

# BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newville, Pennsylvania

## COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2015

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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. Seven (7) directors present: Wilbur Wolf, Jr, President; William Swanson, Vice-President; David Gutshall, Treasurer; William Piper, Kingsley Blasco, Richard Norris, and Richard Roush.

Absent: John McCrea and Robert Barrick.

Kingsley Blasco and Richard Norris arrived at 7:03 pm

Others in attendance: Richard W. Fry, Superintendent; Kevin C. Roberts Jr., Assistant Superintendent; Richard Kerr, Business Manager; Brandie Shatto, Director of Educational Technology and Public Relations; and Carol Kuntz, Board Minutes.

### II. PRESENTATION

- A. **Differentiated Diploma/Graduation Requirement Update** – Mr. Heath Myers, Ms. Jocelyn Krause, and Mr. Kevin Roberts Jr. did a presentation on Differentiated Diploma/Graduation Requirements.

## General Questions:

1. Mr. Wolf asked from the ten courses listed you need half a credit in each area.
2. Mr. Roberts informed the Board of School Directors the distinguished diploma is achievable by all students.
3. Mr. Wolf inquired about the community service requirement. Is this something the student identifies themselves or there is a list for the students to select from?
4. Mr. Fry stated that in the National Honor Society we have 79 students. They have a community service component. Many of these students are used to obtaining these hours. The students that will strive for this level are used to this already.
5. Mr. Piper questioned if any extra-curricular activity would qualify for the school related service. Do you count performance time or does practice time count towards this as well?
6. Mr. Fry informed the Board of School Directors that any extra-curricular activity will qualify for the necessary hours including the musical and fall play.
7. Mr. Piper inquired on the percentage of students that would qualify for distinguished.
8. Mr. Piper questioned if the guidance counselors will be responsible for tracking this advisement concerns for the differentiated diplomas.
9. Mr. Fry informed the Board of School Directors that we will have an advisement period that will be available to every student within two years. Every student will have an adviser who will stay with them all four years.
10. Mr. Roberts stated that the Big Spring diploma equates to 28 credits. We currently have our students striving for 28 credits. Most students will strive for this diploma. For the number of credits, it remains the same. It removed the constraints for students to pursue their career interests. The Big Spring transition diploma enables us to help our students that need to gain valuable skills for employment.
11. Mr. Piper inquired about the Keystone exam and how that factors into this plan. Do the NOCTI results figure into this at all?

12. Mr. Wolf stated that a lot of people put in a lot of work into this.  
Thank you

- B. One to One Update** – Mrs. Brandie Shatto, Director of Educational Technology and Public Relations, updated the Board of School Directors on One to One Devices.

Presentation attached.

General Questions:

1. Mr. Wolf questioned when you say damages, are you saying repairable damages or replace the entire device.
2. Mr. Norris inquired about the introduction to the parents. For the sixth grade parents, we will still need to provide instruction to the parents.
3. Mr. Piper asked how you deal with parents and student who move in during the school year.
4. Mr. Fry informed the Board of School Directors it is part of the enrollment process for new students.

- B. Paving Project at Oak Flat** – Mr. Richard Kerr, Business Manager and Mr. Chris Beauregard, CenterPoint provided changes and updates to the paving project at Oak Flat.

1. Mr. Piper inquired about the issue of driving over the storm drain.
2. Mr. Fry informed the Board of School Directors that they would not drive over the grate. This is an area that they were not driving currently.
3. Mr. Wolf questioned the bigger cost is the area around the playground area that we need to straighten out so it has less of an “s” turn.
4. Mr. Kerr informed the Board of School Directors that there is a lot of hard turning when you make that right turn. When you get ready for the “s” turn, you have to turn the wheels pretty hard as it is now. We would eventually chew up the pavement with the hard turns.

### **III. PREVIEW OF THE AGENDA**

President Wolf requested that the Board address NEW BUSINESS, PERSONNEL CONCERNS, Items A-1 through A-18 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 Blasco to adjourn, seconded by Norris to adjourn the meeting to executive session to discuss personnel issues. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Wolf, Swanson, Norris, Piper, Gutshall, Roush, and Blasco. Motion carried unanimously 7 – 0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert Lee Barrick". The ink is dark and the signature is somewhat stylized with loops and flourishes.

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Robert Lee Barrick, Secretary