

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

**MINUTES OF WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING
HELD SEPTEMBER 27, 2004**

CALL TO ORDER

A Work Session/Regular Meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on September 27, 2004, in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Lynch at 7:40 p.m. The following people registered their attendance:

Board Members:

Sina Baranski
Marie Brzezinski
Joseph Faust
Rose Gold
Eugene Grossi (arrived at 8:45 p.m.)
Betty Huf
Joan Jankowsky
Jane Schrader Lynch
Cynthia Mueller

Administration:

David Blatt
Sandy Homel
Victor Lasher
Dr. Michael Masko
Jean Rollo
Dr. Thomas Sexton
Timothy Vail

CEA/Teachers/Principals:

Eileen Poroszok
Lou Pacchioli
Joe O'Connor
Brian Bassler
Mary Ellen Donnelly
Carol Monaghan
Craig Shapiro

Public:

Bob Ruoff
Ray Coleman
Joe Dugan
Bill Clark
Michael Monaghan

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mrs. Lynch announced that the Board had met in Executive Session prior to this meeting and that there had also been an Operations Committee Meeting this evening.

Mrs. Lynch announced that the interview team for the middle school principal would include Mrs. Gold, a retired school teach and Board member, and Mrs. Mueller, a parent and Board member.

Mrs. Huf stated that she had received very high praise for Tennent's football team at Council Rock South. She also felt that the 50th Anniversary evening was a grand night and that there was a good turnout. She commended the group that put this together and thanked everyone involved.

Mrs. Mueller extended a special thank you to Mrs. Dunner and her committee for the beautiful yearbook. It was beautiful.

PRESENTATIONS

William Tennent High School Athletic Teams – Sportsmanship Award

Mr. Blatt recognized the attendance of Bob Ruoff of District One and Ray Coleman, the Executive Director of the Suburban One League. He stated that it was appreciated that they took the time to attend this meeting.

Lou Pacchioli stated that it was an honor to be present. We take pride in sportsmanship and there were two of the most influential people in sports in Pennsylvania here at this meeting.

Ray Coleman explained how the Sportsmanship Award worked. He indicated that in each sport the coaches vote for another school in their conference; whoever gets the most points wins for that season. Whatever school gets the most points for the year wins. Mr. Coleman read an article about being a good coach, which he gave to Mr. Blatt for distribution. He then presented the Sportsmanship Award for 2004 to William Tennent High School to Mr. Pacchioli. Mr. Pacchioli asked the other coaches who were present to join him: Mr. Bassler, Mrs. Forlini, Mr. Shapiro and Mr. Keeney.

Mr. Pacchioli then introduced Bob Ruoff, who made several comments about sportsmanship. He indicated that the award was started about 10 to 12 years ago and that it was a bit of a struggle to get it started; however, in the past couple of years it has caught on.

Mr. Pacchioli showed everyone the banner which would be hung in the gym.

Mr. Blatt read the Proclamation from the State Board of Directors. He commented that this was a credit to the student athletes, coaches and high school administration and stated that everyone was proud of this accomplishment.

Mr. Coleman felt that the Board and the Superintendent were to be complimented for taking part of the Board meeting for recognizing these people in public.

Eileen Poroszok stated that on behalf of the Administration of William Tennent, she was proud to be a part of this group. She thanked them.

GOOD NEWS/

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

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None.

REPORTS

Mrs. Jankowsky reported that the Operations Committee had met earlier in the evening. There were a couple of issues that could be coming before the Board. The first was regarding policy development. The Committee was looking at out-of-zone transportation. The second item was the remote voting policy. There would be a copy of this available at the next Operations Committee meeting; then it would be forwarded to the full Board.

Mrs. Jankowsky also discussed the purchase of a bucket truck, which we might be able to get at a lower cost than what was budgeted.

Mrs. Brzezinski reported that she attended a meeting at the I.U. the previous Thursday and that information had been forwarded to the Board, including an invitation to TOPS. She wondered if the Superintendent and Board President could attend that dinner and if they had responded to the I.U. Mrs. Lynch indicated that she would attend.

Mrs. Brzezinski reported that there was a lot of information about Act 72 and that she was confused about this. She noted that there were some deadlines approaching. Mrs. Lynch suggested that Mr. Vail explain some of this to Mrs. Brzezinski. She also indicated that a plan would be developed.

Mrs. Baranski stated that a Citizens Policy Meeting was held on September 21st at which two policies were reviewed, including Suspected Child Abuse and Animals in the Classroom.

On the subject of Act 72, Mrs. Jankowsky indicated that there had been an article in the newspaper regarding Council Rock and their approach to this issue. They will be holding a town meeting to provide information to community members about the implications of the Act. She was glad that we are on the same page regarding this issue.

Mrs. Lynch indicated that Hatboro-Horsham was also trying to develop a plan about what they were going to do.

Mrs. Mueller asked about the status of AFG. Mrs. Gold stated that they had had two meetings and were now starting to go into committees and discuss each unit of importance. Another meeting was scheduled for October 20th. After that meeting, she would be able to provide a better report.

Mrs. Jankowsky felt that it might be a good idea to distribute minutes of the AFG meetings if there were any. Mrs. Gold responded that she didn't think anyone was taking minutes. Mr. Blatt

indicated that they could provide the Board representatives with summaries routinely; that way they could report to the full Board. The committee members agreed to this approach.

COMMITTEE MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Huf and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board accepts the Minutes of the:

- Finance Committee – June 14, 2004
- Operations Committee – May 25, 2004

Mrs. Baranski indicated that she would abstain from the May 25th Minutes since she was absent.

The motion passed 7-0-1. (Mrs. Baranski abstained.)

POLICIES

Discussion:

2.15 – Employee Leave of Absence and Leave Benefit Program

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that she had requested that this be sent to the solicitor for an opinion, but that there was no opinion in the Board's packet. Dr. Sexton explained that they had received word that the solicitor's report was not complete but she would forward it as soon as it was.

Based on that information, Mrs. Jankowsky requested that this matter come forward again at the second meeting in October.

2.26 – Sexual Harassment in the Workplace

Mrs. Jankowsky noted that there were substantial changes to this policy and that it was reviewed by the solicitor.

Dr. Sexton explained that there was an audit about a year ago where the Office of Civil Rights reviewed some of the policies and suggested changes. We drafted the changes and had the solicitor review them. The solicitor had several comments. Dr. Sexton pointed out that the procedure is set forth in great detail. The other changes had to do with changes in the language of the policy.

Regarding Section IV., Mr. Faust pointed out that it seemed like B and C were to be happening at the same time and that it seemed out of sequence. Dr. Sexton commented that he didn't think all of the conferencing would occur within five days but that the investigation would commence within five days and the written notice must happen within five days. Mr. Faust suggested that maybe 1 through 4 should not be listed under Section B. Mrs. Jankowsky felt that this could be re-sequenced to make it clearer. There

was consensus that this should be done, either by switching B and C or changing Section C to #5 under Section B. Dr. Sexton would rework this and bring it back to the Board.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Preliminary Approval for WTHS Boys Basketball Team Trip to Nazareth, PA

Mrs. Jankowsky pointed out that there was not cost to the District for this trip and that this would be a preliminary approval.

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mrs. Mueller to resolve that the Centennial School Board grants preliminary approval for the William Tennent High School Boys Basketball Teams (Junior Varsity and Varsity) trip to the Nazareth Holiday Basketball Tournament in Nazareth, Pennsylvania, on December 27-28, 2004. There is no cost to the District.

The motion passed 8-0.

2. Facility Use Waivers

Mrs. Jankowsky summarized the facility use waivers. She asked for an explanation of the process by which the possibility of a waiver to community organizations is made known to them. She pointed out that most of these organizations have 90% Centennial residents. She wondered if there was a notice sent out to them. Mr. Lasher responded that no notice is sent out but that all of these groups have gotten these waivers for many years. There is a form that goes with the Facility Use form.

Mrs. Huf stated that the Board had obviously given these waivers before, without a problem.

Mrs. Jankowsky asked that if the Southampton organizations wanted a waiver of 50% of the fees, would they simply request it. Mr. Lasher responded affirmatively.

Mrs. Brzezinski asked why Centennial Aquatics required so much money. Mr. Lasher explained that there was a significant increase several years ago with the cost of the pool rental. With the other facilities, there is really no fee unless there is an overtime situation. With the pool, there is a fee for hours of use.

Mrs. Brzezinski asked if there were other people who were paying the full price, or were they being granted waivers also. Mr. Lasher indicated that there were other people paying the full price.

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mrs. Gold to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Facility Use Waiver Applications as listed in the attached supplement.

The motion passed 8-0.

3. Appointment of Citizens' Policy Committee Member

A motion was made by Mrs. Baranski and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board appoints Diane B. Mueller to the Citizens' Policy Committee effective as of September 28, 2004, and ending June 1, 2007.

The motion passed 8-0.

4. Approval of Firm to Perform Feasibility Study

Mr. Faust stated that one of the District goals was to have a feasibility study of the high school. Proposals have been solicited and they are recommending an architectural firm to complete the study. This was also reviewed by the Operations Committee.

A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Brzezinski to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the appointment of Burt Hill Kosar Rittelmann Associates to perform a feasibility study of William Tennent High School at a cost not to exceed \$15,000.

The motion passed 8-0.

5. Budget Calendar – 2005-2006

Mr. Faust pointed out that this was the proposed Budget Calendar and that there were some dates included that were coming out of Act 72.

Mrs. Brzezinski asked if the Board would be seeing the letter going out regarding Act 72. Mr. Faust pointed out that some of the information was included in the Friday Update. Mrs. Lynch stated that Mr. Vail was totally on top of this issue.

Mr. Vail stated that there was a resolution adopted by the Bucks County I.U. the previous week suggesting the promoting all 13 districts doing a joint mailing through one mailing vendor. We have given the I.U. preliminary approval, at a cost of 46.5 cents per piece. The approximate cost of the initial mailing would be a little over \$7,000. Mr. Vail indicated that the letter had been drafted for signature by the various Superintendents and would be finalized in the next week or so. The Application for Homestead Exemption was in the Friday Update to the Board, along with a cover memo.

A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board adopts the calendar for the formulation and adoption of the fiscal year 2005-2006 General Fund Budget as listed in the attached supplement.

Mrs. Jankowsky asked if all the dates were accurate for the mailings. Mr. Vail stated that as far as he knew, they were correct. There was some discussion about Board members as to whether the correct date for the second mailing was January 15th or December 31st. Mr. Vail stated that information changes daily.

It was decided that this could come back to the Board for amendment if the date was changed.

Mr. Grossi arrived at the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

The motion passed 8-0.

6. Reappoint District Depository

Mr. Faust stated that this was discussed at the last Finance Committee meeting and that it looked like Commerce Bank was giving us a fair proposal.

Mrs. Brzezinski stated that she was very disappointed in the school calendar that Commerce Bank gave us. She felt that although it might be free, it looked free. She indicated that she had given Mr. Blatt several free calendars from other banks and they were beautiful. She would like to see a better calendar with pictures of the children, their artwork, etc.

Mrs. Lynch indicated that the complaints about the calendar were not falling on deaf ears. Calendars from other sources could be looked at.

Mrs. Gold felt that it would be a good idea if the Board could look at the calendar before it went to press. Mr. Blatt felt that could become cumbersome as far as time frames; however, if it was the will of the Board, that could be done. He indicated that he checked on one of the color calendars that Mrs. Brzezinski had provided from another school district and that it cost \$18,000. He felt that we could collaborate with Commerce Bank to see what could be done to make the calendar more attractive.

Mrs. Huf stated that she would be opposing the motion; she had complained for several years about the calendar. She felt it was nice that Commerce Bank had volunteered to help with this but every page says Commerce Bank. She felt that it shows that Centennial School District is in support of Commerce Bank and no other bank in the area.

Mrs. Lynch pointed out that the vote was not on the calendar but on the reappointment of Commerce Bank as depository. Mrs. Jankowsky confirmed that that was true and stated that she was delighted with the calendar; it does not cost the District any money, saving \$5,000 to \$7,000 per year. She felt it would be micromanaging for the Board to approve and calendar and everything in it.

Mr. Faust stated that he did not wish to address the calendar. He pointed out that Commerce Bank's proposal saves the District several thousands of dollars just in free checks alone. Getting armored courier service saves another several thousand dollars. He felt this was a very good deal for the District.

Mrs. Huf stated that he did not have a problem with the fact that they are saving us money; however, she felt that the calendar was saving them money in advertising. She was opposed.

Mr. Grossi stated that Commerce Bank did not need our advertising; that they have a bank on every corner. He indicated that he was not a big fan of Commerce Bank; however, they save the taxpayers of Centennial School District a significant amount of money. He felt this was purely business and he did not understand the logic of voting against this. He did not think it was in the purview of the Board to be examining calendars.

A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Gold to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the reappointment of Commerce Bank as Centennial School District depository for the period July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2008 per the terms and conditions of the attached supplement.

The motion passed 7-2. (Mrs. Huf and Mrs. Brzezinski opposed.)

7. Permission to Apply for Competitive Grant Funding

A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board grants permission to apply for competitive grant funding for the 2004-05 school year from Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development Community Revitalization Assistance Program in the amount of \$5,000.

The motion passed 9-0.

8. Library Furniture Bid

A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Brzezinski to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Library Furniture Bid for Davis Elementary School Library to the lowest responsible bidder, ATD American, in the amount of \$11,616.89, per the attached supplement.

Mrs. Baranski asked what fund this would come out of. Mr. Vail indicated that it would come out of the General Fund.

The motion passed 9-0.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mr. Faust to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the following Personnel items: Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absence; Authorization to Employ; Change of Status; Saturday School Proctors; Title I Tutors; Per Diem Substitute Teachers; Support Staff Substitutes; Substitute Custodians; and Co-Curricular.

Mr. Faust requested that Item 6 under Resignations be pulled.

The motion passed 9-0 (as to all items except as indicated in the preceding paragraph.)

A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mrs. Brzezinski to approve Item 6 under Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absence.

Mr. Faust requested a roll call vote, which was as follows:

<i>Mr. Faust</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mrs. Jankowsky</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mrs. Gold</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mrs. Huf</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mr. Grossi</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mrs. Brzezinski</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mrs. Mueller</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mrs. Baranski</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mrs. Lynch</i>	<i>No</i>

The motion failed 0-9.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that she (and other Board members) had received two e-mails from Grace Loscalzo of Southampton, one regarding liaison to Klinger from the Board, and one regarding the principal search committee.

Mrs. Lynch stated that she wished to have a memo from Mr. Lasher to Board members regarding the Selection of Klinger Middle School Principal included in the Minutes (copy attached.)

Mr. Grossi stated that he did not receive any communication that tonight’s meeting was moved to Monday night. He wished his mother a happy birthday (91), as well as his son and his wife, who also had birthdays this week.

Mrs. Lynch stated that at the previous meeting there was a schedule of meetings listing this meeting as being scheduled for Monday, September 27th.

Mrs. Brzezinski stated that since she doesn’t have e-mail, she spoke to Rose Marie Doh indicating that she would like copies of the e-mails to be delivered to her. Mrs. Baranski stated

that she had no e-mail at this time either. Mr. Blatt clarified that they will forward the e-mails to both Mrs. Brzezinski and Mrs. Baranski by the next day.

Mrs. Huf stated that she had received a phone call over the weekend indicating that it seems like Warminster Parks & Rec hoped to put literature out on the referendum and send it home with the school children. Mrs. Huf indicated that she looked at Policy 3.2 regarding distribution of written material and that she did not support Parks & Rec doing this. She wondered if there was any truth to this call.

Mr. Blatt stated that neither he, Dr. Sexton nor Dr. Masko knew about this.

Mrs. Gold stated that she had a list from the referendum campaign and that Item #5 indicated that fliers would be sent home with the children. It stated that this was okayed by Mr. Blatt. Mr. Blatt stated that he had no knowledge of this.

Mrs. Huf felt that the children should have nothing to do with this. Mr. Blatt stated that if there was something going home about things going on in the township that was consistent with policy, we would allow it. But anything regarding a referendum would come before the Board.

Dr. Sexton stated that normally anything that is to go home through the elementary school would go through him.

Mr. Faust stated that he would have concerns about something going home in favor of either one side or the other. He did not think the District should get involved through the schools.

Mrs. Jankowsky suggested that if a Board member has a question about this to call the Superintendent ahead of the day of the meeting so he could look into the matter, if necessary, and be prepared to respond. Mrs. Brzezinski felt there was no time to do this with the Operations Committee meeting going too long. Mrs. Jankowsky stated that the Operations Committee started on time and finished on time at 7:15 p.m.

OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Huf and seconded by Mrs. Brzezinski to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie A. Detwiler
Board Secretary