

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
HELD AUGUST 12, 2003**

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on August 12, 2003, in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Jankowsky at 7:55 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

CEA/Teachers:

Andy Mahony

Administration:

David Blatt
Sandy Homel
Dr. Michael Masko
Jean Rollo
Dr. Thomas Sexton

Public:

Peggy Thompson
Phil Solomon
Donna Marie Saul
John Stay
Tony Rudy
Cecily Davis
Cynthia Mueller

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Jankowsky requested a moment of silence for Grant Gifford, a former teacher, who had passed away.

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

Mrs. Jankowsky reminded Board members that the building tour would take place on August 26th; and that a ribbon cutting and open house would be held on September 2nd at the Tech Ed Lab at Tennent.

PRESENTATIONS

None

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Donna Marie Saul of 589 Lowell Road, Warminster, addressed the Board regarding a discussion that had taken place at the June 24th Work Session regarding participation of home schoolers in co-curricular activities. She indicated that the item seemed to move through with little discussion, but she felt that the way it was listed on the agenda did not give the full depth of what was going on. In the process of running for the School Board, Mrs. Saul indicated that she has visited many people who have children in private or parochial schools and she feels that this discussion needs to be open and that the public needs to be made aware of when this item will come before the Board. She felt that this item should come before the Board again and that Board members should individually state their opinions. She realized that this is a complicated issue but feels that there needs to be a more open and honest discussion and that it should be more clearly listed on the agenda.

REPORTS

STUDENT COUNCIL

None

MBIT STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

None

GOOD NEWS

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Blatt reported that everyone was preparing for the opening of school and that it has been an unusually busy summer. The administrative staff has been very good about getting things done. They are looking forward to a great opening.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Jankowsky reported that there were no meetings in July or August. The next meeting will be on October 20th.

Middle Bucks Institute of Technology

Mr. Strouse reported that a meeting was held the previous evening. Two Middle Bucks students competed in the Skills USA competition in Kansas City. A student from CB East placed first in First Aid and CPR; a student from CB West placed 11th in the Criminal Justice System. Also, there was an emergency on the plane on the way to Kansas City and one of the students, Chris Armstrong, put his skills to use.

Mr. Strouse distributed to the Board the MBIT Assessment System for School Improvement and Goals and Accomplishments for Middle Bucks.

Mr. Strouse reported that the Board accepted positions and the reorganization of the administration at MBIT.

Mr. Faust reported that the teacher of the Public Safety Program at MBIT received the Career Vocational-Technical Education Teacher of the Year Award for the State of Pennsylvania.

Intermediate Unit

No report.

PSBA

Mrs. Jankowsky reported that the State Conference will be coming up in October. Mrs. Huf indicated that she had attended the summer conference, which was interesting.

FINANCE & LONG RANGE BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Grossi indicated that the Finance Committee had not met since June 30th.

Title VIII

No report.

Federal Lands Reuse Authority

Mr. Grossi reported that people are beginning to move into Ann's Choice and that hopefully we should be receiving payments in lieu of taxes soon.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

No report.

Citizens Policy

No report.

Legislative Liaison

Mr. Faust reported that we have still received no money from the state.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Jankowsky requested the Board's permission to move up several items on the agenda.

6. Approval of Child Care Provider

A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mrs. Baranski to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves a facility use agreement with Tot Time Child Development Centers, Inc. to provide before and after school child care services for Centennial elementary school students in our elementary buildings. These services shall be provided beginning at 7 a.m. until the start of the school day, and from the end of the student day until 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.

These services will be provided in the cafeteria or all-purpose room of each building, at a yearly rate of reimbursement to the District of \$5,512 per 25 students, per location, for 2003-04.

Tot Time shall provide to the District Business Office evidence that liability and workers' compensation insurance are in effect prior to the start of services.

Tot Time shall also provide the District with all licenses/certifications required by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the local municipalities for operation of child care programs in District facilities. All costs related to such licenses/certifications shall be the responsibility of Tot Time.

Tot Time agrees to publicize the child care program to all parents of all Centennial students.

Mr. Locke thanked Mr. Blatt and his staff for all their work in quickly identifying Tot Time after interviewing a group of different outside firms that wished to perform these services. It was done quickly and efficiently.

Mr. Strouse explained that the reason this resolution was before the Board at this stage was because the previous child care provider did not fulfill their commitment to perform services. They notified us, as well as the parents, in July that they would not be providing services. Administration pulled out all the stops to get this done. Congratulations to the staff for getting this done so quickly.

Cecily Davis of 120 Street Road asked who parents would contact at Tot Time to get information, and what is the timeline.

Dr. Sexton stated that the information will be on the website and cable, as well as letters going out tomorrow to all parents whose children were in the program last year. The fee schedule will be the same as what was planned by the previous provider for this school year.

Mr. Blatt stated that if anyone had difficulty, they should feel free to call Administration about this for assistance. He indicated that Dr. Sexton and the elementary school principals were the ones responsible for getting this done and that they did an exemplary job.

Mrs. Jankowsky felt that a letter should go out thanking Dr. Sexton and the principals.

The motion passed 9-0.

4. WTHS Wrestling Team Trip

A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mr. Grossi to resolve that the Centennial School Board grants final approval for William Tennent High School Wrestling Team Trip to Columbia, Maryland, December 5-6, 2003. The cost to the District is \$300.00.

The motion passed 9-0.

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 – 6/10/03*
- *Work Session/Regular School Board Meeting – 6/24/03*
- *Special Board Meeting – 6/30/03*

The motion passed 9-0.

OPERATIONS AND POLICIES

Final Approval:

1.2 – Centennial School Board Meetings

A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mr. Hertenberger to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 1.2, Centennial School Board Meetings.

After discussion, it was decided to change Section II. C. d. to “Reports, as needed.”

The motion passed 9-0.

3.12 – Student Accidents

A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mr. Hertenberger to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 3.12, Student Accidents.

The motion passed 9-0.

FINANCIAL

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

- *Schedule of Bills – June 2003
July 2003*
- *Investments – June 2003
July 2003*
- *Cafeteria Fund Budget Report – June and July 2003*
- *Student Activity/Clearing Funds – April 1 through June 30, 2003*

and approves the:

- *Fund Profiles/Treasurer’s Report – June 2003
July 2003*

The motion passed 8-0-1. (Mrs. Baranski abstained.)

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

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

A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mr. Hertenberger to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves an exception to Policy 7.18 to allow student 1-12 to attend Klinger Middle School for the 2003-04 and 2004-05 school years. The parent will provide transportation.

A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mr. Strouse to amend the motion by deleting the last sentence and adding the following language after the first sentence: “The family will provide transportation and maintain residency within Centennial School District.”

The motion to amend passed 9-0.

The amended motion passed 9-0.

2. Exception to Board Policy 7.18 – Resident, Non-Resident and Tuition Status

A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mr. Hertenberger to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves an exception to Policy 7.18 to allow student 10-14 to attend Davis Elementary School for the remainder of her elementary school career as long as she is a resident elementary school student in Centennial School District. The family will provide transportation.

Mrs. Jankowsky asked if this had administrative support. Mr. Blatt responded that it did.

The motion passed 9-0.

3. Exception to Board Policy 7.18 – Resident, Non-Resident and Tuition Status

A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mr. Hertenberger to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves an exception to Policy 7.18 to allow student 16-3 to attend Davis Elementary School for the school year 2003-04. The family will provide transportation.

A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mr. Avery to amend the motion by deleting the last sentence and adding the following language after the first sentence: "The family will provide transportation and maintain residency within Centennial School District."

Mr. Avery asked if this statement was in the policy. He felt that if it was, then we do not need to keep repeating it. If it is not, then it should be added to the policy. Mr. Strouse pointed out that the Board was granting an exception to the policy. There might be exceptions that involve a student moving out of the District so the language should be included in the motion.

The motion to amend passed 9-0.

The amended motion passed 9-0.

5. Final Approval for Trip by Longstreth Elementary to Camp Canadensis

A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mr. Hertenberger to resolve that the Centennial School Board grants final approval for a trip by students at Longstreth Elementary School to Camp Canadensis, September 10-12, 2003. The cost to the District is \$510.00.

The motion passed 9-0.

6. Approval of Child Care Provider

[This item was handled earlier in the meeting.]

7. Auxiliary Pay Rates 2003-04

Mr. Strouse stated that he felt these pay rates should go through the Finance Committee before coming to the Board. Mrs. Jankowsky asked when the first Finance Committee meeting would be. Mr. Grossi indicated that it would be the third Monday in September. Mrs. Jankowsky indicated that this item would be postponed until the Finance Committee could discuss it.

Mr. Locke asked if postponing this would be a problem. Mr. Blatt indicated that it would not.

8. Permission to Apply for an Ed-Flex Wavier for Klinger Middle School under the Title I 2003-04 School Year Grant

A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves permission to apply for an Ed-Flex Wavier for Klinger Middle School under the Title I 2003-04 school year grant.

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 the following Personnel items: Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absence (except #6); Authorization to Employ; Change of Status; Title I Tutors; Summer School: WTHS.

Mr. Faust requested that Item #12 under Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absence also be pulled.

The motion passed 9-0 (excluding Items #6 and 12 under Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absence.)

A motion was made by Mr. Strouse and seconded by Mr. Avery to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves Item #6 under Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absence.

Mr. Strouse stated that the reason he requested this item be pulled was so that the Board could have discussion about a very long-term employee of the Centennial School District. Mrs. Fash has served in several capacities over 30 years. She has been a significant part of how well the special education services have been provided. He thanked her for that.

Mrs. Huf thanked Mrs. Fash for her services also. She indicated that when she first came on Board, Barbara showed her what special education was all about in Centennial School District.

Mr. Faust echoed Mrs. Huf's comments. Also, as the parent of a special education student, he felt Mrs. Fash was a great help in having students learn and living up to their potential.

Mrs. Baranski stated that she would be opposing this motion although she knew it would not do any good. She felt Mrs. Fash was the best thing that had happened to this school.

Mr. Grossi stated that we value our employees and consistently say how good we think they are. He thinks it is a wonderful compliment to Administration and the Board that other people agree.

The motion passed 5-4. (Mrs. Huf, Mrs. Baranski, Mr. Faust and Mr. Strouse opposed.)

A motion was made by Mr. Strouse and seconded by Mr. Grossi to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves Item #12 under Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absence.

Mr. Faust stated that this was a procedural issue. The policy states that unpaid leaves can be no more than 12 months. This individual has already been on an unpaid leave previously and what we are adding is almost 12 months. He asked if this would be an exception to the policy.

Mrs. Jankowsky felt that this could be looked at as two separate leaves. She asked if Administration would concur. She indicated that if the Board would prefer an exception, it could be done that way, but she felt that the clock had ended on the first leave and would start on the second.

Mr. Blatt felt that you could interpret it as two separate leaves. Mr. Grossi stated that in the past the practice has been to take one year at a time.

Mr. Strouse stated that he had asked to see the request from the individual but has not received it. He would like the rationale for this request. Since he has not seen the paperwork, he would be opposing this.

Mr. Grossi suggested that the Chair make a ruling. Mrs. Jankowsky stated that the Chair interprets that the first request has come to a conclusion and that this is a second request. Mr. Faust indicated that he had no problem with the Chair's ruling but that he would oppose this because of lack of information.

A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mrs. Huf to call the question.

The motion to call the question passed 9-0.

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

Mr. Hertenberger then requested a roll call vote. Mrs. Jankowsky advised that this could not be done since the vote was already taken. A roll call vote must be requested prior to the vote.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Jankowsky referred to the list of communications attached hereto. She also indicated that she had received a letter from Charles J. Beal regarding an Eagle Badge award to one of our students, Michael Gildine.

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None

BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENT

Appointment to the Southampton Park and Recreation Study Committee

Mrs. Jankowsky advised that she has asked Mr. Grossi to sit on this committee because of his experience and the length of time involved. She asked Administration to inform the committee by letter.

Mrs. Baranski indicated that she wished to thank Bobbi Loftus, the Warminster tax collector, for her hard work.

SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEETINGS/CALENDAR OF EVENTS

See Schedule attached hereto.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mrs. Huf to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie A. Detwiler
Board Secretary