

BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newville, Pennsylvania

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2020

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I. 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 in the at 7:00 p.m. with (9) directors present; William Swanson, President; Todd Deihl, Vice President; David Gutshall, Treasurer; William Piper, Secretary; Richard Roush, Frank Myers, Robert Over, John Wardle and Alexis Blasco-Hurley.

Others in attendance: Richard W. Fry, Superintendent; Kevin C. Roberts, Jr., Assistant Superintendent; Richard E. Kerr, Jr., Business Manager; Robert Krepps, Director of Technology; Robyn Euker, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; Darin Baughman, AV Multimedia Coordinator; Cathy Seras, Board Minutes.

II. Presentations:

- **Health and Safety Plan/Reopening Plan**
 - **Dr. Richard W. Fry, Superintendent of Schools**
 - **Dr. Kevin C. Roberts, Jr., Assistant Superintendent**
 - Dr. Fry welcomed all who were present remotely and began the meeting stating that he and Dr. Roberts will define the Reopening Plan for the Big Spring School District.
 - Dr. Fry talked about the six key principles listed:
 1. Specific Health and Safety Protocols that provide for the health and safety of all;
 2. Supportive Learning Environment focused on safety and the social and emotional needs for all;
 3. Choice for BSSD families;
 4. Learning from other countries that have gone through restarting face to face education;
 5. Razor like focus on local data;
 6. Communication
 - Dr. Fry shared that the local positivity rate in PA as of July 27, 2020 is 4.7%. He also noted that last week the positivity rate in PA stood at 4.4%.
 - Dr. Fry shared the number of cases surrounding Newville.

- Dr. Fry communicated that the administration will be asking the board to take action on the three key items below:
 1. Health and Safety Plan
 2. Alternate Calendar
 3. Resolution on Instructional Time
- Dr. Fry talked about overarching beliefs about reopening. He stated that student, staff, and community safety, will drive the administrations decisions.
- Dr. Fry continued with the specific factors that are being considered such as reducing capacity on buses with spacing; reducing capacity in classrooms with spacing and reduce structured movements throughout the building.
- Dr. Fry stated that the District's core plans were developed by a team consisting of administrators, teachers, nurses, a local physician, the school's solicitor, and other staff. Dr. Fry shared that several committee members were also parents.
- Dr. Fry stressed the importance of face coverings.
- Dr. Roberts talked about the Health and Safety Plan which is a PDE requirement for all districts in the Commonwealth.
- Dr. Roberts talked about the key strategies and procedures listed:
 1. Heightened cleaning and disinfecting efforts throughout school spaces;
 2. Utilization of specialized equipment;
 3. Increased ventilation to ensure additional fresh air exchanges.
- Dr. Roberts defined social distancing and other safety protocols.
- Dr. Fry shared and defined the school opening options which is a three Tier approach.
- Dr. Fry communicated that the administration is recommending the Tier 2-Blended Model.
- Dr. Fry shared the importance of making good decisions in and out of school.
- Dr. Fry touched on the ThoughtExchange Survey Results; Health Screening and Safety Protocols and Universal Face Coverings.
- Dr. Fry defined the additional safety protocols and talked about the decision tree for people with COVID-19 symptoms.
- Dr. Fry explained the Interim School Closure Decision Matrix.
- Dr. Fry continued with sharing face to face consideration for elementary, middle school and high school.
- Dr. Fry talked about the Big Spring Cyber Program and noted that families will have the option of Face-to-Face, Livestream or Cyber.
- Dr. Fry shared the 2020-2021 Alternate Calendar. Dr. Fry talked about the Action Step and talked about Back to School Gateway which will request information from families.
- Dr. Roberts stated that the Re-Opening Plan will go live tomorrow, July 28, 2020 and Dr. Fry also commented that there will be a video also posted for families.
- Mr. Wardle asked; how many people were listening to the meeting this evening. Dr. Roberts noted that there are approximately 107 on Zoom and YouTube Streaming is showing approximately 300.
- Dr. Roberts talked about the process for bus safety as well as sharing the interim school closing decision matrix.

- Mr. Wardle asked about the situation where a student is not required to wear a mask due to a medical condition. Dr. Fry stated that the student should have an IEP or a 504 Plan and it must be documented prior to the student entering the building.
- Mr. Piper and the administration discussed CAOLA and Cyber Charter Schools. There were discussions amongst the Board of School Directors and administration regarding the Amish and Mennonite community within the Newville area.
- Mr. Roush and the administration discussed the HVAC systems within the schools.
- It was noted that all information presented this evening will be posted on the District website, listed under a tab titled: **2020-2021 Key Information**.

III. Preview of the Agenda

President Swanson requested that the Board address XIII. NEW BUSINESS PERSONNEL CONCERNS and combine Items A through K into one motion.

IV. BUILDING & PROPERTY COMMITTEE

No discussion

V. FINANCE COMMITTEE

No discussion

VI. DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

No discussion

VII. BOARD POLICY

No discussion

VIII. ITEMS FROM FLOOR

No discussion

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Deihl, seconded by Wardle to adjourn the meeting.

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

Motion carried unanimously. 9-0

The Committee of the Whole meeting adjourned at **8:03 p.m.**

William L. Piper, Secretary