

October 19, 2015

School Board Education Committee

Centennial Administration Building Board Room

**Minutes**

PRESENT:

- Committee Members:** Mr. Mark B. Miller, Mrs. Jane Schrader Lynch, Mr. Charles Kleinschmidt
- Board:** Mr. Steve Adams
- Staff:** Dr. David Baugh, Dr. Jennifer Polinchock, Ms. Cathy Perkins, Mr. Ray Kase, Ms. Judith Hengst, Ms. Christine Matik, Mr. Joe Rutz, Dr. Al Catarro, Ms. Cheri Tenaglia, Mr. Chris Goppold, Dr. Dennis Best
- Public:** Mr. Robert Shaffer, Mr. Joe Cowhey, Ms. Jeanne Costello, Ms. Dana Morgan

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. There was an introduction of all in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A motion was made to approve the minutes of September 28, 2015 by Mrs. Lynch, seconded by Mr. Kleinschmidt. The motion passed 3-0 to approve the minutes.

**Partnership with Shop Rite**

Dr. Dennis Best, principal at William Tennent High School, introduced Mr. Joe Cowhey from Shop Rite. Mr. Cowhey spoke about the connection between Shop Rite and the high school. Shop Rite is donating funds to the Family and Consumer Sciences classes for the purchase of food to be used in the culinary classes.

Mr. Miller would like recognition of the donation to be held at a regular Board meeting and requested Mr. Cowhey attend the Board meeting on October 27.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lynch, seconded by Mr. Kleinschmidt, to move the acceptance of the donation by Shop Rite to the School Board for approval. The motion passed 3-0.

**The Great Grow Along**

Dr. Dennis Best introduced Ms. Cheri Tenaglia, science teacher at William Tennent High School. Ms. Tenaglia explained The Great Grow Along is a project where the students

learn about nutrition and the effects of sugar in the diet. As part of the project, they work with 2 live rats. Both rats are fed a regular diet, but one rat receives milk to drink and the other rat receives sugar water. The Pennsylvania Society for Biomedical Research provides the curriculum and the rats for the project. After the science project is complete, the AP psychology classes have expressed an interest in training the rats.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lynch, seconded by Mr. Kleinschmidt, to move the request to participate in the Great Grow Along to the School Board for approval. The motion passed, 3-0.

### **Music Pilot**

Ms. Cathy Perkins, Director of Teaching and Learning, explained the music teachers are requesting approval to pilot two music notation software programs. Mr. Christopher Goppold, Secondary Music Coordinator, spoke about the purpose of the pilot and procedures to be followed. He clarified the licenses are intended to be used by the teachers for curriculum work, not for student use. The pilot would run until the end of this school year.

Dr. Baugh requested the teachers use a consistent evaluation tool at the end of the pilot.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lynch, seconded by Mr. Kleinschmidt, to move this request for approval of the pilot and purchase of music notation software to the School Board for approval. The motion passed, 3-0.

### **Media Communications Plan**

Dr. Polinchock, Assistant Superintendent, provided an update on the District's communication plan. She explained the plans to make the cable channel better by creating a video library and upgrading the software to Coolsign. There will be a student contest for a new graphic to replace the CSD apple logo. The next update will be in February 2016.

### **PSSA Update**

Ms. Cathy Perkins explained what our students experienced last spring during PSSA testing. She described the changes in English Language Arts: increased text complexity; combined Reading and Writing to make one assessment, ELA; students were asked to identify multiple correct answers on multiple choice items. With regard to the math assessment, expectations were raised by one year and there was increased text complexity. New cut scores were developed by the state.

Student results were mailed home the week of October 12. Principals will report in more detail at the next Education Committee meeting on November 16.

Dr. Baugh noted we are looking at a new analytical program. It is important to realize the state has recalibrated the scores. He wanted to assure the community that high quality education is going on at Centennial. The state has set a new threshold and 2014-2015 is the new baseline.

The next Education Committee meeting is November 16, 2015.

A motion was made by Mr. Kleinschmidt, seconded by Mrs. Lynch to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed, 3-0 and the meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Ms. Cathy Perkins  
Director of Teaching and Learning