

BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newville, Pennsylvania

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2014

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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 High School Large Group Room, Room 140, at 7:00 P.M. with President Wilbur Wolf, Jr. presiding. Six (6) directors present: Wilbur Wolf, Jr, President; William Swanson, Vice-President; Robert Lee Barrick, Secretary; William Piper; Kingsley Blasco; and Richard Norris.

Absent – John McCrea, Richard Roush and David Gutshall.

Others in attendance: Richard W. Fry, Superintendent; Kevin Roberts Jr, Assistant Superintendent; Richard Kerr, Business Manager; Nicole Donato, Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction; Steven Smith, High School Principal; and Carol Kuntz, Board Minutes.

II. PRESENTATION

A. Business INCubator Overview – Mr. Kevin Roberts, Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Steven Smith, High School Principal, Mrs. Nicole Donato, Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction, Mrs. Cherie Powell, High School Business Department Chairperson, Mrs. Lisa Black, High School Career Coordinator, Mrs. Lori Munson, High School Business Teacher, and Mr. Dwain Messersmith, High School Technology Teacher will lead the Board of School Directors in a discussion on the Business INCubator.

Presentation attached.

Specific questions regarding tonight's presentation:

1. Mr. Barrick inquired if each group has to come up with an end product.
2. Mr. Barrick stated what if the kids don't come up with an idea. What happens then?
3. Mr. Fry informed the Board this is only the second year of the program at Barrington. They were very unsure from an enrollment perspective. They felt they needed 100 students to run the program. They exceeded that with early requests. What was interesting was the cross section of students that became interested in the program.
4. Mr. Wolf asked how many students we are looking for to begin this program.
5. Mr. Wolf stated with 50 students there would be roughly 10 teams and we would need 10 mentors.
6. Mr. Barrick inquired what happens if you get a team that decides not to do any work. What do you do then?
7. Mr. Fry informed the Board of School Director that one point the teacher made was technology has to engage the students. If the tools are there, the students will be interested.
8. Mr. Wolf stated I remember something like this with a club or business project.
9. Mr. Fry informed the Board this isn't entirely new. A commitment to an entire class over the course of more than one year, looking at outside funding, goes far beyond anything that we have been able to do to date. No school district in Pennsylvania is doing this. This is a real life learning experience.
10. Mr. Wolf asked if this is like canned curriculum.
11. Mr. Barrick inquired if they considered legal ramifications for this program.
12. Mr. Fry stated the school solicitor is working on this.

B. Business Department Update – Mrs. Cherie Powell, High School Business Department Chairperson will provide information to the Board of School Directors on the Business Department.

Presentation attached.

Specific questions regarding tonight's presentation:

1. Mr. Wolf asked to look at the courses again. What level of participation do you have in each course?
2. Mr. Fry stated that we are looking at advanced classes through Penn State for our students. We are looking to expand our courses for more than one year.

III. PREVIEW OF THE AGENDA

President Wolf requested that the Board address NEW BUSINESS, PERSONNEL CONCERNS, Items A-1 through A-4 as a single action item.

IV. BUILDING & PROPERTY COMMITTEE

No discussion.

V. FINANCE COMMITTEE

No discussion.

VI. DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

No discussion.

VII. BOARD POLICY

No discussion.

VIII. ITEMS FROM FLOOR

No discussion.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Norris to adjourn, seconded by Swanson to adjourn the meeting to executive session. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Wolf, Swanson, Norris, Piper, Blasco, and Barrick. Motion carried unanimously 6 – 0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 PM



Robert Lee Barrick, Secretary