



# Centennial School District Education Committee of the Board

Meeting of February 22, 2010

## Minutes

### *Attendance:*

#### Board

Michael Hartline\*\*\*  
Thomas Hezel  
Betty Huf  
Mark Miller  
Cynthia Mueller\*\*  
Andrew Pollock\*\*  
Jane Schrader Lynch\*

#### Administrators

Bucky Clark  
Jennifer Foight-Cressman  
Susan Klyman  
Khalid Mumin  
Eileen Poroszok

#### Staff

#### Community

Robert Montgomery  
Robert Shaffer

- \* Chair
- \*\* Committee member
- \*\*\* Alternate member

### *WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS*

Mrs. Schrader-Lynch called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

Mrs. Mueller moved to approve the minutes from January 25, 2010. Dr. Pollock seconded the motion. The minutes were approved in a vote of 3-0.

### *MIDDLE SCHOOL MATHEMATICS FOR PROFICIENCY COURSES AND STAFFING*

The Education Committee revisited the request by administration to reduce the mathematics staff by a total of two teachers, one from each middle school, due to low enrollment in the Mathematics for Proficiency courses. Education Committee members reviewed the data from each middle school regarding the general and special education student caseload in each course. Dr. Foight-Cressman indicated that, although it is always difficult to reduce staff, the numbers clearly indicate that the quality of instruction will not be diminished by distributing students across other sections. Dr. Foight-Cressman informed directors that administration would be conducting a K-12 staffing audit that would result in many difficult decisions regarding staffing; however, she believes that data reveal a clear decision in this case. Mrs. Klyman concurred that special education students were not being placed at risk and assured directors that should enrollment numbers change considerably in the 2010-2011 school year, she would request additional personnel, such as an aide, to support students, should the situation warrant it. Dr. Mumin, Klinger Middle School principal, was confident that the needs of Klinger's students might be adequately met with one less mathematics teacher. Dr. Clark, Log College Middle School principal, continued to voice concern that the additional staff member is necessary to provide mathematics interventions to struggling students. Mrs. Mueller also expressed

concern that special education students receive sufficient services and requested that administration provide additional data to indicate which students had an identified disability in mathematics. She remarked that Log College had achieved Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in 2009 after being identified as in "Warning" status in 2008; she did not want to see that progress hampered in any way. Mr. Hartline inquired as to how quickly an additional aide or teacher might be added. Mrs. Klyman assured him that additional supports could be supplied very quickly and that she would be vigilant as to the necessity of doing so. Dr. Pollock indicated that he was prepared to move the elimination of the positions to the full Board and made a motion to that effect. Mrs. Schrader Lynch seconded the motion. Mrs. Mueller requested that administration provide the additional data regarding the distribution of special education student mathematics goals before moving the topic out of Education Committee. Dr. Pollock and Mrs. Schrader Lynch agreed, and the motion was tabled until the March Education Committee Meeting.

#### *MODIFIED KINDERGARTEN SCHEDULE FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER*

Dr. Foight-Cressman presented the proposal recommended by Dr. Turnbaugh regarding a modified Kindergarten schedule for situations in which inclement weather necessitates a delayed start for students. In order to obtain four hundred and fifty (450) hours of instruction, A.M. and P.M. Kindergarten must each be in session for two and a half hours per day over 180 days. In instances of inclement weather, the district sometimes delays the opening of school for two hours in the morning. In these cases, the district cancels A.M. Kindergarten, resulting in a loss of instructional time for morning students. To correct this situation, administration will implement a modified Kindergarten schedule. For example, in the case of a two-hour delay, A.M. Kindergarten would report at 11:00 a.m. and end at 1:00 p.m. P.M. Kindergarten would report at 1:00 p.m. and end at 3:00 p.m. Teachers would still be guaranteed their contractual half hour for lunch.

Mrs. Mueller questioned when Kindergarten teachers would take their lunch during a modified schedule. Dr. Foight-Cressman said that teachers would be expected to report by, at the latest, 10:15 a.m. on a two-hour delay, and could take their lunch from 10:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. Mr. Miller stated that because Kindergarten is not mandated it would be easier to obtain a waiver from the Pennsylvania Department of Education. Directors were in agreement that there would need to be good communication with parents regarding the change in schedule. Dr. Pollock and Mrs. Schrader Lynch agreed that it was a sound idea that provides equal time for all Kindergartners regardless of the session they attend. Mrs. Schrader Lynch commented that Kindergartners really like to come to school and that they are sad to stay home when elder siblings leave later in the day. Committee members asked whether Board action was required. Dr. Foight-Cressman indicated that Dr. Turnbaugh merely wanted directors to be aware and that no Board action is required to put this change into effect for the 2010-2011 school year.

Mrs. Schrader Lynch informed the Committee that she would be away in March and that Dr. Pollock would be chairing the committee in her absence.

Dr. Pollock made the motion to adjourn and was seconded by Mrs. Mueller. The motion passed 3-0. Mrs. Schrader Lynch thanked all in attendance for their attention and participation and adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

JFC/rc