

BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newville, Pennsylvania

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 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 7:05 P.M. with President Wilbur Wolf, Jr. presiding. Eight (8) directors present: Wilbur Wolf, Jr, President; William Swanson, Vice-President; William Piper, Secretary; David Gutshall, Treasurer; Richard Roush; Robert Over; Kingsley Blasco; and Todd Deihl.

Kingsley Blasco arrived at 7:40 pm.

Absent – Bob Kanc

Others in attendance: Richard W. Fry, Superintendent; Kevin Roberts Jr, Assistant Superintendent; Robyn Euker, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; Richard Kerr, Business Manager; Vonda Kelso, Accounting Controller; Rick Gilliam, Director of Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation; and Carol Frace, Board Minutes. Andy Milone, Valley Times Star.

II. PRESENTATION

A. 2018-2019 Proposed Budget – Mr. Richard Kerr, Jr. Business Manager led the Board of School Directors in a discussion/power point on the proposed budget for 2018-2019.

[Presentation attached](#)

[Presentation](#)

- Quick EIDEX Metrics
- Funds Update
- Healthcare & SCT Premiums
- Debt service
- Proposed Budget

Specific questions regarding tonight's presentation:

1. Mr. Piper inquired why Mifflin River Rock is part of our free and reduced numbers.
2. Mr. Wolf advised that this fund balance keeps us from borrowing money to pay our bills when the state doesn't send us money in a timely manner.
3. Mr. Over questioned if Mr. Kerr could cut the budget 5 percent across the board.
4. Mr. Kerr informed the Board that in order to meet this request we would have to cut personnel and facilities.
5. Dr. Fry advised that in 2011 we cut staff. I prefer not to do that again. We would have to cut 1.2 million dollars which would be 2 percent of the budget. We have rap around debt. We are proposing an increase not a decrease in the budget. In order to do this, we would have no tax increase and cut people to get to the 2 percent.
6. Mr. Wolf asked the source of Mr. Over's knowledge that would cause an increase in enrollment even though the state projects a decrease for us.
7. Mr. Over advised that the warehouses will bring more people.
8. Mr. Blasco reminded the Board that warehouse jobs will not bring the income for people to build houses in our area.
9. Mr. Wolf stated that without water and sewage there will not be a large building project.

10. Mr. Piper and Mr. Kanc in written form questioned the tax increase that is being proposed is 2.5 percent. What if we only raised taxes 2 percent? What would the figures for that be?
11. Dr. Fry reminded the Board of School Directors that the state says we have to do a proposed final budget. The Board has to act on this proposed budget tonight. The final budget will be in June and it can changed between now and then.
12. Mr. Over asked for Mr. Kerr to calculate a 2 percent cut across the board from the budget for us to look at and that the cuts not include personnel.
13. Dr. Fry informed the Board that our budget pays for academic growth. This is the proof that things are working for us.
14. Mr. Piper inquired where the information is coming from on the slides you are showing us.

III. PREVIEW OF THE AGENDA

President Wolf requested that the Board address XI. NEW BUSINESS, PERSONNEL CONCERNS, Items A-1 through A-9 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.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Swanson to adjourn, seconded by Roush to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Wolf, Swanson, Piper, Gutshall, Roush, Over, Blasco, and Deihl. Motion carried unanimously 8 – 0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM

William L. Piper, Secretary