

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING  
HELD JUNE 10, 2008**

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

A regular meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on June 10, 2008 in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Monaghan at 7:35 p.m. The following people registered their attendance:

Board Members:

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

Administration:

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

[Dr. Pollock was absent from the meeting.]

Attendees:

Donna Hewitt  
Paula McCoy  
Linda Mannins  
Joe Mannins  
Carolyn Hopsam  
Kyle Shapiro  
Chelsea Miller  
Mercedes Ignasiak  
Gus Fiocca  
Jane Strawley  
Jim Francis

Ruth Kistner  
Vicki Francis  
Laura Murray  
Patricia McGorry  
Barb Patrick  
Robert Shaffer  
Nick Hopfner  
Lisa Simon  
Mariann Parsons  
Robert Grover  
Al Catarro  
Lynne Lucot

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Monaghan noted that Dr. Pollock was absent from the meeting. He also announced that the Board had met in Executive Session the previous Friday relative to personnel. Following that, he went to the Mr. Tennent competition. He felt that this gets better every year.

Mr. Reinboth announced that Senior Benjamin Brockman was recognized in the *Neighbors* section of the newspaper over the weekend. Also, he announced that on July 1-18 there would be ten students touring Europe with American Musicians Abroad.

Mr. Monaghan announced that the annual Retirement Recognition Reception had been held the previous week. Mrs. Mueller stated that she had to pinch hit for Mr. Monaghan since he was unable to attend. She presented awards to the retirees, which numbered 37 in all. She felt that it was a wonderful evening.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### Recognition of MBIT Skills USA Winners

Mrs. Homel spoke about the Skills USA competition and presented certificates to the students who were second place winners in the competition.

## **GOOD NEWS**

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

## **STUDENT REPORTS**

### **STUDENT COUNCIL**

None.

### **MBIT STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE**

Chelsea Miller reported on the following items at MBIT:

- June 5 – the Annual Senior Recognition Ceremony
- June 13 – Last day of school
- June 23-27 – Skills USA in Kansas City. Agnetta Krechner, a senior, will be competing.
- September 3 – First day of school.

## COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Victoria Francis of 1232 Hilltop Road, Southampton, spoke about the cutback of the guidance counselor, Mr. Immerman, at Davis. She spoke about the many duties that he performs and how much he is needed at Davis.

Jordan Francis, a student at Davis, beseeched the Board to keep Mr. Immerman. He stated that he is a big help to him and Mr. Immerman is his hero.

Kyle Shapiro of 109 Kingsclere Drive, Southampton, backed up the statements of Mrs. Francis. He also spoke about how Mr. Immerman helped his daughter and requested full-time status at Davis for Mr. Immerman.

Bob Grover of 92 Stahl Road, Southampton, stated that he has been very happy with the District but that now he is somewhat disillusioned because of what is happening with Mr. Immerman and because of the talk of some of the schools being closed. He feels that Mr. Immerman is an asset to Davis and that the school cannot afford to lose him for any amount of time.

Mr. Monaghan stated that he had planned to speak about this under Board Discussion; however, he would like to speak at this point, with the Board's indulgence. He stated that he felt there was a need for a full-time person at Davis. If someone else is needed at McDonald, it should be found in the budget. He never felt this was the way to go. There is some research that shows there should be a guidance counselor for every 250 students (although that might be for the higher grades.)

Mr. Miller stated that Administration has made this recommendation. This does not mean that the decision has been made and finalized. Even if the Board approves this budget, it does not mean that this action has been approved. This specific action would have to take place.

Mr. Miller requested that the letters that were distributed regarding this matter be added to the record. As such, they are attached hereto and incorporated herein as part of these Minutes.

Mr. Miller agreed with Mr. Monaghan. He felt that this would need further research before anything is done. This also applies to closing a school.

Mrs. Huf stated that, after hearing about him, she felt Mr. Immerman should be cloned. She felt that perhaps we could look for a half-time counselor for McDonald and find the money somewhere in the budget.

Melissa Parsons, a student, asked the Board to please keep Mr. Immerman at her school because he helps the students. He helps with tests and everything.

William Grover, a second-grade student, stated that he thought we should keep Mr. Immerman. He is a great counselor and a loving, great teacher. He helps everyone with what they ask.

Paula McCoy of 140 Windsor Avenue, a parent of students at Davis and Longstreth, spoke about an incident at her children's schools which Mr. Immerman helped with.

Dr. Masko stated that if it was the pleasure of the Board, he would be glad to meet with Mrs. Homel to try to find some options in the budget. It was the consensus of the Board to do so.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### Approval of Agreement with RHS Consultants

*A motion was made by Mrs. Huf and seconded by Mrs. Lynch to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves removing from the table approval of the agreement with RHS Consultants that was tabled at the May 27, 2008 meeting of the Board.*

*The motion passed 7-0-1. (Mr. Miller abstained.)*

The following is the text of the motion made at the May 27, 2008 meeting:

*"A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Hezel to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the renewal of the Agreement with RHS Consultants in accordance with the attached supplement."*

Mrs. Mueller stated that one of the things they had asked for was a solicitor's opinion, but she did not see that in the backup.

Dr. Masko stated that he had a verbal solicitor's opinion, not written. He provided that at the last meeting. It was that the decision on whether a person is a consultant depends on 13 different criteria. The judgment is made by the IRS depending on those criteria.

Mrs. Mueller stated that she had no problem with Mr. Schrader. She felt that he did an outstanding job. Her problem was that there was no written solicitor's opinion.

Mr. Miller stated that he understood that the solicitor expressed that we were weak in some areas. He asked what they were. Dr. Masko explained that Centennial is RHS's only client. Although they have made services available to other clients, for six years Centennial has been their only client. This points to a relationship that may be looked upon as something less than a consultant relationship. However, in other areas we have been on solid ground and have taken steps to maintain what is required.

Mrs. Lynch felt that if we want the information, it should be given. She felt if the Board wanted a solicitor's opinion, they should get it.

Mrs. Mueller stated that her fear was that Mr. Schrader would think the Board was not approving this because they were not happy with his services.

Mr. Miller stated that his only problem was with the legal issue.

*Mrs. Huf made a motion to table; no second required.*

<i>Mr. Reinboth</i>	<i>No</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>No</i>
<i>Mr. Monaghan</i>	<i>No</i>

*The motion to table passed 5-3.*

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### 1. Exception to Policy 7.18, Resident, Non-Resident and Tuition Status for Student 4-23

*A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves an exception to Policy 7.18 for Student 4-23 to attend Willow Dale Elementary School for the 2008-2009 school year. The family will provide transportation.*

*The motion passed 8-0.*

### 2. Adopt Final 2008-2009 Budget

*A motion was made by Mr. Reinboth and seconded by Mr. Miller to resolve that the Centennial School Board adopts the Final General Fund Budget for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 (July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009) in the amount of \$88,064,648 as presented and all applicable local taxes necessary to fund said budget per the attached full resolution. Authorization is given to implement the spending plan as set forth therein during the Fiscal Year 2008-2009.*

Mrs. Lynch praised the new Board for trying very hard to find ways to decrease taxes this year. However, she pointed out that there are many people living on fixed incomes who cannot afford this, so her vote would be no.

Mrs. Huf stated that she was also having a problem with this budget. She thought it could be better. She didn't think the Board had kept the community in mind. She indicated that she would be opposing it also.

Mrs. Mueller commended Mr. Reinboth, who came on the Board in December and chaired the Finance Committee. She felt comfortable with this budget because they went through everything as much as they could and a lot of changes were made. She would be approving the budget this year but next year she felt they would need to look even more closely next year at what does not affect the students directly.

Mr. Miller also complimented Mr. Reinboth on the job he had done.

*A roll call vote was taken, as follows:*

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

*The motion passed 6-2.*

3. Approve Employee Benefit Rates 2008-2009

*A motion was made by Mr. Reinboth and seconded by Mrs. Mueller to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the attached fringe benefit rates with Independence Blue Cross (Keystone Point of Service and HMO) and other employee fringe benefit rates (both District-paid and payroll deductions) for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.*

*The motion passed 8-0.*

4. Approve Insurance Rates 2008-2009

*A motion was made by Mr. Reinboth and seconded by Mrs. Mueller to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the 2008-2009 District Insurance Premiums as per the attached supplement for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.*

*The motion passed 8-0.*

5. Senior Portrait Contract Award 2008-2009 through 2010-2011

*A motion was made by Mr. Reinboth and seconded by Mrs. Mueller to resolve that the Centennial School Board awards a three-year contract to Barksdale School Portraits for the 2008-2009, 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 school years per the negotiated terms and conditions of the attached supplement. Fees approved are those outlined in the proposal. All photo fees will be paid directly to Barksdale by parents/guardians/students purchasing each photo package.*

Mr. Miller stated that he was highly supportive of this but questioned the \$5 sitting fee. Mr. Vail explained that this \$5 goes towards the yearbook.

Mr. Vail explained that several years ago the yearbook had run at a deficit and the Board had to take money out of the General Fund. This was one of the ways to ensure that this does not happen again.

Mrs. Huf asked why so many students' pictures were left out of the yearbook this year. Dr. Masko explained that this contract states that every student will be photographed for the yearbook. If a student places an order, then they will be charged a sitting fee.

After further discussion, Mr. Vail suggested that an amendment be made to the motion.

*Mr. Reinboth (the motion-maker) and Mrs. Mueller (the seconder of the motion) agreed that the following language be added to the original motion: "The District reserves the right to collect the \$5.00 sitting fee per student and will notify the photographer each year whether or not the fee will be charged."*

Mrs. Mueller felt that whatever is done should be consistent.

Mr. Reinboth commented that this is a much better package than what we previously had.

*The motion passed 8-0.*

6. Apple Financial Services Lease Agreement

*A motion was made by Mrs. Lynch and seconded by Mr. Miller to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the 2008-2009 payment of \$6,175.19 for the third-year obligation per the 4-year lease agreement with Apple Financial Services to provide 15 iMac computers, Garage Band software, Apple Care Protection Plan, and a remote desktop.*

*The motion passed 8-0.*

7. Transitional Office Skills Course and Partnership with Southampton Estates

*A motion was made by Mrs. Lynch and seconded by Mr. Hezel to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the offering of the Transitional Office Skills Course and Partnership with Southampton Estates (2.0 Semesters, Grades 10-12) in the 2008-2009 school year and approves the inclusion of the course and partnership in the William Tennent High School 2008-2009 Program of Studies.*

*Total Fiscal Note: not to exceed \$71,910.00*

*Amount to cover the salaries of a general education teacher, special education teacher and transition coordinator/job coach.*

*The motion passed 8-0.*

8. Plan Con – Part A and B

*A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Hezel to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the submission of PlanCon Part A and B to the Pennsylvania Department of Education.*

Mr. Hezel asked what the date was for the schematic review conference. Mr. Pillar from Burt Hill indicated that it had not been scheduled yet.

*The motion passed 6-0-2. (Mrs. Lynch and Mrs. Huf abstained.)*

Mr. Lasher stated that he had received an e-mail the previous day informing him about a possible grant opportunity, “Pennsylvania Energy Harvest.” The maximum amount was \$500,000 and the deadline would be June 20<sup>th</sup>. He had spoken with Mr. Pillar of Burt Hill before this meeting, who felt that this would be worthwhile. They would help us to fill out the application, which has engineering-type questions, with the Board’s concurrence.

*A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Miller to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves permission to apply for the Pennsylvania Energy Harvest Grant.*

*The motion passed 8-0.*

9. Environmental Consultant

*A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Hezel to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves Eagle Industrial Hygiene Assoc., Inc. as the Environmental Consultant at a cost of \$7,400.00 plus sampling charges in accordance with their May 28<sup>th</sup> proposal for the William Tennent High School renovation and construction project.*

*The motion passed 6-0-2. (Mrs. Huf and Mrs. Lynch abstained.)*

10. Permission to Apply for a Private Competitive Grant

*A motion was made by Mr. Reinboth and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves permission to apply for the following Private Competitive grant for the 2008-2009 school year in the amount indicated:*

<i>Dollar General Stores Back-to-School Education Grant</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>
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*The motion passed 8-0.*

11. Exception to Policy 5.7, Reporting Student Progress

*A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves an exception to Policy 5.7, Reporting Student Progress, effective the 2008-2009 school year. The numerical evaluation for a letter grade of “D” will be 60-69 for grades 3-12. Additionally, the grade point value will be amended per the following:*

<u>Number Grade</u>	<u>Grade Point Value</u>
64	.9
63	.8
62	.7
61	.6
60	.5

*This change will align William Tennent High School grading system with Middle Bucks Institute of Technology.*

*The motion passed 8-0.*

12. Authorization for Public Notice – Coca-Cola Sponsorship Agreement

*A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Miller to resolve that the Centennial School Board authorizes Administration to provide the 30-day public notice required under PA School Code 24 P.S. 5-504.1 that the Board will consider entering into a Sponsorship Agreement with the Coca-Cola Bottling Company for a 5-year period commencing July 15, 2008.*

*The motion passed 8-0.*

**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; Per Diem Substitute Teachers; Student/Summer Employees and Co-Curricular.*

Mrs. Lynch left the room at 9:02 p.m.

*The motion passed 7-0.*

## **OPERATIONS AND POLICIES**

### Discussion:

#### 1.2 – Centennial School Board Meetings

Mr. Miller pointed out that the language of the policy did not take into consideration the fact that we have two types of meetings, Regular and Work Session. He felt that all types of meetings should be filmed, regardless of starting time, and did not see why the starting time should be included in the policy.

Mrs. Lynch returned to the room at 9:05 p.m.

Mr. Monaghan felt that the channel numbers did not need to be set forth in the policy since they could change over time.

It was decided that this policy would come back to the Board at its next meeting in June.

#### 4.4 – Student Membership

Mrs. Homel noted that this was just a clean-up of the policy. Mrs. Mueller indicated that this policy would come up at the next meeting for final approval.

### Final Approval:

#### 7.14 – Tutorial Services

*A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Hezel to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 7.14, Tutorial Services.*

*The motion passed 8-0.*

#### 4.2 – Conferences

Mrs. Mueller noted that this item was pulled from the evening's agenda.

#### 2.1 – Employee Compensation

*A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 2.1, Employee Compensation.*

*The motion passed 8-0.*

## 2.22 – Evaluation and Rating of Administrators

*A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 2.22, Evaluation and Rating of Administrators.*

*The motion passed 8-0.*

## **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 – May 2008*
- *Investments – May 2008*
- *Cafeteria Fund Budget Report – May 2008*

*and approves the:*

- *Fund Profiles/Treasurer's Report – May 2008*
- *Budget Transfers – June 2008*

Mr. Miller asked the status of getting this as an Excel spreadsheet instead of line items.

Mr. Reinboth stated that he thought they had asked for the actual budget, not these reports.

Mr. Vail pointed out that hard copies were also needed for the Minutes. He stated that he was not aware that they wanted these in spreadsheet form.

*The motion passed 8-0.*

## **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:*

*Regular School Board Meeting – May 13, 2008*

*The motion passed 8-0.*

## **BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENT**

Mr. Miller stated that he read that commencement was being broadcast on Suburban Cable. He asked if there was a reason why it could not be broadcast on the cable channels we have affiliation with. Mr. Vail indicated that it would be.

Mrs. Mueller stated that she thought this was based on a letter that has been sent out to parents for years. She felt that the letter has not been updated in years.

## REPORTS

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Masko thanked parents, staff members and teachers who assisted with the recent heat wave to help keep the children comfortable.

### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Lynch stated that this committee had met on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and also earlier in the evening. Curriculum was discussed, as well as looking into Senior final exam privilege.

#### Middle Bucks Institute of Technology

Mrs. Huf congratulated all the Seniors at Middle Bucks. This was the largest class that has ever graduated from there.

Mrs. Huf reported that the Board of MBIT had appointed a new Director, Mrs. Katherine Strouse.

Since there was no electricity at this meeting due to a thunderstorm, Mrs. Huf deferred the remainder of her report.

#### Intermediate Unit

Mr. Monaghan stated that he had met with state legislators and other legislators. They spoke about four issues that they brainstormed from the Bucks County area as issues that they would like the legislators to help solve. Mr. Monaghan indicated that he would provide these to the Board in the Friday Update.

### FINANCE & LONG RANGE BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Reinboth reported that Finance Committee meetings were held on May 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. On May 19<sup>th</sup>, the committee finalized the budget discussion and reviewed and acted upon a number of items that were brought to the Board at this meeting.

At the May 20<sup>th</sup> meeting, Mr. Reinboth attempted to educate new Board members about line items.

The next meeting of this committee will be on June 16<sup>th</sup>.

### OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Mrs. Mueller stated that many of the items discussed at Operations were items before the Board earlier in this meeting.

The next meeting of the Operations Committee would be of July 1<sup>st</sup>, at which the architects would be present.

Mrs. Mueller stated that PlanCon was discussed at the previous meeting. She indicated that they usually do not meet in July but that this year they must do so because of the construction.

Citizens Policy

Mrs. Homel indicated that this committee would not be meeting again until September.

Legislative Liaison

Mrs. Lynch reported that the Pennsylvania Senators advanced a Bill to block graduation testing. That is good news for us.

PSBA

Mr. Miller stated that he would pass until the next meeting.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Mrs. Mueller noted a communication from Carol Jensen, which all Board members had received.

**ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

None.

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

Mr. Simpson reviewed the schedule. (See Schedule attached hereto.)

**ADJOURNMENT**

*A motion was made by Mrs. Huf and seconded by Mrs. Lynch to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

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Vickie A. Detwiler  
Board Secretary