

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
HELD APRIL 8, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

A regular meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on April 8, 2008, in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Monaghan at 7:38 p.m. The following people registered their attendance:

Board Members:

Thomas Hezel
Betty Huf
Jane Schrader Lynch
Mark Miller
Michael Monaghan
Cynthia Mueller
Dr. Andrew Pollock
Thomas Reinboth
Joseph Simpson

Administration:

Dr. Jennifer Foight-Cressman
Sandy Homel
Victor Lasher
Dr. Michael Masko
Jean Rollo
Timothy Vail

CEA/Teachers:

Public:

See attached listing.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Monaghan led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Monaghan announced that the Board had met in Executive Session prior to this meeting relative to a labor issue.

Mrs. Mueller announced that March was March Madness Month. She thanked all of the elementary school teachers for their efforts.

PRESENTATIONS

School Bell – Prospect Hill School

Mr. Lasher introduced Sam and Clarence Walker, who had worked for the School District in the past. The Walkers had offered to donate an old-time school bell to the District. The bell came from a one-room schoolhouse, Prospect Hill School. Mr. Lasher gave a brief history of the school. The bell was to be displayed with the new school/stadium. The Walkers also donated some mementos from their parents (a diploma and Math book.) Mr. Lasher thanked both men on behalf of the District. One of the children from Leary rang the school bell in celebration.

Leary Elementary School Kindergarten Students

Mrs. Homel explained that the Leary students had been in the news lately and parents and staff members, among others, were hopeful that they would be one of the top ten schools in the nation chosen for their “Character Counts” education program.

Dr. Dunar led the students in performing songs and role playing on the theme of Caring, one of the pillars of character that was celebrated at a January student recognition assembly. The students modeled the differences between respectful and disrespectful behavior.

Willow Dale Speed Stacks Demo

Mrs. Wettstein, the Principal of Willow Dale, spoke about the Speed Stacks competition, its history and the fact that the speed stackers have performed in various venues to promote the sport. She also pointed out the benefits for the students and the skills required to do this.

Several students from Willow Dale demonstrated speed stacking. The students presented Mrs. Wettstein with flowers in appreciation for all of her hard work.

GOOD NEWS

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

STUDENT REPORTS

STUDENT COUNCIL

Ben Brockman, Treasurer of the Senior class, reported on the following items:

- On March 14th, Middle Bucks applications were due for underclassmen.
- A semi-formal dance for 9th and 10th graders was held on March 15th.
- The PMEA Regional Chorus Competition took place March 27-29.
- During the week of March 31st, the World Affairs Club sponsored a Support Our Troops Drive.
- April 1st kicked off National Poetry Month.

Mr. Brockman also reported on several things currently going on at the high school:

- The deadline for the Kyle Quinn Spirit Award was April 8th.
- Wednesday through Friday of the current week was PSSA testing for Juniors.
- *Seussical, the Musical* would be playing on the upcoming weekend.
- Report cards would be distributed on Friday, April 11th.
- The SADD Lock-in would be held on Friday, April 18th.
- Junior Prom is coming up soon.

MBIT STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Chelsea Miller reported on the following items at MBIT:

- The gold medal winners from Skills USA competed in Hershey recently.
- MBIT Level 300 students were preparing to take their National Occupational Competency Exam.
- Middle Bucks would be hosting Graduation Project Day on April 21st.
- The Spring Occupational Advisory Committee meeting was scheduled for April 15th.
- MBIT's Summer Career Enrichment Camp was scheduled for the weeks of July 7th and July 14th.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

Final Approval of Policy 6.2 – Facility Use

Mr. Monaghan stated that this would remain on the table until there was more discussion on the matter.

Mrs. Mueller stated that this would be left on the table for now because part of it was the sale of concessions. There was a meeting coming up with the booster groups and their input was needed on this issue.

There was a consensus of the Board to leave this matter on the table.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Simpson requested the Board's agreement to group items 1 through 4. There was no objection.

1. Exception to Policy 7.18, Resident, Non-Resident and Tuition Status for Student 4-4
2. Exception to Policy 7.18, Resident, Non-Resident and Tuition Status for Students 1-2, 14-2, 10-2, 4-2
3. Preliminary Approval for WTHS Students' Trip to Quebec
4. Preliminary Approval for WTHS Students' Trip to Villanova

A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board:

- (1) *Approves an exception to Policy 7.18 to allow Student 4-4 to remain at Log College Middle School for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year. The family will provide transportation.*
- (2) *Approves an exception to Policy 7.18 to allow Students 1-2, 14-2, 10-2 and 4-2 to remain at Willow Dale Elementary School for the remainder of the 2007-2008 school year. The family will provide transportation.*
- (3) *Grants preliminary approval for a trip by students at William Tennent High School to Quebec, Canada from August 11-15, 2008. There is no cost to the District.*
- (4) *Grants preliminary approval for a trip by the girls basketball team at William Tennent High School to the high school team camp at Villanova, PA, from July 25-28, 2008. There is no cost to the District.*

The motion passed 9-0.

5. Permission to Apply for Classrooms of the Future Grant

A motion was made by Mr. Hezel and seconded by Dr. Pollock to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves permission to apply for a state competitive grant for the 2007-2008 school year.

The motion passed 9-0.

6. Set Date of WTHS Graduation

Mrs. Mueller asked if there could potentially be a Special Board Meeting for this issue. She suggested that the Board might not want to go to June 17th for graduation and that maybe Administration could look into this. Either the Seniors could have a different graduation date or the last day could be moved for the whole district. She pointed out that this would have to be a public meeting and would have to be advertised. It could be held on Monday, April 14th, prior to the Finance Committee meeting.

Dr. Pollock stated that he thought this was a good idea so that as many family members could attend graduation with as little inconvenience as possible.

Mr. Monaghan requested Administration to advertise this.

Mrs. Mueller clarified that a Special Meeting of the Board would be held at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, April 14th.

7. Approve WTHS Stadium Concession Stand Construction and Equipment

A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Reinboth to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the transfer of an amount not to exceed \$225,000 from excess 2007-2008 General Fund Real Estate Tax Lien sales to the Capital Reserve Fund for purposes of constructing and equipping the WTHS Stadium concession stand as follows:

<i>Construction change order to general contractor J. L. Watts Excavating, Inc.</i>	<i>\$105,000</i>
<i>Construction change order to electrical contractor Renk Electric, Inc.</i>	<i>50,000</i>
<i>Equipment Purchases</i>	<i>45,000</i>
<i>Contingency for plumbing work and unanticipated extras</i>	<i>25,000</i>

Mrs. Lynch stated that she did not believe the sale of lien taxes should be put towards the stadium. She indicated that she was not against the stadium but felt that the money from the lien taxes should be put toward tax increased this year. She hoped that this Board would say that this would be a loan that would be paid back.

Mrs. Huf agreed with Mrs. Lynch. She stated that she supported this because she thought we already had the money. She felt this should be some kind of loan. She didn't want to put taxes toward this. She felt it should be a loan.

Dr. Pollock indicated that he could not support this. He stated that the cost of the stadium keeps going up and that somewhere along the line we have to say "enough is enough."

Mr. Hezel stated that the last time it went up, there was some contingency money put into this. He asked what that amount was and how much of the original contingency was left.

Mr. Lasher explained that there was about \$250,000 of the original amount for contingency, that it hasn't all been used.

Mr. Reinboth stated that he also felt that these monies should be incremental monies; that they be a loan that is paid back. It is less expensive to build this now as part of the stadium project rather than later.

Mrs. Mueller stated that after it is built, the concession stand will probably be one of the biggest money-makers. It will cost less to do it as a loan. She felt we should do it.

Mrs. Huf stated that she thought there was no question that we need a concession stand. If we can find the money and we can pay it back, we should do it.

Mr. Hezel stated that this was not put in the original plan and he could not understand why not if it was such an important thing. He felt the need to make sure that we are on top of plans rather than having things come up in the eleventh hour.

Mrs. Mueller pulled the motion from the floor; Mr. Reinboth pulled his second.

Dr. Pollock questioned taking money from the tax liens when there was approximately \$3.2 million in the Capital Reserve Fund, which we will probably not be spending too much of before the end of the year. He suggested using money from there.

A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Miller to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves a concession stand at a cost not to exceed \$225,000, funded by the remainder of the Contingency Fund for the stadium project and the remainder be in the form of a loan from excess 2007-2008 General Fund Real Estate Tax Lien sales to the Capital Reserve Fund for purposes of constructing and equipping the WTHS Stadium concession stand as follows:

<i>Construction change order to general contractor J. L. Watts Excavating, Inc.</i>	<i>\$105,000</i>
<i>Construction change order to electrical contractor Renk Electric, Inc.</i>	<i>50,000</i>
<i>Equipment Purchases</i>	<i>45,000</i>
<i>Contingency for plumbing work and unanticipated extras</i>	<i>25,000</i>

Mrs. Lynch stated that she had reservations about this.

A roll call vote was taken, as follows:

<i>Dr. Pollock</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mr. Reinboth</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Miller</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Huf</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Mueller</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Lynch</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Hezel</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Simpson</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Monaghan</i>	<i>Yes</i>

The motion passed 8-1.

8. Approval of Construction Management Company

A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Reinboth to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Contract between Reynolds Construction Management, Inc. and Centennial School District for the William Tennent High School Renovation/Addition Project. The cost for the Pre-Construction phase will not exceed

\$138,000. The cost for the Construction Phase will not exceed \$1,050,800 plus \$21,500 for reimbursable expenses. Funds for these services shall come from the Capital Projects Fund.

Mrs. Huf stated that she had not supported the building of the new school yet so she would have a hard time supporting this.

Mrs. Lynch agreed and stated that she would be voting against this.

Mr. Miller stated that this was the single most important expenditure that could be made to ensure the building comes in at cost. He complimented Mr. Lasher for sorting through all the documents. He felt that he made the best decision on this.

Mrs. Mueller stated that this came out of Operations to the full Board with a 3-0 vote. She indicated that in Radnor this firm came within 1%.

Dr. Pollock stated that he wasn't for the new project – he wanted to renovate, but that decision has been made. Now the decision was how to keep it to cost and have the best building for that cost. So he would vote for this.

Mrs. Huf stated that she agreed with what everyone was saying. However, she still did not feel that they should put such an outrageous amount on the community. She felt they should have voted for another option. She was not in favor of a new high school and could not vote for this.

Mr. Miller stated that if there was a problem with the numbers, this is the watchdog.

Mrs. Lynch stated that she believed doing this was probably a proper thing to do. But since she voted no consistently, she could not turn around and support this.

A roll call vote was taken, as follows:

<i>Dr. Pollock</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Reinboth</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Miller</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Huf</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mrs. Mueller</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Lynch</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mr. Hezel</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Simpson</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Monaghan</i>	<i>Yes</i>

The motion passed 7-2.

Mr. Monaghan requested a short break in the meeting at 9:26 p.m. The meeting resumed at 9:35 p.m.

9. Approval of Mandate Waiver

A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Hezel to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Mandate Waiver Program Application as set forth in the resolution statement prepared by our construction attorney:

WHEREAS, the Board of School Directors is advised that the Mandate Waiver Program gives Pennsylvania's schools the opportunity to apply to the Department of Education ("Department") for relief from state mandates; and

WHEREAS, the Administration, Project Architect and Special Construction Counsel have advised the Board that it may seek a mandate waiver of Section 7-751(a) of the Pennsylvania School Code of 1949, to the extent that this section requires the School District to enter into multiple prime contracts for the construction of additions to and renovations of the William Tennent High School ("Project"); and

WHEREAS, due public notice has been given of the regularly scheduled meeting of the Board at which this resolution will be considered and voted upon.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby RESOLVED, as follows:

1. *The Board of School Directors hereby adopts the Mandate Waiver Program Application with respect to Project in the form that is attached hereto, soliciting the approval of the Department for waiver of Section 7-751(a) for the Pennsylvania School Code of 1949, to the extent that this section requires the School District to enter into multiple prime contracts for the construction of additions to and renovations of the Project.*
2. *The Administration is authorized to submit the application to the Department for approval and to take all other action that it may deem appropriate in support of the application and to effectuate the terms of this Resolution.*

The motion passed 7-0-2. (Mrs. Huf and Mrs. Lynch abstained.)

10. Facility Use and Waiver for Syracuse University

A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mrs. Lynch to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves Syracuse University's use of the William Tennent High School auditorium and auditorium lobby for use on Sunday, May 18 and Monday, May 19 for an art show and reception. There is no cost to the District. The university will pay all custodial fees for use on Sunday, May 18.

The motion passed 8-0-1. (Mr. Miller abstained due to a conflict of interests.)

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the following Personnel items: Resignations/Retirements/Leaves of Absence; Authorization to Employ; Change of Status; Per Diem Substitute Teachers; Support Staff Substitutes; Tutors; Mentors; Homebound Tutors; and Co-Curricular.

The motion passed 9-0.

OPERATIONS AND POLICIES

Initial Distribution:

Mrs. Mueller noted the following policies for initial distribution:

- 2.22 – Evaluation and Rating of Administrators
- 3.8 – Exclusion
- 5.14 – Volunteers
- 7.16 – Elementary Class Size
- 2.7 – Outstanding Achievement Awards

Final Approval:

5.10 – Copyright and Other Intellectual Property Compliance

A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 5.10 – Copyright and Other Intellectual Property Compliance.

Mr. Miller stated that he had previously said that he was going to provide new language to be incorporated into this policy; however, it is in such a state of flux that we currently have the best language available for now.

The motion passed 9-0.

FINANCIAL

A motion was made by Mr. Reinboth and seconded by Mrs. Mueller to resolve that the Centennial School Board accepts the:

- *Schedule of Bills – March 2008*
- *Investments – March 2008*
- *Cafeteria Fund Budget Report – March 2008*

and approves the:

- *Fund Profiles/Treasurer's Report – March 2008*
- *Budgetary Transfers – April 2008*

The motion passed 9-0.

MINUTES

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

- *Work Session/Regular School Board Meeting - February 26, 2008*
- *Regular School Board Meeting – March 11, 2008*
- *Work Session/Regular School Board Meeting - March 25, 2008*

Several minor revisions were requested.

The motion passed 9-0 as to the Minutes of March 11, 2008 and March 25, 2008; the motion passed 8-0-1 as to the Minutes of February 26, 2008 (Mrs. Lynch abstained since she was absent from that meeting.)

BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENT

None.

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Masko explained that for many years the Centennial Education Foundation has provided mini-grants to teachers. They have been announced and can be seen on the cable channel. He thanked the Centennial Education Foundation for being such a good partner with the District.

The development of partnerships for the stadium projects is underway and there are many opportunities for anyone and everyone to be a partner, including buying a brick for the walkway, recognizing an alumnus or family, etc. Dr. Masko gave contact information for anyone who was interested.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Lynch reported on the following items from the Education Committee meeting the previous evening:

- Mr. Hezel brought forth a grant from the state.
- There was a literacy renewal update.
- Teachers from Leary reported on what they are doing with Reading and Phonics.

Mrs. Lynch stated that it was wonderful to see how the children have improved.

Middle Bucks Institute of Technology

Mrs. Huf reported that there would be a meeting the following Monday evening. A search was underway for a new Director for MBIT. There were four applicants so far.

Intermediate Unit

Mr. Monaghan reported that he had missed the last I.U. meeting since he was in the hospital. He stated that the Reading Olympics would be coming up and there would be hundreds of students involved.

MBIT is applying for a number of grants in several areas.

The next meeting will be on April 15th.

FINANCE & LONG RANGE BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Reinboth reported that the last meeting of the Finance Committee had been held on March 17th. The committee reviewed and acted upon a number of items that were passed along to the full School Board. The next Finance Committee meeting would be held on April 14th regarding budgetary issues, the MBIT budget and a number of other issues.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Mrs. Mueller reported that the Operations Committee had met on April 1st. Most of the items discussed were covered earlier in this meeting. The next meeting of the Operations Committee would be on April 29th.

Citizens Policy

Mr. Monaghan reported that he could not attend the Citizens Policy meeting since he was in the hospital. There are no more meetings scheduled for this school year.

Legislative Liaison

Mrs. Lynch reported as follows:

- The PSBA website was up and running.
- The *Pittsburgh Gazette* reported that the state has expanded the definition of gifted children and will have a review process through the state.
- The *New York Times* reported that the United States is going to require states to use a single score drop-out formula. More information will be forthcoming.

PSBA

Since Mrs. Lynch had already mentioned the PSBA website, Mr. Miller reported that Chimp Louie visited Klinger the previous day to help the children get back to their studies after the PSSA's.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mrs. Huf indicated that she had a communication regarding the Warminster Memorial Day Parade, which she would provide to Dr. Masko for distribution to all Board members.

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None.

SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEETINGS/CALENDAR OF EVENTS

See Schedule attached hereto.

A motion was made by Dr. Pollock and seconded by Mrs. Mueller that the Board hold an Executive Session immediately following this meeting regarding a personnel issue. Since this motion needed a third, a third to the motion was made by Mr. Miller.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Dr. Pollock and seconded by Mr. Simpson to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie A. Detwiler
Board Secretary