

**CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Warminster, Pennsylvania**

**MINUTES OF WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING
HELD MARCH 23, 2010**

CALL TO ORDER

A Work Session/Regular meeting of the Centennial School Board was held on March 23, 2010, in the Administration Building. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Pollock at 7:00 p.m. The following people registered their attendance:

ROLL CALL

The following Board members were in attendance:

Kati Driban	Mark B. Miller
Michael Hartline	Cynthia Mueller
Thomas Hezel	Dr. Andrew Pollock
Betty Huf	Thomas Reinboth

Mrs. Lynch participated in the meeting by speakerphone from a remote location.

The following Administration members were in attendance at the meeting:

Dr. Jennifer Foight-Cressman	Robert Reed
Susan Klyman	Dr. Thomas Turnbaugh
Victor Lasher	Timothy Vail

Additional meeting attendees are listed on the attached sheets.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dr. Pollock led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Miller stated that the previous year the Board had requested from PDE a mandate waiver to reduce the budget by the amount it cost to advertise the agenda in the newspaper. He had become aware that we were not really fulfilling that and he wanted everyone to be aware that they needed to go to the website and subscribe for that. If it did not work, they should contact the Technology Department.

Dr. Pollock announced that the Board had met in Executive Session prior to the conclusion of the previous Board meeting and also prior to this meeting relative to personnel, labor relations and legal matters.

Mrs. Mueller announced that the Centennial Education Foundation April jackpot calendars were available.

Mrs. Mueller reported that the Warminster Symphony Orchestra had held a wonderful concert at Log College.

Mr. Hartline announced that the William Tennent Marching Band Association would be holding a breakfast fundraiser at Applebee's on Saturday, April 10th.

Mr. Reinboth made the following statement, which he requested be inserted verbatim into the Minutes:

“Ladies and Gentlemen,

“Many of you who either attended or watched the March 9, 2010 meeting may still be wondering exactly what happened that evening. The seven members of the Centennial School Board present at that meeting went into an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues related to a proposed revised organizational chart for the Centennial School District. However, a few minutes later when the Executive Session ended, only four members of the School Board emerged to continue the meeting. Since a quorum of five members is required to be present to continue, the Board meeting for that evening was effectively over.

“What happened to the other three members, Ms. Driban, Mr. Miller and Mrs. Mueller? Apparently they didn't like what was going on and figuratively decided to 'take their ball and go home.' That decision was an insult to everyone in that room that evening who chose to attend the meeting, to everyone at home watching along on television or online, but most importantly it was an insult to the residents of the region that these Board members were elected to represent. As School Board members, we are not elected to pick and choose what issues we will or won't be present for. We are elected to represent our students and taxpayers on all issues, whether we agree with a majority of the Board or not.

“The residents of the Centennial School District expect and deserve better.”

Mr. Miller explained that there were seven items on the agenda that evening, one of which was the organizational chart. All three of the Southampton Directors had questions about that, which had not been answered. Prior to the meeting they met with the School Board President and asked that this be tabled because this was not scheduled to go into effect until July 1st. When that request was not granted, they then requested that this be moved to the end of New Business. In Executive Session they were still unable to get their questions answered but they were still not able to get this tabled.

Mr. Miller pointed out that at a previous meeting in February this Board rushed a policy through so that a Board member could vote remotely. In order to do so, they did not follow the suggestion of PSBA, which was that these actions should be for extraordinary circumstances.

Mr. Miller stated that the value of the staff on the organizational chart was very significant and the total cost of the positions being filled there, some of which were new, was unknown. He felt these were reasonable questions. What they did by leaving the meeting was to force the meeting to adjourn. He stated that they did this to protect the people who put them into office, not to insult them.

Mrs. Mueller stated that at this evening's Executive Session they received answers to Ms. Driban's questions. This was not on this evening's agenda, but would be on in April so she was glad they did not rush.

PRESENTATIONS

Distance Learning Classroom

Dr. Foight-Cressman spoke about the distance learning classroom and the inflatable domes. Vic Lasher spoke about the inflatable domes and some concerns he had with them. He stated that he would not recommend them at all.

Dr. Foight-Cressman stated that, from a curriculum standpoint, all of the programs currently being offered could be run in terms of the inflatable planetarium. Her plan was to move light years ahead of what was currently offered and those could not be run in that particular environment.

Phil Vinogradov of the Science Department showed a video regarding emerging technology and spoke about learning labs.

Mike Preston spoke about the current design and the fact that this needed to be looked at as a flexible space that could adapt to technology in the future.

Mrs. Huf was concerned about the safety of the inflatable planetarium and indicated that she would not support this.

After additional discussion, Mr. Miller suggested that there would be more options that could be looked into and that this was a lot of money.

Mrs. Mueller pointed out that distance learning could be done at the high school without a planetarium.

Dr. Foight-Cressman felt that one distance learning room was not enough and that this was the wave of the future. She stated that she was a staunch supporter of this facility and its potential for our students.

Dr. Turnbaugh pointed out that the Board made the decision that the planetarium was to be retained in the District. The Board authorized the architect to proceed with the design. The architect was now indicating that if the Board wanted to change the process, it had to be done now because it would impact the design and construction of the high school. He stated that Administration strongly recommended that they continue the process to see what the price would be.

Mr. Hartline agreed with Dr. Turnbaugh. He felt this was a multi-functional room. He was more concerned that in the future they would be looking to retrofit the building if this wasn't done now.

Mr. Miller felt that they would do better spending money on the “toys” rather than the “box.”

Dr. Pollock stated that at this time the Board had authorized the architects to proceed with designing this. If we don't change that now, then the architects would proceed.

There were not five Board members in favor of stopping the architects from proceeding at this time.

GOOD NEWS

Dr. Foight-Cressman presented the Good News Report (see attached.)

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Megan Holt of 631 Reeves Lane, Warminster, stated that she had received a letter the previous day regarding a meeting taking place regarding the McDonald construction. She was concerned about the District's communication plan about meetings.

Dr. Turnbaugh stated that he would have to check on this; that the letter had been distributed through the schools. Letters to the parents went home with the students. There was also an announcement on the website.

Mr. Miller felt that Board members should see letters that go out to the community members, even if the Board already knows about them.

Ms. Holt asked the Board to make sure that the community was informed even if they do not have children in the schools.

COMMITTEE MINUTES

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

- *Finance Committee – February 17, 2010*
- *Education Committee – December 21, 2009, January 25, 2010*

- *Operations Committee – January 5, 2010, February 3, 2010*

The motion passed 9-0.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Exception to Policy 7.18, Resident, Non-Resident and Tuition Status for Student 11-12

A motion was made by Mr. Reinboth 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 to allow Student 11-12 to remain at McDonald Elementary School for the remainder of the 2009-10 school year, subject to the attached agreement. The family will provide transportation.

Mr. Miller stated that this was supported by Administration.

The motion passed 9-0.

2. Final Approval for WTHS Students' Trip to Italy

A motion was made by Mr. Reinboth and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board grants final approval for a trip by students at William Tennent High School to Italy, April 1 to April 8, 2010. The cost to the District is approximately \$600.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

<i>Mr. Reinboth</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Ms. Driban</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Hartline</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Hezel</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Huf</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Lynch</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Miller</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Mueller</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Dr. Pollock</i>	<i>Yes</i>

The motion passed 9-0.

3. Athletic Locker Replacement Bid

A motion was made by Mr. Hezel and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Athletic Locker Replacement Bid No. 2010-12 for Klinger Middle School to the lowest responsible bidder, Robinson Steel Company, in the amount of \$30,750 to be funded as a 2010-11 capital reserve expenditure.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

<i>Ms. Driban</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Hartline</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Hezel</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Huf</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Lynch</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Miller</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Mueller</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Dr. Pollock</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Reinboth</i>	<i>Yes</i>

The motion passed 9-0.

4. Facility Use Waiver Requests

A motion was made by Mr. Hezel and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the Facility Use waivers for the following:

- A. St. Mary Medical Center Community Education requesting the use of McDonald Elementary facility for a KidShape Program (Healthy Lifestyle) for Centennial students and their families beginning April 21 for eight weeks. Since they are outside of our community, they are also requesting waiver of any fees that may be associated with the facility use. Cost to the District would approximately be \$1,574.40.*
- B. The Wheeled Scotsman Foundation requesting waiver of stadium rental fees on May 22, 2010 for the annual soccer fundraiser from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The group will pay the stadium manager fee and any custodial charges. The cost to the District is approximately \$2,200.*

Regarding Item A, Mrs. Mueller pointed out that there were 30 spots in the classroom and the gym. She asked how this would be advertised and if there was a cutoff.

Mrs. Klyman replied that this would be advertised to all elementary and middle school children in the District and that this would be for 30 families.

Regarding Item B, Ms. Driban stated that this was the first time she had seen this amount of fees being waived for a group outside the District.

A representative of the organization spoke about the program and its history with the District.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

<i>Mr. Hartline</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Hezel</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Huf</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Lynch</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Miller</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mrs. Mueller</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Dr. Pollock</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Reinboth</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Ms. Driban</i>	<i>Yes</i>

The motion passed 9-0.

5. Relocation of Davis Elementary School Students

A motion to table was made by Mrs. Huf and seconded by Mr. Hartline due to a meeting scheduled at McDonald the following evening.

Ms. Driban stated that she would vote no on this because the consensus she had heard from parents was that they wanted time to prepare their children. They did not want to wait another two weeks.

Mrs. Mueller concurred. This was not a surprise as to what could be coming. Waiting for a few weeks was valuable transition time. It did not appear that there would be additional dollars to do anything else. She thought they should have the valuable time to prepare for the transition.

Mr. Hartline stated that he felt the Board owed the same respect to McDonald parents that was given to Davis parents and that we should listen to them first. Hearing from their Home & School officers was not the same as hearing from the parents directly.

Mr. Miller stated that we have a responsibility to the communities but the potential harm to Davis was worse than the potential harm to McDonald. What was at stake was the transition time.

Mrs. Huf stated that she had received a lot of e-mails from parents saying that it was not fair to make a decision without hearing from the parents. She felt McDonald parents should be shown the same respect as was shown to Davis parents.

Mrs. Lynch felt it was unfair to McDonald to have a vote on this now when Dr. Turnbaugh was going to their Home & School meeting the next day. The only fair thing to do was to table this.

Mr. Hezel asked when we would be visiting Stackpole. Dr. Turnbaugh responded that it would be March 29th.

Mr. Hezel pointed out that if the Board did not make this decision at this meeting, they could still move students to Stackpole and those parents would need to be spoken to.

Dr. Turnbaugh indicated that there had been discussions with the Home & School officers at Davis about relocating the Kindergarten students to Stackpole because of the concern over allocation of space at McDonald. If the Board reached the conclusion that they were not going to table this and were going to read the motion as written, it would be with the request that Administration be permitted to explore the enrollment and location of Kindergarten students.

Mr. Miller stated that a decision needed to be made this evening as to where to put them. He did not feel that they should be asked to wait another three weeks.

Mrs. Mueller stated that it was completely disrespectful to the Davis families if a decision was not made this evening.

Mr. Hartline stated that he felt that McDonald parents and students would be affected and that they were owed the same respect that was given to others.

Dr. Pollock stated that after the meeting with Davis he was convinced that we should move the Davis students to McDonald. Tonight was the first he heard about moving the Kindergarten to Stackpole.

A motion to call the question on the motion to table was made by Dr. Pollock.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

The motion to table failed 4-5.

Dr. Turnbaugh stated that he was comfortable that the Home & School had done the best job they could and that the public meeting was advertised properly.

Mrs. Kelly O’Leary spoke about the Home & School meeting on March 17th and about the possible options. Parents were clear that they wanted a voice. A survey was taken. She reviewed the results and read some of the comments.

Dr. Turnbaugh stated that there was concern from some Southampton residents about the erection of temporary units at Stackpole.

Lynne Lucot of 1387 Rosebud Road, Southampton, stated that she was disappointed that they were given options that were not options. At this point, she just wanted to move forward. They would try to make the transition as smooth as possible. It broke her heart to have to close Davis so quickly after fifty years. She spoke about the possibility of having a celebration of Davis School sometime in the future.

Rose Roccamo of 111 Fern Road, Southampton, stated that communication was not done well in the community as far as information from the Board. The transitional period was very short and she was very concerned about how the parents and children were going to know what was going to happen in the fall. She was also concerned about construction and parking.

Donna Hewitt of 142 Forrest Avenue, Southampton, stated that she agreed with everything the previous speaker had said. The decision needed to be made so they could start the transition.

A motion was made by Mr. Reinboth and seconded by Mr. Miller to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the relocation for the Davis Elementary School students to McDonald Elementary School with authorization for the Administration to explore relocation of incoming Kindergarten students to Stackpole School effective with the 2010/2011 school year.

Ms. Driban stated that she wanted to give authorization to look at Klinger. Her concern was the timeline. She asked if there was a feeling of how soon it would come back to the Board or if it had to.

Dr. Turnbaugh stated that it was really a transportation issue and that it needed to be looked at. He felt they should be in a position to make that decision at the first Board meeting in April.

It was decided that the Board would make the decision.

Mr. Hartline stated that children are our business – all the children.

Mr. Miller stated that there should be no doubt that the McDonald family would welcome the Davis students with open arms.

Mrs. Lynch stated that she would be voting against this motion. She was just finding out that Kindergarten and first grade were going to another school. She felt this was being moved too fast.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

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

The motion passed 8-1.

PERSONNEL

A motion was made by Mr. Reinboth and seconded by Mr. Hezel to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves all personnel recommendations, including: Resignations, Retirements, Leaves of Absence; Authorization to Employ; Per Diem Substitute Teachers/Nurses; Substitute Support Staff; Mentors; and Co-Curricular.

Dr. Pollock stated that on page 3 all Girls' Soccer items were being removed at this time since more information was needed.

The motion passed 9-0.

POLICIES

Initial Distribution:

Mr. Hezel listed the following policies for initial distribution:

- Policy 5.9 – Animals in the Classroom for Educational Purposes
- Policy 3.11 – Prohibiting Discrimination in Education
- Policy 3.16 – Hazing
- Policy 3.4 – Student Trips
- Policy 3.23 – Solicitation

Discussion:2.2 – Professional Personnel Placement, Assignment and Transfer

There was no discussion on this policy.

2.16 – Support Staff Education/Training Cost Subsidy

There was no discussion on this policy.

7.22 – Hostile Environment

Ms. Driban stated that she had a problem with this policy with the changes indicated. There had been problems with volunteers with other policies. The volunteers had no recourse and we had no protection from them.

Mr. Miller felt that there was no need for this policy since everything in the policy was covered by law. We want this because it gives us an opportunity to resolve something in the District before it becomes a problem for the courts. He also felt that this was pretty major and had not been reviewed by the solicitor.

Mrs. Mueller agreed with Ms. Driban and Mr. Miller. She wanted the solicitor to review this and would not support this as it was.

Mr. Hartline stated that because of the nature of this policy, he felt it was important that we have counsel look at it.

Dr. Pollock stated that since there were five Board members in agreement, he would request that counsel review this policy.

Final Approval:4.8 – Disposal of Surplus Furniture, Supplies, Books and Equipment

A motion was made by Mr. Hezel and seconded by Mr. Hartline to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 4.8 – Disposal of Surplus Furniture, Supplies, Books and Equipment.

Mr. Miller asked if this could be cycled back after six months since we would be closing schools.

Dr. Pollock stated that the Board would be seeing a lot of things with policies because of what we are doing with PSBA.

The motion passed 9-0.

3.7 – Student Responsibility

A motion was made by Mr. Hezel and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 3.7 – Student Responsibility.

The motion passed 9-0.

5.8 – Guest Speakers for the Instructional Program

A motion was made by Mr. Hezel and seconded by Mrs. Huf to resolve that the Centennial School Board approves the revisions to Policy 5.8 – Guest Speakers for the Instructional Program.

Mr. Miller suggested that this be cross-referenced with Policy 5.9.

The motion passed 9-0.

FINANCIAL

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

- *Accepts the Schedule of Bills – February 2010; Investments – February 2010; Cafeteria Fund Budget Report – February 2010.*
- *Approves the Fund Profiles/Treasurer’s Report – February 2010; Budgetary Transfers – March 2010.*

The motion passed 8-0-1. (Mr. Miller abstained.)

MINUTES

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

- *Regular School Board Meeting – January 12, 2010*
- *Work Session/Regular School Board Meeting – January 26, 2010*
- *Regular School Board Meeting – February 9, 2010*

The motion passed 9-0.

OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS

Ms. Driban stated that they had been asked about consent agenda items because they had used them at MBIT. At MBIT the agenda includes the motions verbatim. She stated that she might be amenable to using a consent agenda if the motions were available to the public. Also, she

would like to see us move toward electronic Board books. If a Board member wanted to print things out or request items, they could do so.

Mrs. Lynch thanked Mr. Reed for putting the technology together for her to participate remotely but stated that there were some problems. Some Board members could not be heard because they were not near the microphones. Also the shuffling of papers was unbelievable. But this is possible to do and she thanked him for the opportunity.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mrs. Huf and seconded by Mrs. Mueller to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie A. Detwiler
Board Secretary