

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

**MINUTES OF WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING  
HELD JUNE 28, 2005**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A Work Session/Regular meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on June 28, 2005, in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Lynch at 7:42 p.m. The following people registered their attendance:

Board Members:

Sina Baranski  
Marie Brzezinski  
Joseph Faust  
Rose Gold  
Eugene Grossi  
Betty Huf  
Joan Jankowsky  
Jane Schrader Lynch  
Cynthia Mueller

Administration:

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

CEA/Teachers:

Public:

There was no sign-up sheet available for this meeting.

**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 relative to a personnel matter.

Mrs. Huf commented that graduation was absolutely wonderful and that there were some outstanding students this year. She also felt that the yearbook was the best she had ever seen.

Mrs. Mueller also commented that graduation was wonderful, as was the awards ceremony a few nights before. She thanked the parents, staff and faculty for all their hard work. She also felt that the yearbook was beautiful.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### Recognition of Bus Drivers

Mr. Blatt indicated that since many of these individuals were on vacation, he hoped that they could be recognized at a future meeting. He spoke about the competition and the results.

## **GOOD NEWS**

Mrs. Homel indicated that Mr. Blatt had already spoken about the information contained in the Good News Report.

## **COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

Mary Alice Brancato of 236 Kipling Drive, Warminster, stated that she was speaking on behalf of the Varsity baseball parents, indicating that they were very upset because they were not notified that the baseball coaches were fired. They had heard this from their children. She indicated that they wanted to know if they could find out what was going on.

Mr. Blatt responded that he had phone calls in to the Athletic Director and other people regarding this matter. However, since this was a personnel matter, it could not be discussed at this time. As soon as the information was available, he would inform the Board President and would communicate appropriately as soon as possible.

Donna Siegfried of 667 Dick Avenue, Warminster, addressed the Board regarding the possible change in block scheduling. She indicated that she had two children who had gone through block scheduling and that she could not be more proud of her daughter and the Class of 2005. She spoke about the rise in test scores under block scheduling and stated that she felt the system works. She felt if changes were made, the children would be hurt.

Eileen Phillips of 473 Silver Avenue, Southampton, spoke about the October 22, 2004 report and indicated that block scheduling received favorable reviews from students and teachers. When she reviewed block versus the six-period day, it showed that block was superior in most areas. She raised questions about the affect getting rid of block would have. Although it has been stated that this would benefit taxpayers, she heard nothing about how it would benefit students.

Amy Ciment of 255 Toll Drive, Southampton, stated that she was very happy with block scheduling. She pointed out that the Board had previously discussed tweaking block scheduling. She asked if they were giving this a chance and asked the Board to reconsider.

**REPORTS, as needed**

Intermediate Unit – Mrs. Brzezinski reported that she had a lot of information from the I.U. and that if anyone was interested, she could fill them in after the meeting.

Legislative Liaison – Mrs. Mueller reported that the Senate had approved home schooled students' participation in school events and that this could be part of the budget passed on June 30<sup>th</sup>. She felt Board members should call Mr. O'Neill and Mr. Greenleaf regarding this matter and ask them that if this passes, the students should be required to adhere to the same requirements as our students.

Mr. Blatt indicated that he would e-mail to the Board the next day a draft of the letter to be sent.

**COMMUNITY COMMENTS (Continued)**

Patrick Penecale, III, of 441 Acorn Drive, Warminster, addressed the Board regarding his brother's status as baseball coach. He indicated that his brother had never received any official notice that he had been released as a baseball coach. There was somewhat of an assault on his character, which he wished to address. He spoke of his brother's experience as a coach and his work for the prison system for the past 19 years. He indicated that his morals and integrity had never been called into question and that he had been an excellent example for the student athletes.

Mr. Penecale went on to say that his brother had had a good relationship with Mr. Pacchioli and that there was only one point of contention. He spoke about the incident, which occurred during a game where some remarks were made to some of our athletes by another team. After the game his brother did not shake the other coach's hand. He agreed later that this was probably not the best sportsmanship. The incident was settled at a later game and as far as his brother was concerned, the issue was dead. Mr. Penecale indicated that his brother had not been given any notice of being released other than through the grapevine. He felt that Mr. Pacchioli had made some remarks which assaulted his brother's character. He indicated that he would like a meeting with Mr. Pacchioli and a letter of apology.

**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 – May 16, 2005; May 18, 2005, June 6, 2005
- Operations Committee – January 25, 2005

Mrs. Baranski expressed concern about voting for these minutes since the only meeting she attended was the May 16<sup>th</sup> Finance Committee Meeting. Mrs. Jankowsky pointed out that the Board was only accepting these minutes, not approving them, so if Mrs. Baranski was comfortable with this, it was no problem for her to accept them.

*The motion passed 9-0.*

## **POLICIES**

### Discussion:

#### 1.2 – Centennial School Board Meetings

Mrs. Huf indicated that this was brought forward at the request of a Board member.

Mrs. Brzezinski stated that she learned in San Diego that Old Business could be brought up at the beginning of the meeting, which would make the meetings shorter.

Mrs. Gold questioned how this would make meetings shorter, and also pointed out that there is rarely any Old Business on the agenda.

Mr. Grossi felt that the issue Mrs. Brzezinski was talking about was Other Board Discussion, which is held at the end of the meeting. He suggested moving that around.

Mrs. Brzezinski disagreed. She felt Old Business should be moved after Community Comments.

Mrs. Mueller stated that since Other Discussion Items come up at the end of the meeting, people don't want to discuss these items because it is too late. She would like to see this moved up on the agenda.

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that she did not have a problem with moving Other Board Discussion and Comment before the action items. However, she would have a problem with moving Old Business since that is generally restricted to items that have been postponed. These should be handled before New Business.

Mrs. Jankowsky also felt that the reference to a "Green card" on page 1.2F, item a. should be changed to read only "card" since the color of the card doesn't really matter.

Mrs. Huf stated that she didn't have a problem moving either item.

Mr. Faust stated that he preferred to leave the order of the agenda as it was. New Business was where the action items were and these were significant motions. He felt that there was not usually a lot of preparation for Board Discussion items and that these items tended to be long. He felt that to push New Business down when people have specifically come to discuss these items would cause them to come up late in the meeting.

Mr. Grossi stated that he would like to see Mrs. Brzezinski's proposal. Mrs. Lynch indicated that Mrs. Brzezinski would provide information for further discussion and that this would be brought back at the August meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS****1. Exception to Policy 7.18 - Resident, Non-Resident and Tuition Status for Student 1-1**

*A motion was made by Mrs. Huf and seconded by Mrs. Brzezinski to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves an exception to Policy 7.18, Resident, Non-Resident and Tuition Status for Student 1-1 to attend William Tennent High School for the 2005-2006 school year as a tuition student. The parent will provide transportation.*

Mrs. Jankowsky noted that Administration did support this.

*The motion passed 9-0.*

**2. Preliminary Approval for Trip by Longstreth Elementary to Camp Canadensis**

*A motion was made by Mrs. Gold and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board grants preliminary approval for a trip by the fifth grade classes at Longstreth Elementary School to Camp Canadensis, September 21, 22, 23, 2005. The cost to the District is \$510.00.*

Mrs. Mueller noted that this was an outstanding program. She noted that only one of the District's elementary schools participated in this program. Although it takes a lot of work, she recommended that the other schools participate in this also.

*The motion passed 9-0.*

**3. Facility Use Waiver Application**

*A motion was made by Mrs. Huf and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Facility Use Waiver Application for the NPT Breast Cancer 3-Day LLC for use of WTHS gym, cafeteria, and hallways as a relocation site for all participants on Friday, September 23 through Saturday, September 24, 2005. The building will only be used if the weather or other conditions prevent outside camping of participants. The cost to the District for waiving 100% of the custodial fees is approximately \$1,062.50.*

Mrs. Mueller stated that she had questions on this because there was not a lot of detail provided to the Board. She questioned whether people would be camping on the District's facilities and whether people were coming in from out of town.

Jennifer Ricker, the Production Coordinator, indicated that there would be about 3,000 participants, who would come mostly from the Philadelphia area, Washington, D.C. and New York. They would be walking about 20 miles per day and would camp in this area. However, if the weather did not permit camping outside, then they would like to use an indoor location for camping.

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that she strongly supported charities, especially this one. However, as a Board member her practice has been not to approve waiving the money. She had no problem with the group's use of the facility but she could not vote to expend taxpayer money in a direct contribution.

Ms. Ricker stated that she had no problem with paying the custodial fees.

Mrs. Jankowsky indicated that she would be happy to amend the motion if the Board wanted to entertain this.

Mrs. Brzezinski asked if there was a possibility that the children would be present while these people were there. Ms. Ricker responded that they were working on a timeline that would avoid this and that the likelihood of them using the site was minimal. It would only be used if there was severe weather.

Mrs. Huf indicated that she had no problem with this if they paid the charges.

*A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mrs. Huf to amend the motion by deleting the last sentence relative to waiving the custodial fees.*

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

*The amended motion passed 8-1. (Mrs. Baranski opposed.)*

Mrs. Baranski noted that this was a terrific thing but she felt that it would be too congested with the students there.

4. Close 2004-2005 Books/Authorize Audit

*A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board authorizes the administration to close the 2004-2005 Centennial School District books as of June 20, 2005, incorporating all accruals therein; that all bills that arrive and are due by June 30, 2005 are approved for payment provided the administration reviews the bills and is satisfied the same are just and proper obligations of the school district, and provided said expenditures are within the budget; that the transfer of budget amounts necessary for the processing of budgeted expenditures are approved subject to review and ratification by the Board in September 2005; and that the School District auditors be directed to proceed with conducting the necessary audit for the close of the Fiscal Year 2004-2005.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

5. Authorize Software Development – Employee Attendance System

*A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Gold to resolve that the Centennial School Board authorizes Administration to contract with ProSoft Technologies, Inc. to develop software interfacing to the District's administrative software providing for daily automated attendance keeping for all District employees per the terms and conditions of the attached quote. Cost of software development and training not to exceed \$6, 940. Funds to be appropriated from the Capital Projects Fund.*

Mrs. Brzezinski asked if this covered all employees. Mr. Faust confirmed that it did.

Mrs. Jankowsky indicated that there was discussion at the Finance Committee meeting that there would be some latitude for Mr. Blatt to provide feedback although some members of the Committee indicated that they would only vote for this if it was for all employees. Mr. Faust felt that that was Mr. Blatt's statement but that that was not necessarily what came out of the Committee. He felt that it came out as all.

Mrs. Lynch stated that she thought there would be more information provided about this.

Mr. Blatt explained that Centennial was the pilot for this system.

Mr. Grossi stated that the issue was that a lot of the data we get is done by hand and should be automated. It also provides a lot of management information.

Mrs. Mueller felt that for the cost of this, it was a no-brainer. She was thrilled that we had the opportunity to get this at a reduced rate. It would provide more records and make us more efficient.

Mr. Grossi indicated that the developmental cost for this was very small in the computer world.

*The motion passed 8-1. (Mrs. Lynch opposed.)*

Mr. Blatt stated that this was the result of evolving standards with the Federal Wage and Hour laws and that it protects our hourly employees as well as the District.

6. Alternative School Program

*A motion was made by Mrs. Gold and seconded by Mr. Grossi to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves entering into the attached agreement with Delaware Valley High School Education Center to provide alternative education program placement for Centennial students for the 2005-2006 school year.*

Mrs. Mueller asked if we were looking to prepay for these students. Mr. Faust answered affirmatively.

Mr. Faust questioned whether this had been reviewed by the solicitor. Mr. Blatt indicated that this was exactly the same as the agreement we had with Youth Services, except that we are guaranteed the number of seats. The basic format was reviewed by the solicitor.

Mrs. Homel indicated that this was reviewed last February and that the only difference was that the numbers have been inserted.

Mrs. Jankowsky felt that it would be prudent to have a fiscal note attached, i.e., the cost per student for regular education and special education. Also, she thought it would be wise to indicate that we are authorizing prepayment. She pointed out that the numbers in the letter did not appear to match up with the contract.

Mr. Vail indicated that the amount indicated in the contract was for the school year just ended.

Mrs. Brzezinski questioned the last line on page 26, which indicated that before and after school tutoring services were provided. Mrs. Homel explained that the price per student was for during the school day. The before and after school services were not included in our price.

Mrs. Jankowsky felt that the contract should indicate that those services would be provided at additional cost.

*A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Grossi to amend the motion by adding the following at the end of the original motion: ...at a cost of \$6,726.76 per regular education student and an additional \$1,069.05 per special education student, and further authorizes Administration to pay for up to 25 seats in advance." And by adding the following sentence: "In addition, we provide before and after school tutoring services at an additional fee."*

*The motion to amend passed 9-0.*

*The amended motion 9-0.*

Mrs. Lynch called for a break in the meeting at 9:17 pm.

The meeting resumed at 9:28 p.m.

Mrs. Lynch indicated that Mrs. Gold had requested that Item 8 be handled before Item 7.

*A motion was made by Mrs. Gold (not seconded at this time) to move Item #7 to #8, and Item #8 to #7.*

Mrs. Huf indicated that she did not understand this and did not like the change.

Mrs. Mueller stated that she could not understand how a Board that always required all the background information before it would vote on something would not listen to what administrators, staff and stakeholders put into a report that came forward to the Education Committee for something this significant that would impact so many students. She did not know how anyone in good conscience could vote on getting rid of block before knowing what could be done to change and improve it.

*Mr. Faust seconded the motion for purposes of discussion.*

Mrs. Gold indicated that everyone had this information and it had been discussed.

Mrs. Mueller stated that this was not discussed by the full Board.

Mrs. Gold indicated that the information was given out and no one questioned her.

*A roll call vote was taken as follows:*

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

*The motion passed 6-3.*

7. WTHS Schedule Change 2006-2007 [formerly Item #8]

*A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Gold to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves revision of the William Tennent High School schedule for the 2006-2007 school year to restore the 6-period day and authorizes the use of surplus funds in the 2005-2006 budget to fund those positions within the current block schedule that will be eliminated when the new schedule is put in place in September, 2006.*

Mrs. Huf stated that she thought everyone present knew her support of block scheduling. She indicated that she was very disappointed with members of the Board and that she could not support this motion in any way, shape or form. She believed that the kids have been successful with block and that they were able to reach out and grab what was being offered. She was terribly disappointed that the Board had seen the need to put this on this agenda for a vote because she felt they were letting the students down. She stated that she was very strongly against this motion. She wished her colleagues would rethink the

reasons for going back to a normal day. She asked how this would affect the credits for graduation of the students who had scheduled their four years of education under block. She also questioned how this would affect the middle school students. She thanked everyone for the letters and support.

Mrs. Mueller stated that she was very disappointed with the entire Board for the timing of this issue. She did not think it was fair. When items come forward for which additional information is needed or if Board members have questions, these items always wait until another meeting. Mrs. Mueller felt that Mrs. Phillips spoke very well about the various questions, and Mrs. Siegfried discussed the numbers. She felt it was wrong to have something come forward when the majority of stakeholders had to find out about it in the newspapers.

Mrs. Mueller read an e-mail communication from Daniel Klenk supporting block scheduling. She felt that there was a reason why the Class of 2005 scored so high and that there are intangibles that you cannot attach a number to. She spoke about the fact that with block scheduling the teachers could vary their teaching methods to individual students with different needs. She felt that a huge disservice was being done because she could see nothing being offered to show why the District should go back to a six-period day, other than numbers. She indicated that she had many questions, including what would be done about MBIT students and graduation credits. She did not see how we would be improving what we are delivering to the students by going back to a six-period day. She questioned how technology would fit into the schedule.

Mr. Grossi felt that the bottom line was that there are standards that we must abide by, which is part of our delivery system. Now there is also No Child Left Behind. Failure to meet the standards has significant ramifications. He indicated that the basic fact was that the scores were flat because everyone (each district) improved. Mr. Grossi stated that he would rather see additional time in the basic skills areas where technology could be incorporated into the basic program. With the current schedule, he felt there was more time in the arts and humanities. He pointed out that he had presented several analyses showing that the 55-minute instructional periods for 180 days is far superior to what is now being delivered. He felt that we have given this experiment every possible opportunity to succeed and, unfortunately, it has not worked and we need to move on.

Mrs. Baranski stated that she was in favor of block schedules. She felt that under block the teachers could teach the children in different ways. She indicated that the block schedule modification team had done a tremendous job in putting together a terrific program and the Board had not even given it a chance. She stated that for the almighty buck, we had sold the kids out.

Mrs. Gold indicated that she liked block scheduling but she felt it was wrong to say that if we didn't have it the children would be deprived. She explained that she had two family members in two different schools, one in block scheduling and one not. The one who was not in block scheduling was not deprived, and the one in block scheduling had a lot of opportunities also. They both applied to five different colleges and both got accepted

by all of them. The one with the six-period day was granted early admission. She felt that block scheduling was good if it works but that it did not seem to be working here.

Mrs. Lynch stated that we have something that has been tried for five years. Board members and administrators have said it isn't working. She felt that to keep it after scores are flat and it is five years old and has cost \$3, \$4 or \$5 million would be selling the children out. She felt that we should go another way.

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that she would like to provide some clarifications. She felt it was unfair to say that some of the retiring teachers were unable to adjust their teaching styles to the block schedule. Regarding students at MBIT having difficulty because they are coming from a six-period schedule, she pointed out that Council Rock students also had a six-period schedule. Regarding electives, Mrs. Jankowsky stated that she did not recall that increasing the number of electives was one of the goals for AFG, but increasing student performance was.

Mrs. Huf stated that she was hearing that the block schedule was not working, but questioned by whose terms it was not working. She would like to hear it from the teachers and students.

Mrs. Mueller pointed out that she did not say that all of the retiring teachers could not adjust their teaching styles, but that some of them were not changing their teaching methods. As far as Council Rock, she pointed out that they had different graduation requirements. It was not easy for a six-period day to meet the graduation requirements.

Carolyn Fisher, a teacher, read a statement from the teachers as a response to the elimination of block scheduling, which requested that the block schedule be kept and that the focus not be on the lowest tax rate. She stated that the schedule is working and that the decision to eliminate it is educationally wrong. (A copy of this statement is attached hereto and made a part of these Minutes.)

Michael Sander, a teacher, stated that he took two trips to Freedom High School in Allentown when they were looking at block scheduling. At the time he was the President of the Union. He could not find anyone who did not like block scheduling. He felt that the schedule works best for the middle-of-the-road children. The children at the bottom get the extra help anyway and the children at the top will always be at the top. He explained that the teachers rewrote the material so they could give the students more material. If the schedule is changed, they would have to redo the material again. He felt that so much more could be done in 90 minutes.

Karen Adams, a Spanish teacher at Tennent, stated that test scores were so much better under block and that she was a better teacher under block. The students are speaking Spanish so much better at the end.

Becky McGuinness, a teacher, stated that she had attended a meeting in the fall about PSSA scores and block scheduling. To a lot of the students, the test doesn't mean

anything. She suggested making it a graduation requirement in order for the scores to go up. Regarding taxes, she felt that since inflation keeps going up, taxes must be raised. She questioned what would be done if the PSSA scores do not improve after going back to the six-period day.

Kristen King, art teacher, indicated that she had taught under both schedules and that she felt that the block schedule had a lot to do with the reputation that Tennent has developed in art. She felt that cutting block would possibly result in losing higher level courses. We would lose instructional time because of setup and cleanup time. She questioned why we left the six-period day to begin with, and felt that it was because there were problems with it.

Shannon Christine, special education teacher, stated that under the block schedule she was able to maintain more personal relationships with her students. In a 55-minute period, it would be increasingly difficult to make those connections. We need to put the students first, to make an investment in them so they can become strong adults.

Cindy Detwiler, school psychologist, stated that her son was the Salutatorian of the Class of 2005 and her daughter was the Valedictorian of the Class of 2001, which was the first year of the block schedule. She felt that the difference was that her son was able to take six AP courses. She explained that they developed new AP courses under block and that the graduation requirements are now more stringent. The extra classes her son took were not what you would consider fluff. She felt that block scheduling should be given more of a chance. She felt that the bottom line was money and that we need to continue to raise taxes to provide quality education for our children.

Mike Devitt, Assistant Principal at Tennent, stated that his experience was that our School Boards have been deliberate and data-driven and, therefore, decisions have been responsibly made. He felt that Centennial was the envy of the county with regard to technology, curriculum renewal and the resources that we provide to our students. He felt that was a very tangible benefit. He also felt there were so many questions about what this would mean that no one has answers to. He hoped that the Board would show the same deliberate, data-driven patience as it had with other matters so that it could make the best decision possible.

Tom Rinebaugh, parent of incoming 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders, stated that he had been subject to a field experiment of the open space classroom. He felt that block scheduling may deviate from that field experiment. He indicated that since many people have spoken in favor of it, he felt it was a worthy experiment to continue.

Eric Goldsman, a teacher, stated that he felt that this year he saw the District become a District on the move. Now he wonders which direction we are moving – forward or back. The students get to work in a cooperative learning situation. There are kids that would never normally interact. He has seen so much better education in the past five years than in the previous, non-block environment.

Mr. Goldman stated that seven years ago the AFG people gave a lukewarm review, but this year they gave a glowing review. So something must be going right. He pointed out that there are a lot more AP courses available now and questioned why anyone would want to take that away. He pointed out that the scores have not gone down.

Regarding electives, Mr. Goldman stated that with a six-period day there is no opportunity to take things that are different. He felt that people won't mind if you raise taxes to improve education. He couldn't imagine anything worse than getting rid of block. He stated that block works and he knew the scores would continue to go up.

Mrs. Mueller thanked everyone for coming and for speaking, especially the people who work for the District. She stated that it was pretty much a done deal that this was going to happen this evening. She asked everyone at the table to take into consideration what everyone in the audience had said. No one said they wanted to get rid of block except Board members. She asked the Board to think about this before voting.

Mrs. Lynch spoke about the number of meetings the Finance Committee had and indicated that many ideas came from that Committee and were brought forward. She felt everyone had been fair and courteous to each other. She thanked everyone.

*A roll call vote was taken as follows:*

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

*The motion passed 5-4.*

8. Modification of William Tennent High School Block Schedule [formerly Item #7]

[Note: In view of the vote on the previous item, this item was not moved or discussed.]

Mrs. Huf left the meeting at 10:58 p.m. Mrs. Brzezinski left the room at 10:58 p.m.

9. Technology Refresh Program Agreement

*A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Gold to resolve that the Centennial School Board authorizes entering into agreement with Dell Marketing, Inc. to replace all 1998 vintage IBM computers (approximately 677) at a total cost of \$643,827. Computers to be supplied upon order by Dell and paid for over a three year period per*

*an interest free purchase agreement based on the terms and conditions of the attached supplement.*

*The motion passed 7-0.*

Mrs. Brzezinski returned to the room at 11:00 p.m.

10. Legal Fees Adjustment

*A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves new rates for Levin Legal Group, District Solicitor for General and Special Education Counsel, per attached supplement.*

*The motion passed 7-1. (Mrs. Lynch opposed.)*

Mrs. Mueller left the room at 11:01 p.m.

11. Conversion of Speech/Language Program to In-House Status

*A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board directs Administration to notify the Bucks County Intermediate Unit of the changes in service and personnel levels for the District's Speech and Language Program that will be required for the 2005-2006 school year.*

Mr. Grossi complimented Administration for pursuing this option for considerable savings.

*The motion passed 7-0.*

12. Real Estate Tax Millage Reduction

*A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mr. Grossi to resolve that the Centennial School Board, in conjunction with the terms and conditions of Pennsylvania General Assessment Law, does hereby approve the resolution attached hereto reducing the current 2004-2005 District real estate millage rate to 70.25 mills in accordance with the Board of Bucks County Commissioners action of June 2, 2004 changing the valuation of property for assessment purposes to 100% of the actual value.*

*The motion passed 6-1. (Mrs. Baranski opposed.)*

13. 2005-2006 Budget

*A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mr. Grossi to resolve that the Centennial School Board adopts the General Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2005-2006 in the amount of \$71,287,690 as presented per the attached supplement, and hereby authorizes the expenditures as set forth therein during the Fiscal year 2005-2006.*

Mrs. Mueller returned to the room at 11:04 p.m.

Mrs. Brzezinski stated that until this day she was sure that she was not going to vote for this budget but since the Board was working very hard to make sure it could save money, she decided to vote to support the majority of the Board. She felt that a lot of the senior citizens would be hurt by this and would not be happy with it but she would support it in the interest of taking care of the students, which was what she was elected to do.

Mrs. Lynch stated that, of course, she was for this budget. Many hours were spent by the Finance Committee and they worked with due diligence to bring the budget down. They started with a \$160 increase and brought it down to about \$84. She stated that she was proud of this budget.

Mrs. Mueller stated that she was supporting this budget as a preliminary budget but that she was not supporting it now because money was being taken out of the fund balance. She indicated that the fund balance was not a bottomless pit and she felt this would come back to haunt us. There are things that are being funded that are not one-time expenses.

Mrs. Baranski stated that she would not support this because she did not think there were enough meetings.

Mr. Grossi stated that a lot of work went into this budget. He felt that this was a good effort and that he planned to support this budget.

Mr. Faust stated that this was a very difficult budget year. He thanked not only the Board members and the committee, but also Administration. Mr. Blatt and Mr. Vail attended all of the meetings and there were also many administrators who attended. He felt that this was probably not an ideal budget but that it was the best they could come up with at this point. He indicated that each year there would be challenges.

*The motion passed 6-2. (Mrs. Mueller and Mrs. Baranski opposed.)*

Mrs. Lynch left the room at 11:12 p.m.

#### 14. District Goals

*A motion was made by Mrs. Brzezinski and seconded by Mrs. Gold to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the District Goals for the 2005-2006 school year as attached.*

Mrs. Mueller read the goals. Mr. Faust stated that after the evening's actions, he felt the Board should look at adding another goal. The Board had tasked Administration to develop a new schedule for a September 2006 start. He felt that was a large undertaking and that it was worthy of goal status.

Mr. Faust stated that the other issue that came out of Finance was that Mr. Reid has been asked, through the Superintendent, to re-look at the technology plan – he felt that should be considered.

Mrs. Lynch returned to the room at 11:15 p.m.

Mrs. Jankowsky concurred with Mr. Faust's comments regarding the schedule as being worth of goal status. Regarding technology, she saw that as coming through the Technology Department and involving Finance. She asked Mr. Blatt if he saw four goals as being too many, and whether one on the list should be deleted.

Mr. Blatt indicated that he would not recommend reducing or eliminating any of the goals. He though it appropriate to add the goal about development and implementation of the six-period day for the 2006-2007 school year.

*The motion passed 8-0.*

15. Permission to Apply for Competitive Grants

*A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mrs. Brzezinski to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves permission to apply for the following competitive grants for the 2005-2006 school year in the amount indicated:*

<i>Target Stores – Community Giving Program Grant for Willow Dale Elementary School</i>	<i>\$ 1,800</i>
<i>Hands on Learning for Leary Elementary School</i>	<i>\$10,000</i>

*The motion passed 8-0.*

16. Permission to Accept Entitlement Grant

*A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Gold to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves permission to accept the following 2005-2006 entitlement grant in the amount indicated:*

<i>Accountability Block Grant</i>	<i>\$378,710</i>
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Mr. Grossi left the room at 11:20 p.m.

*The motion passed 7-0.*

17. Permission to Accept Funding for Title I Mini-Grants

*A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves permission to accept funding for the following Title I Parent Involvement Mini-Grants for the 2005-2006 school year in the amounts indicated:*

<i>Davis Elementary School</i>	<i>\$500</i>
<i>Leary Elementary School</i>	<i>\$500</i>
<i>Longstreth Elementary School</i>	<i>\$500</i>
<i>McDonald Elementary School</i>	<i>\$500</i>
<i>Stackpole Elementary School</i>	<i>\$500</i>
<i>Willow Dale Elementary School</i>	<i>\$500</i>

*The motion passed 7-0.*

18. Permission to Apply for Alternative Education Grant

*A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Brzezinski to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves permission to apply for the following competitive Alternative Education grant for the third year of the 2003-2008 program:*

*Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth – Delaware Valley High School*

Mrs. Brzezinski asked about the amount of the grant and whether the money would come to the District.

Mr. Grossi returned to the meeting at 11:23 p.m.

Dr. Sexton explained that at this point we do not know how much grant money we will receive but that it will come to the District. In 2004-2005 we got about \$37,000. We are anticipating about \$35,000 for 2005-2006.

*The motion passed 8-0.*

19. Milk, Juice and Tea Bid

*A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Milk, Juice, and Tea Bid No. 2005-26 and awards same to Rosenberger’s Dairies for the lowest responsible bid amounts as follows:*

	<u><i>¼ Pint</i></u>	<u><i>½ Pint</i></u>	<u><i>Pint</i></u>	<u><i>Gallon</i></u>
	<u><i>Price</i></u>	<u><i>Price</i></u>	<u><i>Price</i></u>	<u><i>Price</i></u>
<i>Whole White</i>		<i>.1972</i>	<i>.4567</i>	<i>3.0355</i>
<i>1% Reduced Fat White</i>		<i>.1791</i>	<i>.4206</i>	<i>2.7470</i>
<i>2% Reduced Fat White</i>		<i>.1871</i>	<i>.4366</i>	
<i>Fat Free White</i>		<i>.1725</i>	<i>.4072</i>	

<i>Reduced Fat Choc/Strawberry</i>		.1881	.4384
<i>Reduced Fat Vanilla</i>			.4384
<i>Reduced Fat Cappuccino</i>			.5384
<i>Orange Juice</i>	.14	.16	.35
<i>Orange Drink, Lemonade, Punch</i>		.10	.22
<i>Tea</i>		.10	.22
<i>Apple Juice</i>	.14		

*The motion passed 8-0.*

20. Musical Instruments Bid

*A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mr. Grossi to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Musical Instrument Bid No. 2005-25 and awards same to the vendors listed below for a total bid award of \$11,556.00. This will be a 2005-06 general fund expenditures.*

<i>NEMC</i>	\$ 849.00
<i>Midwest Musical Imports</i>	4,204.00
<i>Music and Arts</i>	2,524.00
<i>Jacobs Music</i>	3,979.00

*The motion passed 8-0.*

**PERSONNEL**

*A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves all personnel recommendations, including Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absence, Authorization to Employ, Summer Academy – Elementary Academic Program, Summer Elementary Enrichment/Motivation Program, Summer Help, Bus Aides, and Co-Curricular.*

Mrs. Mueller stated that it was with a heavy heart that she would approve the resignation of the Assistant Principal at Klinger, Khalid Mumin. She felt that he was a tremendous asset to the District and wished him the best.

Mrs. Lynch felt that Mrs. Mueller was speaking not only for herself but for the entire Board.

Mrs. Baranski commented that our loss was their gain.

*The motion passed 8-0.*

*A motion was made by Mr. Grossi and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the awards of tenure for the employees listed in the attachment.*

*The motion passed 8-0.*

Mr. Blatt stated that Mr. Mumin did an outstanding job and that many people were personally and professionally saddened to see him leave. He felt that it reflected well on our School District that someone else wanted him.

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Mrs. Jankowsky reported that she had received an e-mail communication from Lee Lieberman dated June 27, 2005 regarding block scheduling. She had also received e-mails from Mr. Klenk and Ms. Fisher, dated June 27 and June 28, respectively.

## **OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Al Hertenberger thanked Board members for getting through the year. He distributed a small memento of appreciation to Board members and wished everyone a good summer.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

*A motion was made by Mrs. Gold and seconded by Mr. Faust to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 8-0. The meeting was adjourned at 11:38 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

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Vickie A. Detwiler  
Board Secretary