

# **Big Spring School District**

## **Newville, Pennsylvania**

### **Board Meeting Minutes**

#### **September 6, 2022**



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#### **1. Opening Meeting: Call to Order/Pledge - President Bill Swanson**

The Board of School Directors for the Big Spring School District met in the Big Spring Middle School Auditorium at 8:00 pm with eight (8) Board of School Directors present: William Swanson, President; Todd Deihl, Vice President; William Piper, Secretary; Frank Myers, Treasurer; Kenneth Fisher, Robert Over, Richard Roush, and Donna Webster

Absent: John Wardle

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

**Pledge to the Flag** - President Swanson led all individuals present in the Pledge to the Flag.

#### **2. Student/Staff Recognition and Board Reports – Nothing Offered**

#### **3. Reading of Correspondence – Nothing Offered**

#### **4. Recognition of Visitors - 20 visitors signed-in for the meeting**

President Swanson announced the Board met in Executive Session prior to the Committee of the Whole Meeting tonight to discuss several personnel matters including the future timeline to fill the upcoming assistant superintendent vacancy, the superintendent's annual evaluation, and also discussed the legal matter of a new lawsuit Flynn/Reinford vs. Big Spring School District in Cumberland County Court.

## **5. Public Comment Period**

Pastor Bill Beck offered a prayer of encouragement for the Board members, administration, staff, students, and community.

Kerry Gross offered comments regarding the length of bus ride for 2 of her children being transported by Big Spring School District to St. Pat's and stated she received information this evening from Mr. Statler that times have improved but she is asking the Board to consider the other families struggling with this bussing issue. Dr. Roberts stated four bus drivers resigned late and 2 drivers are absent but our aim is to have the bus driver come back to the route hopefully within the next few weeks which should reduce the length of the time on the bus.

Ella Reinford offered comments about obscene literature and read several scriptures about children. Mr. Swanson stated Ella is not a Big Spring School District student.

Charlotte McDonald stated about 2 minutes of her comments were missing from the August 22 video and shared concerns about computer glitches and first amendment violations. She cited several case law situations involving first amendment rights, point of view violations, and the Sunshine Act.

Patricia Bankes stated she is a resident of the school district and offered comments on meeting videos, grant/government money, constitutional infractions, Sunshine Act violations, transparency with tax dollars, and asked if CRT is in the instructional coaching materials.

Elizabeth Flynn offered comments on what she is seeing and hearing at Board meetings, freedom of speech or press, the right of the people to peaceably assemble, and her hopes that we are all respecting one another's first amendment rights. Mr. Swanson stated Elizabeth Flynn is not a Big Spring School District student. Lawrence Flynn stated an objection to the Sunshine Act.

Arlene Reinford raised an objection to the Sunshine Act and offered comments on her story as a medical advocate, library books, and test scores.

## **6. Approval of Minutes**

### **6.a. Regular Board Meeting and Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes for August 22, 2022**

Motion by Mr. Deihl was seconded by Mr. Roush

Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Piper, Myers, Fisher, Over, Roush, and Webster

Motion Carried unanimously. 8-0

## 7. Financial Reports

### 7.a. Payment of Bills

#### General Fund

Procurement Card	\$	38,726.82
Checks/ACH/Wires	\$	562,346.18
Capital Projects Reserve Fund	\$	160,438.70
Cafeteria Fund	\$	119.00
Student Activities	\$	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>761,630.70</b>

Motion to approve the Payment of Bills as presented by Mr. Myers was seconded by Mr. Roush  
Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Piper, Myers, Fisher, Over, Roush, and Webster  
Motion Carried unanimously. 8-0

## 8. Old Business – Nothing offered

## 9. New Business – Nothing offered

## 10. Personnel Items - Actions Items

### 10.a. Athletic Staffing Updates

Mr. Scott Penner, Director of Athletics and Student Activities, has provided Athletic Staffing Updates:

- Morgan Beamer has provided a letter of resignation from the position of Assistant High School Track and Field Coach.
- Christina Collins is recommended to be a Volunteer Coach for the Girls' Soccer Program.
- Dillon Wakefield is recommended to be a Volunteer Coach for the Football Program.

The administration recommends the Board of School Directors approve the resignation and volunteers as presented.

### 10.b. Extra Duty Position for Mentor

Based on the provisions of the Teacher Induction Program, each teacher new to a school district or building is assigned a mentor teacher. As per the provisions of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Big Spring School District and the Big Spring Education Association, individual mentor teachers receive a stipend:

Inductee	Building/Subject	Curriculum Mentor
Jan Beck	Middle School	Rebecca Whigham

The administration recommends the Board of School Directors approve the 2022-2023 mentor teacher as presented.

**10.c. Recommended Approval of a Tax Coordinator and Admin. Assistant for Business Affairs**

The administration would like to recommend Barbara Kuhns as a full-time Tax Coordinator and Administrative Assistant for Business Affairs. Barbara will work 232 days at 7.75 hours per day at the D-10 salary rate on the Classified Compensation Plan for the 2022 - 2023 school year. This hire is subject to the Probationary Period as spelled out in the Classified Compensation Plan.

The administration recommends the Board of School Directors approve Barbara Kuhns as presented.

Motion by Mr. Deihl to combine items 10 (a) through 10 (c) New Business Personnel Action Items into one motion as outlined and recommended above was seconded by Mr. Roush

Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Piper, Myers, Fisher, Over, Roush, and Webster

Motion Carried unanimously. 8-0

**11. New Business - Actions Items**

**11.a. Credit Pay**

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

Stephanie Morris	\$1,890.00
Adam Oldham	\$1,890.00
Karen Ward	\$3,096.00
Amanda Webber	\$1,542.25

The administration recommends the Board of School Directors authorize reimbursement for graduate credits as outlined above and as provided in the current contract between the Big Spring Educational Association, the Act 93 Agreement, and the Big Spring School District.

Motion by Mr. Deihl was seconded by Mr. Roush

Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Piper, Myers, Fisher, Over, Roush, and Webster

Motion Carried unanimously. 8-0

**11.b. Recommended Approval of the Proposed 2022-2028 Strategic Plan**

Mr. William August, Assistant Superintendent, and the District Improvement Committee, have updated and prepared the proposed 2022-2028 Strategic Plan which was presented to the Board of School Directors at the August 22, 2022 meeting.

The administration recommends that the Board of School Directors approve the updated 2022-2028 Strategic Plan as presented.

Motion by Mr. Deihl was seconded by Mr. Roush

Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Piper, Myers, Fisher, Over, Roush, and Webster

Motion Carried unanimously. 8-0

### **11.c. FFA Conventions and Conferences 2022 - 2023**

The FFA would like to request permission to attend the conventions and leadership conferences listed below:

- National FFA Convention - October 25 - 29, 2022
- State FFA ACES Leadership Conference - February 11 - 12, 2022
- State FFA Legislative Leadership Conference - March 26 - 28, 2022
- FFA Spring Trip - April or May 2023
- State FFA Convention - June 13 - 15, 2023

The administration recommends the Board of School Directors approve the FFA travel for 2022-23 as presented.

Motion by Mr. Deihl was seconded by Mr. Roush

Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Piper, Myers, Fisher, Over, Roush, and Webster

Motion Carried unanimously. 8-0

### **11.d. Recommended Approval of Supplemental Installation Work for the Interactive TV Project**

Lobar encountered additional work to complete the Interactive TV Panel Project. This unforeseen work included removing whiteboards and placing blocking behind classroom walls. The total project, including the supplemental work, is still within the total project budget the board approved.

The administration recommends the Board of Directors approve the supplemental installation work for the interactive TV project to be completed by Lobar.

Motion by Mr. Deihl was seconded by Mr. Roush

Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Piper, Myers, Fisher, Over, Roush, and Webster

Motion Carried unanimously. 8-0

### **11.e. Recommended Approval of Capital Project Payments**

The following invoices are for payment within the Capital Project Fund:

- Interactive TV Panel Project - Clelan's Custom Welding, Inc. #5324 for \$800.00
- Wifi and Switch Project - CNI #1034617-IN for \$58,172.19

The administration recommends the Board of School Directors approve the invoices to be paid from the Capital Reserve Project Fund.

Mr. Roush asked if one extra wall bracket was required and Dr. Roberts and Mr. Krepps confirmed one mounting bracket was required for installation in a special education classroom.

Motion by Mr. Deihl was seconded by Mr. Roush

Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Piper, Myers, Fisher, Over, Roush, and Webster

Motion Carried unanimously. 8-0

#### **11.f. Agreement 2022 - 2023**

The **Hire Me and Ship SAILS Program Agreement** between Shippensburg University and Big Spring School District for 2022-2023 has been reviewed by Mr. William Gillet, Director of Student Services. The Hire Me program is a work skills program at Shippensburg University to assist 14-18 year old High School students with disabilities. The Ship SAILS program is for district students ages 18-21 who have met District requirements for graduation but continue to be eligible for special education services until the age of 21.

The administration recommends the Board of School Directors approve the agreement as presented.

Motion by Mr. Deihl was seconded by Mr. Roush

Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Piper, Myers, Fisher, Over, Roush, and Webster

Motion Carried unanimously. 8-0

#### **11.g. Athletic Fundraisers**

Mr. Scott Penner, Director of Athletics and Student Activities, is requesting permission for the following Athletic Fundraisers:

- Girls' Soccer Team to conduct a sandwich/sub fundraiser during the month of September.
- Cheerleaders to conduct a Shady Maple Farm Market baked goods fundraiser during the month of September.
- Girls' Basketball Team to conduct a golf tournament fundraiser on October 1, 2022 at Eagles Crossing Golf Club.
- Football Team to conduct a Rubber Ducky Regatta fundraiser on October 3, 2022 at Laughlin Mill Park
- Boys' Soccer Team in conjunction with the Leo Tempus Club to conduct a Chicken BBQ on October 15, 2022 at the Newville Car Wash/Zion Lutheran Church parking lot.

The administration recommends the Board of School Directors approve the fundraisers as presented.

Motion by Mr. Deihl was seconded by Mr. Roush

Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Piper, Myers, Fisher, Over, Roush, and Webster

Motion Carried unanimously. 8-0

#### **11.h. Recommended Approval for Volleyball Team Travel**

Mr. Scott Penner, Director of Athletics and Student Activities, received a request from the Girls' Varsity Volleyball Team for the team and coaches to attend the Parkland Invitational Volleyball Tournament at Parkland High School in Allentown on September 16 and 17, 2022.

The administration recommends the Board of School Directors approve the request for the team to participate in the tournament as presented.

Motion by Mr. Deihl was seconded by Mr. Roush

Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Piper, Myers, Fisher, Over, Roush, and Webster

Motion Carried unanimously. 8-0

#### **11.i. Recommended Approval of Utilization Request**

- Sue Martin on behalf of Wyldlife Youth Group is requesting utilization of the middle school gym on October 9, November 13, and December 11, 2022.

Because the request involves Sundays, Board action is necessary.

The administration recommends the Board of School Directors approve the utilization request as presented.

Motion by Mr. Deihl was seconded by Mr. Roush

Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Piper, Myers, Fisher, Over, Roush, and Webster

Motion Carried unanimously. 8-0

### **12. New Business - Information Item**

#### **12.a. Long-Term Substitute through ESS the District's Substitute Agency**

Mr. William August, Assistant Superintendent, recommends the following candidate to serve as a long-term substitute teacher:

- Andrea Kreamer to serve as long-term substitute 4th Grade Teacher at Newville Elementary until Kristin Wiley can start in the position.

#### **12.b. Proposed Adoption of Updated Curriculum**

Mrs. Nicole Donato, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, is recommending updated curriculum which is available in the Curriculum Center for review by the Board of School Directors. The administration will present the curriculum for Board approval at the September 19, 2022 Board meeting:

High School

Anatomy and Physiology (Updated)

### **12.c. Proposed Draft of the Big Spring School District Comprehensive Plan**

Mr. Bill August, Assistant Superintendent, would like to submit the Comprehensive Plan for Board review. The Plan is posted for the mandatory 28-day public review and will be presented at the October 3, 2022 Board meeting as an action item for approval.

### **13. Discussion Item – Nothing Offered**

### **14. Board Reports**

**14.a. District Improvement Committee - Mr. Fisher and Mrs. Webster** - Nothing offered

**14.b. Athletic Committee - Mr. Deihl, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Myers, and Mr. Wardle** – Mr. Deihl stated the next meeting will be October 6.

**14.c. Cumberland Perry Area Career and Technical Center - Mr. Piper and Mr. Wardle**

Mr. Piper shared updates from the August 29 meeting including 4 new teachers completed induction, 2 new social studies classrooms have been completed and are in use, 30 students are enrolled in the co-op program, 1,266 students were reported for third day enrollment, the new Business Administrator was welcomed, and the CTC received a \$70,000 grant for security and mental health. The next meeting will be September 26.

**14.d. Building and Property Committee - Mr. Over, Mr. Piper, Mr. Roush, and Mr. Wardle** - Nothing offered

**14.e. Finance Committee - Mr. Deihl, Mr. Over, Mr. Piper, and Mr. Myers** - Nothing offered

**14.f. South Central Trust - Mr. Deihl** - Nothing offered

**14.g. Capital Area Intermediate Unit - Mr. Swanson** – Mr. Swanson stated the meeting was last Thursday and the link to the meeting minutes is available below:

The **CAIU Board Meeting Agendas** are available every month to the public for review the Wednesday before every board meeting. The agendas can be found on the CAIU web page under the BOARD/BOARD AGENDAS (the public access is listed on the left hand side of the page) or ***click [HERE](#)***. Board meeting minutes, Board Highlight's and Executive Director's Reports are also readily available at the same link.

Mr. Swanson stated the land transferred to the historical society was transferred to East Pennsboro but they transferred it back to the historical society and now the CAIU has to transfer it again which has caused quite a few steps to be added to this process.

**14.h. Tax Collection Committee - Mr. Swanson** - Nothing offered

**14.i. Future Board Agenda Items** - Nothing offered



#### **14.j. Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Roberts stated Big Spring hosted four tournaments on Saturday, September 3, 2022. There were 22 teams on our campus and it was quite a busy place! All teams played very well. One highlight was our Volleyball team finishing second out of a 10 team tournament, only losing to Elizabethtown in the finals.

Dr. Roberts shared that we recently learned two of our educators will be recognized in November as the Shippensburg University Superintendent Study Council's Outstanding Teachers. Mrs. Chelsey Piper, fifth grade teacher at Newville Elementary, and Mrs. Laura Grove, Big Spring Middle School Art Teacher, will be honored on November 16<sup>th</sup>. They are truly outstanding teachers and are very well deserving of this recognition.

Dr. Roberts said we have three educators that will be recognized by the US Army War College for their Excellence in Education on September 22. Those deserving individuals include Miss Lauren Hetrick – HS Social Studies Teacher, Mrs. Kristen Boles – Elementary Counselor at Newville Elementary, and Mr. Michael Spears – Big Spring MS Mathematics Teacher. Like their two colleagues being recognized at Shippensburg University, these three individuals continue to make a positive impact on their students, school, and our District every day and are very deserving of this recognition. We're truly blessed to have great teachers and these five individuals represent all that is good in education!

Dr. Roberts stated last meeting, a comment was made about working together and he absolutely welcomes the opportunity to work with anyone with a genuine interest in making Big Spring the best school district that it can possibly be for our students. This offer to meet has been declined before but Dr. Roberts stated he welcomes the opportunity to meet and answer any questions and truly work together.

#### **15. Meeting Closing**

##### **15.a. Business from the Floor/Board Member Comment**

Mr. Swanson stated public comment period is not designed to solve problems. It is an opportunity for residents to address things on the agenda but it is not a question and answer session. Mr. Swanson encouraged anyone interested to contact Dr. Roberts to communicate their concerns.

##### **15.b. Comment Future Board Agenda Items – Nothing Offered**

##### **15.c. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn Deihl seconded Roush

Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Piper, Myers, Fisher, Over, Roush, and Webster

Motion Carried unanimously. 8-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm, **September 6, 2022**

Next scheduled meeting is **September 19, 2022**

  

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