

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING  
HELD FEBRUARY 12, 2002**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on February 12, 2002, in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Jankowsky at 7:38 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

\* Arrived at 8:10 p.m.

Administration:

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

CEA/Teachers:

Woody Martin  
Paul Veltre

Public:

Diane Becker  
Paul Moser  
Anita Miller  
Doug Becker  
Irene Dudley  
Sue Donovan  
Karen Pressler  
Paul Midzak  
Jeremy Lopez  
Gilbert Torres, Jr.  
Brian Williams  
Frank Moultrie  
Jeremy Straight  
Tony Bria

Andrew Presner  
Brent Bellinger  
Josh White  
Brian Sammler  
Paul Dudley  
Ryan Donovan  
Steve Evans  
Eugene Richardson  
Kimberly Reese  
Brian Bassler  
Glenn Dolton  
Jacki Tinari  
Biz Kenny  
Lou Pacchioli

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mrs. Jankowsky requested that there be a moment of silence for Daniel Roman, an eighth grade student at Log College, who had passed away.

Mrs. Jankowsky announced that the Board had met in Executive Session prior to this meeting relative to a personnel matter.

Mrs. Jankowsky expressed her deep appreciation to the principals, students and faculties at each of the elementary schools. She explained that she and Mr. Blatt had visited each of these schools and shared some of their experiences and observations.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### Presentation of Library Books about the Tuskegee Airmen

Mrs. Homel explained that Harris (Sandy) Greenberg, a retired Centennial School Librarian, had arranged for each of the nine school libraries to receive a book donation about the Tuskegee Airmen in celebration of Black History Month.

Mr. Greenberg, as a member of the Delaware Valley Historical Aircraft Association, chose three books that were age and grade appropriate for donation to the schools. He indicated that this project was being underwritten by the Abington Bank. Mr. Greenberg introduced Major General Ronald Nelson (retired), Dr. Eugene Richardson, a member of the Tuskegee Airmen, and Mr. Bob Burnley, representing the Centennial librarians. Mrs. Jankowsky thanked all of them on behalf of the Board.

Dr. Richardson thanked Mrs. Homel and the Delaware Valley Historical Aircraft Association for finding the resources and exposing the schools to them.

Major General Nelson spoke about the museum that they were planning to build.

Mr. Burnley thanked Mr. Greenberg for the donation of books. Also present to accept the presentation of the books were Mr. Paul Veltre, representing the Centennial Social Studies teachers and Mr. Doug Becker, a Tennent student.

### Tennent Basketball Team

Eileen Poroszok stated that it was a great pleasure to introduce the members of Tennent's outstanding varsity basketball team, who had brought glory and honor to the District and their families by winning the Suburban One League National Conference Colonial Division

Championship. She indicated that they would be honored at a pep rally later in the week. She also recognized the coaches for their hard work.

Mr. Blatt and Mrs. Jankowsky presented the coaches and players with certificates, as well as Lou Pacchioli, Athletic Director, and Jacki Tinari, his secretary.

## **COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

Anita Miller of 400 Grape Street, Warminster, reminded the Board of the concern she had raised at the previous meeting regarding the posting of students' progress on their reading lists. She wondered if anything had happened on this matter.

Mrs. Jankowsky indicated that Administration was addressing this issue. Mr. Blatt advised that this had been discussed and that a district-wide administrative meeting was scheduled for the following day, at which this would be discussed. He indicated that someone would be in touch with Mrs. Miller after that time.

Mrs. Jankowsky advised that Mr. Hertenberger would be late for the meeting due to a medical issue.

## **REPORTS**

### **STUDENT COUNCIL**

Paul Midzak spoke about the many activities that the students were involved in, including the following:

- Alumni Breakfast
- Frank Moultrie had scored over 1,000 points in basketball, breaking a 34-year-old record.
- The Middle States mid-point review took place in January.
- Theater Night – The drama students attended school dressed as various characters.
- Senior Sweetheart skits
- The Basketball Championship
- Aid for Friends – NBC News reported on students who had prepared 168 meals for the elderly

[Mr. Hertenberger arrived at the meeting at 8:10 p.m.]

### **MBIT STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE**

Gil Torres reported on the progress of the student-built house. He indicated that they were in the process of insulating the house.

### **GOOD NEWS**

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

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Blatt stated that the Board had received the Superintendent's Report in their packets. He commented on the fact that he had been with the District for approximately six months and he felt we were clearly moving ahead as a District and as a team.

## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Mrs. Huf reported that the Education Committee had met on February 12<sup>th</sup>, at which it heard presentations on the curriculum renewal.

The next meeting of this committee will be on March 4<sup>th</sup>. The topics for that meeting include the longitudinal study, the virtual high school program and the International Baccalaureate Program.

### Intermediate Unit

Mr. Locke stated that a meeting was held on January 14<sup>th</sup>, at which there was a demonstration and review of teaching aids used by I.U. teachers. The next meeting was scheduled for February 19<sup>th</sup>.

### Middle Bucks Institute of Technology

Mr. Strouse advised that a meeting had been held on January 14<sup>th</sup>. Three new officers were elected, Chairman, Vice Chairman and Secretary (Mrs. Huf). Three representatives from Centennial will be on committees: Mr. Grossi – Finance; Mrs. Huf – Building Security and Technology; and Mr. Strouse – Program.

There was an overview presentation of ten career clusters and discussion about Central Bucks' acquisition of property.

Mrs. Huf advised that a meeting was also held on February 11<sup>th</sup>, at which the following occurred:

- Discussion of movement of MBIT from a shared-time program to a comprehensive high school. Administration is continuing to pursue alternatives.
- The budget process was started in the Finance Committee.
- Administration voted on participating in a "Lead the Way" program.
- Discussion about Central Bucks' acquisition of property. The Board authorized an appraisal so that a cost analysis could be done. They also authorized appraisal to fair market value.

Discussion then ensued regarding Central Bucks' acquisition of property. Mr. Strouse requested the Superintendent to distribute to the Board a copy of the Request for Proposal.

### PSBA

Mrs. Jankowsky reported that she, Mrs. Baranski and Mrs. Huf had attended the first course of the School Board Academy on School Law and that it was worthwhile. She and Mrs. Huf had attended a seminar, "How to Assess Tests and Other Measures of Student Achievement", which was also worthwhile.

Mrs. Jankowsky also reported that PSBA's Executive Director, Tom Gentzel had offered to visit Centennial, possibly in May.

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

Mr. Grossi reported that the Finance Committee would meet on February 25<sup>th</sup> regarding the budget. He indicated that it was going to be a tough budget year.

### Title VIII

No report.

### Federal Lands Reuse Authority

No report.

### **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

No report.

### Citizens Policy

Mrs. Baranski indicated that the next meeting of this committee would be on March 19<sup>th</sup>.

### Legislative Liaison

No report. (One item, House Bill 2059, was on the agenda under Board Discussion and Comment.)

## **MINUTES**

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

- *Regular School Board Meeting – 1/8/02*
- *Work/Regular School Board Meeting – 1/22/02*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

## **OPERATIONS AND POLICIES**

### Initial Review

Mr. Avery noted the following policies for initial review:

- 3.5 – Non-Discrimination on Basis of Handicap
- 3.18 – Student Indebtedness
- 3.20 – WTHS Driving and Parking
- 7.22 – Discrimination

### Final Adoption:

#### 2.2 – Professional Personnel Placement, Assignment and Transfer

*A motion was made by Mr. Avery and seconded by Mr. Grossi to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 2.2, Professional Personnel Placement, Assignment and Transfer.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

#### 3.26 – Student Attendance

*A motion was made by Mr. Avery and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 3.26, Student Attendance.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

#### 6.5 – Diplomas for World War II Veterans

*A motion was made by Mr. Avery and seconded by Mr. Hertenberger to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the adoption of Policy 6.5, Diplomas for World War II Veterans.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

#### 7.6 – Gifts

*A motion was made by Mr. Avery and seconded by Mr. Grossi to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 7.6, Gifts.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

#### 7.25 – Adult Smoking

*A motion was made by Mr. Avery and seconded by Mr. Grossi to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 7.25, Adult Smoking.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

## **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 – January 2002*
- *Investments – January 2002*
- *Cafeteria Fund Budget Report – January 2002*
- *Student Activity/Clearing Funds Report – October 1 – December 31, 2001*

*and approves the:*

- *Treasurer's Report/Fund Profiles – January 2002*
- *Budgetary Transfers – February 2002*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### Superintendent's Contract

*A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mr. Strouse to resolve that the conditions set forth for Mr. Blatt 's employment as Superintendent have been fulfilled and a form of Agreement satisfactory to the school district 's solicitor has been prepared. The President and Secretary are authorized to execute said agreement.*

Mr. Faust stated that he would support the motion but that he had a question. In reviewing the original motion from the time Mr. Blatt was hired, Mr. Faust noticed that there was a number in that motion that was changed in the agreement. He wondered if this motion should state that that number was changed.

Mrs. Jankowsky advised that the solicitor had reviewed this but that if the Board wished to add this, it could be done.

Mr. Strouse proposed that the motion be amended to increase by \$5,000 the salary number previously stated in order to provide reimbursement for mileage and in-district travel expenses.

Mr. Grossi felt that the motion must state the amount for purposes of the auditors.

*A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mr. Strouse to amend the motion to indicate a base salary of \$125, 000 plus \$5,000 for expenses, for a total of \$130,000. The increase is for expenses incurred in the performance of Mr. Blatt's duties for such things as mileage, tolls, parking, car repairs and car insurance (per item 4a on page 2 of the agreement.)*

*The amendment to the motion passed 8-1. (Mrs. Huf opposed.)*

Mrs. Huf stated that she would be opposing the motion. She did not feel that she lived in a "\$130,000 environment" and that we should not be trying to keep up with the other districts. She felt that this amount was too high.

*The amended motion passed 8-1. (Mrs. Huf opposed.)*

Mr. Locke stated that he felt this was a satisfactory investment. He felt Mr. Blatt had done a wonderful job in the short time he had been in the District.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. WTHS Key Club Trip to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**

*A motion was made by Mr. Avery and seconded by Mr. Grossi to resolve that the Centennial School Board grants final approval for the WTHS Key Club Trip to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, March 23-24, 2002. There is no cost to the District.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

### **2. Exception to Facility Use Policy**

*A motion was made by Mr. Avery and seconded by Mr. Grossi to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Facility Use Waiver Application of the Warminster Soccer Club for Sunday use of the WTHS gymnasium on Sunday, March 10, 2002. There is no cost to the District.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

## **PERSONNEL**

*A motion was made by Mr. Strouse and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the following Personnel items: Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absence; Authorization to Employ; Change of Status; Permanent Per Diem Substitute Teachers; Per Diem Substitute Teachers; Adult/GED Program; Homebound; Co-Curricular; and accepts Awards of Tenure.*

Mr. Strouse stated that he would like to see some of these items come forward in a more timely manner.

*The motion passed 9-0.*

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

Paul Moser of 698 Worthington Drive, Warminster, advised that this was the first Board meeting he had attended, other than when there were major items on the agenda. He was impressed with the meeting.

**BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENT**Board Liaison to Home and School Association Meetings

Mrs. Jankowsky advised that information had been provided regarding when the various school groups held their meetings. Since the assignments were completed, Mrs. Jankowsky asked Mr. Blatt to inform the principals of the new liaison assignments.

House Bill 2059 – State Seals for Transcripts and Diplomas

Mrs. Jankowsky explained that this Bill deals with a revision or waiver to the current law.

Mr. Faust stated that this Bill basically would give the right to the local school district to affix anything to the diplomas, as well as the right to regulate what goes on the transcripts.

Mr. Blatt stated that he was very much opposed to the placement of seals on the diplomas. He felt that it should be up to the local School Board. Mr. Grossi indicated that he wholeheartedly agreed.

Mr. Faust advised that many school districts had passed Board resolutions and forwarded them to the House, indicating that they supported this Bill. He felt that Centennial could do this also.

Mr. Blatt confirmed that as of the end of the previous week, over 90 school districts across the State had passed resolutions stating that they wanted to return control to the local level.

Mrs. Baranski felt that the seals were a detriment to the students. Mr. Blatt felt that seals were a disservice to students since it branded them.

Mrs. Jankowsky asked if the Board wanted her to draft a resolution supporting the House Bill. Board members indicated that they did.

**SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEETINGS/CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

See Schedule attached hereto.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*A motion was made by Mr. Avery and seconded by Mrs. Huf to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:47 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

---

Vickie A. Detwiler  
Board Secretary