

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

**MINUTES OF WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING
HELD SEPTEMBER 23, 2003**

CALL TO ORDER

A Work Session/Regular Meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on September 23, 2003, in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Jankowsky at 8:12 p.m. The following people registered their attendance:

Board Members:

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

CEA/Teachers:

None

Administration:

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

Public:

Marty Schaffer
Hal Banca
Rose Gold
Joe Dugan
Jim Stanton
Joe Joyce
Cynthia Mueller
Lisa Forlini
Marie Brzezinski

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Jankowsky apologized for the late start to the meeting and announced that the Board had met in Executive Session prior to this meeting relative to personnel matters. Prior to the Executive Session there was a Finance Committee meeting.

Mrs. Jankowsky asked Mrs. Baranski to chair the Education Committee for the remainder of this year. Mrs. Jankowsky will move from alternate to voting member of the committee.

PRESENTATIONS

None

GOOD NEWS

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

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Jankowsky requested the Board's permission to move up an item of New Business.

1. Exceptions to Facility Use Policy

Mr. Strouse asked if any of the requests were not redundant from prior periods and whether the insurance was in place for all of them. Mr. Lasher confirmed that they were all repeats from previous years and that the insurance certificates were all included and up to date.

Mr. Grossi asked if there were any groups that had not submitted forms yet. Mr. Lasher indicated that he believed this was all of them but couldn't promise more wouldn't come in.

A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Exceptions to Facility Use Policy A through J.

Michael Morrow stated that there was a form missing for Warminster Basketball, which had been submitted but was not included in the list.

Mrs. Jankowsky apologized that this was left out and indicated that she would check into it.

The motion passed 8-0.

REPORTS

None

COMMITTEE MINUTES

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

- Finance Committee – May 8, 2003
- Finance Committee – June 16, 2003
- Finance Committee – June 30, 2003
- Finance Committee – August 21, 2003

Mrs. Baranski stated that she would be abstaining from voting on the May 8th Minutes since she was absent from that meeting.

The motion passed 8-0; with the exception of the Minutes of May 8, 2003, on which the vote was 7-0-1.

POLICIES

Discussion:

Policy 7.31 – Purchasing Procedures

Mr. Strouse pointed out that the title page of the policy refers to “bids and quotations for *products and services*”. The policy itself refers to “*materials and services*”. He felt the language should be consistent. Dr. Sexton clarified that the title page should read “*materials and services.*”

Mr. Strouse questioned where the change in Section I. B. came from. Dr. Sexton explained that all of the changes were suggested by the solicitor.

Mr. Strouse asked if we have always bid for services in excess of \$10,000. Dr. Sexton stated that he believed the Code called for that.

Mr. Strouse questioned Item III.H., which refers to “competitive bids.” He asked if we were going to determine that quotations and bids are the same thing. Dr. Sexton said that was his understanding; Mr. Strouse suggested using the same word. Mr. Faust felt that quotations and bids were not the same thing, and that it depends on the dollar amount which one is needed.

Mrs. Jankowsky indicated that she had checked the School Code on this. It indicated that quotations are needed for amounts between \$4,000 and \$10,000 and bids are needed for amounts over \$10,000. She suggested that we check with the solicitor on this.

Mr. Strouse pointed out that Section III. F. indicated “(3)-qualified *contractors*”. He felt that the designation should be *vendors* rather than *contractors*. Mrs. Jankowsky felt that

this item should also be checked into and that perhaps the policy should go back to the solicitor so that the necessary items could be checked.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Exceptions to Facility Use Policy

[This matter was handled earlier in the meeting.]

2. Agreement of Sale – Shelmire Property

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that she believed this was directed to the Finance Committee for review and that any changes they requested were incorporated into this document.

A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mr. Strouse to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Agreement of Sale between Centennial School District and the Township of Upper Southampton for the Shelmire field.

The motion passed 8-0.

3. School Resource Officer

A motion was made by Mr. Strouse and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the appointment of the School Resource Officer for William Tennent High School.

Mrs. Baranski stated that she would be opposing this because she did not see the need for a School Resource Officer and because there is no budget. She did not feel we should be taking on a new initiative.

Mrs. Huf indicated that she would be supporting this because she saw it as a preventative and a positive role for the District for the staff and the students.

Mr. Faust stated that he would be opposing this partly because of financial implications and also because he hasn't seen the need. He indicated that several years ago when we put in resource officers (security officers), it didn't work, so he wasn't sure it would work now. With the financial situation as it is, he was not sure this was a good time to do this.

Mr. Grossi felt that this was a creative idea to have a professional in the building. He didn't know how you can put a price tag on our continued attempts to develop a positive rapport and have security in the building. He applauded the continued attempt to have a positive, safe environment.

Mrs. Jankowsky indicated that this program will be evaluated on an ongoing basis.

The motion passed 6-2 (Mrs. Baranski and Mr. Faust opposed.)

4. Budget Calendar – 2004-05

A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mr. Locke to resolve that the Centennial School Board adopts a calendar for the formulation and adoption of the fiscal year 2004-05 General Fund Budget as listed in the attached supplement.

Mr. Faust stated that the changes that were requested at the Finance Committee meeting had been made.

Mrs. Jankowsky noted that the calendar includes presentations to the community.

The motion passed 8-0.

5. Permission to Accept Competitive Grants

A motion was made by Mr. Locke and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves permission to accept the following competitive grants for the 2003-2008 school year:

<i>Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth – Buxmont</i>	<i>\$ 2,670</i>
<i>Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth – Middle Earth, Inc.</i>	<i>\$ 4,450</i>
<i>Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth – Life Works @ Foundations Behavioral Health</i>	<i>\$ 890</i>
<i>Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth – Lakeside Educational Network</i>	<i>\$ 5,340</i>
<i>Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth – Johnsville Alternative School</i>	<i>\$40,940</i>

Mrs. Huf questioned whether “2008” was correct. Dr. Sexton confirmed that it was. We are approved for the grant for that period but we don’t get the money up front. Each year we will be informed as to what our allocation for the year will be.

The motion passed 8-0.

6. Permission to Accept an Ed-Flex Waiver

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

Dr. Sexton explained the details of this waiver.

The motion passed 8-0.

7. Permission to Apply for Competitive Grants

A motion was made by Mrs. Baranski and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves permission to apply for the following competitive grants for the 2003-04 school year in the amounts indicated:

<i>Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth Community Service Grant</i>	<i>\$74,853</i>
<i>Title I – Mini-Grant – Davis Elementary</i>	<i>\$500</i>
<i>Title I – Mini-Grant – Leary Elementary</i>	<i>\$500</i>
<i>Title I – Mini-Grant – McDonald Elementary</i>	<i>\$500</i>
<i>Title I – Mini-Grant – Stackpole Elementary</i>	<i>\$500</i>
<i>Title I – Mini-Grant – Willow Dale Elementary</i>	<i>\$500</i>

Mr. Grossi questioned why Longstreth was not on the list. Apparently, it was left out in error.

A motion was made by Mrs. Baranski and seconded by Mrs. Huf to amend the motion to add the following language:

<i>Title I – Mini-Grant – Longstreth Elementary</i>	<i>\$500</i>
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The motion to amend passed 8-0.

The amended motion passed 8-0.

8. Permission to Apply for Title III Grant

A motion was made by Mrs. Huf and seconded by Mrs. Baranski to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves permission to apply for the following 2003-04 entitlement grant in the amount indicated:

*Title III Language Instruction for Limited English
Proficient Students*

\$17,340

The motion passed 8-0.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mr. Strouse and seconded by Mr. Hertenberger to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the following Personnel items: Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absence; Authorization to Employ; Change of Status; Title I Tutors; Saturday School Proctors; Permanent Per Diem Substitute Teachers; Per Diem Substitute Teachers; Support Staff Substitutes; Per Diem Psychologists; Substitute Bus Driver; and Co-Curricular Additions, Changes and Deletions.

Mr. Faust pointed out that under “Authorization to Employ” there were four positions listed as new positions. At the last meeting the Board had discussed a terminology problem. He questioned whether these were actually new positions and whether they were budgeted.

Mrs. Rollo explained that the three Student Support Aide positions are indeed new positions. Dr. Sexton indicated that the Kindergarten Aide position is within the budget and is based yearly on enrollment.

The motion passed 8-0.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Strouse stated that a significant number of Board members had received at least one application for the open Board position.

Mr. Faust advised that he had received an e-mail regarding a middle school issue, which was forwarded to the Superintendent for review.

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that she had received the following:

- An e-mail dated September 12th from Mr. Avery with his formal written resignation from the Board
- A letter from Mr. Emery, President of the Ivyland Borough Council, regarding the School Resource Officer Program
- A letter from Mr. O’Connor, CEA President, regarding contractual matters.
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- She requested that copies of these be distributed to the Board.

OTHER

Mr. Faust asked if a day had been set aside to conduct interviews for the new Board member. Mrs. Jankowsky indicated that once we know how many applicants we have, Board members could be asked for available dates. She asked Mr. Blatt to have Mrs. Doh call the Board members to ascertain their availability

Mr. Faust pointed out that Mr. Avery held the position of Assistant Secretary and that it is up to the Board to decide whether to fill that position or leave it vacant. Mr. Faust questioned whether this matter should be placed on the agenda for the Board to discuss. Mrs. Jankowsky indicated that this should be done.

Mr. Grossi stated that he had seen some preliminary PSSA results and that the high school math scores were Below Basic. He was enraged by this and asked when the Board would receive the full test results for analysis. As far as he was concerned, the jury was in on the schedule and the performance is not there. He felt the Board needed to move on this matter. There has been a history of good math and science in this District. He felt it boiled down to time on task.

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that she thought the October 20th Education Committee meeting would deal with that data at all three building levels. Mr. Grossi indicated that he would like the results sooner if possible. Mrs. Jankowsky requested that if that data was available prior to then, she would like Board members to be provided with it.

Mr. Faust questioned whether the Board needed to appoint a new member on October 9th or before October 9th. Mrs. Jankowsky stated that she thought it had to be before the 9th but she would check with the solicitor.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Huf and seconded by Mr. Hertenberger to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 8-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie A. Detwiler
Board Secretary