

TONIGHT - A LOOK AT SPECIAL ED MATTERS AT CENTENNIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING:
TUESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2023**

Safari Montage

In Section 6.7 (Bids and Quotes), of the agenda, there is an approval request for Safari Montage

What is Safari Montage?

According to the website, it is the Foundation for a K-12 Digital Learning Environment. SAFARI Montage provides K-12 districts with an interoperable Learning Object Repository (LOR) designed for in-person and remote engaged instruction, plus a Video Streaming Library and IPTV & Live Media Streaming. ...(Cont on pg3)

Private school contracts

On the agenda, section 6.9 Contracts, Licenses and Services asks for approval for contracts with the following schools:

Keystone Freedom Academy & Springtime School. Please understand this is for informational purposes only. All placement decisions are carefully designed by the IEP team (which parents are full members of).

Special Education Curriculum

Also on the agenda is a request to approve special education curriculum; News2you, Unique Learning System and SymbolStix

- According to the website, News2you is a weekly online newspaper throughout the school year which includes new current events articles plus standards-aligned activities. It is also advertised as providing differentiation to four levels, with text supported by symbols from SymbolStix PRIME, plus one text-only version and the option for text to speech (cont pg3)

**More on page 2...new organizational chart,
Medicaid, Parent engagement**

HELPING EACH OTHER

We are busy parents! School board meetings are public. However they can be long and challenging for parents to attend. This publication is meant to be a shortcut to information related to special education matters in the district. This is not a comprehensive look at all that will happen at the board meeting. We encourage all members of our community to attend and engage with the school board members. Their information can be found here:

Centennial Special Education Alliance is a group of families who receive special education services in the Centennial School District, PA. We aspire to serve each other by providing each other resources, experiences, and support. www.centennialsea.com

Centennial Special Education Alliance is not endorsed by nor affiliated with Centennial School District.



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MEDICAID

Do you remember signing a form at IEP meetings allowing the district to bill Medicaid? On tonight's agenda, item number 6.9g, "Approves, retroactively, the renewal of the agreement for the district to participate in the Pennsylvania School-Based ACCESS Program for the 2023/2024 school year; no cost to the district."

A basic summary, "The SBAP permits a Local Education Agency (LEA) to receive reimbursement for health-related services, provided to Medical Assistance enrolled children, under 21 years of age, as documented in an Individual Education Program (IEP)" per the website.

You can find more information:

<https://www.education.pa.gov/K-12/Special%20Education/FundingGrants/Pages/School-Based-ACCESS-Program-Guidelines.aspx>

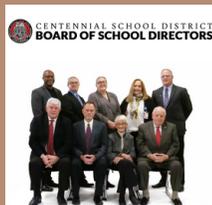
<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/School-Based-ACCESS-Program.aspx>

Questions or concerns?

CSD has a page dedicated to "Addressing your questions and concerns"

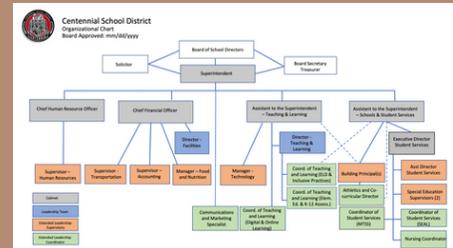


Centennial School Board contacts can be found here:



New Organizational Chart

Agenda item 7.1 proposes a change to the district's organizational chart.



PARENT ENGAGEMENT

As part of the presentations, Willow Dale will present their Targeted Support and Improvement Title I Schoolwide Plan (which will then be voted for approval later in the meeting.) As part of the grants received, there must be "parent engagement."

The presentation includes a page; Title III District Use of funds – Action Plan. As part of the action plan, it includes "Parent Community Liason Specialist". We will be interested to see how this develops!

If you would like to support us financially, we are a 501c3 organization.

www.centennalsea.com

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SAFARI MONTAGE (CONT)...

The platform offers teachers and students equitable access to procured, created and curated educational digital resources and a place to search and manage learning objects and create playlists to feed an LMS and other enterprise systems. SAFARI Montage LOR Cloud offers all of the refined features of the LOR without any need for hardware inside a school district.

According to the website,

The SAFARI Montage LOR is specifically designed for the curation of K–12 educational learning objects, including:

- The SAFARI Montage Video Streaming Library which includes 16,000 videos carefully curated to meet the needs of a K–12 curriculum
- 56,000+ Curated Free and Open Educational Resources
- Courses and lesson learning objects from educational publishers (ingested via Thin Common Cartridge)
- District created content, meta-tagged and aligned to standards
- Teachers' and students' own created media
- Live and recorded digital TV via SAFARI Montage IPTV & Live Media Streaming
- Microsoft 365 and Google Workspace cloud-hosted resources

If this is approved, be sure to ask questions about how it is used in your child's classroom. Additionally, how it can be used in tandem with your child's IEP.

Special Education curriculum (cont from pg 1 ...

The district is requesting 15 units, which each allows unlimited access to one service provider for New2You.

Symbol styx, according to their website, is "the most complete and current symbol set available, provides busy teachers with the tools to simultaneously create and deliver quick print and interactive communication and learning materials in the format that best meets their particular classroom needs. Teachers can also embrace their multicultural classrooms through the ability to easily change skin tones and generate symbols and text in English, Spanish and 10 other languages." The district is requesting 3 licenses, which provides unlimited use by one service provider of over 60,000 symbols.

Unique Learning System, according to its website, is a band of differentiated lessons, and standards-aligned content for ELA, math, social studies & science, and transition. Designated to ensure standards mastery, grade bands include Pre-K, Elementary (K–2), Intermediate (3–5), Middle School (6–8), High School (9–12) and Transition. The district is requesting 15 units – which provides unlimited access for one service provider and 15 students to one grade band

Centennial Special Education Alliance hosts a Facebook PAGE where we share resources and events. We additionally host a family discussion page. If you have thoughts or questions and want to find other parents in the similar circumstances, please reach out!

