

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING
HELD DECEMBER 9, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

A regular meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on December 9, 2008 in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Reinboth at 7:00 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
Jean Rollo
Timothy Vail

[Dr. Pollock was absent from the meeting.]

Attendees:

Andrew Dornblaser
Mike Manno
Jessica Rodgers
Logan Clare
Megan Sanders
Taylor Meacham
Barb Patrick
Becky O’Hare
Marie Belcher

Jeff Markowski
Carol Sheffing
Meg Forlini
Jim Kreibrich
Jessica Pettit
Ana Brown
Mary Purdy
Mark Koutz
Kyle Hahn

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Reinboth announced that the Board had met in Executive Session

Mr. Monaghan thanked everyone who visited him in the hospital, sent him cards, e-mails, etc. He also thanked Board members for giving him the opportunity to serve as Board President for the past year. He wished Mr. Reinboth the same good luck and offered his services if needed.

PRESENTATIONS

William Tennent High School String Ensemble

Mr. Lovecchio spoke about the winter concerts to be held in all of the schools in the next two weeks. He indicated that the Tennent String Ensemble had more than tripled in size over the past few years. The Ensemble played a selection for the Board members and others present.

Mr. Reinboth thanked Mr. Lovecchio and the Ensemble for their performance.

GOOD NEWS

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

STUDENT REPORTS

Jessica Pettit reported on current happenings at Tennent, including:

- Ninth grade officers had just been elected.
- Breakfast with Santa had taken place the previous weekend, which was a fundraiser for cystic fibrosis.
- The performances of “Wake Up Darling” the previous weekend were successful. There was attendance from all four grade levels.
- Planning had begun for Senior Sweethearts.
- The Winter Concert would be held later in the week.

Megan Forlini, President of the Athletic Council, reported that a collection was taken at the Powder Puff football game and they would make a donation to the Melissa Nunn Foundation of \$2,009. She reminded everyone that Melissa had injured her spinal cord while vacationing in Hawaii and was undergoing rehab.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS1. Approval of Exception to Policy 7.18 – Resident, Non-Resident and Tuition Status for Student 16-19

A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Miller to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves an exception to Policy 7.18 for Student 16-19 to attend Stackpole Elementary School as a tuition student. The family will provide transportation.

Mrs. Mueller stated that this had the support of Administration due to extenuating family circumstances.

The motion passed 8-0.

2. Final Approval for the WTHS Students' Trip to Jamison, PA

A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board grants final approval for a trip by the William Tennent High School German students to the Delaware Valley Deutschfest in Jamison, PA from March 13 – March 14, 2009. The cost to the District is \$100.00 for bus transportation.

The motion passed 8-0.

3. Permission to Apply for a State Competitive Grant

A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Monaghan to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves permission to apply for the following state competitive grant for the 2008-2009 school year in the amount indicated:

<i>Learn and Serve America K-12</i>	
<i>School Based Program</i>	<i>\$3,500</i>

The motion passed 8-0.

4. Musical Instrument Quotation

A motion was made by Mr. Simpson and seconded by Mrs. Mueller to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Musical Instrument Quotation and awards same to the following vendors for a total cost of \$7,240.00.

<i>Taylor Music</i>	<i>\$5,565.00</i>
<i>Southwest Strings</i>	<i>\$1,675.00</i>

The motion passed 8-0.

5. Authorize 2009 General Obligation Bond – WTHS Project

A motion was made by Mr. Simpson and seconded by Mr. Miller to resolve that the Centennial School Board authorizes the preparation of a proposal for presentation to the Board of School Directors for the issuance of General Obligation Bonds of the School District with respect to the planned renovations and additions to the William Tennent High School; repealing inconsistent resolutions; and providing for a tentative effective date of January 13, 2009 per the attached supplement.

The motion passed 7-1. (Mrs. Lynch opposed.)

Mrs. Lynch stated that she was opposed to the motion for the same reason that she was opposed to any of this.

6. Elementary Feasibility Study

A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the proposal submitted by Burt Hill Architects dated November 25, 2008 to perform an elementary feasibility study at no charge to the District.

The motion passed 7-1. (Mrs. Lynch opposed.)

7. Act 34 Hearing

A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Miller to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves that the maximum project cost of the additions and renovations to William Tennent High School for Centennial School District is hereby approved at \$82,998,000.

Further that the maximum building construction cost of the William Tennent High School for Centennial School District is \$51,056,290.

Further that all details, specifications and descriptions, which appear in the “Project Descriptions Booklet for an Act 34 Hearing”, are hereby approved by the Board of School Directors of Centennial School District.

Further that the Act 34 Hearing shall be conducted pursuant to legal mandates on January 7, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in Room 150 on William Tennent High School, 333 Centennial Road, Warminster, PA.

Mr. Hezel clarified that this was the maximum project cost that the Board would approve; it was not the final cost. The final cost would not go over this, but it could be lower.

The motion passed 7-1. (Mrs. Lynch opposed.)

Mrs. Lynch stated that she was opposed to this motion on the same grounds that she did not think we should be spending this amount of money.

8. Exception to Policy 6.2, Facility Use

A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Monaghan to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves a one-time-only exception to Policy 6.2, Facility Use, for the William Tennent High School Wrestling Team Boosters, for their tournament scheduled at William Tennent High School December 6, 2008, as follows:

- *Concession proceeds would be split 80% to the WTHS Wrestling Team Boosters and 20% to the District for all items sold, including donated food.*

The motion passed 8-0.

9. Facility Use Waiver Application

A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Miller to resolve that the Centennial School Board hereby approves the Facility Use Waiver Application for the following:

- A. *Southampton Basketball* *Requesting Sunday usage of Klinger Middle School gym on December 14, 2008 and January 4, 2009 through March 15, 2009. There is no cost to the District.*

Mr. Miller stated that he would like to make sure that the organization was made aware of our concession policy, but indicated that he supported the motion.

The motion passed 8-0.

10. Authorize Vehicle Usage – Archbishop Wood

A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board authorizes up to 12 full-size buses on Friday, December 12, 2008, to transport Archbishop Wood constituents to Hershey Arena Stadium for a state football championship game. Archbishop Wood will fully reimburse the District for all costs associated with this service.

In the event of inclement weather, the District reserves the right to cancel this arrangement with a 24-hour notice to Archbishop Wood.

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; Authorization to Employ; Change of Status; Per Diem Substitute Teachers; Substitute Support Staff; Mentors; Tutors; and Homebound Tutors.

Mr. Miller asked Mrs. Rollo if statistics were kept on turnover by department. Mrs. Rollo stated that they were not but that they could be accumulated. Mr. Miller indicated that he would like that information when she had a chance to gather it.

The motion passed 8-0.

OPERATIONS AND POLICIES

Initial Distribution

Mr. Reinboth noted the following policies under initial distribution:

- 2.2 – Professional Personnel Placement, Assignment and Transfer
- 2.19 – Sabbatical Leaves

Discussion:

3.17 – Bullying

Mr. Miller suggested, under the section on Reporting Procedures, keeping a log of incidents by classification over the course of the year so that we can measure our progress in implementing this policy and making it successful.

6.7 – Business Affiliations

Regarding Section I.A.2.b., Mr. Miller felt that paid advertisements in District publications should have a limit, or percentage cap, of perhaps 15% or 25% of the total content. The same should be true for any inserts.

He noted that when we listed things, we did not include the cable channel. He felt we could consider selling ads there, within reason.

Under “Commercial Activities”, Mr. Miller felt that sampling programs and demonstrations were other areas to consider. While he would not want them to interfere with the school day, he found no reason not to consider these at an athletic event or at the stadium.

Mrs. Mueller commented on Section I.A.2.d. She stated that the only reason we agreed to advertising for the stadium was to help defray costs for the taxpayers. She hoped that we were not looking for advertising on any other field.

Mrs. Homel suggested changing the language to read "...signs on stadium athletic fields..." to clarify this.

Mrs. Homel thanked Mr. Hezel for the work he put into this policy.

3.6 – Student Records

Mr. Miller requested that in Section V. item D be moved up after item A. He also requested that the language indicate that a student over the age of 18 can also request that their information not be released to recruiters.

7.30 Open Records Law

There was no discussion on this policy.

Final Approval:

4.11 – Naming Rights

A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Hezel to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the adoption of Policy 4.11, Naming Rights.

Mr. Miller felt that this was a step in the right direction but that the Board needed to keep thinking about this and might also want to consider "Presented by ..."

Mr. Hezel thanked Mrs. Homel for putting this together.

Mr. Reinboth stated that in Section II.A.2. he would like language regarding documenting rationale. There was consensus of the Board that such language be added. Mrs. Mueller and Mr. Hezel, as mover and seconder of the motion, agreed.

The motion passed 8-0.

7.22 – Hostile Environment

A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 7.22, Hostile Environment.

Mr. Miller stated that this policy did not address any type of advocacy system. He asked if there was anything like this.

Mrs. Homel explained that if an employee had an issue, they could bring representation with them.

Mrs. Mueller stated that an employee could come directly to the Superintendent if they were not comfortable with following the chain of command. Mrs. Homel indicated that that had happened.

The motion passed 8-0.

5.7 – Reporting Student Progress

A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Miller to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 5.7, Reporting Student Progress.

Mr. Miller pointed out that before we get to conferences, we now have Skyward. This was left out of the policy.

Mr. Vail suggested that it be called the student information system rather than Skyward.

Mrs. Mueller, as the maker of the motion, suggested that it be put first, even before conferences. She suggested the following language as Section I, with the remainder of the items being renumbered: “The Centennial School District will provide an electronic student information system available to parents/guardians on a real-time basis.” This change was agreed to by Mr. Miller, as the seconder of the motion.

The motion, as amended, passed 8-0.

FINANCIAL

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

- *Schedule of Bills – November 2008*
- *Investments – Error! Not a valid link.*
- *Cafeteria Fund Budget Report – Error! Not a valid link.*

and approves the:

- *Fund Profiles/Treasurer’s Report – Error! Not a valid link.*
- *Budget Transfers – December 2008*

Mr. Miller stated that he would like to exclude the financial summary for the Child Nutrition Department. There is a statement that includes a \$33,000 loss on a la carte income, which might be due to new beverage sale configurations but he did not see anything to support that. He felt that this part of the report should be held until that was provided.

Mr. Reinboth stated that since there was an avenue provided to follow up on this, he felt this could be moved.

Mrs. Mueller felt that the way this was worded, it would lead one to believe that there is not substantial backup.

Mrs. Huf stated that she understood Mr. Miller's concern. The ad hoc committee should be taking care of this. She stated that she did not plan to hold up her vote because of this. She felt it should be addressed by the ad hoc committee.

The motion passed 7-1. (Mr. Miller opposed.)

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 – November 11, 2008*

The motion passed 7-0-1. (Mr. Monaghan abstained since he was not present at the meeting.)

BOARD DISCUSSION AND COMMENT

None.

REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Homel congratulated the Business Manager, explaining that we are inside our 4.1 index, which is quite a goal.

Mrs. Homel reported as follows:

- Conferences were very successful. Lots of parents came out.
- Strategic planning was underway.
- The 2009-2010 school calendar would be forthcoming soon.

Mrs. Homel wished everyone Happy Holidays!

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Mrs. Lynch reported that the Education Committee had met the previous evening.

Bob Reid and Cheryl Lyman presented an overview of Classrooms of the Future and discussed new technology.

There was a presentation on Skyward, which has had 10,000 hits by families.

There was continued discussion on the possibility of a partnership with Gwynedd Mercy College so that students could benefit from college courses while still in high school.

Mrs. Poroszok and Dr. Devitt spoke about schedule changes and variations that will be looked into for the future.

There was a presentation regarding a visit to Upper Moreland to learn about its K-2 program. There will be more discussion about this matter.

Mr. Reinboth commented that the technology was mind-boggling.

Middle Bucks Institute of Technology

Mrs. Huf reported that the December meeting had been canceled. The next meeting would be held on January 12, 2009.

Intermediate Unit

Mr. Monaghan reported that the December meeting had been canceled.

FINANCE & LONG RANGE BUDGET COMMITTEE

Mr. Reinboth reported that a meeting would be held on December 15th. He encouraged the public to attend. He thanked Mrs. Homel and Mr. Vail for the work they had done.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Mrs. Mueller reported that the Operations Committee had met on December 2nd. The following items were discussed:

- A transportation exemption to move a bus stop was discussed but not moved forward to the full Board.
- Burt Hill and Reynolds Construction regarding Act 34.
- Burt Hill did a proposal regarding the feasibility study.
- There was discussion regarding whether the District needed all six elementary schools and full-day Kindergarten.
- Discussion regarding what effect consolidating buildings would have on classroom size. There will be much more discussion on this.

The next meeting will be held on January 20th. Mrs. Mueller encouraged the public to attend.

Citizens Policy

Mr. Hezel reported that the first meeting of the Committee was held in November. They worked on three policies, which were discussed at this meeting. The next Committee meeting would be held on January 20th.

Legislative Liaison

Mrs. Lynch reported that the legislators were on holiday.

PSBA

Mr. Miller reported that a reorganization occurred on December 1st and that there was a new Regional Director. PSBA is offering boot camp for School Board Presidents.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Reinboth wished everyone a healthy and happy holiday season and a great 2009.

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. Mueller and seconded by Mrs. Lynch to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 8-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie A. Detwiler
Board Secretary