

BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT
Newville, Pennsylvania
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 2021

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1. 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 pm with eight (8) Board of School Directors present; William Swanson, Board President; Todd Deihl, Vice President; William Piper, Secretary; Dave Gutshall, Robert Over, Frank Myers, John Wardle, and Richard Roush

Absent: Alexis Hurley

Others in attendance: Kevin C. Roberts, Jr., Superintendent; William August, Assistant Superintendent; Nicole Donato, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; Michael Statler, Business Manager; Rob Krepps, Director of Technology; Darrin Baughman, Technology, and Donna Minnich, Board Minutes

2. Presentation:

2.a. Mr. Nolan Marx - ProtectEd - WellAir Portable Air Disinfection

Mr. Marx presented information on the WellAir portable air disinfection device produced by ProtectEd which eliminates microorganisms of any size and inactivates viruses and pathogens at the DNA level.

Mr. Piper asked if the coils that destroy the contaminants need to be replaced and Mr. Marx responded they do not.

Mr. Wardle asked how the device controls particles such as flu or COVID and Mr. Marx responded that the unit is very effective with those pathogens.

Mr. Over asked which specific brands had been considered and Dr. Roberts explained that dry hydrogen systems have recurring costs. He stated that because the purchase would be made from grant funds it would be better to incur the costs upfront rather than have ongoing costs such as bipolar ozonation systems or the Reme Halo unit which would require UV light replacement costs down the road.

2.b. Dr. Kevin Roberts and Mr. William August - COVID-19 Updates/Health and Safety Plan/ESSER III

Dr. Roberts and Mr. August provided a COVID-19 Update:

CDC's Current Guidance for Schools

Layered Prevention Strategies

Health and Safety Planning

Plan Summaries

COVID-19 The Delta Variant

CDC's Levels of Transmission – PA

CDC's Levels of Community Transmission

Incidence Rate

Percent Positivity

Metric Comparisons – Longitudinal

Layered Prevention Strategies

Evaluation of Face Masks Protocols

Modification to Health and safety Plan

ThoughtExchange

Timeline to Cement Decision

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act: Instructional

American Rescue Plan (ARP Act: Support and Non-Instructional

Mr. Swanson asked how often they are receiving updates and Dr. Roberts confirmed that he reviews COVID numbers every day.

Mr. Wardle asked who else is involved in looking at the data and Dr. Roberts shared that Mr. August and the school nurses in conjunction with the Department of Health, the CDC and local health professionals in addition to discussions with neighboring communities.

Mr. August stated the ESSER III Grant items for tonight would be a refresher of the items presented in May and June during annual budget preparations. These expenditures were linked in the budget book which has been posted on the district website since June.

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3. Preview of the Agenda

President Swanson requested that the Board address 12. NEW BUSINESS PERSONNEL CONCERNS and combine Items a through k into one motion.

4. Other Items

5. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Deihl was seconded by Mr. Wardle

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

Motion carried unanimously 8 - 0

Meeting was adjourned at 7:51 pm

William L. Piper