

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

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

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on November 12, 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
Dr. Michael Masko
John Rhodes
Dr. Thomas Sexton
Timothy Vail

CEA/Teachers:

Keely Mahan
Hank Ballerstedt
Eileen Poroszok

Sherri Barrett
Andy Mahoney
Kelley Mallon

Public:

Igor Ozeryansky
Andrew Winslow
Nicky Zuzelo
Patti Zuzelo
Lena Escobar
Roman Escobar
Matt Agar
Margie Agar
Eva Lucas
Michael Lucas
Jeff Lucas

Ashley Sroka
Cheryl Sroka
Marjorie Zeff
Barry Kipnis
Carie Kipnis
Julia Kipnis
Marianne Escobar
Ed Long
Diane Long
John Thomas
Jeffrey Katz

Public (continued):

Tim U'Selis
Roy Kolb
Robert Erb
Corinne Erb
Emily Erb

Bobby Erb
Vincent Weiss
John Fox
Richard Coe

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

Mrs. Jankowsky commended the administration of Klinger Middle School, as well as the students on the government council, for their hosting of the Delaware Valley Association of Curriculum Development.

Mrs. Jankowsky conveyed tremendous thanks to the members of the Centennial Education Foundation, as well as the art students and their teachers at the middle schools and the high school, for the social they held on November 8th.

Mr. Locke welcomed Dr. Richard Coe, the Director of the I.U., to the meeting.

Mr. Grossi indicated that he had received a graph from the Superintendent, which he wished to bring to everyone's attention, that showed State spending in various areas. He asked that the graph be generally distributed.

Mrs. Huf congratulated Bernie O'Neill for winning the election as the first representative in the 29th District. She wished him good luck in Harrisburg.

PRESENTATIONS

Recognition of Klinger Middle School Student – Lena Escobar

Sherri Barrett, a 6th grade teacher at Klinger, reported that Lena Escobar's artwork had been selected from more than 400 entries in the National Middle School Association's 2002 Month of the Young Adolescent contest, for the second year in a row. Lena received a Certificate of Recognition and a \$100 check from the Pennsylvania Middle School Association. The Association extended an invitation for Lena and her family to attend their banquet in Hershey on March 10th.

Lena thanked her 6th grade Art teacher, Miss Herring, and also Miss Barrett, her 6th grade Science teacher. She presented a framed poster of her artwork to the District. Mrs. Jankowsky then presented Lena with a Certificate of Recognition from the District.

PSBA Service Award

Mr. Strouse presented a Certificate to Mrs. Jankowsky for fifteen years of dedicated service to the Centennial School District.

Recognition of WTHS Band Boosters' Donation

Mr. Blatt voiced his thanks for the Band Boosters donation of a 24-foot trailer to transport the marching band and their equipment. He indicated that the interior of the trailer was customized by parent volunteers and that the outside was professionally painted. Roy Kolb and Tim U'Selis, band parents, were present and passed around a poster with pictures of the new trailer.

American Education Week

Dr. Sexton spoke about upcoming activities for American Education Week and invited everyone to participate. Mr. Gillan, Mrs. Mahan, Mr. Ballerstedt and several students from McDonald Elementary did a presentation about a project they had done regarding their country of ancestry.

Dr. Coe indicated that McDonald had been a host school for I.U. classes for many years for the most severely disabled students. He thanked them for being a loyal and committed host.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None

REPORTS

STUDENT COUNCIL

Andrew Winslow distributed invitations for American Education Week to members of the Board. He also reported on the following activities:

- October 12 – At the Annual Cross-Country Invitational the girls' team took second place.
- October 15 – 9th graders took the PSSA writing test; Seniors were measured for caps and gowns.
- October 18 – Girls Cross Country team went to finals
- Celebration of Bands was held.
- October 21 – Parent/Teacher Conferences took place.
- October 26 – William Tennent Annual Hall of Fame Banquet
- November 1 – Tobacco survey was distributed to five random classrooms by the Department of Education.

- November 7 – Powder Puff Football Game; Tennent hosted World Family Cinema Night
- November 11 – Veteran’s Day – students honored all Centennial School District people who served in wars of the past

Andrew also reported that the play, “*The Odd Couple*”, was coming up soon.

MBIT STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Igor Ozeryansky reported as follows:

- Aspirations Restaurant is now open for lunch.
- The Middle Bucks Auto Show on October 18th was a great success.
- On November 21st the MBIT Open House would be held.
- On December 2nd the Cosmetology program was sponsoring a Hair-a-thon, with all proceeds to be donated to the United Way.
- Thirteen students had attended a leadership conference the previous weekend.

Igor thanked the Board for giving him the opportunity to present this report.

GOOD NEWS

Dr. Sexton presented the Good News Report (see attached.)

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Mr. Blatt pointed out that the District had a slogan this year: “*We are a District on the Move.*” He felt that those who worked in the District truly believed this and he felt that the evening’s presentations were representative of that.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Huf reported that the Education Committee had met on November 4th and reviewed the District proposals for the 2003-04 Program of Studies for the high school. An overview was presented of the District Induction Plan for new employees.

The next meeting of the Committee was scheduled for December 2nd, following the School Board Reorganization Meeting.

Middle Bucks Institute of Technology

Mr. Strouse reported that there had been two meetings. The Committee discussed the enrollment of MBIT, which was 869 students. Of these, 406 are Special Ed students. Centennial provides 231 students to MBIT. The focus for the next meeting would be special needs.

Intermediate Unit

Mr. Locke reported that at the I.U. meeting there was a presentation on a new program, "Pride and Promise." This is a public outreach program designed to increase the public's awareness of public schools. There will be a large public relations program.

Dr. Coe indicated that he invited the Executive Director of PSBA to the October meeting. He shared a lot of information about what was happening and also promoted this program.

PSBA

Mrs. Jankowsky indicated that the next major seminar was the Legislative Session sometime in February.

FINANCE & LONG RANGE BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Grossi reported that the Finance Committee had met recently and handled a lot of routine business. The next meeting would be November 18th.

Title VIII

Mr. Faust reported that surveys had gone out to all students. He encouraged parents to make sure they were filled out and returned since this could mean income for the District.

Federal Lands Reuse Authority

No report.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Avery reported that this Committee had met on October 22nd. There was discussion regarding a request for the District to provide transportation for parochial school students across defined parish school boundaries within the District. The estimated cost to approve this request would be approximately \$190,000 for the first year and \$60,000 for subsequent years. The solicitor's recommendation was to not change the procedure at this time.

Citizens Policy

Mrs. Baranski reported that the next meeting of this Committee would be on November 19th.

Legislative Liaison

Mr. Faust indicated that everything had been on recess due to the elections but that there were several sessions regarding funding and taxation issues. Also there were indications from some of the legislators that some sort of referendum issue may be in the works.

Mr. Faust reported that one bill was passed that would have amended the School Code to take away one of the provisions of the mandate waiver. However, the bill was vetoed by the Governor.

Mrs. Jankowsky advised that she and Mr. Blatt had scheduled a meeting with the legislators to discuss these issues, in addition to the subject of securing additional funds for special education students.

MINUTES

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

- *Regular School Board Meeting – October 8, 2002*
- *Work Session/Regular Meeting – October 22, 2002*

The motion passed 8-0-1. (Mr. Faust abstained since he was absent from one of the meetings.)

OPERATIONS AND POLICIESInitial Distribution:

Mr. Avery enumerated the following policies for initial distribution:

- 3.14 – Sexual Harassment of Students
- 3.15 – Graduation
- 3.29 – District Financial Support for Student Trips to Competitive Events
- 4.13 – Integrated Pest Management
- 5.16 – English as a Second Language Program

Final Adoption:2.5 – Prohibiting Discrimination in Employment

A motion was made by Mr. Avery and seconded by Mr. Strouse to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 2.5, Prohibiting Discrimination in Employment.

The motion passed 9-0.

3.25 – Distribution of Written Materials from Outside Individuals or Groups, or from Limited Open Forum Student Groups, to Students

A motion was made by Mr. Avery and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 3.25 – Distribution of Written Materials from Outside Individuals or Groups, or from Limited Open Forum Student Groups, to Students.

The motion passed 9-0.

5.1 – Homework

A motion was made by Mr. Avery and seconded by Mrs. Baranski to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 5.1 – Homework.

Mr. Strouse stated that he still had the objections raised at the Work Session, which are indicated in the Minutes of that meeting. Therefore, he would be voting against this policy.

Mr. Faust also stated that he would be opposing this policy. He felt the use of the word “assessment” was conflicting and he could not support it.

The motion passed 7-2. (Mr. Strouse and Mr. Faust opposed.)

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 – October 2002*
- *Investments – October 2002*
- *Cafeteria Fund Budget Report – October 2002*
- *Student Activity/Clearing Funds – July 1 through September 30, 2002*

and approves the:

- *Fund Profiles/Treasurer’s Report – October 2002*
- *Budgetary Transfers – November 2002
June 30, 2002*

The motion passed 9-0.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS1. Appoint Member to Citizens' Policy Committee

A motion was made by Mrs. Baranski and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board appoints Mrs. Ellen Lynes to a three-year term on the Centennial School District Citizens' Policy Committee. Such term shall begin effective November 19, 2002, and end June 30, 2005.

Mrs. Jankowsky thanked Mrs. Lynes for volunteering to serve on this Committee.

The motion passed 9-0.

2. Refinance 1998 G.O. Bonds

A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mr. Faust to resolve that the Centennial School Board authorizes the financing team of Parker Hunter (Financial Advisor), RBC Dain Rauscher, Investment Banker and Lamb, Windle and McErlane (Bond Counsel) to work with Administration and the Solicitor to take the steps necessary to implement a refunding of the Series of 1998 General Obligation Bonds with a minimum savings level of \$200,000 net of all costs of issuance between now and the early call date of November 15, 2003.

The motion passed 9-0.

3. Shelmire Property Appraisal

A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mr. Faust to resolve that the Centennial School Board retains the services of George R. Sengpiel, MAI, SRA, to conduct an appraisal of the District's Shelmire property (Parcel #48-007-002) in Upper Southampton Township at a cost of \$700 payable from Capital Reserve Funds.

John Fox of 658 Cedarbrook asked what the District's intentions were for the property and if the District intended to sell it.

Mr. Grossi responded that we are updating the appraisal. This was recommended by our solicitor since we had an offer from Upper Southampton. However, the Board has not declared that as excess property, so we are a long way from considering anything like that.

Mr. Strouse stated that the Board was not considering doing anything at all with this property. This is purely in response to the offer from Upper Southampton.

The motion passed 9-0.

4. Central Office Reorganization

A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mr. Faust to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Administration's recommended Reorganization of the Central Office (as outlined in the attached fiscal note) by creating and eliminating the following positions:

<u>Positions Eliminated</u>	<u>Positions Created</u>
<i>Transportation/Food Service Manager (Effective Date 6/30/03)</i>	<i>Director of Food Services (Effective Date 5/1/03)</i>
	<i>Transportation Manager (Effective Date 5/1/03)</i>
<i>Data Processing Manager (Effective Date 3/10/03)</i>	<i>Data Processing Specialist/Webmaster (Effective Date 11/12/02)</i>
<i>Coordinator of Technology (Effective Date 12/31/02)</i>	<i>Director of Technology & Information Services (Effective Date 1/1/03)</i>

The motion passed 9-0.

5. Bus Bids

A motion was made by Mr. Avery and seconded by Mr. Hertenberger to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the transportation bids to be awarded to the following vendors:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Bid Description</u>	<u>Bid No.</u>	<u>Total Bid Amount</u>
<i>Rohrer Bus Sales</i>	<i>65-Passenger Conventional Buses (4)</i>	<i>2003-02</i>	<i>\$236,810.00</i>
<i>Rohrer Bus Sales</i>	<i>24-Passenger Bus (2)</i>	<i>2003-03</i>	<i><u>77,820.00</u></i>
	<i>Total Net Expense</i>		<i>\$314,630.00</i>

This will be a 2003-04 General Fund Expenditure.

This compares to a total General Fund Expenditure in 2002-03 of \$299,374.00.

The motion passed 9-0.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mr. Strouse and seconded by Mr. Avery to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the following Personnel items: Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absence; Authorization to Employ; and Change of Status. (Mr. Strouse had indicated that he wished to separate Co-Curricular.)

The motion passed 9-0.

A motion was made by Mr. Strouse and seconded by Mr. Avery to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the following Personnel items: Co-Curricular 2002-03 School Year.

Mr. Strouse stated that he continued to raise objection as to why the Board is being asked to retroactively approve positions back to August 2002. Mr. Blatt indicated that he shared that concern and that this was discussed administratively recently. In this particular case, some of these occurred because of personnel changes and unanticipated leaves.

Dr. Sexton advised that there was a secretarial change in the Athletic Department, which in this instance, caused a backlog.

A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mr. Strouse to table this matter since there were items in the motion that were unclear.

The motion to table passed 9-0.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Jankowsky indicated that she had received an e-mail from Elaine Stevens, et al., dated November 1st regarding busing services for parochial school students. She also had received a letter dated November 1st from Pearl Mower indicating that she had submitted her resignation and that she had enjoyed working with Mr. Rhodes.

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. Grossi and seconded by Mr. Avery to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie A. Detwiler
Board Secretary