

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

**MINUTES OF WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING  
HELD APRIL 28, 2009**

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

A Work Session/Regular meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on April 28, 2009, in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Reinboth at 7:10 p.m. The following people registered their attendance:

Board Members:

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

Administration:

Dr. Jennifer Foight-Cressman  
Sandy HomeI  
Victor Lasher  
Jean Rollo  
Timothy Vail

CEA/Teachers/Public:

Kara Foran  
Dylan Noonan  
Logan Clare  
Jesse Kolesnrkovich  
Megan Sanders  
Matt Laufer  
Taylor Meecham  
Ellie Jeffers  
Dan Fanelli  
Catherine Howard  
Anne Piccol  
Raymond Piccol  
Barbara Ewing  
Sue Will  
Doris Jones

Mary McKevitt  
Rose McGlynn  
Elizabeth McKevitt  
Jim McKevitt  
Joe Faust  
Mr. & Mrs. James McKevitt  
Rose McKevitt  
Tim McKevitt  
Helen McKevitt  
Nick Antonini  
George Fischer  
Janet Richard  
Michael Harthe  
Burt Patuch

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mrs. Mueller congratulated the Music Department for the outstanding Spring Concert at the high school. She spoke about the Fine Arts Festival coming up the following week.

Mr. Miller stated that he, Mrs. Lynch and Mrs. Huf had attended the Stellar-bration and he learned that Mrs. Huf was a member of the Johnsville Astronaut Training Facility's lady astronaut volunteers in the mid-1960's and had volunteered for centrifugal experiments for women.

Mrs. Huf spoke about celebrating Leary's anniversary the previous weekend and what a wonderful celebration it was.

Mrs. Lynch stated that Board members had an opportunity to view McDonald and Leary at their finest hour and indicated that it was wonderful to see two wonderful schools.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### Recognition of Finalist - 2010 Teacher of the Year

Mrs. Homel spoke about Rose McKeivitt, a kindergarten teacher at Davis, who was a finalist for the Teacher of the Year.

Ms. McKeivitt spoke about her family, best friend and co-workers, thanking them for their support.

### Warminster Tricentennial Committee

Judge Dan Finello, the Chairman of the Warminster Tricentennial Committee, explained that they were overseeing the year-long birthday party for the township in 2011 and indicated that they would be putting out a book about Warminster in time for the tricentennial. They hoped that Centennial School District would be giving them an outlet for the book and possibly incorporating it into the curriculum.

Judge Finello spoke about the tricentennial logo design contest that was going on and indicated that he hoped to have a lot of participation from Centennial. He stated that he would like to have a lot of student groups involved in the tricentennial.

The supervisors would have two liaisons to the committee and meetings would be held on the second and fourth Tuesdays at the Township Building.

Nick Antonini, a representative from Representative Bernie O'Neill's office, presented a citation from the House of Representatives that honored Centennial School District's Dr. H. W. Ray Special Experience Room and Planetarium.

## **GOOD NEWS**

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

## **COMMUNITY COMMENTS**

None.

## **COMMITTEE MINUTES**

*A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Dr. Pollock to resolve that the Centennial School Board accepts the Minutes of the*

- *Education Committee – February 9, 2009; March 9, 2009*
- *Finance Committee – March 16, 2009; April 6, 2009*
- *Operations Committee – March 18, 2009*

*The motion passed 9-0 as to the Minutes of the Education Committee of February 9, 2009 and the Finance Committee of April 6, 2009. The motion passed 8-0-1 as to the Minutes of the Education Committee of March 9, 2009; Finance Committee of March 16, 2009; and the Operations Committee of March 18, 2009 (Mrs. Lynch abstained.)*

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Ellie Jefferson of Reeves Lane stated that she was there with teachers who lived on Reeves Lane. They were concerned about McDonald School. They asked if the Board was planning to close the school or do anything with it.

Mr. Reinboth responded that at this point they were evaluating the elementary school buildings and program. There had been no concrete decisions made at this point. They were evaluating where they fit into the needs of the District and the community going forward. He explained the process of public meetings and indicated that they were welcome to attend to keep informed on this matter.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Exception to Policy 7.18, Resident, Non-Resident and Tuition Status for Student 20-7

*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, Resident, Non-Resident and Tuition Status for Student 20-7 to attend Log College Middle School for the 2009-2010 school year.*

Mrs. Mueller stated that Administration was supporting this request due to extenuating circumstances and the family's willingness to provide transportation.

*The motion passed 9-0.*

2. Approve Date of Graduation

*A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Miller to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves setting the graduation date for seniors at William Tennent High School for Thursday, June 18, 2009.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

3. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Local Police Departments

*A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Memorandum of Understanding with the local police departments as per the attached.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

4. Approval of Literacy Materials

*A motion was made by Mrs. Lynch and seconded by Mr. Monaghan to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the adoption of the McDougal Littell English Series in grades six through twelve in the 2009-2010 school year. The cost to the District is not to exceed \$298,800.00.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

5. Approval of Overnight Conference

*A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Dr. Pollock to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the overnight conference request for Philip Vinogradov to attend the National Biotechnology Teacher-Leader Institute in Atlanta, GA, May 14-19, 2009. The cost to the District is \$135.00.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

6. Acceptance of Audit Report

*A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Miller to resolve that the Centennial School Board accepts the Operational and Financial Control Review and Evaluation Report of the Centennial School District Department of Food Services prepared by the accounting firm of Amper, Politziner & Mattia.*

Mrs. Lynch stated that initially she thought we would get good items out of this so she agreed to pay for it. But she felt that the findings on this review were not worth the price, the work they did was not worth the price, and she was very displeased with this accounting firm. However, since she committed to it, she indicated that she would vote in favor of it.

Mr. Monaghan stated that since he was not in favor of this, he would be voting no.

*The motion passed 7-1-1. (Mr. Monaghan opposed; Mrs. Huf abstained.)*

#### 7. Approval of District Goals

*A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Dr. Pollock to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the following District goals for the 2009-2010 school year:*

1. *Maintain and achieve No Child Left Behind Annual Yearly Progress designation.*
2. *Implement the approved timeline for the William Tennent High School Addition/Renovation in an efficient fiscal process.*
3. *Further develop a Comprehensive Coordinated K-5 Building Plan.*
4. *Continue to explore full-day kindergarten.*
5. *Realign K-5 attendance areas.*

Mr. Monaghan stated that he was in favor of everything except #3 unless that included the community involvement. He felt that until there was a committee formed for that, it was inappropriate for the Board to discuss that.

Mrs. Mueller stated that she felt it was quite disingenuous to suggest that the Board had not listened to the community. Since there was no feedback on these goals prior to this time, she did not think it was appropriate now.

Mrs. Huf indicated that she agreed with Mr. Monaghan, so she would be abstaining. She questioned how the K-5 attendance areas could be realigned if we don't know where we are going.

Mr. Miller explained that Item 3 simply says to further develop a plan. It doesn't say whether it involves the community or not. He saw nothing wrong with this as it was written.

Mrs. Lynch agreed with Mrs. Huf regarding the K-5 attendance areas.

*A roll call vote was taken as follows:*

*Mr. Simpson                      Yes*

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

*The motion passed 6-3.*

8. Approval of Agreement for Web Filtering System

*A motion was made by Dr. Pollock and seconded by Mr. Hezel to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves entering into an agreement with Trebron Company for the purchase and maintenance of the Sophos Web Security System commencing July 1, 2009. This agreement represents a 48-month term with payments totaling \$54,648.36 in the first three years. No payment is due in year 4. Funds are to be appropriated from the Technology Reserve Fund.*

Mrs. Lynch stated that she thought we were getting more feedback on this from one of our tech people regarding the warranty.

Mr. Reinboth explained that this was discussed and language was added regarding a 4<sup>th</sup> year warranty. There was additional language in items 6 and 10.

Mr. Miller stated that while it was enlarged, it was not in favor of the District. We are buying this from a partner of Sophos, which is nothing more than a bank. Sophos will get us money up front. They have a term in their end-user license agreement which is not part of this agreement, which he asked to be made part of this agreement, that allows them to change the terms of the agreement at will and without recourse to the District. He stated that the fourth year was worthless because the expected life span of the equipment was only three years and we were paying for this in three years. If something happened in the fourth year, we would get nothing for it. He stated that none of the changes he had requested had been incorporated into the final agreement.

Mr. Miller also stated that Dr. Pollock had requested to have the window extended for the trial. He had an e-mail from Sophos stating that if this was pulled from the agenda, it could be moved to the agenda for May 12<sup>th</sup> without any change in the terms and conditions of the agreement originally offered for our acceptance by April 30<sup>th</sup>. We did not start to test this software until April 23<sup>rd</sup> and it is supposed to be tested for thirty days. He felt it should be tested for at least two more weeks and that the details of the contract should be revised as they were agreed to on the phone.

Dr. Pollock stated that one of the things he brought up at the Finance meeting was a fourth-year warranty. They said we have 12 extra months included at no charge if we

order by April 30/now May 12<sup>th</sup>, yet they are charging us \$675 for the fourth-year warranty. That is not “no charge.” He indicated that he would not vote to approve this at this time.

*A motion was made by Dr. Pollock and seconded by Mrs. Mueller to table this motion until May 12<sup>th</sup>.*

*A roll call vote was taken as follows:*

<i>Dr. Pollock</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Miller</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Monaghan</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. Reinboth</i>	<i>Yes</i>

*The motion passed 9-0.*

9. Approval of Pre-Paid Benefits Card

*A motion was made by Mr. Simpson and seconded by Mr. Monaghan to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves offering the Prepaid Benefits Card to all employees participating in the District’s Flexible Spending Account program for eligible health care/benefit expenses. This card shall be offered to all participants who enroll in the program for the year commencing July 1, 2009 and thereafter per the terms and conditions outlined on the supplement.*

Mrs. Mueller stated that she would like to make sure that Administration promoted this at the Benefits Fair. She felt this was a tremendous benefit.

Dr. Pollock indicated that he would be voting no on this for the same reason that he mentioned in Executive Session.

Mr. Reinboth stated that, having had this benefit in the past, he could say that it is user-friendly and he would be supporting it.

*The motion passed 7-2. (Mrs. Huf and Dr. Pollock opposed.)*

10. Approval of Autistic Class Initiative

*A motion was made by Mr. Simpson and seconded by Mr. Miller to resolve that the Centennial School Board authorizes Administration to formally notify the Bucks County Intermediate Unit (BCIU) that several students currently receiving IU Autistic Support*

*through the BCIU Special Education Program will be transferred to an in-house District program effective with the 2009-2010 school year. This will change service and personnel levels that we currently receive from the IU. Funds for the new program have been appropriated within the 2009-2010 General Fund Budget to be adopted in June 2009.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

11. Permission to Apply for Stimulus Funds

*A motion was made by Dr. Pollock and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves permission to apply for stimulus funds in the following amounts: Title I - \$412,000; Title II-D - \$20,800; IDEA - \$1,312,900; State Fiscal Stabilization - \$549,600.*

Mrs. Huf asked why there was no backup on this matter.

Mrs. Homel responded that the application she had been expecting online for the last week and a half was still unavailable. She indicated that when the application was available, she would share the numbers in the Friday update.

*The motion passed 9-0.*

12. Bid Award – Tennis Courts

*A motion was made by Dr. Pollock and seconded by Mr. Miller to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the construction of the Tennis Courts Project #07081.10-TC for William Tennent High School be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, S & H Landscaping, Inc. in the amount of \$297,856. It is recommended that this project be funded through Capital Projects.*

Mr. Reinboth pointed out that this bid came in approximately \$77,000 lower than the second lowest bid. Dr. Pollock asked if there was any reason that it was substantially lower. He did not want to have tennis courts that were “sub-what-we-have-now.”

Mr. Miller asked if this was a responsible, reliable bidder.

Mr. Lasher stated that this was the company that did the tennis courts we have now. They have done other projects for us also. They wanted to get this job due to the economy.

Mr. Reinboth explained that this is step two of the high school renovation process.

*The motion passed 9-0.*

13. Approval of Facility Use Waiver

*A motion was made by Mr. Simpson and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Facility Use waiver for William Tennent Junior, Tanya Gower, requesting a waiver of the William Tennent High School stadium rental fees and custodial fees on May 30, 2009 for an American Cancer Society Relay for Life graduation project from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. All proceeds, registration fees and commission sales will be donated to the American Cancer Society. Mrs. Bernheisel, guidance counselor and student project advisor, will be present at the event and Mrs. Sgrillo, Centennial School District employee, Facilities Secretary, has volunteered to manage the concession stand. The approximate cost to the District is \$2,000.00.*

*Food and beverages will be purchased through the District with the standard 80-20 split. A local pizza restaurant will donate pizza, wrapped hoagies, and bagels for sale.*

Tanya Gower thanked Mrs. Bernheisel.

Dr. Pollock stated that this was an excellent graduation project.

*The motion passed 9-0.*

14. Approval of Contracted Service Providers

*A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Miller to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves engaging the following contracted service providers for the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 school years:*

*Michael Herman – Stadium Manager*

*Melissa Stefanowski – Concession Manager*

*Nicole Craig – Concession Manager*

*This action supersedes prior action of January 13, 2009.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

15. Permission to Apply for Food Service Equipment Stimulus Funds

*A motion was made by Mr. Simpson and seconded by Mr. Monaghan to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves permission to apply for food service equipment stimulus funds. Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis with all schools participating in the National School Lunch Program eligible to apply. Funds can be used for the purchase of new or replacement equipment with a useful life of more than one year and a per unit acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more. Estimated amount of the Centennial School District grant application will be \$300,000. Applications must be filed on or before May 11, 2009.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

16. Approval of Seismic Refraction Survey

*A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Miller to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the seismic refraction survey be performed by Quantum Geophysics in accordance with their April 28, 2009 proposal. The total cost will not exceed \$20,000 which includes 6 days of work.*

Mr. Reinboth stated that this was work related to the high school project.

Mr. Miller explained that the results of this would go into our bid. This would enable our bidders to give a more accurate bid.

Mr. Lasher stated that our attorney felt that this could prevent a possible lawsuit against the District. It is being proactive.

*The motion passed 9-0.*

**PERSONNEL**

*A motion was made by Dr. Pollock and seconded by Mrs. Mueller to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves all personnel recommendations, including: Resignations (**with the exception of Item #5**), Retirements, Leaves of Absence; Authorization to Employ; Substitute Support Staff; and Homebound Tutors.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

*A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves an extension of the unpaid sick leave (Resignations Item #5.)*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

**POLICIES**

Initial Distribution:

Mrs. Mueller noted the following policies under initial distribution:

- 4.12 - Reserve Funds
- 7.6 - Gifts
- 6.5 - Diplomas for World War II Veterans
- 5.13 - Use of Calculators
- 7.5 - Staff Development
- 3.28 - Student Health Services
- 2.24 - Communicable Disease in the Workplace

Discussion:4.9 - Care and Use of Equipment and Materials

Mrs. Homel indicated that this policy had been reviewed by the Administrative Policy Committee but did not feel that this needed review by the solicitor.

3.14 - Sexual Harassment of Students

Mrs. Mueller stated that this policy had been reviewed by the solicitor.

Mrs. Homel indicated that the Administrative Policy and Citizens Policy Committees had also reviewed this policy.

Dr. Pollock pointed out that there was nothing in the policy regarding how the employees know about the policy. He felt there should be a form that they would sign and date indicating that they had read the policy and agreed to live up to it. The form should be put in their personnel file.

Mrs. Homel explained that at the end of every Board meeting there was a Board wrap-up that went out to employees. Also, she had promised the Board that at the end of the school year she would compile those policies that they really needed to bring to the attention of their staff and she was also suggesting how they might go about doing that.

Dr. Pollock stated that he would like to see the employees sign something indicating that they understand this and know about it. He felt there should be something on file and that there might be other ones for which this should be done.

Mrs. Rollo explained that there was a selection of policies that were provided to employees when they started and there was a sign-off sheet. This was one of those policies.

Mr. Hezel pointed out that when changes are made to these policies, they should be reviewed and signed-off on again because a policy that was written in the '80's for which an employee signed may be completely different now.

Mrs. Homel suggested that she ask the solicitor if an e-mail to the employees would cover this because chasing down 900 signatures each time is huge.

Dr. Pollock asked about employees who do not have e-mails. Mrs. Homel indicated that they know who do not have e-mail addresses, such as the bus drivers.

Dr. Pollock suggested that this be sent back to Administration with these ideas.

Mrs. Homel suggested that this be made into a poster and displayed in each classroom, such as the poster that was just made up regarding bullying.

Dr. Pollock felt that this issue could involve even more legal issues.

Final Approval:

5.14 - Volunteers

*A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board grants final approval to the revisions to Policy 5.14, Volunteers, effective September 1, 2009.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

5.5 - Materials Selection

*A motion was made by Mrs. Mueller and seconded by Mr. Hezel to resolve that the Centennial School Board grants final approval to the revisions to Policy 5.5, Materials Selection.*

*The motion passed 9-0.*

**OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Mr. Miller stated that he was very concerned that the Board meetings were no longer being archived on the internet. He asked when that would take place. He also wanted to know when he would get answers to the questions he posed to the Technology Department as far back as February.

Mr. Reinboth stated that he would get back to him as soon as possible and indicated that there would be an Executive Session following this meeting which would include this subject.

Mrs. Lynch asked if the District was prepared in the event swine flu arrived here. Mrs. Homel responded that they were keeping a close watch on this. There was a lot breaking fast and furious on this. She felt they had good communication and were trying to keep on top of things.

**REPORTS**

None.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Miller indicated that there was a meeting on April 23<sup>rd</sup> with PSBA representatives. They discussed our District's position on GCA's/Keystone exams, etc. He received word just prior to

this meeting that he and Mrs. Homel were going to be invited to PSBA to provide testimony to the governance standards of PSBA to avoid a problem like this occurring in the future.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*A motion was made by Dr. Pollock and seconded by Mrs. Huf to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

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Vickie A. Detwiler  
Board Secretary