

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

**MINUTES OF WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING
HELD FEBRUARY 27, 2007**

CALL TO ORDER

A Work Session/Regular meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on February 27, 2007, in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Mueller at 7:36 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

Administration:

David Blatt
Sandy Homel
Victor Lasher
Dr. Michael Masko

CEA/Teachers:

Cheryl Lyman
Kristen King
Lauren Zucker
Janice Farley
Eileen Poroszok
Michael Sander
Michael Snider
Karen Adams
Joanne Fabian
Scott Bregman
Al Catarro
Mary Ellen Donnelly

Public:

Joseph Knight
Renee Portnoy
Len Portnoy
Jeff Zucker
Megan Faust
Andy Pollock
James Schorn
Eric Goldsman
Thomas Reinboth
Barb Patrick

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

PRESENTATIONS

National Merit Scholarship Finalist – Philip Patrick

Mrs. Homel explained that Philip Patrick had been named one out of 15,000 finalists nationwide in the National Merit Scholarship Program. Finalists compete for 8,200 Merit Scholarships funded by businesses and corporations across the country.

Mrs. Mueller presented Mr. Patrick with a certificate of recognition for outstanding achievement.

Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year

Mrs. Homel stated that Centennial School District was proud to have three candidates for Teacher of the Year, as follows: Cheryl Lyman, a teacher at Tennent; Michele Ciliberto, a Science teacher at Log College Middle School, and Lauren Zucker, a Library Media Specialist at Klinger Middle School. Mrs. Homel spoke about the background and experience of each of these teachers at length.

Mrs. Mueller wished each of the three candidates well.

Graduation Project Highlights – Leland Miller

Dr. Masko explained that eight years ago the state of Pennsylvania had published guidelines for graduation, one of which was a graduation project. He noted that the project to be presented by Leland Miller mirrored several strategic plan goals.

Kristen King, an Art teacher from William Tennent, spoke about the process of developing a graduation project, and spoke about Leland's project.

Leland Miller, a Junior at William Tennent, then presented a portion of his graduation project, which focused on law enforcement and the local police departments, and included a PowerPoint presentation and video.

GOOD NEWS

Mrs. Homel presented the Good News Reports from February 13 and February 27, 2007 (see attached.)

Mr. Blatt spoke about the many wonderful people we have in our District.

STUDENT REPORTS

None.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None.

COMMITTEE MINUTES

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

- *Education Committee – January 8, 2007*
- *Operations Committee – January 9, 2007*
- *Operations Committee – February 13, 2007*

The motion passed 9-0.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. Preliminary Approval of WTHS FBLA Trip to Hershey, PA, April 30-May 2, 2007

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mrs. Jones to resolve that the Centennial School Board grants preliminary approval for William Tennent High School Future Business Leaders of America trip to the state competition in Hershey, Pennsylvania, April 30 – May 2, 2007. The cost to the District is not to exceed \$9,600.00.

Mr. Faust asked if there was a third chaperone since the number of students exceeded that permitted for two chaperones.

Janice Farley stated that she had questioned this and was told that two chaperones were enough since the number of students was not far over the permitted number.

Board members stated that the policy required a third chaperone. Ms. Farley indicated that there was one available, but that this would add another \$423 to the cost.

Mr. Blatt stated that the numbers would have to be reworked and that Administration would get this to the Board.

Mrs. Jankowsky pointed out that this was only preliminary approval.

A motion to table was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mr. Strouse.

The motion to table passed 9-0.

2. Kindergarten Transportation

Mrs. Jankowsky explained that this came through discussion by the elementary school principals; then through the Education Committee. Since it involves bussing, it went through the Operations Committee, who unanimously approved it.

Mrs. Lynch stated that the principals felt that the students would arrive on a more timely basis. Young students would be able to ride with siblings. She was assured that the young children would be protected and would be in the front of the bus.

A motion was made by Mrs. Jankowsky and seconded by Mrs. Lynch to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the inclusion of our kindergarten students with the 1st through 5th grade students on the AM and PM transportation at the elementary schools beginning in the 2007-2008 school year. The District will continue to provide midday transportation of kindergarten students. In addition, PM session kindergarten classes will begin and end 15 minutes later in order to coincide with the established times for 1st through 5th grades at each of the elementary schools.

The motion passed 8-1. (Mr. Faust opposed.)

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves all personnel recommendations, including: Resignations, Retirements, Terminations, Leaves of Absence; Authorization to Employ; Change of Status; Per Diem Substitute Teachers; Title I Tutors; Mentors; Homebound Tutors; and Lead Teacher Centennial Academy Summer Enrichment Program.

The motion passed 9-0.

A motion was made by Mr. Faust and seconded by Mrs. Jankowsky to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves Co-Curricular recommendations.

Mr. Strouse stated that the Board was again being asked to approve appointments that had been in place since the end of January. This was already the end of February. He indicated that he would oppose this motion.

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

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that she hoped that Administration would address this issue since Mr. Strouse had raised it before.

Dr. Masko stated that they had advised administrators of this issue and the fact that they must provide timely notice and turn paperwork in on time.

POLICIES

Discussion:

3.15 – Graduation

Mrs. Jankowsky advised that this policy had been reviewed by the solicitor and the Citizens Policy Committee. Since there was no discussion, she indicated that it would be moved for final approval at the next meeting.

OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mrs. Jankowsky brought the Board's attention to two items in the February 16th edition of the *School Leader News*.

The first item dealt with the impact of legislation that might move the 2008 Pennsylvania primary to February. With Act 1, the adoption of budgets are contingent upon when the primary falls. If it is in May, a preliminary budget would have to occur in September, October or even November. Mrs. Jankowsky felt the Board would have to keep tabs on this legislation.

The second item dealt with the non-legal interpretative statement and the front-end referendum. Mrs. Jankowsky asked Administration to look into discussion with the solicitor on the content of the non-legal interpretative statement that will appear on the ballot in the May primary. She asked what the solicitors were suggesting. She did not think the School Board should be given the "credit" for imposing PIT/EIT on voters.

Mrs. Lynch stated that, as we know, Act 1 is a disaster. It was rushed through and it is a disgrace.

Mrs. Mueller pointed out that the Board publicly approved documents, such as Board Minutes. She asked if they could be placed on the website. She explained that once they are approved, they go to the library. She asked if she had a consensus of the Board that they would like this to happen.

There was a consensus of the Board.

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that she believed the Operations Committee approved forwarding this item to the Board and it wasn't followed up on. She felt the proper procedure would be to research this and bring it forward to the Board. This could be done at the next meeting.

REPORTS

Finance

Mr. Faust stated that the Finance Committee had met the previous evening. There was a presentation from Dr. Coe on the Programs & Services budget. This was moved forward to come to the Board next month.

Mr. Faust also reported that they received from the Food Services Director an agreement to expand the buying agreement. This will be coming forward to the Board for action.

Mr. Faust indicated that they reviewed the real estate tax installment plans and approved an actuary contract to be in compliance with employment retirement issues.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be on the third Monday in March.

I. U.

Mrs. Brzezinski stated that there was a meeting at the I.U. on February 20th, at which they discussed the teachers' contract proposal. She indicated that in March she would be attending four meetings at the I.U. regarding the 25 people who have applied to be Director of the I.U. They will be deciding who to interview.

Mrs. Brzezinski also reported that there was a presentation about transportation statistics.

Mr. Blatt explained that there was a firm working with the I.U. Board to find a new Director.

Mrs. Huf stated that it had come to her attention recently that there was a *Centennial Wrap* that had been appearing in the Courier Times and she requested that this be included in the Board's Friday packet.

Mrs. Mueller stated that this is a wrap-up of what the resolutions were and what the votes were. It is nothing more than we already know. There is nothing editorial to it.

Mrs. Jankowsky suggested having I.U. representatives attend an Education Committee meeting to speak about what they do. She felt it would be beneficial for the Board.

Mrs. Lynch stated that she would like the *Centennial Wrap* to appear in the Intelligencer.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Jankowsky stated that she and Mrs. Mueller had received an invitation from the President of Southampton Estates to attend a residents' association meeting on February 22nd. She thanked them for the invitation.

Mrs. Mueller indicated that they had attended the meeting and she felt that by the time they were finished, the residents understood the PIT/EIT issue better, as well as the importance of coming out to the polls.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Lynch and seconded by Mrs. Huf to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie A. Detwiler
Board Secretary