



Big Spring School District

Newville, Pennsylvania

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes

May 19, 2025

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1. Call to Order - Chairman Seth Cornman

The Policy Committee of the Board of School Directors for the Big Spring School District met in the Big Spring Middle School Auditorium at 6:00 pm with four (4) Committee Members present: Chairman Seth Cornman, Secretary Julie Boothe, David Fisher, and President John Wardle

Absent: No absences

Others in attendance: Nicholas Guarente, Superintendent; Nadine Sanders, Assistant Superintendent; Thomas King, Solicitor, Cristy Lentz, Business Manager; Rob Krepps, Director of Technology; Darin Baughman, Technology, and Donna Minnich, Board Minutes.

Approval of Meeting Agenda

Motion by Mr. Fisher was seconded by Mrs. Boothe to approve the meeting agenda

Voting Yes: Boothe, Cornman, and D. Fisher

Motion Carried unanimously. 3-0

Public Comment

Autumn Alleman offered comments of concern for the policy on school-based health services which she said could hurt vulnerable children in our district. She also said an athletic committee of the Board would be micromanaging and an overreach.

Mike Byers offered comments of concern for the school-based services policy, said why prohibit something being studied by our legislature, and said we should be thankful for brave students who seek help.

Rosie McCrea offered comments of concern for the school-based policy and said it seems short sighted to mention a specific mental health provider by name when there could be other future providers. She said she agrees the athletic committee doesn't seem to be necessary and feels like it is an overreach.

Public Comment (continued)

Jeff Gurganious offered comments of concern for the school-based services policy, expressed concern for the policy violating state and federal laws, and said school-based services have made a difference for children may find it difficult to get these services.

Policy Work

School Based Health Centers – Mr. Cornman reviewed the purpose, scope, and definitions stating the Board’s role is to set policy and guidelines which includes mental health services operating in the school district.

Mr. Cornman stated a point of order following a comment from the audience reminding everyone public comment period is over.

The Policy Committee discussed a school-based policy and edits.

Motion to implement the discussed changes by Mrs. Boothe was seconded by Mr. Fisher.

Voting Yes: Boothe, Cornman, and D. Fisher

Motion Carried unanimously. 3-0

Mr. Wardle offered comments on the policy discussion and said every day we are responsible to make sure students have the ability to learn and said the Board should not discourage students and parents from having the ability to have their children be well and give them the necessary tools. Mr. Cornman said the intent is to come up with a core set of rules.

Mr. Cornman stated another point or order following comment from the audience reminding everyone public comment period is over.

Mrs. Boothe said this policy is not going to take away any rights of students with IEPs, said we want to allow our students to have these services, and expressed concern the Board could land in legal hot water by aligning to one service provider.

Mr. Cornman stated another point of order following comment from the audience and stated again public comment period is over. Solicitor King said he would be happy to provide input on development of this policy.

Mr. Cornman mentioned he was made aware of a problem with policy 235 blocking surveys and Mrs. Boothe suggested a sentence correction.

Motion to amend by Mr. Fisher was seconded by Mrs. Boothe to move to the Board.

Voting Yes: Boothe, Cornman, and D. Fisher

Motion Carried unanimously. 3-0

Motion to table the remaining agenda items by Mr. Fisher was seconded by Mrs. Boothe

Voting Yes: Boothe, Cornman, and D. Fisher

Motion Carried unanimously. 3-0

Policy Work (continued)

Tabled Discussion - Policy for Athletic Department

Tabled Discussion - Policy 105.1 Curriculum Review by Parents/Guardians and Student Work Session

Informational Items

Bullying Policy

Policy on Anti-Bullying Team

Public Comment

Jeff Gurganious offered additional comments of concern for the school-based services policy and Mrs. Boothe and Mr. Cornman shared their thoughts on the development of a policy.

Closing Comments – Nothing Offered

2. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Mrs. Boothe was seconded by Mr. Fisher

Voting Yes: Boothe, Cornman, D. Fisher

Motion Carried unanimously. 3-0

