

BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newville, Pennsylvania

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2010

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 Mt. 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 8:02 P.M. with President Wilbur Wolf, Jr., presiding. Five (5) directors present: Wilbur Wolf, Jr., President; William Swanson, Vice President; Kingsley Blasco; Richard Norris; and William Piper.

Robert Lee Barrick, Secretary, joined the meeting in progress at 8:15 P.M.

Terry Lopp, Treasurer; Tarin Houpt; and Richard Roush were absent.

Others in attendance: Richard Fry, Superintendent; Jeanne Temple, Assistant Superintendent; Kevin Roberts, Director of Curriculum/Instruction and Educational Technology; Denny Clopper, The Valley Times-Star; Cora Agar, Student Representative to the Board of School Directors; and Brenda Line, Board Minutes.

II. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

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

III. PRAYER

Director Piper offered a prayer.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 15, 2010 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES AND THE MARCH 15, 2010 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES.

Motion by Blasco, seconded by Norris for approval of the March 15, 2010 Committee of the Whole of the Board Meeting Minutes and the March 15, 2010 Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, Norris, Piper, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

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V. STUDENT/STAFF RECOGNITION AND BOARD REPORTS

Student Representatives to the Board Report – Lauren Swartz/Cora Agar

- A. On March 15-16, 2010, Mrs. Henry, Mrs. Wadlinger, Mr. Tigyer, Mrs. Mains, and Mr. Smith attended a workshop in Pittsburgh to prepare for the newly required freshman course that Big Spring is adopting for the 2010-2011 school term. All freshmen would be required to take the course during the first or second quarters. Professional staff members who teach the course may be certified to teach in any field of study. This is one of the first steps in the ten-year plan adopted by the high school. The course focuses on supporting the transition of freshmen
- B. Next week the junior class will begin the PSSAs. During the week of April 12, 2010, students will take the math and reading sections; the week of the April 19, the writing section; the week of the April 26, the science section. Makeup tests would be administered May 3, 2010.
- C. The Anything Goes musical cast and crew offered a great show. Mr. Feeser and Mr. Tiffany worked hours with the cast, crew, and pit band in preparation for the successful performances.
- D. On March 10, 2010, a visiting artist addressed matisque paintings with students in the art department. Mrs. Mislitski organized the program using a grant from the Bulldog Foundation. Another visiting artist is slated to offer a presentation next week.
- E. On March 19 and 20, 2010, Emily Shumaker and Donnie Sauter competed in state championships for swimming and diving. Among 32 swimmers, Emily placed 15th in the 50 free and 18th in the 100 back. Among 24 divers, Donnie placed 24th. Both Emily and Donnie were named to the PIAA All-State Honorable Mention Team and the National Interscholastic Swim Coaches Association Top 16.
- F. March 23, 2010, was the FFA public speaking contest. Students from eight area high schools in Cumberland, Dauphin, and Perry Counties competed. Twelve Big Spring students competed. In the junior prepared category, Amanda Musselman placed first; Richard Beatty placed third; and Jessica Jumper placed ninth. In the senior prepared category, Caitlin Clarke placed second and Amber Morrow placed ninth. In the creed contest, Brielle Kutz placed sixth and Paul Davis placed tenth. In the extemporaneous and the four- to six-minute unprepared speech, Abby Finkenbinder placed fifth and Lauren Chronister placed twelfth. Conservation public speaking, a six- to eight-minute prepared speech, Shane Moomaw placed sixth and Josh Anderson placed ninth. Richard Beatty, Amanda Musselman, and Caitlin Clarke qualified to compete at the regional public speaking contest on April 9th.
- G. On March 30, 2010, several students in the theater program were invited to the annual high school theater festival at the Fulton Theater in Lancaster. Twelve school districts were invited to perform on stage with professional actors and directors observing and critiquing. Molly Elvin, Kayla Himes, Dara Stockdell, Emily Keen, Caitlin Corbosiero, Cody Hutchinson, Karl Holl, Chelsey Noyes, and Brooke Wilson performed at the Fulton Theater.
- H. Chaperoned by Mr. Chapman, Angela Cram, Tyler Durham, Doug Kennedy, Sara Weingarten, and Carmen Witmer competed in the Math Day Contest at Shippensburg University. Students took a test and competed in a quiz bowl-style math competition.
- I. Recently five vo-tech students competed in the regional USA Skills competition. Karinna Chronister earned a second-place finish in the baking competition. Masonry Student Brian Murray earned a third-place finish for building a brick wall. Kacy Blessing finished first in the job interviewing contest, and Tyler Russell will compete at the state level this month. Both Kacy and Tyler are in the dental assistant program.
- J. On March 29, 2010, the high school hosted the annual Special Olympics. Several schools competed at the all-day event. This Wednesday, The track and field Special Olympics will be held on Wednesday, April 7, 2010.

VI. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's Report is presented at the second Board meeting each month.

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VII. PAYMENT OF BILLS

General Fund Account Payment of Bills and Central Treasury Athletic and Student Activity/Miscellaneous Account Payment of Bills

Motion by Blasco, seconded by Norris for approval of General Fund Account checks #57328-57491 totaling \$986,919.88 and Central Treasury Athletic Account checks #13712-14425 and voided check #14448 totaling \$7,526.76 and Central Treasury Student Activity/Miscellaneous Account checks #11925-11963 totaling \$32,072.87. Grand total General Fund, Athletic, Cafeteria, Student Activity/Miscellaneous, and Capital Reserve Fund: \$1,026,519.51. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, Norris, Piper, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

VIII. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE

There was no reading of correspondence.

IX. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Travis Gilbert, Sarah Kar, Jason Kutulakis, April Messenger, and Matthew Sweigart.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mr. Travis Gilbert, 650 Roxbury Road, Newville, PA, addressed the members of the Board of School Directors and offered a demonstration of the sound system problems during the recent musical Anything Goes. Mr. Gilbert indicated that Mr. Feeser and the cast did a great job preparing for the performances; however, the sound system was "grossly unreliable," and the audience was unable to hear the performance well.

Mr. Gilbert noted that cell phones interfered with the sound system, the pancake mics on the floor were hindered by the tap-dance numbers, and the overhead mics did not function at all.

Mr. Gilbert requested that the Board investigate a replacement sound system for the auditorium, noting that the students put on huge shows that go to waste when audience members cannot hear the performance.

Mr. Gilbert added that the student actors competed for the Hershey Theatre's Apollo Awards, and the reviewers commented that it was difficult to hear the actors in Anything Goes.

On a different topic, Mr. Gilbert noted that he represents 1.8 million students across Pennsylvania in his role as a student member on the Pennsylvania State Board of Education. In recent months, Mr. Gilbert has been working with a State Senator to encourage school boards to include a student representative on their boards in an ex-officio capacity.

Mr. Gilbert noted that in this capacity, a student representative could serve as the voice of the students when issues arise, such as trouble with the auditorium's sound system.

Mr. Gilbert indicated that many districts do include a student representative on the Board in an ex-officio role, and he encouraged Big Spring to do so. Mr. Gilbert noted that a student representative could offer unique input from the perspective of the student body.

Mr. Fry indicated that he would meet with Mr. Feeser and Mr. Smith to define the sound system needs and determine a course of action that is fiscally constructive. Mr. Fry added that he would update the Board on the administration's conclusions.

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XI. STRUCTURED PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No structured public comment was offered.

XII. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

(NOTE: The Board addressed
XIII., NEW BUSINESS, A., PERSONNEL CONCERNS, Items A-1 through A-14,
following Item A-14.)

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. PERSONNEL CONCERNS

1. Additional Per Diem Substitute Guest Teacher

(ACTION ITEM)

In an attempt to provide a sufficient number of substitute teachers for the 2009-2010 school year, the Big Spring School District is working in cooperation with the Capital Area Intermediate Unit to sponsor the "Guest Teacher Program." The individual whose name appears below has participated in an orientation program sponsored by the Capital Area Intermediate Unit and has been issued an emergency certification by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Sharon Coy

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the addition of the above-named guest teachers to the 2009-2010 per diem substitute guest teacher list effective immediately.

(ACTION ITEM)

2. Stephanie Flowers Newville, PA 17241

Long-Term Substitute Learning Support Teacher
at the High School
(replacing Mrs. Michelle Bear, who is on child-rearing leave)

Education:

Shippensburg University – Management Information Systems (Bachelor's Degree)

Experience:

Big Spring School District – Substitute Teacher
Shippensburg Senior High School – Student Teacher
Scotland School for Veterans' Children – Teacher

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors appoint Ms. Flowers to serve as a long-term substitute Learning Support Teacher at the High School, retroactive to March 22, 2010, replacing Mrs. Bear, who is on child-rearing leave. Ms. Flowers' compensation for this position should be established at Bachelor's, Step 1 \$37,812.00, plus a \$400.00 special education stipend based on the current contract between the Big Spring Education Association and the Big Spring School District.

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XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

A. PERSONNEL CONCERNS (Continued)

(ACTION ITEM)

3. Megan Bullock

Shippensburg, PA 17257

Long-Term Substitute Learning Support Teacher
at the High School

(replacing Mrs. Heather Best who will be on child-rearing leave)

Education:

Bloomsburg University – Elementary Education/Special Education (Bachelor's Degree)

Experience:

Berwick High School – Student Teacher

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors appoint Ms. Megan Bullock to serve as a long-term substitute learning support teacher at the High School, beginning April 5, 2010, to June 3, 2010, replacing Mrs. Best, who will be on child-rearing leave. Ms. Bullock's compensation for this position should be established at Bachelor's, Step 1 \$37,812.00, plus \$400.00 special education stipend based on the current contract between the Big Spring Education Association and the Big Spring School District.

(ACTION ITEM)

4. Mrs. Dianne Bollinger, middle school family and consumer science teacher, submitted her letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement effective the end of the 09-10 school year, and the Board of School Directors accepted Mrs. Bollinger's resignation at the March 15, 2010 meeting of the Board of School Directors. Mrs. Bollinger's severance allowance has been calculated and submitted to the Board for approval at this time.

As per the following calculations, Mrs. Bollinger is entitled to a severance allowance in the amount of \$11,020.00, under option #2.

Option #1:

26 years of service X \$200.00 = \$5,200.00
(Maximum of \$12,500.00)

Option #2:

145 unused sick leave days X \$76.00 = \$11,020.00
(\$12,500.00 maximum)

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors accept Mrs. Bollinger's severance allowance of \$11,020.00 as presented.

(ACTION ITEM)

5. Mr. Wayne Jackson was recommended to serve as a custodial substitute grounds/logistics worker retroactive to March 24, 2010.

Information was included with the agenda.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors appoint Mr. Jackson to serve as a custodial substitute grounds/logistics worker retroactive to March 24, 2010.

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XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

A. PERSONNEL CONCERNS (Continued)

6. Substitute Nurse's Aide

(ACTION ITEM)

The individual whose name is listed below was recommended to be placed on the substitute nurse's aide list.

Ms. Jessica Chestnut

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve Ms. Jessica Chestnut to be placed on the substitute nurse's aide list, pending all required paperwork.

7. Volunteer Coach

(ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Jay Hockenbroch, Athletic Director, recommended the individual listed as a volunteer softball coach for the 2009-2010 school year.

John Hergenroeder

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the recommendation of John Hergenroeder as a volunteer softball coach.

(ACTION ITEM)

8. Mrs. Karen Showaker, middle school teacher, requested one-half day of leave without pay, retroactive to March 19, 2010.

Section 3.09 of the contract between the Big Spring Education Association and the Big Spring School District provides that "The Board may grant leave without pay to an employee who requests prior approval for such leave."

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve Mrs. Showaker's request for one-half day of leave without pay as presented.

(ACTION ITEM)

9. Mrs. Marie Nye, Title I reading teacher, requested three days of leave without pay, retroactive to March 15, 19, & April 5, 2010.

Section 3.09 of the contract between the Big Spring Education Association and the Big Spring School District provides that "The Board may grant leave without pay to an employee who requests prior approval for such leave."

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve Mrs. Nye's request for three days of leave without pay as presented.

(ACTION ITEM)

10. Ms. Erin Heaps has submitted her letter of resignation as assistant field hockey coach, effective immediately.

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

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors accept Ms. Heaps' resignation as presented.

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XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

A. PERSONNEL CONCERNS (Continued)

(ACTION ITEM)

11. **Mrs. Nancy Werner**, high school family and consumer science teacher, submitted her letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement.

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

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors accept Mrs. Werner's resignation for the purpose of retirement as high school family and consumer science teacher, effective the end of the 2009-2010 school year.

(ACTION ITEM)

12. **Mrs. Anita Smith**, high school learning support teacher, submitted her letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement.

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

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors accept Mrs. Smith's resignation for the purpose of retirement as high school learning support teacher, effective the end of the 2009-2010 school year.

(ACTION ITEM)

13. **Mr. Gregory Schreiber**, varsity boys' basketball coach, submitted his letter of resignation as varsity boys' basketball coach, effective immediately.

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

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors accept Mr. Schreiber's letter of resignation as presented.

(ACTION ITEM)

14. **Mrs. Joyce Hemminger**, Newville Elementary School secretary, submitted her letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective June 11, 2010.

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

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors accept Mrs. Hemminger's letter of resignation as presented.

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

Motion by Norris, seconded by Blasco to combine and approve XIII., NEW BUSINESS, A., PERSONNEL CONCERNS, Items A-1 through A-14, as outlined and recommended above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, Norris, Piper, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

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XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

B. Credit Pay

(ACTION ITEM)

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

Stephanie Devonald	\$1,170.00
Matthew Engleman	<u>\$ 939.99</u>
Total	\$2,109.99

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, Norris, Piper, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Barrick joined the meeting in progress.

C. Mini-Grant Proposal Request

(ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Kevin Roberts, Director of Curriculum/Instruction and Educational Technology, requested permission to a mini-grant proposal to initiate positive change to promote health and wellness at the high school. As part of the goal, this committee has requested permission to submit an application for a mini-grant from the Carlisle Area Health and Wellness Foundation.

Information was included with the agenda.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors authorize the administration to pursue the request for grant opportunities as noted above.

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

(NOTE: The Board addressed XIII., NEW BUSINESS, Items D, E, F, and G, following Item G.)

D. GO Teach Mini-Grant Request

(ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Kevin Roberts, Director of Curriculum/Instruction and Educational Technology, requested permission to pursue a mini-grant opportunity in the amount of \$300.00 from an organization titled GO Teach. The mini-grant is designed to help facilitate the growth of an outdoor recreation program.

Information was included with the agenda.

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XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

E. Ag Grant Request

(ACTION ITEM)

Mrs. Jeanne Temple, Assistant Superintendent, requested permission to pursue an Ag Grant that the agriculture teachers submitted and has been approved in the amount of \$4,000.00 funded by the National FFA Organization.

Information was included with the agenda.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors authorize the administration to pursue the request for grant opportunities as noted above.

F. 2009-2010 Dual-Enrollment Grant

(ACTION ITEM)

Mrs. Jeanne Temple, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, received notification from the Pennsylvania Department of Education indicating that the 2009-2010 Dual-Enrollment grant has been approved in the amount of \$1,340.

Information was included with the agenda.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors authorize the administration to establish all of the required accounts to expend funds on behalf of the 2009-2010 Dual-Enrollment grant.

G. 2009-2010 PA-PACT Grant

(ACTION ITEM)

Mrs. Jeanne Temple, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, received notification from the Pennsylvania Department of Education indicating that the 2009-2010 PA-PACT has been approved.

Information was included with the agenda.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors authorize the administration to accept the 2009-2010 PA-PACT Grant.

VOTE ON XIII., NEW BUSINESS, ITEMS D, E, F, AND G

Motion by Norris, seconded by Blasco to combine and approve the recommendation as outlined above in Items D, E, F, and G. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, Norris, Piper, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

H. Proposed Updated Job Description for Department Chairperson

(ACTION ITEM)

Mrs. Jeanne Temple, Assistant Superintendent, has made revisions to the job description for the Department Chairperson.

A copy of the job description was included with the agenda.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the updated job description for the Department Chairperson, as presented.

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XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

H. Proposed Updated Job Description for Department Chairperson

(ACTION ITEM)

(Continued)

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

In response to a question from Director Barrick, Mr. Fry indicated that this job description would be effective immediately. Current department chairpersons would be given the opportunity to reapply for the department chairperson position, and any changes in department chairpersons would begin July 1, 2010, when half of the positions will be open.

In response to a discussion during this evening's Committee of the Whole of the Board meeting, Mr. Fry indicated that he would ensure that the grammatical change "shall" would be made to Section 2.02.4(c)

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

I. Transportation Contract Rates with Richard Deitch for 2009-2010

(ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Richard S. Deitch, Transportation Contractor for the Big Spring School District, provided mileage information for the school buses at the start of the 2009-2010 school year. Mr. Rick Gilliam, Director of Student Transportation has calculated the daily rates for transportation and the activity buses based on the mileage data.

A copy of the detailed transportation rate calculations was included in the agenda.

	2008-2009 Rate	2009-2010 Rate	Difference	Increase/ Decrease
Vo-Tech	\$819.31	\$814.69	(\$4.62)	N/A
Activity	\$172.69	\$162.87	(\$9.82)	N/A
Regular	\$10,029.14	\$9,978.52	(\$50.62)	N/A
Total Daily Rates	\$11,021.14	\$10,956.08	(\$65.06)	N/A
PDE Cost Factor	4.94	4.945	N/A	0.1%

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the transportation rate calculations to reflect the 2009-2010 rates as presented.

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XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

I. Transportation Contract Rates with Richard Deitch for 2009-2010 (ACTION ITEM) (Continued)

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

President Wolf noted that it is not often that a contract cost decreases, and he added that he appreciates the efforts of Mr. Deitch's company.

In response to a question from Director Barrick, Mr. Fry indicated that there is an escalator clause in the contract that addresses gas prices.

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

J. Mr. Rick Gilliam, Food Service Director, submitted the Big Spring School District Wellness Policy for approval. The policy is mandated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education to be approved by the Board of School Directors annually. (ACTION ITEM)

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

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

K. Permission for Panama and Costa Rica Trip (INFORMATION ITEM)

Mrs. Jeannette Jorcih, Mrs. Zina Jensen, Mrs. Carol Madden, Mr. Les Stover, Mrs. SaraBeth Wanbaugh, and Mrs. Sherisa Nailor requested permission for high school students and other qualified participants for a proposed trip to Panama and Costa Rica in the summer of 2011.

Additional information regarding the proposed trip was included with the agenda.

Mr. Fry indicated that this is the first step in the planning process. An informal poll of student interest has been conducted. Mr. Fry added that this would be more cost effective than a trip to Europe. A similar trip was offered to Costa Rica in 2009, and this proposal adds Panama to the prior itinerary.

L. ESL Program Summaries (INFORMATION ITEM)

Mrs. Jeanne Temple, Assistant Superintendent, submitted the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 ESL end of the year program summaries.

This is an information item.

Mr. Fry noted that typically school districts experience an increase in ESL demand; however, Big Spring recently experienced a decrease in ESL demand.

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XIV. FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future Board agenda items.

XV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. District Improvement Committee – Mrs. Lopp

No meeting was conducted, and no report was offered.

The District Improvement Committee is slated to meet on April 13, 2010.

B. Athletic Committee – Mr. Swanson

No meeting was conducted, and no report was offered.

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

No meeting was conducted, and no report was offered.

D. Buildings and Property Committee – Mr. Barrick

No meeting was conducted, and no report was offered.

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 reported that there is a movement toward finding corporate sponsors for the CAIU Strawberry Square facility. Central Dauphin pulled out of the program, and nine years remain on the lease of that facility. Members of the CAIU will share the lease responsibility if the CAIU is unable to make the lease payments.

XVI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Building Advisory Team Meeting

Superintendent Fry indicated that a BAT meeting would be held on Wednesday, April 7, 2010, beginning at 6:00 P.M.

B. Budget Update

Mr. Fry indicated that the Finance Committee would meet in the next few weeks to address "more concrete health care numbers" and also review the way in which the recent federal health care bill affects Big Spring School District.

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XVI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (Continued)

C. Plainfield Elementary School Project Requirements

Mr. Fry provided the members of the Board of School Directors with copies of a probable cost opinion prepared by Fischbach Morgan & Associates, LLC, dated December 3, 2009. Please refer to the attached document.

Mr. Fry explained that the West Pennsboro Township Board of Supervisors have indicated that they would not waive the requirement but would defer at this time the requirements for Springview Road widening (\$10,968.75), Greason Road widening (13,760.00), concrete vertical curb construction (14,700.00), and concrete sidewalk construction (\$5,827.50). These items are required by the Township Code for new construction projects. West Pennsboro Township denied Big Spring School District's waiver requests related to these items; however, they agreed to defer these items with the requirement that the items be completed at any time at the Township's request.

Mr. Fry questioned whether the Board wanted to (1) include the above-referenced items in the Plainfield project; (2) request a trigger and/or an expiration date on the deferment; or (3) direct the District solicitor to oppose these requirements.

Mr. Fry asked the Board to consider the following:

- Plainfield Elementary School will more than likely never be a "walker school" because the area roads are not conducive to a walking student population.
- Members of the public would more than likely question why sidewalks are installed that would never be used.
- The cost of these items is guaranteed to increase over the years, so this could be the best time to construct the items if the Board chooses to proceed.

Director Blasco indicated that Finance Committee members argue about amounts of money that cost less than these four projects, and he added that "for us to acquiesce to the nonsense in West Pennsboro Township is foolish." Mr. Blasco suggested that the Board should not complete the four items. Mr. Blasco noted that he does not know how the Township can dictate these things to the taxpayers of the whole district "just because the planning commission says so."

President Wolf indicated that he believes the Board should complete the items in light of the fact that the Township has worked with the District in a positive way regarding building permits.

In response to a question from Director Piper, Mr. Fry indicated that based on the District's construction permit, the road is not wide enough in front of the property to comply with Township Code.

In response to a question from President Wolf, Mr. Fry indicated that a decision on this issue would be required in May.

Mr. Fry indicated that from his perspective, the District's enrollment is not increasing; therefore, the transportation needs are not going to increase in the area of the school. The usage of the area roads would remain the same.

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XVI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (Continued)

C. Plainfield Elementary School Project Requirements (Continued)

President Wolf polled the Board regarding the four items with the following results:

- Mr. Piper – Accept the deferment.
- Mr. Norris – Complete the required the items now.
- Mr. Barrick – Accept the deferment with a trigger or expiration date included. For example, if the District does not reach a specified enrollment number by a particular date, the work does not need to be completed.
- Mr. Blasco – Take no action or fight against the requirements.
- Mr. Swanson - Accept the deferment with a trigger or expiration date included.

In response to a question from Vice President Swanson regarding whether the Board could complete some items now and defer others, Mr. Fry indicated that the engineer had suggested that perhaps the District could widen the road and not construct the sidewalks.

Mr. Swanson agreed and noted that he sees no sense in constructing sidewalks. If a developer develops the neighboring property, Mr. Swanson noted that he is of the opinion that the developer should construct the sidewalks.

Mr. Fry noted that the requirements are clearly based on the township's zoning and not based on usage.

Mr. Barrick indicated that every year at PSBA meetings, the issue of the construction of sidewalks near public schools has been raised. Developers are asking school districts to construct the sidewalks and make road improvements to areas around schools when it is PSBA's stance that developers should be required to make these enhancements when they develop the areas around schools.

In response to a question from Mr. Swanson, Mr. Fry indicated that the District's building permits have not been waived for construction projects in recent years; however, they have been "negotiated down considerably." Mr. Fry indicated that he could provide that information to the Board.

Mr. Blasco questioned if the tradeoff for decreased building permit costs is a requirement to widen the roads and build sidewalks at Plainfield Elementary School. Mr. Blasco questioned what the Township does with building permit money.

In response to a question from Mr. Swanson, Mr. Fry indicated that the Township Zoning Code dictates that the District must widen the road by approximately 8 to 10 feet.

Mr. Piper added that the Township's Zoning Code with regard to roadways is based on State regulations regarding the building of highways.

President Wolf suggested that Mr. Fry express the Board's concerns to the Township and attempt to reach a compromise on this issue. Mr. Wolf asked Mr. Fry to request a cap on the time frame for the completion of the deferred items or some trigger that would require the enhancements.

Superintendent Fry indicated that he would contact Township officials on Wednesday, April 7, 2010, prior to the BAT meeting.

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XVI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (Continued)

D. Elementary School Quiz Bowl

Superintendent Fry congratulated the Plainfield Elementary School Quiz Team for winning the Quiz Bowl recently. Sixteen teams from four elementary schools competed in the event. More than 100 students in Grades 4 and 5 competed in this "wonderful event."

President Wolf commended the individuals responsible for organizing the event, especially Principal Krista Zeigler. Mr. Wolf noted that the event was orchestrated very well.

Mr. Fry thanked the four elementary school principals and staff, both current and retired, for helping with the event. In addition, high school and middle school Quiz Bowl student alumni helped make the event a success. Mr. Fry noted that the event "went off without a hitch," including lunch that was provided for competitors and their families.

E. High School Musical

Mr. Fry commended the high school musical Anything Goes cast and production staff for an "absolutely wonderful performance." Mr. Fry noted that he expects a phenomenal production next year as well, based on the number of returning actors.

Mr. Fry noted that the sound system did not function as anticipated, and he added that the administration would continue to try to make improvements.

XVII. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Anything Goes

Director Piper commended the cast of the musical Anything Goes for an outstanding job.

Mr. Piper apologized, as a Board member, for the sound system glitches. Mr. Piper agreed with Mr. Fry and Mr. Gilbert that improvements must be made to the system. Mr. Piper encouraged the administration to rent equipment or do what needs to be done to make the sound system functional.

XVIII. PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Jason Kutulakis addressed the members of the Board of School Directors and encouraged the Board to continue to open the school facilities after traditional school hours to use the taxpayers' buildings for activities not necessarily related to student activities, such as extended vocational education.

Mr. Fry indicated that while the buildings are used in such a manner, there is certainly room for improvement in this area.

In addition, Mr. Kutulakis encouraged Board members to move forward with the Plainfield Elementary School project, and he noted that Mr. Blasco's concerns are legitimate with regard to the West Pennsboro Township zoning requirements. Mr. Kutulakis offered his negotiations skills as an attorney in the discussions with West Pennsboro Township regarding the zoning requirements. Mr. Kutulakis indicated that he prefers not to see the District or Township taxpayer dollars being spent on legal fees.

XIX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Blasco, seconded by Norris to adjourn to Executive Session to address personnel concerns and not to return to Open Session. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, Norris, Piper, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 P.M.



Robert Lee Barrick, Secretary

NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING: Monday, April 19, 2010