

**Northern Chester County Joint School Board**  
**Meeting Minutes Highlights**  
**August 16, 1954 to December 8, 1961**

**August 16, 1954 (p2)**

Representatives from East Vincent Township, West Vincent Township, South Coventry Township and East Coventry Township were present.

**August 30, 1954 (p5)**

Visitors from North Coventry Township, Warwick Township and East Nantmeal Township were present. It was decided to ask the Spring City school board if they were interested in joining with the other seven school districts.

**September 13, 1954 (p7)**

The Spring city school board decided not to join in the venture of the districts merging.

**September 27, 1954 (p10)**

East Vincent, South Coventry, West Vincent and East Coventry school board representatives all voted to include East Nantmeal, North Coventry and Warwick in the jointure.

**October 8, 1954 (p12)**

It was decided to look for a site for the new school. Paul Loomis of Coventryville said he was willing to donate 10 acres of land.

**October 25, 1954 (p15)**

It was decided to look for property close to Bucktown, which is close to the physical center of the entire school district.

**November 8, 1954 (p18)**

It was determined that there were 750 pupils in grades 7 to 12 within the school district with a total of 1230 pupils estimated in 1959. Sanders and Thomas were selected to be the architect for the new school. Owen Roberts was selected to be a representative from West Vincent Township.

**November 29, 1954 (p21)**

Three parcels of ground were identified on which the school could be built. The parcels were owned by Bishop, Stoltzfus and Harold Cadmus and were all located near the intersection of routes 23 and 100.

**December 27, 1954 (p25)**

Delegates from South Coventry Township were authorized to negotiate with the three property owners.

**January 31, 1955 (p28)**

Two funds were established one for capital outlay, \$3,000 and one for operating expenses \$2,000.

**February 14, 1955 (p32)**

Paul Grim was elected as the supervising principal of the joint high school. The following committees were appointed by president Detwiler; building and property, teachers, transportation, finance, playground activities and cafeteria.

**February 28, 1955 (p35)**

Nineteen board members toured the new Springfield High School on February 26, 1955. The architect presented an estimated budget for what it would cost to construct the school. The total cost would be \$2,345,499.

**March 28, 1955 (p39)**

The architect reported that the field work of the survey is completed and they are now preparing preliminary drawings which will be presented at next month's meeting.

**April 25, 1955 (p44)**

A suggestion was made that the board look into the possibility of buying the entire Stoltzfus Farm, which is over 100 acres. Carryl E. Stauffer was appointed as assistant to the supervisory principal, to function as building principal at Warwick Township school.

**May 9, 1955 (p49)**

There was not enough of board members present to have a quorum.

**May 16, 1955 (p52)**

The teacher salaries for the school year 1955 to 1956 were established at this time. The salaries ranged from \$1600-\$5100 per year.

**May 19, 1955 (p58)**

The architect recommended taking some test borings which would cost between \$6,000 and \$7,000.

**May 31, 1955 (p60)**

A motion was made and past to hire a nurse for the Warwick and North Coventry school buildings. The school calendar was established for the year 1955-56.

**June 13, 1955 (p66)**

Plans were discussed how to house students in 7<sup>th</sup> , 8<sup>th</sup> , 9<sup>th</sup> ,10<sup>th</sup> ,11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades in the Warwick and North Coventry buildings. The architect reviewed a proposed schedule to be followed in getting the new school built by September 1957.

**June 27, 1955 (p71)**

Bids were received from four different contractors for drilling the well. Hot lunches for the students at the Warwick building will be prepared at the North Coventry high school and trucked to the Warwick school.

**July 25, 1955 (p77)**

Motion made and passed that the new school's name would be Owen Josephus Roberts.

**August 29, 1955 (p83)**

Letters were received from several of the school district saying they preferred the name of the school to be Owen J Roberts high school. A motion was made voted on and passed that the name of the school would be Owen J Roberts high school. Several additional teachers were hired. The well drilling was down to a depth of 500 feet and still no sign of water.

**September 26, 1955 (p90)**

The students selected Wildcats for the nickname of the athletic teams and the school colors would be Red and White. The test boring contract has been signed and work will begin within one week.

**October 10, 1955 (p97)**

The well drilling depth was now down to 600 feet with indications there was some water. The architects reported that they were approximately six weeks behind schedule in and would not be ready to take additional bids for another eight weeks.

**October 31, 1955 (p99)**

Mr. Grim reported in attendance of 98% for September and an average daily attendance of 692. There was a predicted enrollment of 1479 students for the school year 1964-1965 and 1453 for the school year 1965-1966.

**November 14, 1955 (p104)**

The purpose of this meeting was to review materials and products recommended for use in the new building.

**November 16, 1955 (p107)**

A continuation of the review of materials and products recommended for use in the new building.

**November 28, 1955 (p109)**

A motion was made seconded and passed that each district will be assessed their share of the \$3000 for the capital outlay fund. The various types of insurances were discussed. It was decided that all sporting events will it take place at North Coventry high school.

**December 12, 1955 (p115)**

The options to purchase two tracts of land expires February 28, 1956 and the option on the third track of land the expires in April 1, 1956.

**December 13, 1955 (p122)**

A resolution was passed to continue and proceed with the plans for the new school without state aid.

**January 3, 1956 (p125)**

The architect reported that a complete set of plans would be available next week. Agricultural students will be allowed to attend the farm show in Harrisburg on January 11 and home economics students can attend on January 12.

**January 23, 1956 (p131)**

The architectural plans were approved by the members of the school board.

**January 30, 1956 (p136)**

A motion was made and passed that the executive committee conduct a study of a jointure of the seven districts at the elementary level.

**February 27, 1956 (p142)**

All contracts for school bus transportation will be approved within the next week.

**March 26, 1956 (p147)**

The final sets of specifications were now ready for distribution and the blueprints were now being printed. The baccalaureate service will be held on May 27 and the commencement exercise May 31 and they will be held in the North country elementary school.

**April 26, 1956 (p169)**

A motion was made that a letter be sent to the state department of education for a survey of our project as soon as possible to determine what our rental figure for reimbursement would be for this year.

**April 30, 1956 (p173)**

The firm of Butcher and Sherrerd was selected to underwrite the bond issue for the Northern Chester County school authority.

**May 14, 1956 (p176)**

The budget for the school year of 1956-1957 was approved.

**May 28, 1956 (p184)**

The date for the ground breaking ceremony will either be June 8 Friday or June 11 Monday at 7 PM.

**June 18, 1956 (p190)**

The budget for the school year 1955-56 is \$288,865. The budget for the school year 1956-57 is \$386,109.29

**December 10, 1956 (p205)**

The building committee expects the school building construction to be completed by the fall of 1958.

**June 10, 1957 (p210)**

Hazel Rutter, Proctor Whetherill and Isabel Rex were nominated to serve as auditors. The budget for the school year 1957-58 is \$583,259.56. The general contractor Dominic Mauer stated he expects the building to be completed in May 1958.

**December 12, 1957 (p216)**

The corner stone laying will take place sometime in April 1958 and the dedication ceremony will take place in the fall of 1958. A discussion was held to determine if a jointure or merger is better in dealing with the elementary schools. Mr. Herzog stated a merger is better than a jointure and that education of other children is more important than your own children because there are so many more of them. Your children will have to live with that.

**January 8, 1958 (p221)**

Discussions about furniture, equipment and materials for various rooms took place.

**January 14, 1958 (p223)**

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**January 16, 1958 (p225)**

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**January 24, 1958 (p227)**

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**May 22, 1958 (p230)**

The secretary certified that a quorum was not present. The board therefore went into a discussion period as no official action could be taken upon any matter.

**May 28, 1958 (p236)**

The board approved the budget figure of \$269,500 for the 56 school teachers. The budget for the year 1958-59 is \$476,500 total operating expenses and \$166,100 for debt services.

**July 12, 1958 (p242)**

Today was a tour of the new school buildings by the board members. Several areas of concern were identified and so noted.

**October 22, 1958 (p246)**

The concerns identified during the tour of the building were addressed by appropriate members of the contractors.

**December 10, 1958 (p251)**

Several board members expressed their deep appreciation for the hard work by all.

**May 11, 1959 (p259)**

The budget for the year 1959-60 is \$536,365 total operating expenses and \$166,100 for debt services.

**December 21, 1959 (p268)**

New board members were introduced.

**May 23, 1960 (p273)**

The gross amount of the budget for 1960-61 is \$774,936.

**December 19, 1960 (p279)**

Plans were approved for the junior high school principal and junior high school guidance counselors offices.

**May 31, 1961 (p283)**

The budget for the year 1961-62 is \$646,483.50 total operating expenses and \$166,100 for debt services.

**December 18, 1961 (p295)**

The motion to reinstate the senior class trip to Washington DC did not carry.