

BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newville, Pennsylvania

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2020

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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 through a Virtual Meeting in the Big Spring School District High School Large Group Room at 7:00 p.m. with eight (8) directors present; William Swanson, President; Todd Deihl, Vice President; David Gutshall, Treasurer; William Piper, Secretary; Robert Over, Alexis Hurley, Frank Myers and John Wardle.

Absent: Roush

Others in attendance: Richard W. Fry, Superintendent; Kevin C. Roberts, Jr., Assistant Superintendent; Robyn Euker, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; Caleb Barwin, Accounting Controller; Robert Krepps, Director of Technology; Cathy Seras, Board Minutes.

II. Presentations:

➤ PSBA Update and Presentation of Board Service Years (Virtual)

- Ms. Autumn Alleman, PSBA Member Services Manager

- Ms. Alleman began with thanking the Board of School Directors and the Administration for all they have done during the pandemic and stated she is proud to live in the Big Spring School District.
- Ms. Alleman reviewed the PSBA renewal membership with the Board of School Directors and the Administration.
- Ms. Alleman shared a new website that was just launched through PSBA, **Success Starts Here**. This website hosts stories of online and in person educational excellence occurring in the districts statewide.
- Ms. Alleman shared and defined information on Board Self-Assessment.
- Ms. Alleman talked about the PSBA Honor Roll of School Board Service.
- Ms. Alleman concluded her presentation in honoring Mr. David Gutshall for his 16 years of school board service and thanked him for all he has done for BSSD.

➤ **2020-2021 FFA Program of Activities - Virtual Presentation through YouTube - FFA Students**

- The presentation began with each student officer introducing themselves and defining their role as an FFA officer. The officers are listed.
 1. President Rebecca Cohick
 2. Vice President Zoe Koser and Catharine Miller
 3. Secretary Fallon Feaser
 4. Treasurer Clayton Hetrick
 5. Reporters Haley Fraker and Jadyn Klinger
 6. Sentinel Delaney Barrick
 7. Chaplain Luke Hand
 8. Student Advisor Abigail Beidel

- Students talked about the FFA organization and how they continue to stay involved during the challenging times of the Pandemic.
- Each officer shared information on the items listed.
 1. Chapter Fundraiser begins September 28th;
 2. Colt Chapter Officer Training - September 30th;
 3. Fall CDE, Virtual - October
 4. National FFA Convention which will be Virtual/October 28th – 31st;
 5. Representative Gleim’s Farmers’ Breakfast/Penn Township Fire House - November 13th;
 6. Fundraiser Pick Up – November 23rd and December 9th;
 7. Mid-Winter Convention/Farm Show Competitions and Shows – January;
 8. National FFA Week – February 20th – 27th;
 9. Conferences and National FFA Week Events – February, 2021;
 10. Public Speaking Contest, State Legislative Leadership Conference, Spring Chapter Fundraiser, March, 2021;
 11. Spring Events – Trips, meetings, conferences, contests, banquet, state events held throughout the months of May and June.
 12. The officers concluded with thanking the Board of School Directors and the Administration for their time and support of the FFA.
- Mr. Swanson stated he was amazed at all of the things that the organization does and still doing during the Pandemic. Mr. Piper was also impressed as well as other board members with the student’s positive energy and leadership within the FFA organization.

➤ **Finance Update - Mr. Caleb Barwin, Accounting Controller**

- Mr. Barwin shared information on Year to Date Expenses by Object from July – October, 2020, which included:
 1. Salaries
 2. Benefits
 3. Purchased Services
 4. Supplies
 5. Property
- Mr. Barwin continued with information regarding YTD expenses by function which included:
 1. Programs for Elementary and Secondary;
 2. Vocational Education;

Continued YTD expenses . . .

3. Support services for students, instructional staff, administration, pupil health and business;
 4. Student activities and student transportation services;
 5. Non-public school programs;
 6. Existing building improvement services
- Mr. Barwin discussed the Cyber/Charter Tuition YTD for the period of July – October, 2020.
 - Mr. Barwin shared information regarding Revenue YTD for the months of July – October, 2020.
 - Mr. Barwin communicated the historical revenues for the month of October and shared the real estate income with the Board of School Directors.
 - Mr. Barwin communicated that the PCCD Grant of \$220,662 was received on November 3rd.
 - Mr. Wardle asked about EIT regarding warehouses in the area. There were discussions regarding EIT amongst the administration and the Board of School Directors.

➤ **Administrative Updates**

- **Dr. Richard W. Fry, Superintendent of Schools**

- **Dr. Kevin C. Roberts, Jr., Assistant Superintendent**

- Dr. Fry began the presentation with stating that the protocols that BSSD has in place have worked well. Dr. Fry continued in communicating that protocols greatly reduce the likelihood of substantial transmission or of a school becoming an avenue for a super spread event.
- Dr. Fry shared that as of today, November 16, 2020, there are 23 individuals quarantined and five of those 23 are confirmed cases in different buildings. It was noted that community spread is escalating which pivots the administration to put a plan in place for what may be ahead. Dr. Fry stated that 8% of the cases in Cumberland County are coming from school age children of those 80 percent are at the secondary level, grades 6-12.
- Dr. Fry communicated that protocols work to support safety which are wearing cloth masks, 6' social distancing, reduce occupancy and ventilation, hand washing, cleaning and disinfecting.
- Dr. Fry shared a graph on the state of Pennsylvania and Cumberland County positive test rate and daily new cases. Dr. Fry continued with sharing PDE's Monitoring System Dashboard.
- Dr. Fry discussed the present positivity rates in the 4 major zip codes within the Big Spring School District. Those positivity rates are listed below:
 1. Newville, 17241 - Positivity Rate = 17.86 percent
 2. Carlisle, 17015 - Positivity Rate = 35.26 percent
 3. Newburg, 17240 – Positivity Rate = 15.8 percent
 4. Shippensburg, 17257 – Positivity Rate = 21.92 percent
- Dr. Fry shared that Tier 2 currently is the safest method at this time in order to keep students in face-to-face.
- Dr. Fry shared District data and date to date comparison in Cumberland County and Pennsylvania.
- Dr. Fry continued in sharing the recommended Instructional Models from PDE.

- Dr. Fry communicated that BSSD's Tier 3 model is in in place to bring students back four days a week. It was noted that new transportation routes, modified school schedules and additional safety protocols are in place.
- Dr. Fry stressed BSSD is unable to move forward with the Tier 3 Instructional Model because of the continued climb in COVID-19 cases.
- Dr. Roberts talked about the Thought Exchange process and shared the top four thoughts. The school communities' top thoughts indicated concerns for students and staff health and safety.
- Dr. Fry stated, administrations main focus is the health and safety of students, staff, and community as well as a successful delivery of the educational program and opportunities for the students.
- Dr. Fry communicated the timeline listed:
 1. November 18th – parent/community virtual town hall meeting data update.
 2. November 20th – K-12 virtual staff update.
 3. November 20th – communication to elementary school community on the status of Tier 3.
- There were discussions on BSSD Cyber students amongst administration and the Board of School Directors.

III. Preview of the Agenda

President Swanson requested that the Board address XII. NEW BUSINESS PERSONNEL CONCERNS and combine Items A through J into one motion.

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

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Deihl, seconded by Myers to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Over, Piper, Gutshall, Hurley, Wardle and Myers.

Motion carried unanimously. 8-0

The Committee of the Whole meeting adjourned at **8:02 p.m.**


