

# **Big Spring School District**

## **Newville, Pennsylvania**

### **DIG Committee Meeting Minutes**

#### **June 2, 2025**



*The Big Spring School District is an equal opportunity education institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, and disability in its activities, programs, or employment practices as required by Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504. For information regarding civil rights or grievance procedures, or for information regarding services, activities, and facilities that are accessible to and usable by handicapped persons, contact the Superintendent of Schools, Title IX and section 504 coordinator, 45 Mt. Rock Road, Newville, PA 17241, at (717) 776-2412.*

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The Disenrollment Investigation & Grievance Committee of the Board of School Directors for the Big Spring School District met in the Big Spring Middle School Auditorium.

The meeting was called to order at **6:15 pm**

Present: Lisa Shade, Kathy Livengood, Dr. Guarente, Julie Boothe

Absent: Seth Cornman, Kendra Shaffer, Patricia Johnson

#### **Call to Order by Chairperson Julie Boothe**

Welcome by Committee chair, Julie Boothe. Update on activity since last meeting. 57 families that disenrolled in the current school year were invited to complete the new disenrollment survey.

Public Comment Time: No public comment offered.

Continued Items of discussion: Nothing Offered

Approve the committee minutes from 5/5/25

Motion: K. Livengood      2<sup>nd</sup>: Lisa Shade      Vote: all in favor

Any Old Business – Nothing Offered

New Items for Discussion:

- A. New Disenrollment Survey Preliminary Results: Mrs. Boothe discussed the results so far. 6 surveys were completed. Of those, 4 stated bullying was a reason for disenrolling, 3 listed Curriculum/Academics and Communication, 2 listed Special education, Schedule, Respect and Needs not met, and one listed Discipline. Schools which students left was shared

B. Motion to ask the board for dismissal of the committee

Motion: Lisa Shade

2<sup>nd</sup>: Kathy Livengood

Vote: all in favor

Chair, Mrs. Boothe shared that this is an appropriate time to dissolve as our committee's primary goals are met. Our committee has worked hard to complete surveys that continue.

Committee member comments:

Lisa Shade offered comments of appreciation for the work of the committee over the last 14 and a half months, and feels the work is complete. She thanked administration, the chair and the community members for their work. She highlighted some of the work that has been done by the committee and how those items will continue to help the school district.

Dr. Guarente shared that he feels it is the right time, and progress has been made. We will continue in a positive direction with the items that the committee has started, and he thanked the committee for the work.

Julie Boothe shared reasons for starting the committee and pointed to more than just numbers and money as the most important reasons. She described the difficult task of balancing the need to make our students feel like they belong, while educating them effectively, and ensuring that parents feel comfortable with the environment. If we fail any of these, it is now easy to disenroll, at the school's expense. So, it was important to look at the reasons why students were leaving, no matter what your thoughts on the matter were. She discussed the experience of the committee and the items that are now in place to improve our district. She shared her own students' experiences, and experiences as a parent in the district. A member of the public disrupted, and was addressed by Mrs. Boothe. She then encouraged everyone to seek improvement, rise to the challenge, and earn respect through actions. She thanked teachers who do this everyday. She thanked administration, the committee members and everyone who contributed.

**2. Adjournment**

Motion to Adjourn? Motion: Lisa Shade

2<sup>nd</sup>: Kathy Livengood

Vote: all in favor

Meeting adjourned at **6:30 pm**



# BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newville, Pennsylvania

## FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 2, 2025



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### 1. Call to Order - President Wardle

The Finance Committee of the Big Spring Board of School Directors for the Big Spring School District met in the Big Spring Middle School Auditorium at 6:30 pm with eight (8) Board of School Directors present: John Wardle, President; Michael Hippensteel, Vice-President; Lisa Shade, Treasurer; Julie Boothe, Secretary; Melissa Bigler, David Fisher, Kenneth Fisher, and Frank Myers.

Absent: Seth Cornman

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

### 2. Public Comment

Ed Gallagher offered comments on the 2025-2026 budget and shared insight as a former Board Member on the importance of not relying on the fund balance and a desire to provide a quality education to our students.

### 3. Presentation: 2025-2026 Budget Update by Cristy Lentz

Business Manager provided a budget update to the Board:

2025-2026 Budget Summary Update

Budget Timeline

2025 – 2026 Proposed Final Budget Information

Future Considerations

Mr. Wardle asked how many cyber charter students are graduating and Dr. Guarente said there is little variability built into the budget. Mrs. Lentz said she shared the numbers in March and those students were backed out of the budget. Mr. Wardle asked if there were any indications on the state budget status and Mrs. Lentz said we will likely have to pass the budget before we know what is happening at the state and federal level. Mrs. Shade shared the March cyber charter senior enrollment numbers previously provided by Mrs. Lentz and said it was 22 graduates with 12 in special education and 10 in regular education.

**4. Other Items** – Nothing Offered

**5. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Mrs. Boothe was seconded by Mrs. Shade

Voting Yes: Bigler, Boothe, D. Fisher, K. Fisher, Hippensteel, Myers, Shade, and Wardle

Motion Carried unanimously. 8-0

Meeting adjourned at **6:46 pm**

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Julie S. Boothe". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'J' and 'B'.