

BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newville, Pennsylvania

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2012

The Big Spring School District is an equal opportunity education institution and will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, and disability in its activities, programs, or employment practices as required by Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504. For information regarding civil rights or grievance procedures, or for information regarding services, activities, and facilities that are accessible to and usable by handicapped persons, contact the Superintendent of Schools, Title IX and Section 504 Coordinator, 45 Mount Rock Road, Newville, PA 17241, at (717) 776-2412.

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 8:00 P.M. with President Wilbur Wolf, Jr., presiding. Nine (9) directors present: Wilbur Wolf, Jr., President; William Swanson, Vice President; Robert Lee Barrick, Secretary; David Gutshall, Treasurer; Kingsley Blasco; John McCrea; Richard Norris; William Piper; and Richard Roush.

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; Rick Gilliam, Supervisor of Transportation and Buildings and Grounds; Wade Reichelderfer and Nick Hasse, Student Representatives to the Board of School Directors; Trish Grace, The Valley Times-Star; and Brenda Line, Board Minutes.

II. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

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

III. APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 3, 2012 BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES; THE DECEMBER 3, 2012 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES; AND THE DECEMBER 3, 2012 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Blasco, seconded by Norris for approval of the December 3, 2012 Buildings and Property Committee Meeting Minutes; the December 3, 2012 Committee of the Whole of the Board Meeting Minutes; and the December 3, 2012 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

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III. APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 3, 2012 BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES; THE DECEMBER 3, 2012 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES; AND THE DECEMBER 3, 2012 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES (Continued)

Director McCrea requested a correction to the December 3, 2012 regular Board meeting minutes, Item V., Election of Officers, B., Election of the Vice President. Mr. McCrea indicated that on the roll call vote on the motion by Piper and second by Barrick to elect Mr. William Swanson Vice President, Mr. McCrea was not given the opportunity to vote "no." Mr. McCrea indicated that he should be recorded as voting "no" on this motion.

Roll call vote on the motion by Blasco, seconded by Norris for approval of the December 3, 2012 Buildings and Property Committee Meeting Minutes; the December 3, 2012 Committee of the Whole of the Board Meeting Minutes; and the December 3, 2012 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as amended. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, McCrea, Norris, Piper, Roush, Gutshall, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. STUDENT/STAFF RECOGNITION AND BOARD REPORTS – Nickolas Hasse Wade Reichelderfer

The students offered the following report:

- A.** Earlier this month, several Bulldog student athletes were recognized in the *Patriot News* as being fall sports all-stars. Vinny Todaro was on the seven-member *Patriot News* all-star boys' cross country team. Emily Joyce was on the seven-member *Patriot News* all-star girls' cross country team. Lydia George and Jordan Yaukey both made the field hockey Big 11 team.
- B.** Eight Big Spring musicians have qualified for the District 7 Honors Band, representing the most students to have qualified for district band from Big Spring in any one year. These instrumentalists are Caelan Shirey, Michael Daniel, Jesse Valencia, Tommy Pastor, Adam Baldoni, Maria Baldoni, Gina Baldoni, and eighth-grader Isabelle Macioce.
- C.** Our students and staff, including the elementary schools, donated more than 700 pounds of food for 27 Bulldog families this Christmas. We also received donations from a local bread company and our very own FFA so that every family will receive two loaves of bread and fresh fruit. Last month, our students collected more than 50 pounds of candy and wrote more than 100 letters to soldiers currently serving overseas. A faculty dinner sponsored by the National Honor Society was offered to staff members on December 6, 2012.
- D.** Last week, Doug Stoup, a world-renowned North and South Pole expedition leader, mesmerized science classes with various experiences he has had through his extensive travels to the North and South Poles.

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IV. STUDENT/STAFF RECOGNITION AND BOARD REPORTS (Continued)

- E. The Tempus Club sponsored a free showing of *The Grinch* for the Newville community this past Saturday night in the auditorium. Children and parents who attended seemed to have an enjoyable evening.
- F. Saturday night, the Marching Bulldogs performed in the first annual Newville Christmas parade.
- G. Big Spring's *High Schools That Work* consultant, Mrs. Lois Barnes, worked with teachers and principals all day this past Thursday and Friday. On Thursday, Mrs. Barnes worked with groups of teachers who teach biology, chemistry, 19th century history, 20th century history, Algebra I, geometry, agriculture, and technology education, helping guide them with their initiatives, including common syllabi, common projects, policy rewriting, and raising expectations. On Friday, Mrs. Barnes worked with the leaders of the five focus teams to review their progress and make recommendations for continued growth. Mr. Smith and Mrs. Barnes found the two days of work extremely productive.
- H. Activities at the school this week include the following: The holiday choral concert, Tuesday, December 18, 2012, 7:00 P.M. in the auditorium; Student Council senior citizen luncheon on Wednesday, December 19, 2012, in the cafeteria at 12:30 P.M.; PSAT results night for students and parents on Thursday, December 20, 2012, at 6:30 P.M. in the auditorium.
- I. The swim team will host the annual Bulldog Bash Invitational on Thursday, December 27, 2012, in the natatorium. The girls' and boys' basketball teams will host the annual Big Spring Holiday Classic on December 28 and 29, 2012. Four girls' teams and four boys' teams will compete in the tournament with significant proceeds going to the Children's Miracle Network.
- J. Many of the FFA members will attend the mid-winter convention on January 7, 2013. At the convention, three seniors will receive the Keystone degree; seven freshmen will receive FFA jackets. The FFA is developing several projects for the convention: a landscape display with an edible gardens theme, a window display on fried versus grilled foods, and a career connections video about therapeutic riding.
- K. FFA teams performed quite well earlier this month at the career development contests. FFA knowledge contest, 2nd and 11th places; salesmanship, 4th place; job interview, 4th, 7th, 8th, and 11th places. The fruit sale was the most successful ever, with more than 700 cases sold.
- L. Big Spring juniors, sophomores, and freshmen are gearing up for the Keystone assessments for six days, January 9 to 16, 2013. Juniors will take the Algebra I, English literature, and biology keystones. Sophomores will take Algebra I and/or literature and biology keystones, depending on whether they completed these courses the first semester. Freshmen will take Algebra I if they have completed the course.

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IV. STUDENT/STAFF RECOGNITION AND BOARD REPORTS (Continued)

- M. Mr. Smith met with the sophomores and juniors and encouraged them to keep up the positive Big Spring academic trends with the Keystones and to be "One and Done" so they don't have to take the Keystones again in May. Students have been encouraged to practice Keystones questions on the USA Tests preparation site, which is similar to Study Island, and students have the potential to earn \$10 gift cards for doing so. Keystones review sessions are being provided for juniors currently not enrolled in an English and/or math course.

The students offered the following attachment to the minutes regarding the FFA from Big Spring FFA President, Laura Ryan: [12-17-2012 Board Mtg-Student Report Attachment.pdf](#).

Superintendent Fry congratulated Wade for his acceptance to Clarion University and congratulated Nick for his acceptance to Colgate University.

President Wolf congratulated the students and thanked them for the report.

V. TREASURER'S REPORT (November 30, 2012)

General Fund	\$ 20,360,242.25
Cafeteria Fund	\$ 251,480.22
Student Activity Fund	\$ 256,714.40
Capital Projects	\$ 4,318,732.01
Newville Project	\$ 0.00

The Treasurer's Report showed balances as outlined above as of November 30, 2012. Motion by Gutshall, seconded by Blasco for acceptance of the Treasurer's Report. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, McCrea, Norris, Piper, Roush, Gutshall, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

VI. PAYMENT OF BILLS

General Fund	\$ 83,547.88	Check #68222-68332, 12071201, BG121101-BG121102, HS111201-HS111210, JH111201-JH111203, LW111201-LW111202, MF111201-MF111204, MS111201-MS111243, RF111201, RG111201, SE111201-SE111205, SK111201, and SS111201
Student Activities Fund	\$ 826.40	Checks #13565-13609
Total	\$84,374.28	

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VI. PAYMENT OF BILLS (Continued)

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

VII. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE

There was no reading of correspondence.

VIII. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Linda Bowles, William Bowles, Charlene D'Amore, Liberty DeWalt, John Epley, Chris Failor, Crystal Failor, Scott Failor, Shelby Failor, and Jason Moyer.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

- A. Mr. William Bowles**, 202 Nealy Road, Newville, Pennsylvania, addressed the members of the Board of School Directors and offered a prayer of encouragement for the Board members and community.

President Wolf thanked Mr. Bowles for attending this evening's meeting and offering a prayer.

- B. Mr. Jason Moyer**, 1834 Pine Road, Newville, Pennsylvania, parent of an Oak Flat Elementary student, addressed the members of the Board of School Directors and indicated that he is glad he and his wife decided to move to Big Spring School District. Mr. Moyer noted that both he and his wife are teachers at Carlisle Area School District.

Mr. Moyer indicated that his concerns this evening are not related to academics or personnel; however, he does have security concerns. Mr. Moyer questioned whether plans were underway for changing the structure of some of the elementary school buildings to enhance security at the front entrances, including additional video surveillance cameras. In addition, Mr. Moyer questioned whether security guards or monitors were being considered.

President Wolf indicated that, given the recent circumstances related to school security, the Board and members of the administration have been reviewing areas in the District's schools that may need security enhancements. Mr. Wolf noted that public discussion on these issues is intentionally limited to maintain the integrity of proposed security measures.

Superintendent Fry added that he would continue to update the Board on security issues.

Mr. Moyer thanked Mr. Wolf and Mr. Fry for the information and for allowing him to speak this evening.

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X. STRUCTURED PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No structured public comment was offered.

XI. OLD BUSINESS

(DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM)

A. Review of Vice-President election process on December 3, 2012.

Motion by Blasco, seconded by Norris to rescind the election of William Swanson as Vice President of this Board because of a Point of Order raised about the parliamentary procedure used during the December 3, 2012 Board reorganization meeting. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, McCrea, Norris, Piper, Roush, Gutshall, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

(DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM)

B. Initiate procedure to elect a Vice President as part of the Board reorganization process.

Mr. Wolf opened the floor for nominations of Vice President of the Board.

Motion by Blasco to nominate John McCrea for Vice President.

Mr. McCrea accepted the nomination.

Motion by Barrick to nominate William Swanson for Vice President.

Mr. Swanson accepted the nomination.

Motion by Blasco, seconded by Norris to close the nominations. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, McCrea, Norris, Piper, Roush, Gutshall, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

In response to a question from President Wolf, Mr. McCrea indicated that he would like a secret ballot.

Secret ballot voting results:

- John McCrea: One (1) vote.
- William Swanson: Eight (8) votes.

President Wolf welcomed Mr. Swanson as the Vice President of the Board and thanked him for his willingness to serve.

**(NOTE: The Board addressed
XII., NEW BUSINESS, A., PERSONNEL CONCERNS, Items A-1 through A-6,
following Item A-6.)**

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XII. NEW BUSINESS

A. PERSONNEL CONCERNS

(ACTION ITEM)

1. **Ms. Shirley Truesdell** submitted her letter of resignation as head girls' volleyball coach, effective immediately.

A copy of Ms. Truesdell's letter was included with the agenda.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors accept Ms. Truesdell's resignation as head girls' volleyball coach, effective immediately.

(ACTION ITEM)

2. **Mrs. Kay Bear** submitted her letter of resignation as Mount Rock Elementary School Nurse, effective May 31, 2013.

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

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors accept Mrs. Bear's resignation as Mount Rock Elementary School Nurse, effective May 31, 2013.

3. **Varsity Head Softball Coach Appointment**

(ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Jay Hockenbroch, Athletic Director, recommended the individual listed as Varsity Head Softball Coach for the 2012-2013 school year.

Mr. Mike Gutshall

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve Mr. Mike Gutshall as Varsity Head Softball Coach for the 2012-2013 school year.

4. **Approval of Child-Rearing Leave for Jolene Regetta**

(ACTION ITEM)

Mrs. Jolene Regetta, fourth-grade teacher at Mt Rock Elementary School, requested leave of absence under the Family & Medical Leave Act from approximately February 22, 2013, through the end of the 2012-2013 school year. According to Section 3.08 of the contract between the Big Spring Education Association and the District, a professional employee may request up to one year of child-rearing leave upon the birth of a 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. Regetta's letter was included with the agenda.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve Mrs. Jolene Regetta's request for leave under the Family & Medical Leave Act and a child-rearing leave of absence from approximately February 22, 2013, through the end 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.

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XII. NEW BUSINESS

A. PERSONNEL CONCERNS

5. Approval of Child-Rearing Leave for Emily Thomas

(ACTION ITEM)

Ms. Emily Thomas, Middle School Emotional Support Teacher, requested leave of absence under the Family & Medical Leave Act from approximately February 13, 2013, through approximately April 2, 2013. According to Section 3.08 of the contract between the Big Spring Education Association and the District, a professional employee may request up to one year of child-rearing leave upon the birth of a 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 Ms. Thomas' letter was included with the agenda.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve Ms. Emily Thomas' request for leave under the Family & Medical Leave Act and a child-rearing leave of absence from approximately February 13, 2013, through approximately April 2, 2013, according to the terms of the current contract between the Big Spring Education Association and the Big Spring School District.

(ACTION ITEM)

6. Ms. Stephanie Cramer, Sixth Grade English Teacher at the Middle School, requested to extend her unpaid leave of absence as Sixth Grade English Teacher, Sixth Grade Team Leader and Induction I Coordinator. Originally to conclude on Friday, December 21, 2012, Ms. Cramer requested the unpaid leave to continue through the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year.

A copy of Ms. Cramer's letter requesting to extend her unpaid leave of absence was included with the agenda. The administration has defined terms to describe the specific leave requested. Such leave will require Board and Big Spring Education Association concurrence on the criteria set for leave.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve Ms. Cramer's request for an extended unpaid leave of absence as Sixth Grade English Teacher, Sixth Grade Team Leader, and Induction I Coordinator. Originally to conclude on Friday, December 21, 2012, Ms. Cramer requested the unpaid leave to continue through the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year.

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

Motion by Norris, seconded by Roush to combine and approve XII., NEW BUSINESS, A., PERSONNEL CONCERNS, Items A-1 through A-6, as outlined and recommended above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, McCrea, Norris, Piper, Roush, Gutshall, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

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XII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

B. Credit Pay

(ACTION ITEM)

The professional employees whose names are listed below have successfully completed graduate work and is entitled to the specified amount in accordance with the negotiated contract.

Stacey Shively	\$1,272.00
Brandie Shatto	\$1,236.00
Richard W. Fry	<u>\$1,000.00</u>
Total	\$3,508.00

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

C. Improvement of Deteriorated Property or Area Tax Exemption Act Resolution

This item was withdrawn by the Board during this evening's Committee of the Whole of the Board meeting.

D. Approval of Resolution to Keep 2013-2014 Tax Increase Within Index **(ACTION ITEM)**

With the passage of Act 1, School Board budgets above the index require voter approval or PDE approved exception. To exceed the index or exceptions requires the Board to pass a preliminary budget by mid-February for voter approval in the spring election. Districts may opt out of that early budget scenario if they adopt a resolution prior to January 31st stating they will keep any tax increase within the index (2.2% for BSSD in 2013-2014).

C. Approval of Resolution to Keep 2013-2014 Tax Increase Within Index **(ACTION ITEM)** (Continued)

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the resolution with the intent to keep any tax increase within the index (2.2% for BSSD in 2013-2014).

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

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XII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

E Updated Policies

(ACTION ITEM)

The administration submitted the updated policies listed and the copies were included with the agenda. The updated policies were an information item on the December 3, 2012 School Board Agenda.

- 301 Creating a Position
- 302 Employment of Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent
- 304 Employment of District Staff
- 305 Employment of Substitutes
- 306 Employment of Summer School Staff
- 307 Student Teachers/Interns
- 308 Employment Contract/Board Resolution
- 308.1 Supplemental Contracts
- 309 Assignment and Transfer
- 310 Abolishing a Position
- 311 Suspensions and Furloughs
- 312 Evaluation of the Superintendent
- 314 Physical Examination
- 314.1 HIV Infection
- 316 Non-Tenured Employees
- 317 Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures
- 318 Penalties for Tardiness
- 319 Outside Activities
- 320 Freedom of Speech in Non School Settings
- 321 Political Activities
- 322 Gifts
- 323 Tobacco Use
- 324 Personnel Files
- 325 Dress and Grooming
- 326 Complaint Process
- 327 Management Team
- 328 Compensation Plans/Salary Schedule
- 329 Substitute Compensation
- 330 Overtime
- 331 Job Related Expenses
- 332 Working Periods
- 333 Professional Development
- 334 Sick Leave
- 335 Family and Medical Leave
- 336 Personal Necessity Leave
- 337 Vacation
- 338 Sabbatical Leave
- 338.1 Compensated Professional Leave
- 339 Uncompensated Leave
- 340 Responsibility for Student Welfare
- 341 Benefits for Part-Time Employees
- 342 Jury Duty
- 343 Paid Holidays
- 346 Workers' Compensation
- 348 Unlawful Harassment
- 351 Drug and Substance Abuse

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XII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

E Updated Policies (Continued)

(ACTION ITEM)

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

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

(ACTION ITEM)

F. Approval of Window Replacement Project for the Middle School and District Office

On October 1st, the Board approved Wolf Consulting Engineers, LLC, for the design, document preparation, bidding process, and construction administration of the Big Spring Middle School and District Administration Office - Window Replacement Project at a cost not to exceed \$46,000. Since that time, WCE has met with the Buildings and Properties Committee every month to finalize the project. WCE is working with our Solicitor to finalize the bid specifications. The estimated cost is \$1.5 Million for the middle school windows and \$350,000 for DAO as an optional add alternate to the bid. The advertisement for the documents was included in the packet for review.

The administration recommended the Board of School Directors approve for release the bid documents and specifications for the *Big Spring Middle School and District Administration Office - Window Replacement Project* not later than January 3, 2013; such release is subject to approval of the District's Solicitor.

Motion by Barrick, seconded by Norris to approve the recommendation as outlined above.

In response to a question from Director Norris, Mr. Wolf indicated that the asbestos removal is a separate item and would not be included in this motion.

Mr. Kerr indicated that the District Solicitor approved the documents, and they should be ready to go by January 3, 2013.

In response to a question from Director McCrea, President Wolf indicated that the bid documents would contain the standard provision that the Board could reserve the right to reject any and all bids. Mr. Wolf clarified that if the Board rejects all bids at the first meeting in February 2013, the project would be delayed until next year.

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

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XII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

G. Target Grant

(ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Kevin Roberts, Director of Curriculum/Instruction and Educational Technology requested permission to include the recently awarded Target Grant for Big Spring School District in the amount of \$700.00 into the 2012-2013 general fund budget and to establish the necessary account.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors authorize the inclusion of the Target grant into the 2012-2013 budget and directs the administration to establish an account for the grant listed in the amount of \$700.00

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

H. 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 revenues are tracking with last year. There is no significant delay in collections with the Cumberland County Tax Bureau.

XIII. FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEM

There were no future Board agenda items.

XIV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Mrs. Temple reported the following District Improvement Committee updates:

- At a recent meeting, committee members were provided with an overview of the components of the District's comprehensive plan for the next three to five years.
- Committee members helped to create student focus group questions to be presented in the spring.
- The next meeting will focus on the questions and the process for getting information from all educational levels.

B. Athletic Committee – Mr. Swanson

No meeting was conducted, and no report was offered.

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XIV. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

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

President Wolf indicated that a female vo-tech welding graduate would be employed as a welder for the space program in California. Mr. Wolf noted that the school does a good job preparing students for success.

D. Buildings and Property Committee – Mr. Barrick

Motion by Barrick, seconded by Norris to approve this item as an action item and direct the administration to conduct further testing and engage an asbestos consultant on the District administration office windows in order to develop an asbestos-abatement plan and solicit proposals, if necessary, at a cost not to exceed \$3,000 paid from Capital Projects Fund. The Board must have proposals not later than January 31, 2013, to coincide with the Window project bids. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, McCrea, Norris, Piper, Roush, Gutshall, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Finance Committee – Mr. Blasco

No meeting was conducted, and 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 indicated that the bids for the CAIU HVAC project came in between \$300,000 and \$400,000 less than the engineer's estimate. Mr. Wolf added that the CAIU is moving forward with the HVAC project and other projects and consolidating the loans for the projects and refinancing existing loans at an interest rate of 2.4 percent. The refinancing maintains the same monthly payment.

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

No meeting was conducted, and no report was offered.

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XV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Safety Update

Mr. Fry indicated that, in the wake of the tragedy in Connecticut on Friday, December 14, 2012, members of the administration were busy over the weekend reassuring families and the community that students would be safe in Big Spring's schools. A Global Connect message was sent at 5:00 P.M. Sunday, December 16, 2012.

Mr. Fry noted that attendance was good today and averaged within a percent or two of last Monday's attendance. The day began with faculty meetings at all five buildings. Secondary staff members began the day 15 minutes early to review protocol with regard to various building initiatives related to safety. This was also an opportunity for staff members to raise concerns they have. Emergency preparedness was reviewed with staff members.

Counselors were available in all buildings to deal with anxiety. Mr. Fry indicated that it was a good day, given the circumstances.

Mr. Fry noted that the staff members in Connecticut were well prepared for such an emergency based on the protective actions teachers took to save the lives of hundreds of students.

Mr. Fry indicated that three fire drills at Big Spring's elementary and middle schools this week were postponed until January. After each monthly fire drill, schools are placed in lockdown. Everyone involved is well aware of these procedures.

Mr. Fry reported that security measures at the high school were on the capital projects list and have all been installed and placed online this week. Administrators have access to all video cameras. Images from all cameras in the high school display in the Newville Borough police station as well as in the police cruisers. Security enhancements are slated for the middle school as well.

Plans are underway to expand the one-camera systems at the elementary schools to three or four cameras to serve the perimeter and the interior of the schools. This project was part of the pricing addressed with the Board three months ago, and the project should be completed by late winter or early spring.

Other capital projects on the list to be completed are a new entryway configuration some door adjustments at Newville Elementary School, involving a small addition. This was an omission in the plans from the architect during the recent Newville Elementary School project. In addition, the Oak Flat Elementary School entranceway must be redrawn so that visitors must proceed through the office immediately upon entering. At this time visitors are instructed to go to the office; however, once they are in the door, they could go anywhere in the school.

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XV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (Continued)

A. Safety Update (Continued)

Risk assessments of the District by the Pennsylvania State Police have been completed twice in the last five years, and the District is on the list to have the risk assessment completed again.

Mr. Fry added that even in light of the recent tragedy, it was a "regular day at school today." Mr. Fry noted that he visited all five buildings and observed students focused on learning and teachers focused on teaching.

B. Board Conference

Mr. Fry indicated that there would be one Board meeting next month on January 21, 2013, with a Board conference at 5:30 P.M.

In response to a question from Director McCrea, Mr. Fry indicated that a Board conference is the time when the Superintendent reviews goals for the District and outlines the precursor to the strategic plan.

XVI. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Director Barrick wished everyone a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

XVII. PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

In response to a question from a member of the audience, President Wolf indicated that XII., NEW BUSINESS, Item C., was withdrawn from the agenda during this evening's Committee of the Whole of the Board meeting. Newville Borough has not requested this resolution, and it is not something the Board is required to do.

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Blasco, seconded by Norris to adjourn. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, McCrea, Norris, Piper, Roush, Gutshall, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 P.M.

Robert Lee Barrick, Secretary

NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING: Monday, January 21, 2013