

# **BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Newville, Pennsylvania**

## **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2018**

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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 7:10 p.m. with President Wilbur Wolf, Jr., President; William Swanson, Vice President; William Piper, Secretary; David Gutshall, Treasurer; Todd Deihl, Kingsley Blasco, Richard Roush and Robert Over

Others in attendance: Richard W. Fry, Superintendent; Kevin C. Roberts, Assistant Superintendent Robyn Euker, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Richard Kerr, Jr. Business Manager; Cathy Seras, Board Minutes; Andy Milone, Valley Times Star; Heath Myers, High School Science Teacher

### **II. PRESENTATION**

#### **a. Updates on Upcoming Technology Work**

##### **- Mr. Robert Krepps, Technology Director**

1. Mr. Krepps communicated he wanted to focus on a status report from the Technology Department.
2. Mr. Krepps shared in the month of October the Raptor Visitor Management system registered 1,000 visitors to the buildings. Mr. Krepps reminded the Board of School Directors that the Raptor system runs visitors driver's license through the system and in doing so there were no alerts with these visitors.
3. Mr. Krepps talked about online registration for the district, Back to School Gateway which has opened up to parents/guardian.
4. Mr. Krepps spoke about Go Guardian which has been proven to be an effective tool for the middle school teachers. Mr. Krepps shared the positive responses from the teachers.
5. Mr. Krepps communicated the Social Sentinel software is strengthening and enhancing the ability to maintain a safe environment for our student and staff.

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6. Mr. Wolf asked if the geofencing boundaries can be changed? Mr. Krepps communicated that the boundaries can be changed at any time to the district's preference.
7. Mr. Krepps shared that Social Sentinel can be utilized for sporting events, proms, performances, etc.
8. Mr. Krepps talked about the Navigate Prepared System which has been utilized during fire drills.
9. Dr. Roberts shared the positive response to the school safety drills in watching students and staff during these drills. Dr. Roberts invited Board members to attend the drills at anytime.
10. Mr. Krepps discussed the initial fiber options for Oak Flat and Newville Elementary School.
11. Mr. Krepps shared that the district does receive potential subsidies from the federal government for fiber optic cable.
12. Mr. Krepps shared there are three phases the district has to go through for the fiber feasibility proposal. Phase I would begin in January or February and then Phase II is a full engineering study and Phase III will be the eRate bids, waiting for approval/eRate funds and award bid in March 2021 and the construction phase will be approximately May, 2021 to April, 2022.
13. Mr. Wolf asked; what is the advantage to fiber over microwave link? Mr. Krepps communicated the transmission speed of the technology is significantly better.
14. Mr. Krepps talked about the summer 2019 projects which will include security cameras, servers, storage for the cameras.
15. Mr. Over asked if the cameras are expensive? Mr. Krepps stated the cameras can run approximately \$200 a camera.
16. Mr. Krepps talked about the Bells, Clocks and PA system that need to be replaced/updated to required standards.
17. Mr. Krepps communicated the copper and fiber cabling are in the highways that carry the data traffic between our classrooms, and the local network closets, server room and the internet.
18. Mr. Krepps stated that the technology department is replacing the old copper with higher speed as data technology continues to grow in the classrooms, the need for speed is very important.
19. Mr. Krepps talked about replacing the audio systems at the middle school, Mt. Rock and the stadium. Mr. Krepps shared the typical life span of an audio system is 6-12 years but it can be lower in an area where there are outdoor speakers, a press box and temperature change.
20. Mr. Krepps communicated Smart Interactive Panels were installed at Newville with plans to be implemented at Oak Flat and Mt. Rock, summer 2019.
21. Mr. Krepps stated the devices are used as a learning center at the elementary level.
22. Mr. Krepps talked about the high school tv studio and tricastar, which is a device that merges video from multiple cameras, broadcast graphics, virtual sets, special effects and audio mixing.
23. Mr. Krepps talked about a video management system and communicated the use of video in the classroom is on the rise and is expected to increase.

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**III. PREVIEW OF THE AGENDA**

President Wolf requested that the Board address XI. NEW BUSINESS PERSONNEL CONCERNS, Items A-1 through A-5 as a single action.

**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 Blasco to adjourn, seconded by Roush to adjourn the meeting.

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

Motion carried unanimously 8 – 0.

The Committee of the Whole meeting adjourned at **7:52 p.m.**

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William L. Piper, Secretary