

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING  
HELD FEBRUARY 11, 2003**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on February 11, 2003, in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Jankowsky at 7:32 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  
Dr. Michael Masko  
Jean Rollo  
Timothy Vail

CEA/Teachers/Principals:

Heather Stek  
Tom Mokes  
Eileen Poroszok

Public:

Derek Widmann  
Pam Widmann  
Barb Peak  
Stephanie Halfpenny  
Ruth Kistner  
Liz Gensbauer  
Diane Horner  
Miriam Linn  
Annemarie Glass  
Lorraine Fee  
Robert Lowenthal  
Catherine Lydon  
Jillian Voit  
Wayne Pfeiffer  
Ivan Weinstein

Bernie Vidia  
Bob Avanzato  
Donna Colby  
Peter Burns  
Barbara Tait  
Michael Sturgis  
Richard Payton  
Bill Bogucki  
Diane Bogucki  
Diane Shields  
Jennifer Simonson  
Fred Kamm  
Sandra Haslett  
Joann Pataky  
Mike Zampirro

Public (continued):

Cheryl Lauer  
Angela Gartland  
Chris Gartland  
Glen Lapsky  
Brenda Weinstein  
Beth Anne Bangs  
James Lewicki  
Bonnie Cohen

John Halfpenny  
Greg Ewing  
Tim O'Neill  
Kevin Ertel  
Igor Ozeryansky  
Andrew Winslow  
Donna Marie Saul

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mrs. Jankowsky requested the students from Davis School to lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mrs. Jankowsky announced that there was no Executive Session prior to this meeting.

**PRESENTATIONS**

Recognition of Michael Lieberman, WHTS Student

Tom Mokes spoke about Michael Lieberman, a Senior at Tennent, and his outstanding ability in mathematics. He indicated that Michael has been accepted at Cal Tech and spoke about his participation in various competitions, such as Math Counts, the Pennsylvania Math League, Mathletes and the American Regional Math Competition. Mr. Mokes presented to Michael a Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding Achievement.

Davis Elementary School Celebration of Mathematics

Mrs. Jankowsky reported that she had attended an evening performance of the Davis Mathematicians, which was wonderful. The second graders then recreated their performance for the Board. Mrs. Jankowsky thanked the students and their teachers for a fine job.

Dr. Belli then presented each Board member with a Centennial Academy T-shirt.

Bond Refinancing Presentation

Mr. Vail introduced Greg Ewing of Parker Hunter, who explained that the Board had authorized a refunding providing that the net savings of all costs met or exceeded \$200,000. Mr. Ewing advised that they have met or exceeded those savings significantly. The other part of the direction from the District was that the refunding be structured so that the savings were up front. Kevin Ertel, a representative of RBC Dain Rauscher, then spoke about the process of selling the

bonds and Mr. Ewing presented a summary of the bond sale. He indicated that if the Board approved this, the total savings in the first fiscal year would be net \$242,873.

Mrs. Jankowsky commented that this was a tremendous savings for the community.

Tim O'Neill, Bond Counsel, then addressed the Board, indicating that the Resolution authorized the incurring of debt and the filing of the Debt Statement and the Borrowing Base Certificate. He also explained the form of the Bond to be used and the Opinion of Bond Counsel.

**NEW BUSINESS**

3. Refunding of 1998 General Obligation Bonds

*A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mr. Locke to resolve that the Centennial School Board authorizes the advance refunding of the School District's 1998 General Obligation Bonds to achieve interest cost savings, approving the issuance of and awarding to RBC Dain Rauscher the School District's General Obligations Bonds, Refunding Series of 2003, approving the filing of debt proceedings with the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, and authorizing other action in connection with the sale, advance refunding of the 1998 Bonds, and issuance of the 2003 Bonds as per the attached supplement.*

*A roll call vote was then taken, as follows:*

<i>Mrs. Baranski</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Locke</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Hertenberger</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Huf</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Faust</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Grossi</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Avery</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Strouse</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Jankowsky</i>	<i>Yes</i>

*The motion passed 9-0.*

**COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

None.

**REPORTS**

**STUDENT COUNCIL**

Andrew Winslow reported on the following activities:

- January 16-18 – PMEA Music Education Association Festival
- January 22 – Course Selection Night; Math Competition
- January 24-29 – Final Exams
- The FBLA did well at the Regional Competitions; many members will be going on to States on April 8<sup>th</sup>.
- February 3-11 – The Junior Class officers sale of flowers for Valentine’s Day; the NHS sold computer matchups
- February 5 – Senior Sweetheart Skits held
- February 6 – Back-to-School Night
- February 8 – Senior Sweetheart Coronation and Dance
- February 12-14 – PSSA Exams for Juniors
- Students are gearing up for Black & White Night

### **MBIT STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE**

Igor Ozeryansky reported as follows:

- VICA Regional Competitions were held the previous week; ten MBIT students will be going to the State Competition.
- February 12 – Induction Ceremony for National Technical Honor Society.

### **GOOD NEWS**

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

### **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Mr. Avery reported that at the February 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting the middle school teachers and principals provided Board members with an update of the middle school program. The next meeting will be held on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. The topics will be the Warminster Hospital internship and the District reading initiative.

#### Middle Bucks Institute of Technology

Mr. Faust reported on the February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting as follows:

- An Executive Session was held to review personnel issues.
- Several policy matters were tabled.
- The Finance Committee gave a report. MBIT is well on its way to preparing their budget.
- The Professional Advisory Committee gave a brief outline of their meeting, which included an efficiency study prepared by the four Superintendents.
- Several Personnel items were approved.
- The Board tabled a pest management policy, but approved a pest management plan.

Mr. Grossi added that the Finance Committee had authorized the refinancing of a bond.

Mrs. Huf indicated that she had attended the meeting and received a copy of the study. Mrs. Jankowsky stated that the study would be reviewed by the solicitor. Mr. Faust indicated that the Executive Council would review the policy; then an Executive Session would be held to review the solicitor's comments.

Intermediate Unit

Mr. Locke reported that there was a meeting of the I.U. on January 21<sup>st</sup>. He indicated that the Board may already have received a letter sent out by the I.U., which is sponsoring a conference for members of the Bucks County Legislative Delegation on March 31<sup>st</sup>. He hoped that Centennial would be well represented at this. He also indicated that Dr. Coe would try to arrange to attend a Finance Committee meeting in the near future.

The next meeting of the I.U. was scheduled for February 18<sup>th</sup>.

PSBA

No report.

**FINANCE & LONG RANGE BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Mr. Grossi advised that the next meeting of the Finance Committee would be on February 24<sup>th</sup>.

Title VIII

Mr. Faust reported that the Title VIII Application has been forwarded to the Federal Government.

Federal Lands Reuse Authority

No report.

**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

No report.

Citizens Policy

No report.

### Legislative Liaison

Mr. Faust spoke about a law regarding school buses, which must be implemented by August.

Mrs. Jankowsky noted that Dr. Sexton was absent from the meeting due to illness.

Mrs. Jankowsky also announced that there was a revised Agenda in the Board's packet, which indicated that Policy 4.13 was moved to Old Business since it was tabled at the last meeting.

### **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 Regular School Board Meeting of January 14, 2003.*

*The motion passed 8-0-1. (Mr. Faust abstained since he was absent from that meeting.)*

### **OPERATIONS AND POLICIES**

#### Initial Distribution:

Mr. Locke noted the following policies for initial distribution:

- 7.10 – Special Transportation
- 7.26 - Investments

#### Final Adoption:

##### 3.14 – Sexual Harassment of Students

*A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mr. Hertenberger to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 3.14, Sexual Harassment of Students.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

##### 7.15 – Possession and Use of Tobacco by Students

*A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mr. Hertenberger to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 7.15, Possession & Use of Tobacco by Students.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

**FINANCIAL**

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

- *Schedule of Bills – January 2003*
- *Investments – January 2003*
- *Cafeteria Fund Budget Report – January 2003*
- *Student Activity/Clearing Funds – October 1 through December 31, 2002*

*and approves the:*

- *Fund Profiles/Treasurer's Report – January 2003*
- *Budgetary Transfers – February 2003.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

**OLD BUSINESS**Tabled Item – 4.13 – Integrated Pest Management

*A motion was made by Mr. Strouse and seconded by Mr. Hertenberger to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves removing from the table Policy 4.13, Integrated Pest Management.*

*The motion to remove from the table passed 9-0.*

Discussion continued on the original motion.

Mrs. Jankowsky indicated that she had generated and distributed suggested revisions to the policy that are different from those that Board members had received in their packets. She felt these revisions maintained our compliance with the law and provided ample notice to parents regarding notification and provides a more reasonable plan for our administrators to implement.

She indicated that she changed Item III.C. to be expanded to add the language that information shall be made available to parents in various District mediums, such as the District calendar, the District newsletter, the District cable television station, the District web page, Principal's newsletters and notices posted in all buildings. She also suggested that IV. A. and B. be deleted since A. is incorporated into the expanded statement and B. lends itself to an administrative nightmare and also, upon the advice of solicitor, something that could be very costly to us in the way of liability.

Mr. Faust stated that he was leaning towards the version that was in the Board's packet because he felt the law called for some sort of affirmative notice, and he felt that affirmative notice required some type of response.

*A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mr. Locke to amend the motion to include the changes suggested by Mrs. Jankowsky.*

*The motion to amend passed 6-3.*

Mr. Grossi stated that he had objected vehemently to the way the legislature proceeded with this. He felt that the insurance premiums to protect ourselves down the line would be costly. He indicated that he would vote for this policy since it was the law; he felt the legislature "meant well."

Mrs. Baranski stated that she would vote against this motion because she felt that everyone should be notified.

*The motion passed 7-2. (Mrs. Baranski and Mr. Faust opposed.)*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Exception to Policy 7.18 – Resident, Non-Resident and Tuition Status**

*A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mr. Strouse to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves an exception to Policy 7.18 to allow student 302 to attend Davis Elementary School for the remainder of 2002-03 and also for school year 2003-04. The parents will provide transpiration.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

### **2. WTHS Key Club Trip to Hershey, Pennsylvania**

*A motion was made by Mr. Avery and seconded by Mr. Hertenberger to resolve that the Centennial School Board grants final approval for the Key Club trip to Hershey, Pennsylvania, on March 15-16, 2003. There is no cost to the District.*

*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; Permanent Per Diem Substitute Teacher; Per Diem Substitute Teachers; and Co-Curricular Additions, Changes and Deletions.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Hertenberger thanked the Madrigal Singers for performing at the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Kiwanis Club of Southampton. They did a superb job.



Mrs. Jankowsky stated that she had received an e-mail from Mr. Riddle, which she would ask Mr. Blatt to distribute in the Board's Friday packet.

### **ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

Donna Marie Saul of 589 Lowell Road, Warminster, stated that she was still trying to find out the Board's feeling on college credits being given to students attending college courses. She indicated that this was the third time she was asking and felt it needed to be addressed. Mrs. Jankowsky advised that the Board was still awaiting Administration's recommendation on this.

Mrs. Saul indicated that she was very surprised to find out recently that the GPA and class ranking for Seniors are calculated after the third marking period. In doing so, the final exams would not be included in considering these items. When questioning this, Mrs. Saul was told that this has been the practice in the District for many years. She felt that there might be a more accurate way to do this.

Mrs. Jankowsky asked if Mrs. Saul had submitted this question to the high school Administration. Mrs. Saul indicated that she had and that Administration confirmed this is how it is handled, but Mrs. Saul still wondered why.

### **BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENT**

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that she had reminded Mr. Blatt that there are two policies that still need to come back before the Board. The first one dealt with Employee Leaves of Absence and Leave Benefit Program. There were several questions and also the Board had requested the solicitor's opinion. The second policy dealt with Charter Schools. We had received a solicitor's opinion, but Mr. Strouse had raised another question – we need to have the solicitor who wrote the opinion consider the fact that there is a policy already in place on charter schools, so would his opinion remain the same even if there is a policy in place as opposed to not developing a policy at all.

Mr. Faust pointed out that there is a third policy we are waiting for, that dealing with funding of competitive trips.

### **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 9:32 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

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Vickie A. Detwiler  
Board Secretary

[Note: The Board Secretary was absent from the meeting due to illness. The Minutes were prepared from the tapes of the meeting.]