BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newville, Pennsylvania

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2013

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I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of School Directors for the Big Spring School District met in the Big Spring High School Large Group Room, Room 140, at 8:03 P.M. with President Wilbur Wolf, Jr., presiding. Eight (8) directors present: Wilbur Wolf, Jr., President; William Swanson, Vice President; Robert Lee Barrick, Secretary; David Gutshall, Treasurer; Kingsley Blasco; John McCrea; Richard Norris; and William Piper.

Richard Roush was absent.

Others in attendance: Richard W. Fry, Superintendent; Jeanne Temple, Assistant Superintendent; Kevin Roberts, Director of Curriculum/Instruction and Educational Technology; Richard E. Kerr, Jr., Business Manager; Steve Smith, High School Principal; Trish Grace, The Valley Times-Star; and Brenda Line, Board Minutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The members of the Board of School Directors met in Executive Session to address personnel and legal concerns from 7:43 to 8:03 P.M.

II. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

President Wolf led all individuals present in the Pledge to the Flag.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 4, 2013 BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES; THE MARCH 4, 2013 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES; THE MARCH 4, 2013 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES.

Motion by Blasco, seconded by Swanson for approval of the March 4, 2013 Buildings and Property Committee Meeting Minutes; the March 4, 2013 Committee of the Whole of the Board Meeting Minutes; and the March 4, 2013 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, McCrea, Norris, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. STUDENT/STAFF RECOGNITION AND BOARD REPORTS – Megan Carr Shania Radabaugh

A. Thank You, Zach Moul!

Superintendent Fry commended Sophomore Zachary Moul for recognizing and meeting the need of a staff member and acting immediately. Mr. Moul quickly retrieved the automated external defibrillator (AED) when a student had a seizure during physical education class, flat-lined, and required defibrillation. Mr. Fry noted that Big Spring is fortunate to have conscientious students who are willing to help meet needs as they arise.

President Wolf and Vice President Swanson thanked Mr. Moul for his heroic efforts and presented him with a leatherette and "Bulldog Pride" pen.

The following staff members involved in the effort were recognized at this evening's Committee of the Whole of the Board meeting: Kelly Fry, health and physical education teacher; Renee Shively, life skills aide; Carol Madden, head school district nurse; Rhonda Stokes, life skills aide; Tracey Bowermaster, staff member; and Doug Lautsbaugh, staff member; and Micah Artz, health and physical education teacher

B. Report from the Student Representatives to the Board of School Directors

Because of inclement weather, the following report was submitted by the student representatives to the Board of School Directors: <u>03-18-2013 Student Report.pdf</u>.

V. TREASURER'S REPORT (Balances as of February 28, 2013)

General Fund	\$ 16,117,877.09
Cafeteria Fund	\$ 195,970.92
Student Activity Fund	\$ 206,428.80
Capital Projects	\$ 4,676,340.06

The Treasurer's Report showed balances as outlined above as of February 28, 2013. Motion by Gutshall, seconded by Blasco for acceptance of the Treasurer's Report. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, McCrea, Norris, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

VI. PAYMENT OF BILLS

General Fund Student Activities Fund Capital Projects	\$ \$ \$	907,845.71 18,001.60 7,100.00	Checks #69064-69138, 228303. 3061301, 3081301, BG020613, BG020713, BG021113, BG021301-BG021305, BG021308-BG021315, HB021301, JH021301-JH031303, LW021301-LW021305, MF021301-MF021304, MS21301-MF021304, MS031319, RW021301-RW021306, S0213100-S0213113, SK021201-SK31204, SS021301-SS021303, WG021301-WG- 21303 Checks #13734-13754 Check #656
TOTAL	\$	932,947.31	

Motion by Gutshall, seconded by Blasco for approval of General Fund, Cafeteria Fund, Student Activity/Miscellaneous Fund, Cafeteria Fund, and Capital Projects payments of bills as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, McCrea, Norris, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

VII. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE

There was no reading of correspondence.

VIII. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Donald Bowers, R.F. Colyer, Bob Foltz, Kim Foltz, Marcy Foltz, Brian Moul, Zachary Moul, George Schuyler, Mike Snyder, Sue Snyder, and Tobie Wolf.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

<u>Mr. George Schuyler</u>, One Broad Street, Newville, Pennsylvania, addressed the members of the Board of School Directors and indicated that he wants to be "educated and involved" in the business of the local government, especially in light of the fact that taxes are increasing each year.

Mr. Schuyler expressed his support for the efforts of Director John McCrea and offered to help in the "battle" related to the LERTA lawsuit against the Big Spring School District and others. Mr. Schuyler questioned how eight other Board members could support a proposal to offer discounted taxes on land on the 233 corridor that is a "gold mine, especially since Newville ran sewer and water to this area."

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (Continued)

Mr. George Schuyler (Continued)

On another topic, Mr. Schuyler referenced a recent article published in Chambersburg's Public Opinion regarding area school districts' overpayment for cyber schools. Mr. Schuyler questioned why Big Spring is "overpaying to send students to cyber school."

Superintendent Fry responded that, after verifying the residency of the student every two months, Big Spring is required to pay cyber school tuition at the rates of \$9,800 for a regular education student and \$22,000 for a student who has an individualized education plan (IEP). Mr. Fry noted that a student could leave Big Spring without an IEP but be given an IEP for cyber school, and the District would be required to pay \$22,000 for that student. Mr. Fry indicated that there are approximately six bills in the House and Senate regarding charter school reform; and he noted that, in his opinion, cyber school, Capital Area Online Learning Association (CAOLA), for half the price of other cyber schools.

After learning that President Wolf would be running for another four-year term on the Big Spring School Board, Mr. Schuyler questioned whether term limits have ever been considered for school boards. Mr. Schuyler indicated that he is in favor of term limits for politicians in general, and he added that he believes that new individuals could add new insight and a wealth of knowledge on commissions, boards, and other government bodies.

Superintendent Fry responded that there are states that have term limits for school board members; however, those states also have paid school board members. School board members in Pennsylvania serve voluntarily. Mr. Fry added that he is not aware of term limits for volunteer school board members in any state.

President Wolf thanked Mr. Schuyler for attending this evening's meeting and offering public comment.

X. STRUCTURED PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No structured public comment was offered.

XI. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

(NOTE: The Board addressed XII., NEW BUSINESS, A., PERSONNEL CONCERNS, Items A-1 through A-10, following Item A-10.)

XII. NEW BUSINESS

A. PERSONNEL CONCERNS

1. <u>Approval of Child-Rearing Leave for Holly Hockenberry</u> (ACTION ITEM)

Mrs. Holly Hockenberry, First Grade Teacher at Oak Flat Elementary School, has requested a leave of absence under the Family & Medical Leave Act from March 5, 2013, through the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year. According to Section 3.07 of the contract between the Big Spring Education Association and the District, professional employees who become parents of an adopted child may request up to one year of child-rearing leave upon the infant's birth or adoption of the child. In addition to the duration of the leave period, her request meets all provisions for a child-rearing leave according to the current contract.

A copy of Mrs. Hockenberry's letter was included with the agenda.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve Mrs. Hockenberry's request for leave under the Family & Medical Leave Act and a child-rearing leave of absence from March 5, 2013 through the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year according to the terms of the current contract between the Big Spring Education Association and the Big Spring School District.

(ACTION ITEM)

2. Courtney Wiser

Mt. Holly, PA 17065

Long-Term Substitute Grade One Teacher (replacing Mrs. Hockenberry who will be on child-rearing leave of absence)

Education:

California University of Pennsylvania – Early Childhood Education (Bachelor's Degree)

Experience:

Big Spring School District – Long-Term Substitute Teacher

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors appoint Ms. Wiser to serve as a Long-Term Substitute Grade One Teacher at Oak Flat Elementary School, retroactive to March 5, 2013, through the end of the 2012-2013 school year, replacing Mrs. Hockenberry who will be on child-rearing leave of absence. Ms. Wiser's compensation for this position should be established at Bachelor's, step 1, \$42,588.00, prorated, based on the current contract between the Big Spring Education Association and the Big Spring School District.

A. **PERSONNEL CONCERNS** (Continued)

3. Additional Per Diem Substitute Teacher

Mary Conklin Elementary Education

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the addition listed to the 2012-2013 per diem substitute teacher list as presented.

4. Custodial Substitute

Mr. Rick Gilliam, Director of Transportation, Buildings and Grounds, recommended the individual listed as a custodial substitute for the 2012-2013 school year.

Francisco Beltre'De Los Santos

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the appointment of the above listed custodial substitute as presented.

5. 2012-2013 Additional Bus Driver for Deitch Busing

Ms. Melissa Goodyear

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors acknowledge the addition of Ms. Goodyear as a bus driver for the 2012-2013 school year, pending all required paperwork.

6. Long-Term Custodial Substitute

Mr. Rick Gilliam, Director of Transportation, Buildings and Grounds, would like to recommend the individual listed as a long-term custodial substitute at the High School retroactive to March 11, 2013, through approximately May 6, 2013, replacing Mr. Tim Barrett, who will be absent due to medical reasons.

Lissa Chandler

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the appointment of the above listed custodial substitute as presented.

(ACTION ITEM)

7.<u>Mrs. Jill Barrick</u>, part-time high school learning support aide, submitted her letter of resignation, effective March 31, 2013.

A copy of Mrs. Barrick's letter was included with the agenda.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors accept Mrs. Barrick's resignation, effective March 31, 2013.

(ACTION ITEM)

(ACTION ITEM)

(ACTION ITEM)

(ACTION ITEM)

A. **PERSONNEL CONCERNS** (Continued)

(ACTION ITEM)

8. <u>Mrs. Kathleen Shaker</u>, High School Spanish Teacher, submitted her letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement effective the end of the 2012-2013 school year.

A copy of Mrs. Shaker's letter was included with the agenda.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors accept Mrs. Shaker's resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective the end of the 2012-2013 school year.

(ACTION ITEM)

 Mr. Steve Natacchia, head varsity boys basketball coach, submitted his letter of resignation, retroactive to March 11, 2013.

A copy of Mr. Natacchia's letter was included with the agenda.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors accept Mr. Natacchia's resignation, retroactive to March 11, 2013.

(ACTION ITEM)

10. <u>Mrs. Jan Roberts</u> submitted her letter of resignation as a substitute custodian, effective immediately.

A copy of Mrs. Roberts' letter was included with the agenda.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors accept Mrs. Roberts' resignation, effective immediately.

VOTE ON XII., NEW BUSINESS, A., PERSONNEL CONCERNS

Motion by Norris, seconded by Swanson to combine and approve XII., NEW BUSINESS, A., PERSONNEL CONCERNS, Items A-1 through A-10, as outlined and recommended above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, McCrea, Norris, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Credit Pay

(ACTION ITEM)

The professional employee whose name is listed below has successfully completed graduate work and is entitled to the specified amount in accordance with the negotiated contract.

Jolene Regetta \$309.00

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors authorize reimbursement for graduate credits as outlined above and as provided in the current contract between the Big Spring Education Association and the Big Spring School District.

Motion by Norris, seconded by Blasco to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, McCrea, Norris, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Approval of High School Network Expansion Project

(ACTION ITEM)

At the last Board meeting we discussed the expansion of wireless access points and replacement of network switch gear at the High School to support individual student devices. To support one AP per classroom, we'll need to purchase and install 52 extra APs with licenses at an estimated cost of \$24,645. Replacing old switches with newer switches capable of handling more traffic faster will cost approximately \$36,092.

The administration recommended the Board of School Directors approve the purchase of new switchgear and additional access points at a cost not to exceed \$62,000 funded by the capital project fund.

Motion by Barrick, seconded by Norris to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, McCrea, Norris, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Facilities Utilization Request

(ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Michael Berry is requesting permission to use the High Large Group Room for meetings with coaches on Sunday, April 14, 28, May 12, 26, June 9, 23, July 7 and 21, 2013, from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Because the utilization dates are on a Sunday, Board action is necessary.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve Mr. Berry's request to use the High School Large Group Room as presented.

Motion by Blasco, seconded by Norris to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, McCrea, Norris, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Updated Policies

(ACTION ITEM)

The administration submitted the updated policies listed and the copies are included with the agenda.

- 100 Strategic Plan
- 101 Vision/Mission/Belief Statements
- **102** Academic Standards
- **103** Nondiscrimination in School and Classroom Practices
- **104** Nondiscrimination in Employment Contract Practices
- 105 Curriculum Development
- 105.1 Curriculum Review by Parents, Guardians and Students
- 105.2 Exemptions from Instruction
- **106 Guides for Planned Instruction**
- 107 Adoption of Planned Instruction
- 108 Adoption of Textbooks
- 109 Resource Materials
- 110 Instructional Supplies
- 111 Lesson Plans
- 112 School Counseling
- 113 Special Education
- 113.1 Behavior Support
- 114 Gifted Education
- 115 Vocational Technical Education
- 116 Tutoring
- 117 Homebound Instruction
- 118 Independent Study
- 119 Current Events
- 121 Field Trips
- 124 Summer School
- 125 Adult Education
- 126 Class Size
- 127 Assessments
- 129 Music
- 130 Homework
- 137 Home Schooling/Home Education Program
- 138 Limited English Proficiency
- 140 Charter Schools
- 140.1 Extracurricular Participation by Charter and Cyber Charter Students
- 142 Migrant Students
- 143 Standards for Persistently Dangerous Schools
- 144 Standards for Victims of Violent Crimes
- 146 Student Services

E. <u>Updated Policies</u> (Continued)

(ACTION ITEM)

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the policies as presented.

Policy 122, Extracurricular Activities, and 123, Interscholastic Athletics, were removed from the agenda.

Motion by Blasco, seconded by Norris to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, McCrea, Norris, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Approval of Plancon K Submission

(ACTION ITEM)

As part of the refinance process completed on February 28th, 2013, the District must notify PDE of the change using the Plancon K forms included with the board packet. All of the bond documents related to the bond sale are included with the submission to PDE.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the submission of Plancon K as included with the board packet.

Motion by Norris, seconded by Swanson to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, McCrea, Norris, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

G. Approval of Phase II of Security Upgrade

(ACTION ITEM)

The Board discussed the second phase of the security upgrades at the last Building & Property committee meeting. These upgrades provide a backup server, 4-5 cameras at each elementary school, addition of a tracking program at each school that displays who's in the building and some additional door controllers. This work is done under the State ITQ 4400007410 contract. A copy of the quote was included with the Board packet. The quote from Black CSI is \$52,617 and the District will purchase the display module for each building at an estimated cost of \$7,200.

The administration recommended the Board of School Directors approve Phase II of the security upgrade project with BlackCSI at a cost not to exceed \$60,000 paid from the Capital Project Fund.

Motion by Barrick, seconded by Norris to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, McCrea, Norris, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

H. State EITC Program

(DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEM)

In the summer of 2012 the state legislature expanded the EITC program to include portability of tuition money to follow a student from a failing school to either a public or private school. The failing schools were the bottom 15% of schools throughout the state based on PSSA scores for the preceding year. School Districts and private schools that agreed to accept students from failing schools had to notify the state. Big Spring decided not to participate last year and thus received no tuition students via this program.

I. Updated Year-to-Date Summaries/Taxes and General Fund (INFORMATION ITEM)

The Business Office prepared updated year-to-date summaries for taxes and general fund that were included with the agenda.

Mr. Kerr reported that the budget is on target, with revenues exceeding budget figures by a small margin.

XIII. FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future Board agenda items.

XIV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. District Improvement Committee – Mr. Norris/Mr. McCrea

No meeting was conducted, and no report was offered.

The District Improvement Committee is slated to meet on April 11, 2013.

B. Athletic Committee – Mr. Swanson

No meeting was conducted, and no report was offered.

An Athletic Committee meeting is scheduled for April 4, 2013, at 7:00 A.M., with three items on the agenda: review of protocol for banners, review of protocol for the interview process, and discussion of the potential realignment of the Mid Penn Conference.

C. Vocational-Technical School – Mr. Wolf/Mr. Piper

No meeting was conducted, and no report was offered. The JOC is scheduled to meet on Monday, March 25, 2013.

XIV. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

D. Buildings and Property Committee – Mr. Barrick

Motion by Barrick, seconded by Blasco to approve this as an action item and authorize Change Order 1 to the Middle School/DAO window replacement project for security upgrades at Oak Flat (\$27,800) and three additional windows at DAO (\$26,400) at a total cost of \$54,200.00, paid from the Capital Project Fund.. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, McCrea, Norris, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Finance Committee – Mr. Blasco

The Finance Committee met earlier this evening. No report was offered.

F. South Central Trust – Mr. Blasco

No meeting was conducted, and no report was offered.

G. Capital Area Intermediate Unit – Mr. Wolf

President Wolf reported that there has been discussion at the CAIU the last six months regarding the closure of the Lemoyne facility and consolidation to the Summerdale facility.

Mr. Wolf indicated that the Steelton-Highspire School District owes the CAIU more than a million dollars, with no money to pay; however, the CAIU continues to provide services to Steelton-Highspire.

H. Tax Collection Committee (TCC) – Mr. Wolf

The TCC met this morning. President Wolf reported the following:

- 1. Now-defunct Centax has hundreds of thousands of dollars in returns that "no one has looked at yet" and millions of dollars unaccounted for in approximately 32 banks. All of these issues occurred even though the entity was audited regularly. The affected entities are working through the long and involved legal process toward resolution.
- 2. On January 1, 2013, the Cumberland County Tax Bureau will be using RBA as its online software provider. Employers will need to file their fourth quarter 2012 return on the new RBA system because PaLite, the current online system, is not available after December 31, 2012.

XIV. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

H. Tax Collection Committee (Continued)

- **3.** The State's tax collection bureaus report to the Department of Community and Economic Development; however, DCED claims they have no supervisory powers over tax collection committees. Apparently no one in state government has oversight over all tax collection committees or companies across the state. The individuals who are doing the work, managers of tax groups, are unable to get answers from DCED. There is a movement in the legislature, especially in Northeast Pennsylvania, to consolidate the collection of EIT and local services tax at the state level. The legislation has garnered little support.
- **4.** Cumberland County Tax Bureau and staff are functioning at a high level of efficiency. Payments have been consistently distributed at the same time at the end of each month, consistent with reports to DCED.

XV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. <u>National Honor Society</u>

Superintendent Fry invited Board members to the National Honor Society's induction of 70 new members April 29, 2013. RSVPs are due April 5, 2013.

B. Makeup Days

Inclement weather makeup days have consumed most of spring break; however, school will not be in session on Good Friday, March 29, 2013.

C. <u>PSBA Legislative Meeting</u>

Mr. Fry encouraged Board members who are attending the upcoming PSBA legislative meeting to coordinate travel plans with Mr. Fry after this evening's meeting.

D. Cumberland Valley Rails to Trails

After a brief explanation of proposed local additions to the Rails to Trails project, several Board members requested that Mr. Fry to invite Rails to Trails representatives to a future Committee of the Whole of the Board meeting to explain the proposed plans. Additions would include extending the trail east to Mount Rock Road and installing an underpass below Centerville Road. The trail would provide access for emergency vehicles and would extend from the high school to Shippensburg.

XV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (Continued)

E. House Education Committee

Superintendent Fry indicated that last Tuesday he testified before the House Education Committee on mandate waivers, House Bill 240. Mr. Fry noted that he focused his testimony on State special education mandates that go beyond the federal requirements. State representatives have indicated they mandate what the federal government requires; however, that does not appear to be the case for special education. There are more than 40 state-required mandates in special education that go beyond the federal requirements.

In addition, Mr. Fry testified regarding the prevailing wage mandate. The District could have saved approximately 29 percent on various projects in the last ten years if it were not for the prevailing wage requirement. Mr. Fry indicated that he supports a waiver process for the prevailing wage if quality workmanship can be ensured.

XVI. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

A. <u>Happy Easter!</u>

Director Barrick wished everyone a happy Easter.

B. LERTA Appellant's Brief

Director McCrea indicated that the Appellant's brief and reproduced record in the LERTA suit was due today and was filed with the Commonwealth Court. Attorneys for the Defendants, District and Township, have 30 days to file their brief, after which the Commonwealth Court would schedule for oral argument sometime in the early summer of 2013.

C. Quiz Bowl and Mini-Thon

In response to a question from President Wolf, Mr. Fry indicated that the Elementary School Quiz Bowl is slated for Saturday, March 23, 2013, at the middle school.

The Mini-Thon is scheduled for Friday evening, with the silent auction extending through the weekend.

XVII. PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment regarding future Board agenda items.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Blasco, seconded by Norris to adjourn. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, McCrea, Norris, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Robert Lee Barrick, Secretary NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING: Monday, April 8, 2013