Budget Planning Committee of November 19, 2001.

Mr. Faust pointed out that committee minutes are usually “accepted” rather than “approved.”

Mrs. Jankowsky asked if Mr. Strouse and Mr. Locke, as the mover and seconder of the motion, would agree to this change. They agreed.

The motion to accept the minutes passed 9-0.

OPERATIONS AND POLICIES

Initial Distribution:

Mr. Avery identified the following policies for initial distribution:

- 2.2 – Professional Personnel Placement, Assignment and Transfer
- 3.26 – Student Attendance
- 6.5 – Diplomas for World War II Veterans
- 7.6 – Gifts
- 7.25 – Adult Smoking

FINANCIAL

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

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

and approves the:

- *Treasurer’s Report/Fund Profiles – December 2001*
- *Budgetary Transfers – January 2002*

The motion passed 9-0.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS1. Adjudication – Student 20-20

A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board adopts the Adjudication pertaining to student 20-20. The School District Administration is directed to take the action necessary to effectuate the Adjudication and to properly serve the Adjudication on student 20-20.

Mr. Strouse and Mr. Avery both advised that since they were unable to attend the hearing and the transcript was unavailable, they would be abstaining from voting.

The motion passed 7-0-2. (Mr. Strouse and Mr. Avery abstained.)

2. Appointment of Bucks County I.U. Representative

A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mr. Avery to resolve that the Centennial School Board nominate Jerry Locke, Board Member, to serve on the Bucks County Intermediate Unit Board of Directors for the term of January 8, 2002 through January 2003.

The motion passed 9-0.

3. Cell Phone/2-Way Radio Proposal

A motion was made by Mr. Avery and seconded by Mr. Hertenberger to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Cell Phone/2-Way Radio quote to Nextel Communications for the period July 1, 2002 – June 30, 2003, at the lowest responsible quote amount of \$801.96 per month plus 18 cents for each additional cell minute and 12 cents for each additional direct connect minute. This represents year two of the Safe Schools Initiative Communication program; and will be a 2002/03 general fund expenditure. Total estimated annual cost is \$9,000.00.

Mr. Strouse asked about additional minutes. Mr. Lasher explained that some of the phones had minutes included and some did not.

The motion passed 9-0.

4. Summer Projects – District

A motion was made by Mr. Avery and seconded by Mr. Strouse to resolve that the Centennial School Board hereby applies to the Department of Education for approval of the plans and specifications for the work described as follows: replace doors at Longstreth, McDonald and Stackpole, remove asbestos at Log College and Longstreth, replace roof at Log College, replace ceiling at Longstreth, replace lighting at Longstreth, McDonald and Willow Dale, replace carpeting at William Tennent, and repave driveway

at William Tennent. The Board certified that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, construction bid documents comply, or will comply, with applicable laws, regulations and policies, and the project will not pose a hazard to the health and safety of users. Specifications include all applicable statements set forth in the current PDE document entitled "Required Clauses for Specifications." Construction contracts will not be entered into prior to PDE approval. If the Board proceeds with this project, the lowest responsible bidder(s) will be selected. The Board also certifies that the above-described work will proceed whether or not additional on-site work that is subject to Act 34 of 1973 goes forward.

Mr. Hertenberger asked if there were any bonds put up for contractors for any of this work. Mr. Lasher indicated that there were.

Mr. Grossi pointed out that these projects were being brought forth now because PDE approval was needed to proceed.

Mrs. Jankowsky noted that doing this does not obligate us to do all of this work. The projects would come forward through the budget process.

The motion passed 9-0.

5. Settlement of Tax Litigation

A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Settlement Agreement with MTB related to the collection of Earned Income and other taxes and authorizes the appropriate officers of the Board to sign the Agreement.

Be it further resolved that the District Solicitor is authorized to take such action as is necessary to implement the Agreement.

The motion passed 9-0.

PERSONNEL

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

- *Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absence*
- *Appointments*
- *Permanent Per Diem Substitute Teachers*
- *Per Diem Substitute Teachers*
- *Substitute Bus Drivers*
- *Support Staff Substitutes*

The motion passed 9-0.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Jankowsky noted that the Board was sent a Christmas card from Dr. Lucy Carroll.

Mr. Avery advised that in December he had attended the Winter Concert at Tennent and that it was a fantastic experience.

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that the Board sent congratulations to Dr. Donna Dunar on the birth of her son, Max.

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 Mr. Avery and seconded by Mr. Hertenberger to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie A. Detwiler
Board Secretary