

BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newville, Pennsylvania

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 16, 2023



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1. 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 Middle School Auditorium at 7:21 pm with nine (9) Board of School Directors present; John Wardle, Board President; Todd Deihl, Vice President; William Piper, Secretary; Frank Myers, Treasurer; Kenneth Fisher, Robert Over, Richard Roush, William Swanson, and Donna Webster

Absent: No absences

Others in attendance: Kevin C. Roberts, Jr., Superintendent; Michael Statler, Business Manager; Nicole Donato, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Chris Harris, Solicitor; Rob Krepps, Director of Technology; Darrin Baughman, Technology, and Donna Minnich, Board Minutes

2. Presentation:

2.a. Bond Parameter - Lauren Stadel and Kate Hynes

Lauren Stadel spoke about the Bond Resolution which contemplates a maximum amount of \$26,500,000.00 debt service to provide maximum flexibility for moving forward with an ESCO.

Kate Hynes of Stock and Leader stated she is acting as bond counsel for the Board and explained the process.

Mr. Wardle stated the bond helps us refinance our current debt and gives us money to move forward with our capital projects list and Lauren Stadel confirmed all of the debt would be at a fixed rate.

2.b. Budget Update - Michael Statler

Mr. Statler presented a Budget Update to the Board:

Fiscal Year 2022-23 Updates

2022-2023 Taxes

South Central Trust as of December 31, 2022

Charter School Struggles

Food Service FY23

Governor's 2023-24 Budget Proposal

Fiscal Year 2023-24

FY24 Budget Assumptions

2.b. Budget Update - Michael Statler (continued)

PSERS

FY24 Revenue

FY24 Expense

FY24 Summary

FY24 Proposed Timeline

Dr. Roberts stated the number of students going to cyber/charter schools has leveled off but the costs per students continue to rise which affects our budgeting process.

Dr. Roberts stated the ESSER fiscal cliff mentioned by Mr. Statler is a very real thing and said districts awarded ESSER monies sometimes take on recurring expenses causing a fiscal cliff. He said our ESSER expenditures are not recurring so the fiscal cliff for Big Spring should be limited.

Dr. Roberts said March 20 will be a great time for Mr. Statler to have conversations with the Board on the adjusted index scenarios based on what the budget is starting to look like at that point and should be able to start to show the Board what it takes to balance the budget. Mr. Over said he would like to see 1.5% and 2% for the March budget discussions. Mr. Wardle said we still have several months of expenses before we get much of a budget picture and also stated 2024 budgets aren't due to Mr. Statler until February 28.

Dr. Roberts said kudos to the Board at this point to focus on a 2% increase to balance the budget which speaks to the prudent work of Mr. Statler and the Board during a time when inflation is in the neighborhood of 7.23%.

3. Other Items – Nothing Offered

4. Adjournment

Mr. Wardle adjourned the meeting at 7:50 pm


