

Big Spring School District Newville, Pennsylvania

Committee of the Whole of the Board Meeting Minutes June 21, 2021

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I. Call to Order

The Committee of the Whole of the Board of School Directors for the Big Spring School District met in the Big Spring School District High School Auditorium at 7:00 p.m. with nine (9) Board of School Directors present; William Swanson, President; Todd Deihl, Vice President; Alexis Hurley, Treasurer, William Piper, Secretary; Robert Over, Richard Roush, David Gutshall, Frank Myers, and John Wardle

Absent: Nobody was absent (Mr. Wardle participated virtually).

Others in attendance: Kevin C. Roberts, Jr., Assistant Superintendent; Robyn Euker, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; Richard E. Kerr, Jr., Business Manager; Bill August, High School Principal; Rob Krepps, Director of Technology; Mike Fronk, Technology and Donna Minnich, Board Minutes.

II. Presentation:

a. FY22 Budget Overview - Mr. Richard Kerr, Jr.

Mr. Kerr presented an overview of the General Fund Budget of Expenditures, Revenue, and Future Trends as well as Budget Summaries, Revenue Detail, Expenditure Detail, Healthcare Summary, Long Term Debt, Funds Update, Contracts, Homestead/Farmstead, ESSER Grants, 5 Year Projections, Board Budget Resolutions, and a Forecast 5: State of the District.

Dr. Roberts shared the budget decreases in areas we can influence but increases in areas we cannot control. Mr. Swanson agreed the district has little control over many expense areas.

Mr. Over asked if cyber charter numbers are a guess or pretty certain? Dr. Roberts stated the numbers are fair but conservative.

Mr. Swanson asked if it is accurate that the board has not raised property taxes to the maximum amount allowed by law for the past few years and Mr. Kerr confirmed that to be correct.

Mr. Piper asked how to respond to community members who ask why enrollment and staff have gone down but spending continues to go up. Dr. Roberts said unfortunately spending mandates such as PSERS, cyber charter school tuition, special education and healthcare costs are beyond the district's control and even though student enrollment is down, costs to service student needs are up. Mr. Kerr shared the PASBO web site explains state and federal mandates and how they impact school districts budgets.

Mr. Myers asked if Mr. Kerr is still confident with 3.25% budget and he responded that there are some future risks and unknowns and he is concerned about inflation but believes a 3.25% budget puts the district in a good position to continue to provide a stable educational environment for the kids.

b. Summer Program - Dr. Robyn Euker

Dr. Euker presented an overview of the Summer Programs offered by this year and shared the key administrative changes toward target groups to reinforce critical content in curricular skills.

A Spotlight on Learning will be held at Oak Flat Elementary on July 29 from 2:15 – 3:00 pm and Dr. Euker encouraged Board members to attend.

III. Preview of the Agenda

President Swanson requested that the Board address XII. New Business Personnel Concerns and combine 12a through 12i into one motion.

IV. Other Items

v. Adjournment

Mr. Deihl made a motion to adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel matters and the motion was seconded by Mr. Myers.

Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Piper, Over, Hurley, Myers, Wardle, Gutshall, and Roush

Motion passed 9-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm.


