

# **BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT**

## **Newville, Pennsylvania**

### **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**MAY 1, 2023**



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#### **1. Call to Order - President Wardle**

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 7:00 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. Mr. Piper participated virtually.

Absent: No absences

Others in attendance: Nicholas Guarente, Superintendent; Jeanne Temple, Interim Assistant Superintendent; Michael Statler, Business Manager; Nicole Donato, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Chris Harris, Solicitor; Rob Krepps, Director of Technology; Darin Baughman, Technology, and Donna Minnich, Board Minutes

#### **2. Presentation:**

##### **2.a. Food Service Program - Michelle Morgan**

Mrs. Morgan presented a Food Service Program overview to the Board:

- What is Offer vs. Serve?
- Lunch Regulations
- USDA Lunch Meal Pattern
- Breakfast Regulations
- Smart Snacks
- Smart Snacks Standards for Foods
- Smart Snacks Standards for Beverages
- School Lunch in Action
- School Breakfast in Action
- Discovery Kitchen
- Discovery Kitchen – MS Edition
- Pop-Ups
- Tinker Club Fun
- Impact
- Catering

Mr. Wardle asked if students could purchase more than the minimum meal offering and Mrs. Morgan responded yes. Mr. Statler stated onsite student meal prices will remain the same next year with a slight increase in the cost of staff meals and offsite students. Mr. Statler confirmed any profits go back into the lunch program to purchase new equipment and make improvements.

Mr. Over and Mr. Fisher thanked Mrs. Morgan for everything she and her staff do for the lunch program.

## **2.b. Budget Update – Mike Statler**

Mr. Statler presented a Proposed Final Budget and Bond Update to the Board:

G.O. Bond 2023

2023/2024 – Budget Options

Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget Timeline

Mr. Wardle asked if 2.8% is a fixed rate and Mr. Statler explained it starts out at 2.2 and 2.5 and goes to 5 percent in the out years which is why the callable rate is so important because it could be to our advantage to call that and refinance. Mr. Wardle asked if the June 5 settlement date is this year and Mr. Statler said that is correct and confirmed the money will be invested until needed.

Mr. Swanson asked over how many years for the savings of \$700,000 for the bond refinance and Mr. Statler responded 11 years.

Mr. Wardle asked if the vote on the proposed budget tonight can be changed down the road if the numbers become more favorable and Mr. Statler responded that is correct.

Mr. Myers asked if we have any projections for cyber school enrollment for next year and Mr. Statler said the budgeted numbers are based on current cyber enrollment numbers in an effort to project for next year. Mr. Swanson said in essence that is a best guess process and Mr. Statler said that is correct.

Mr. Wardle stated we will approve our proposed final budget before the state releases their funding numbers from the governor's budget to us and Mr. Statler stated that is correct.

### **2.c. Technology Program Updates - Sam Barnouski**

Sam Barnouski presented a Technology Program Update to the Board:

- High School Department Number
- Living on Your Own and Essential Home Projects
- Mechanics Classes and Fish and Wildlife
- Plant and Greenhouse Science
- AP Biology
- Structural Engineering
- Wood Technology
- Wood Production
- Technology Student Association
- Architecture and Engineering Design
- Drafting and Architecture
- Middle School Tech Ed
- Middle School STEM
- Middle School FCS

Mr. Wardle thanked Mr. Barnouski for his presentation and dedication to our students and said he is thrilled about how many students are interested in these areas.

Mr. Swanson said it is truly amazing what goes on in the FFA and Technology Department and said most people wouldn't understand unless they have an opportunity to see the great things they're doing in these areas. Mr. Swanson shared that he attended an FFA Advisory Committee Meeting and watched 3 students with artist brushes transferring lady butterflies into containers picking out 5 at a time probably between 1/16" and 1/8" in size and said he marveled at their patience with the process. He said we are the first Middle School in the state to offer an FFA program and thanked Mr. Barnouski for his leadership of this department.

Mr. Myers questioned how many high school students request classes in these areas and never get to take a class before they graduate? Mr. Barnouski said unfortunately, because of the demand, there are a number of students who are not selected for the classes. He said he is changing some of the course offerings from 18 week courses to 9 week courses in order to include more students.

Mr. Swanson said every year the requests exceed the number of seats available for these courses. Mr. Myers asked if the only way to remedy that is to offer more staff and Mr. Barnouski said yes, that is correct.

### **3. Other Items – Nothing Offered**

#### 4. Adjournment

President Wardle announced the Board will be meeting in Executive Session this evening immediately following the Committee of the Whole Meeting to discuss matters related to the protection of public safety and security.

Motion to adjourn the meeting to Executive Session by Mr. Deihl was seconded by Mr. Roush  
Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Deihl, Fisher, Myers, Over, Piper, Roush, Swanson, Wardle, and Webster  
Motion Carried unanimously. 9-0

Meeting Adjourned at **7:44 pm**

*William L. Piper*