

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING  
HELD FEBRUARY 14, 2006**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on February 14, 2006 in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Mueller at 7:50 p.m. The following people registered their attendance:

Board Members:

Marie Brzezinski  
Joseph Faust  
Betty Huf  
Joan Jankowsky  
Patricia Jones  
Jane Schrader Lynch  
Michael Monaghan  
Cynthia Mueller  
Harve Strouse

CEA/Teachers/Principals:

Eileen Poroszok

Administration:

David Blatt  
Victor Lasher  
Jean Rollo

Public:

Rebecca Rubin  
Dorothy Gannon  
Penny Bristow  
Rachel Bristow  
Matt Merin  
Jane Strawley  
Debbie Conklin

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mrs. Mueller announced that the Board had met in Executive Session prior to this meeting relative to a labor relations matter.

Mrs. Mueller announced that the upcoming weekend's murder mystery dinner had been moved to May because of the Senior Sweethearts Dance.

Mrs. Jankowsky reported that the Strategic Planning Steering Committee had gotten underway that day and would meet again the following day and again in April. They would document their progress and come before the full Board for approval, probably in May or early June.

Mrs. Lynch indicated that she would not be able to fulfill her duties to this committee and would like to have Mr. Monaghan replace her, which he had agreed to do. Mrs. Mueller agreed to this change.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

None

## **GOOD NEWS**

Mr. Blatt presented the Good News Report (see attached.)

## **STUDENT REPORTS**

### **STUDENT COUNCIL**

Matthew Merin reported as follows:

- The Senior Sweetheart Dance was delayed until Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, due to the recent snowstorm.
- The PSSA writing exam would be held on February 15<sup>th</sup>.
- There would be a driving safety assembly for Seniors.
- Black & White Night Generals had been chosen.
- School rings would be delivered on February 17<sup>th</sup>.
- The Unity Club gave out Candy Grams for Valentine's Day.

### **MBIT**

None

## **COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

Penny Bristow of 78 Newtown Road, Warminster, asked that the Board support the Key Club trip to Hershey. She understood that the trip should have been submitted a while ago but felt that these students really were interested in service to others and they hoped that the Board would support the trip.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Exception to Policy 7.18, Resident, Non-Resident and Tuition Status for Students 4-15 and 18-15

*A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Monaghan to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves an exception to Policy 7.18 to allow Student 4-15 (Grade 8) to attend Klinger Middle School for the remainder of the 2005-2006 school year and student 18-15 (Grade 3) to attend McDonald Elementary School for the remainder of the 2005-2006 school year. The family will provide transportation.*

Mrs. Jankowsky noted that this had the support of Administration.

*The motion passed 9-0.*

2. WTHS Key Club Trip to Hershey, Pennsylvania – March 3-5, 2006

*A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mrs. Jones to resolve that the Centennial School Board grants preliminary and final approval for the William Tennent High School Key Club trip to Hershey, Pennsylvania, on March 3-5, 2006. The cost to the District is not to exceed \$675.00.*

Mr. Strouse noted that this should have come before the Board for preliminary approval. He hoped that this would pass but indicated that he would vote against it as a matter of principle.

Mrs. Jankowsky explained that this occurred because there were two new advisors to the key club and possibly they were not aware of having to separate the preliminary and final approvals. According to the backup, this oversight would not occur again.

Mrs. Mueller stated that she would not want to penalize them for this oversight. Hopefully, next year there would be a request for preliminary approval.

*The motion passed 8-1. (Mr. Strouse opposed.)*

3. Permission to Apply for a Mini-Grant

*A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves permission to apply for the following mini-grant for the 2005-2006 school year in the amount indicated:*

<i>Inclusive Practices Mini-Grant Program</i>	<i>\$10,000</i>
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*The motion passed 9-0.*

#### 4. Transportation – Klinger Walking Zone

*A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Monaghan to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves a change to the Klinger Walking Zone to exclude Maple Avenue, between Harding Avenue and Street Road, per the attached supplement. Administration will periodically check for any changes in the area that would prompt review of this recommendation.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

### **PERSONNEL**

*A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the following Personnel items: Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absence; Authorization to Employ; Change of Status; Mentors; Per Diem Substitute Teachers; Curriculum Resource Team Members; Student Helper; and Accepts Award of Tenure.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

### **OPERATIONS AND POLICIES**

#### Initial Distribution:

Mrs. Jankowsky enumerated the following policies for initial distribution:

- 3.24 – Family Trips Scheduled During School Year
- 3.5 – Non-Discrimination on Basis of Disability
- 7.21 – Exemption from Instruction

#### Request to Develop Policy – Board Code of Conduct and Standards for Effective School Governance

Mrs. Jankowsky also indicated that there was a request for permission to develop a policy on Board Code of Conduct and Standards for Effective School Governance.

Mr. Strouse stated that he would not oppose this but he felt that the staff had more important things to do. He would suggest that we could adopt this as it is written just to keep the staff from having to write one.

Mrs. Jankowsky agreed. She felt this was pretty well written.

Mrs. Lynch stated that this was something that PSBA had been promoting and that all we were doing was adhering to their policy.

There was consensus of the Board to move forward on this matter by massaging PSBA's policy into the format of one of our policies; then the Board could act on it.

Request to Develop Policy – Board Member Membership Fees for Community Service Organizations

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that this came before the Board at the request of the Board President.

Mrs. Mueller stated that she felt there should be some type of structure or some dollar figure set for this.

Mrs. Jankowsky indicated that she would have trouble reimbursing Board members for individual membership fees for community service organizations but she had no problem if the District had a membership.

Mrs. Lynch agreed. If a Board member was going to be reimbursed for lunch, it should be in the policy.

Mrs. Brzezinski felt it was important for Board members to be seen around the community. Mrs. Jankowsky agreed but she did not feel that the District should pay for individual memberships.

Mr. Strouse felt that the fact that the Board was discussing this at such length indicated that a policy was needed. Mr. Faust agreed that a policy was needed.

Mrs. Mueller stated that she was looking at this as protecting the District – she was not looking at it individually.

Mrs. Jones felt that it was important that there be a policy on this so that Board members have a guideline.

Final Approval:

2.9 – Workers’ Compensation

*A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mrs. Lynch to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 2.9, Workers’ Compensation.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

3.21 – Use of Behavior Support Techniques

*A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mrs. Lynch to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 3.21, Use of Behavior Support Techniques.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

### 3.3 – Clubs and Co-Curricular Activities

*A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mrs. Lynch to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 3.3, Clubs and Co-Curricular Activities.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

### 6.3 – Home and School Associations and Other Advisory Councils

*A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mrs. Jones to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 6.3, Home and School Associations and Other Advisory Councils.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

### 7.12 – Home Education

*A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Strouse to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 7.12, Home Education.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

### 4.11 – Student Activity/Clearing Fund

*A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Strouse to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the rescission of Policy 4.11, Student Activity/Clearing Fund.*

Mrs. Huf asked why this was being rescinded.

Mr. Strouse explained that there was a memo attached that indicated that the Board had approved changes to policy 7.13, Student Activity/Clearing Funds, last June which made Policy 4.11 unnecessary.

*The motion passed 9-0.*

## **FINANCIAL**

*A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Jones to resolve that the Centennial School Board accepts the:*

- *Schedule of Bills – January 2006*
- *Investments – January 2006*
- *Cafeteria Fund Budget Report – January 2006*
- *Student Activity/Clearing Funds – October 1 through December 31, 2005*

*and approves the:*

- *Fund Profiles/Treasurer's Report – January 2006*
- *Budgetary Transfers – February 2006*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

## **MINUTES**

*A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Brzezinski to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Minutes of the:*

- *Reorganization Board Meeting – December 5, 2005*
- *Regular Board Meeting – December 13, 2005*
- *Regular Board Meeting – January 10, 2006*
- *Work Session/Regular Meeting – January 24, 2006*

Several minor corrections were discussed.

Mr. Strouse indicated that he would abstain on all of the Minutes since he was not in attendance at the Reorganization Meeting.

*The motion passed 7-0-2. (Mr. Strouse and Mr. Faust abstained.)*

## **BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENT**

### Driver Education Property

Mrs. Mueller advised that Board members had received an e-mail from Mr. Strouse regarding this matter.

Mr. Strouse read an e-mail that he had written regarding his relationship with Granor Price Homes and the sale of the driver education property, dated February 7, 2006, and requested that the e-mail be attached to these Minutes. Mr. Strouse indicated that the sale of the lot was a matter of record before he was a member of the Board. When he was interviewed for the Board he introduced himself as CFO of Granor Price Homes. He would like to be recused on all matters related to this issue.

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Mrs. Huf thanked Mr. Blatt for sending a letter to Archbishop Wood regarding the Thanksgiving Day football game. They have responded and hopefully we can move forward.

Mrs. Brzezinski stated that she had a problem with the fact that this item was not put on the agenda for this meeting.

Mrs. Mueller stated that she felt that since Mr. Blatt did what the Board requested by sending a letter, it was not necessary to put it on the agenda. If she misunderstood the Board's intent, she apologized.

Mr. Faust indicated that he was one of the Board members that requested that this be on the agenda; however, since the letter was sent, he was not expecting to see this on the agenda.

Mrs. Jankowsky agreed with Mrs. Mueller.

Mrs. Lynch stated that she was under the impression that it would be on the agenda. She asked if someone could find out why Board action was taken regarding this issue about ten years ago.

Mrs. Brzezinski stated that Mr. Kilker was running for office and the Warminster people were interested in having the game. So the Board voted on whether to have the game and the Board helped Administration to get the game going.

Mrs. Brzezinski thanked Mr. Blatt. She felt that he had written a wonderful letter and that it seemed that Wood was really interested in having the game.

## **REPORTS**

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Blatt indicated that all of the items he had to report had already been discussed.

### **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Mrs. Lynch reported that the Committee was working on curriculum renewal for 2006-2007. She spoke about the process for the benefit of the listening public. At the February 6<sup>th</sup> meeting the Committee reviewed Art, Consumer Science and Science. The next meeting would be held on February 20<sup>th</sup>, at which time the Committee would discuss Music and Tech Ed.

#### Middle Bucks Institute of Technology

Mrs. Jankowsky reported that on February 9<sup>th</sup> there was a Building Security and Technology Committee meeting. They discussed hiring technology counsel and a clerk of the works for a total cost of \$78,500. This would contrast with hiring a firm at a much greater cost to oversee the project. Mrs. Jankowsky had some concerns with hiring an individual to do this rather than a firm but indicated that she would probably vote for this since they came highly recommended.

Mrs. Jankowsky also reported that Central Bucks has decided to opt out of having their students take Math courses at Central Bucks and is considering having MBIT providing phys ed at MBIT, which would be a pilot program for CB students only. Also, Central Bucks, Newhope-Solebury and Council Rock will not be sending their students to MBIT

for lunch; they will be servicing their cafeteria needs at the home schools. Also, summer school will have to be held elsewhere for the upcoming year due to the renovations. Finally, there was some discussion about the Director prohibiting drivers from carrying passengers.

Mr. Faust stated that the Director was looking into shutting down the lunch program since it was operating at a deficit so he had asked the districts who could provide lunch for their own students. However, this was not going to happen.

#### Intermediate Unit

No report.

### **FINANCE & LONG RANGE BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Mr. Faust reported that the next meeting would be held on February 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Mrs. Jankowsky advised that the building tours would be held on February 25<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Jankowsky indicated that most of the Board members received possible dates for visiting Spitz, Inc. and requested that they respond as to their availability.

#### Citizens Policy

Mr. Monaghan reported that the Citizens Policy Committee had met on January 17<sup>th</sup> and reviewed Policy 3.8, Exclusions, and Policy 3.24, Family Trips Scheduled During the School Year. The next meeting would be held on March 21<sup>st</sup>.

#### Legislative Liaison

None.

Mrs. Jones reported that she had attended the PSBA seminar “It’s the Law” and found it to be very informative.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Mrs. Huf noted that someone had sent her an article regarding the millions of dollars spent on injuries in the Cleveland schools with a notation asking if the Centennial School Board received information about injuries and costs. She indicated that she would like to pass that on to Mr. Blatt for response.

Mrs. Huf also indicated that she had received an e-mail from a Mr. Cummings regarding an incident that occurred in school. She passed this on to Mr. Blatt for response also. (It was noted that all Board members had received the e-mail from Mr. Cummings.)

Mrs. Lynch stated that she hoped everyone was reading their newspapers regarding property tax relief. She felt that everyone should keep their eyes open on this issue.

Mrs. Mueller encouraged all Board members to reach out to the representatives and let them know how we feel.

#### **ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

None.

#### **SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEETINGS/CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

See Schedule attached hereto. Mrs. Mueller noted several changes to the Schedule.

#### **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 9:23 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

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Vickie A. Detwiler  
Board Secretary