

BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newville, Pennsylvania

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY MAY 20, 2019

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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 7:02 p.m. with eight (8) directors present; William Swanson, President; Todd Deihl, Vice President; William Piper, Secretary; David Gutshall, Treasurer; Kingsley Blasco, Richard Roush, Robert Over and John Wardle

Others in attendance: Richard W. Fry, Superintendent; Kevin C. Roberts, Assistant Superintendent Robyn Euker, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Richard Kerr, Jr., Business Manager; Robert Krepps, Director of Technology; Cathy Seras, Board Minutes; Andy Milone, Valley Times Star;

II. PRESENTATIONS

A. Pupil Services Update – Mr. William Gillet, Director of Pupil Services reviewed the agenda items for the evening.

- Ms. Jocelyn Kraus, High School Guidance Counselor thanked the Board of School Directors for allowing them to present this evening as well as the new hire of Mrs. Kristen Boles, Elementary Guidance Counselor.
- Ms. Kraus talked about mental health, school-based mental health summit and the school safety grant which assist with advanced therapeutic trainings.
- Ms. Kraus shared information on the partnerships Big Spring has with Laurel Life, Growing Edges, CASSP and Whole Child which will be implemented fall of 2019. Ms. Kraus shared her excitement regarding the implementation of the therapeutic support dog that will be coming to the Middle School.
- Mr. Wardle asked about the effect of social media on students. Mr. Over asked about the referral of students that may be need assistance.
- Mr. Swanson communicated it was a great presentation with great programs in place.

B. Gifted Program - Mrs. Stacey Gibb, Middle School Gifted Teacher, Ms. Crystal Martin, Elementary Gifted Teacher and Ms. Susan Thompson, High School Gifted Teacher

- Mrs. Gibb reviewed and talked about the characteristics of gifted learners.
- Mrs. Gibb shared that students may be gifted in specifics subjects; Math, English or the student may be globally gifted.
- Ms. Martin talked about the Elementary gifted program.
- Ms. Martin talked about how she collaborates with classroom teachers in regards to the enrichment classroom activities.

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- Ms. Martin shared that they work with students at the fifth grade level for a smooth transition into the middle school.
- Mr. Wardle asked about the enrollment in the elementary and middle school programs.
- Ms. Thompson talked about the high school gifted program.
- She shared that she encourages and develops student self-advocacy.
- Ms. Thompson shared she assists students to dig deeper in any project they may be working on. It was also expressed that Ms. Thompson works with students to prepare them for the transition for their next step in life after high school graduation.

C. English Language Learners (ELL) – Ms. Charlene D’Amore, ELL Teacher

- Ms. D’Amore communicated the process of enrolling an ELL student.
- Ms. D’Amore shared that the Pennsylvania Department of Education has a new requirement using rubrics by classroom teachers.
- Ms. D’Amore talked about the summary of the current program.
- She shared that she has had French, Russian and Spanish speaking students in the program.
- Mr. Over thanked all staff who were in attendance and applauded them for their work.

III. PREVIEW OF THE AGENDA

President Swanson requested that the Board address XII. NEW BUSINESS PERSONNEL CONCERNS, Items A through E 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

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IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Deihl to adjourn, seconded by Blasco to adjourn the meeting.

Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Swanson, Piper, Gutshall, Roush, Deihl, Blasco, Wardle and Over

Motion carried unanimously. 8-0

The Committee of the Whole meeting adjourned at **8:08 p.m.**

William L. Piper, Secretary