

**BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Newville, Pennsylvania**  
**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**SEPTEMBER 6, 2022**



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## **1. 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 School District Middle School Auditorium at 7:19 pm with eight (8) Board of School Directors present; William Swanson, Board President; Todd Deihl, Vice President; William Piper, Secretary; Frank Myers, Treasurer; Kenneth Fisher, Robert Over, Richard Roush, and Donna Webster

Absent: John Wardle

Others in attendance: Kevin C. Roberts, Jr., Superintendent; William August, Assistant Superintendent; Michael Statler, Business Manager; Nicole Donato, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Gareth Pahowa, Solicitor; Rob Krepps, Director of Technology; Darrin Baughman, Technology, and Donna Minnich, Board Minutes

## **2. Presentation:**

### **2.a. Comprehensive Plan - Mr. William August**

Mr. August presented the Big Spring School District Comprehensive Plan:  
Comprehensive Plan vs. Strategic Plan  
Comprehensive Planning Process  
Data Sets Reviewed  
Comprehensive Planning Process  
Priority Goal Areas  
Comprehensive Plan Timeline

### **2.b. Instructional Coaching - Mrs. Nicole Donato**

Mrs. Donato presented on Instructional Coaching:  
BSSD Instructional Coaches  
Why instructional coaching?  
What is an instructional coach?  
How do instructional coaches support teachers?

## **2.b. Instructional Coaching - Mrs. Nicole Donato (continued)**

End of the Year Teacher Surveys  
Impact on Students  
Measuring Instructional Coaches' Impact  
Coaches' Growth

Mr. Myers asked how mentor teachers differ from instructional coaches and Mrs. Donato responded that mentor teachers review mainly logistical information with new teachers that may be more building specific with some classroom guidance while instructional coaches focus primarily on teaching techniques and offer instructional guidance to all teachers.

Mr. Over asked if all teachers are observed and Mrs. Donato responded that instructional coaches perform 8-10 minute classroom visits for more of a check-in process but not a formal observation. Mr. Over asked for clarification regarding a 10% takeaway comment and Mrs. Donato stated the 10% instructional takeaway was before we had instructional coaches and used in-service days where teachers would receive 6 hours of learning and approximately 10% of that information was implemented by teachers. Mrs. Donato said with instructional coaches, the take-back of information has increased.

Mr. Over asked if teachers could refuse instructional coaching and Mrs. Donato responded yes.

Dr. Roberts stated that every first, second, and third year teacher is observed and every three years veteran teachers cycle back through a formal observation process.

Mrs. Donato shared that instructional coaching is a peer situation which helps teachers be more receptive and take risks without fear of scrutiny. Mr. Over asked if teachers could participate in instructional coaching in lieu of observations and Mrs. Donato said no but instructional coaches can give pointers or ideas for an observed lesson depending on what the teacher has requested.

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

## **4. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Deihl was seconded by Mr. Roush  
Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Piper, Myers, Fisher, Over, Roush, and Webster  
Motion Carried unanimously. 8-0

The Committee of the Whole meeting adjourned at 7:54 pm

  

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