

Centennial School District

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Board of School Directors

433 Centennial Road
Warminster, PA 18974-5455



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Mark B Miller
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January 12, 2011

Hon. Stewart J Greenleaf
Hon. Robert M. Tomlinson
(VIA Facsimile)

Gentlemen,

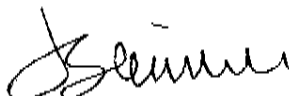
As the elected representatives of Centennial School District to the Senate of Pennsylvania, I am forwarding a Resolution which was unanimously adopted by the Centennial School District Board of School Directors.

Our Resolution opposes the attempt by Senators Piccola and Williams to enact legislation (SB1) that would provide direct financial aid to, or tuition tax credits or vouchers for, residents of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania enrolled in nonpublic schools. Not only do we believe such legislation to be discriminatory to students and burdensome to our taxpayers, we believe it is unconstitutional.

The work of the Legislature should be to work hand in hand in support of local school districts in providing free and appropriate public education to ALL students. Our joint efforts and responsibility requires us to fix our states schools, not; drain them of the vital resources necessary to educate our children.

Accordingly, I urge you not to support, endorse, promote or co-sponsor SB1 or any similar legislation until the State fulfills its obligation to fund adequacy and equity in our schools.

Cordially,



Mark B. Miller
School Board Director
Assistant Regional Director, PSBA
Federal Relations Network Representative, NSBA

cc: Hon. Bernie O'Neill, Hon. Scott Petri, Hon. Kathy Watson
Tim Allwein, Pennsylvania School Boards Association
Lawrence Feinberg, Keystone State Education Coalition



**RESOLUTION OPPOSING PROPOSED LEGISLATION THAT WOULD
PROVIDE DIRECT FINANCIAL AID TO, OR TUITION TAX CREDITS OR
VOUCHERS FOR RESIDENTS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF
PENNSYLVANIA ENROLLED IN NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**by the Board of School Directors
Centennial School District**

January 11, 2011

WHEREAS, the Centennial School District is comprised of Warminster Township, Upper Southampton Township, and Ivyland Borough, with approximately 6,200 students in grades K-12, and;

WHEREAS, Centennial School District is a "Diverse Learning Community Where Students Succeed Through Academics, Athletics, and the Arts," and;

WHEREAS, the General Assembly has a constitutional responsibility to provide a free and appropriate public education to ALL students, and;

WHEREAS, The Centennial School District Board of School Directors must hold the State Legislature and individuals accountable for actions that legislators take which create or increase inadequately funded mandates and/or force school districts to raise taxes, and;

WHEREAS, there is little or no evidence to support that students offered education vouchers or who attend charter schools demonstrate any greater academic achievement than students within the general population of public school students, and;

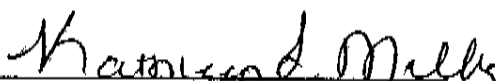
WHEREAS, The Centennial School District Board of School Directors believe that constitutional restraints must be upheld, and that "School Choice" programs impose financial hardships on its taxpayers, and;

WHEREAS, Commonwealth funding should be provided to support the costs of public school choice initiatives, ONLY after the State fulfills its commitment to adequacy and equity;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Centennial School District Board of School Directors opposes legislation that would provide direct financial aid to, or tuition tax credits, or vouchers for, residents of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania enrolled in nonpublic schools or such that could divert, condition, or restrict funding from existing federal or state programs, and opposes any legislation that undermines Centennial School District's right to adopt policies regarding the use of District assets by students not enrolled in the District's public schools.

Adopted this 11th day of January, 2011.

Signed,


Secretary, Board of School Directors


President, Board of School Directors