

BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newville, Pennsylvania

BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 2018

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I. CALL TO ORDER

The Buildings and Property Committee of the Board of School Directors for the Big Spring School District met in the Large Group Room, Room 140, of the Big Spring High School at 6:01 P.M. with Richard Roush, Co-Committee Chairperson presiding. Seven (7) directors present: Richard Roush, Co-Committee Chairperson; William Piper, Co-Committee Chairperson; William Swanson, Committee Member; Wilbur Wolf, Jr., ex-officio Committee Member; David Gutshall, Committee Member; Todd Deihl, and Robert Over.

Absent – Kingsley Blasco, Bob Kanc

Others in attendance: Richard W. Fry, Superintendent; Kevin C. Roberts Jr., Assistant Superintendent; Richard Kerr, Business Manager; Rick Vonda Kelso, Accounting Controller; Gilliam, Director of Buildings, Grounds, & Transportation; and Carol Frace, Board Minutes.

II. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Furniture Selection and Purchasing Process

Dr. Richard W. Fry, Superintendent introduced Nicole Seibert, Crabtree, Rohrbaugh and Associates. Nicole provided information to the Board of School Directors on furniture selections for all buildings.

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- Process – met with stakeholders to gather information
- Budget – utilized information from meetings to create budget
- Next Steps – request competitive quotes from 4 vendors
- State Contract quotes allows the district to select the cost options
- Newville - \$304,000
- Big Spring Middle School – 79,200
- High School – 38,100
- Total - \$421,300

General Questions:

1. Mr. Over inquired if the cluster is something new with just five students at a work area. Is this something that we have had in the past? When students go to take a test, students will be able to see to the right and left of them very easily.
2. Dr. Fry informed the Board of School Directors that we met with our teachers and what you are seeing is what they have requested. Right now we do have some flat top tables. The teachers have taken the desk and pushed them together for a cluster. At the primary level, teachers are not as concerned with students being close within assessment work.
3. Mr. Wolf questioned when a teacher is talking to everyone normally they are looking at them. Here there is no way that everyone is looking in the same direction.
4. Dr. Fry advised the Board that at the primary level we have learning stations. The students rotate from station to station. The teacher at the front of the classroom doesn't happen all that much anymore. We use the learning carpet or learning area with the smart board where students are sitting on the floor for group discussions.
5. Mr. Piper questioned how many rooms have this layout and if all of them have facilities in.
6. Mr. Over inquired if they are teaching from an interactive TV.
7. Mr. Swanson responded that this is why our elementary students are making progress.
8. Dr. Fry informed the Board that in very few classrooms in the elementary schools at Big Spring will you see desks in a row. This is what the teachers are asking for.

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9. Mr. Over asked what happens if a student misbehaves.
10. Dr. Fry reminded the Board that the same thing happens with this arrangement as with the standard set up. We have other work stations that a teacher can move a student too. We are already doing this set up now except the cubbies are not equipped to hold all their stuff.
11. Mr. Wolf asked if the occupants of the desk change as the subject changes.
12. Mr. Piper inquired about carpet for the elementary students for carpet time.
13. Mr. Kerr questioned if the tables are all metal and what is the top material made out of.
14. Mr. Over asked who guarantees the material/supplies that we would be purchasing.
15. Mr. Piper inquired if we could look at a sample room with this furniture in it.
16. Mr. Wolf questioned if there are other options for the cabinets. If we have concerns about the furniture breaking, can we look at several options?
17. Mr. Over asked if the desks are a wrapped around metal piece or is there something screwed into cork board.
18. Mr. Piper questioned if we are getting a sample room.
19. Mr. Over inquired the cost of the chairs.
20. Mr. Piper asked if all the furniture is at state contract.
21. Dr. Fry reviewed the third, fourth, and fifth grade classroom setup with the Board of School Directors.
22. Mr. Piper asked about the cubbies for the upper grade levels.
23. Dr. Fry reminded the Board that the primary special education classrooms are housed at Oak Flat and Mt. Rock. He informed the Board that the Large Group Rooms at the elementaries will have TV/Mobile devices just like like the HS incubator classroom.
24. Mr. Piper questioned about the 3, 4, & 5 grade classrooms. Is the furniture adjustable for different size students?
25. Dr. Fry reviewed the middle school pilot study for furniture.

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26. Mr. Wolf questioned if we will have new furniture for all the classrooms at the middle school.
27. Mr. Over inquired who designed these classrooms with the unique furniture.
28. Mr. Wolf questioned how this enhances the learning process.
29. Dr. Fry advised the Board that the teacher will be given the option to pick their furniture. Flexible seating helps with attention span. Our teachers have expressed an interest in flexible seating. We are reviewing this from a learning environment. We are piloting this. Staff will look at this and decide what is best for their classroom.
30. Mr. Swanson stated some teacher do not want bean bag chairs. Others really like them and use them.
31. Mr. Over inquired the names of the vendors for the furniture.

B. Projects Update

Mr. Richard Kerr, Business Manager reviewed with the Board of School Directors upcoming projects.

- Projects for this summer
- Bids due April 13, 2018
- Newville under construction now
- Part G approved
- Board approval April 16, 2018
- Part H – PDE financing

General Questions:

1. Mr. Piper questioned if all the windows at Newville would be replaced.
2. Dr. Fry advised that all windows would be replaced except for the new addition.

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III. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 P.M.

William L. Piper, Secretary