

BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newville, Pennsylvania

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 5, 2023



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.

1. Call to Order

The Finance Committee of the Board of School Directors for the Big Spring School District met in the Big Spring School District High School Auditorium at 6:34 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; Michael Statler, Business Manager; Ashley Nevling, Accounting Controller; Nicole Donato, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Mike Fronk, Technology; Darin Baughman, Technology, and Donna Minnich, Board Minutes

2. **Presentation:** Final Budget Update – Mike Statler, Business Manager

Mr. Statler presented a Final Budget Update to the Board of Directors:

FY24 Final Budget General Fund Finances at a Glance

General Fund/Projection Summary

Revenues – History with FY24 Budget

Homestead/Farmstead Credit History

Real Estate Tax Info

Big Spring Act 1 Index History

PA and Federal Subsidy

Expenditures

FY24 Budgeted Expenditures (\$61,667,647)

Health Insurance

Charter School Expense

ForeCast 5 Data

Presentation (continued)

Fiscal 2023-2024 Budget Timeline

Miscellaneous Items

Mr. Wardle asked if the ESSER money is put into the general fund and Mr. Statler said we add the revenue in whatever year we spend the dollars.

Mr. Swanson stated insurance can be quite expensive and asked if we have a separate policy for cyber security insurance. Mr. Statler confirmed there is a separate plan but said we have only seen a small increase which is a credit to the work of the technology team who make sure we're secure and not unnecessarily vulnerable to being hacked.

Mr. Wardle asked if the proposed Big Spring tax increase is the lowest amount for the District in 15 years and Mr. Statler confirmed that is correct.

Mr. Myers asked if the effort last year to bring cyber charter students back to Big Spring is going to take place again this year and Mr. Statler stated Mr. August and Mrs. Donato worked to send out letters and plan to focus this year on verifying residency. Mr. Over asked if we are trying to encourage them to re-enroll and Mrs. Donato said letters were sent to everyone with an invitation to attend an information session by Mrs. Hanks but nobody attended the session. Mrs. Donato said families haven't been responding to communications which included a survey that was sent out and received only one response. Mrs. Webster asked if they have tried using Big Spring Facebook and said someone recently put out a poll which mentioned bullying as a concern.

Mr. Over asked questions regarding the cost of CrossSafe and Mr. Statler said it was 3% lower 2 years ago than it was this year. Mr. Over asked if we could save money by paying these wages inhouse and Mr. Statler reminded the Board the amount paid to CrossSafe includes social security, workers compensation, and other employee related costs. Mr. Wardle said the fee to CrossSafe includes other fees such as training, uniforms, and liability insurance. Mrs. Webster asked if we were happy with the job they did this year and Mr. Statler responded yes, compared to the prior year. Mr. Over asked about Flagger Force and Mr. Statler said he contacted them but they told him it would be even more expensive and they didn't give him a quote.

Mr. Piper asked where we can gain revenue dollars to help operate the school district and Mr. Statler said EIC, real estate taxes, delinquent taxes, and real estate transfer taxes are the main sources of revenue dollars.

Mr. Wardle said the state budget may include providing free breakfast to students and Mr. Statler said it has been mentioned the state budget will possibly include free breakfast and/or maybe free lunch.

3. Other Items – Nothing Offered

4. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting by 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 **7:11 pm**

William L. Piper
