

# **BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Newville, Pennsylvania**

## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2011**

*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 Auditorium 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; Terry Lopp, Treasurer; Kingsley Blasco; David Gutshall; 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; Chris Boyd, High School Assistant Principal; Denny Clopper, The Valley Times-Star; Douglas Kennedy, Student Representative to the Board of School Directors; and Brenda Line, Board Minutes.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The Board met in Executive Session from 7:32 to 7:56 P.M. to address personnel concerns.

### **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 JANUARY 17, 2011 BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES; THE JANUARY 17, 2011 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES; AND THE JANUARY 17, 2011 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Motion by Norris, seconded by Lopp for approval of the January 17, 2011 Buildings and Property Committee Meeting Minutes; the January 17, 2011 Committee of the Whole of the Board Meeting Minutes; and the January 17, 2011 Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, Gutshall, Norris, Piper, Roush, Lopp, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

**V. STUDENT/STAFF RECOGNITION AND BOARD REPORTS**

**A. Recognition of Vocational-Technical School Students of the Quarter**

Mr. Chris Boyd, high school assistant principal, recognized those Vocational-Technical School students who earned "Student of the Quarter" awards for the second quarter of the 2010-2011 school year.

Grade 10	Hank Donovan	Carpentry
Grade 10	*Dalton Harry	Electrical Construction & Maintenance
Grade 11	Zack Conners	Automotive Technology
Grade 11	*Ashlee Kitner	World Studies
Grade 11	*John Marsh	Diesel Technology
Grade 11	Joshua Stewart	World Studies
Grade 11	*Arielle Thiombiano	World Studies
Grade 11	Nopoko Thiombiano	World Studies
Grade 11	Philip Warehime	World Studies
Grade 12	Zachary DiMemmo	Criminal Justice
Grade 12	*Tyler Russell	Dental Assisting
Grade 12	*Erik Schall	Computer Information Systems

\*Indicates those students who attended this evening's meeting.

Mr. Boyd congratulated the students and presented them with certificates of achievement.

President Wolf and Vice President Swanson congratulated the students and presented them with Big Spring School District Excellence in Education award pens.

**B. Recognition of Academic Achievement Awards for the Second Quarter**

Mr. Chris Boyd also recognized those students who have earned the academic achievement award for the second quarter for the 2010-2011 school year.

Grade 9	Kayla Dupert	99.4
Grade 10	*Ryan Foltz	98.9
Grade 11	*Kayla Himes	98.8
Grade 12	*Kelsey Mengle	98.7

\*Indicates those students who attended this evening's meeting.

Mr. Boyd congratulated the students and presented them with certificates of achievement.

President Wolf and Vice President Swanson congratulated the students and presented them with Big Spring School District Excellence in Education award pens.

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### V. STUDENT/STAFF RECOGNITION AND BOARD REPORTS (Continued)

#### C. Student Representatives to the Board Report - Doug Kennedy

Mr. Kennedy offered the following report:

1. Five of the fourteen students who entered the Scholastic Writing competition earned recognition as follows: Megan Carr, Gold Key for science fiction/fantasy; Sydney Drawbaugh, Gold Key for personal essay/memoir; Ben Keiter, honorable mention for short story; Dru Kepner, honorable mention for poetry; and Jamey Boudier, honorable mention for poetry.
2. On January 20, 2011, for the second year of the 3M Music Honors Society, 11 vocal and instrumental students were inducted, including sophomores, juniors, and seniors.
3. The first group of National Art Society inductees were honored during a ceremony and dinner for the inductees and their parents on January 24, 2011. NAS members inducted are as follows: Tess Arbogast, Sara Kerstetter, Jenna Hoffman, Olivia Kriner, and Courtney Lehman.
4. In the CPAVTS FBLA chapter, three Big Spring students, most of any sending school, qualified for State FBLA competition. Those students are Greg Fetterman, Erik Schall, and Jake Laughtsbaugh.
5. Lee Webber and Kathleen Lay were chosen recently as the Newville Lions Club's Students of the Month.
6. In PSSA preparation sessions, as determined by teacher recommendation and MAPS data, there will be approximately 70 juniors in reading and approximately 90 juniors in math. The PSSA preparation sessions will occur during fourth period so that students miss no regular instructional time. The PSSA preparation sessions are conducted by math and English teachers.
7. The opening round of the PIAA dual tournament is this evening, Big Spring versus Spring-Ford at Central Dauphin East Junior High School.
8. The high school faculty members have constructive plans for the two-hour delay day on Tuesday, February 8, 2011. The English, math, and science departments will work on PSSA preparation strategies and analyzing winter MAPS data. All other departments will be refreshed on accessing and analyzing MAPS results to improve instruction in the classroom.
9. The Winter Ball is slated for February 12, 2011.

President Wolf thanked Mr. Kennedy for the report.

### VI. TREASURER'S REPORT

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

### VII. PAYMENT OF BILLS

General Fund	<b>659,415.52</b>	Checks #60888-61201
Student Activity/Miscellaneous Fund	<b>14,390.15</b>	Checks #12449-12461
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$673,805.67</b>	

Motion by Lopp, 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, Gutshall, Norris, Piper, Roush, Lopp, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

**VIII. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no reading of correspondence.

**IX. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

Gary Chibbs, Lisa Dupert, John M. Epley, Cindy Foulz, Ryan Foulz, Blair Harry, Chris Harry, Dalton Harry, Pam Hedrick, Kathy Himes, Kayla Himes, Kenneth Himes, Tom Hockenberry, Rob Kribbs, Kelly Kunkleman, Sharon Liberator, John Marsh, John Marsh, Pamela Marsh, Renee Mengle, April Messenger, Ashley Moffitt, Alis Ritner, Ashlee Ritner, Tyler Russell, Erik Schall, Tammy Schall, Sam Sheeler, Arielle Thiombiano, and Sherry Thiombiano.

**X. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

No public comment was offered.

**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-9,  
following Item A-9.)**

**XIII. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. PERSONNEL CONCERNS**

**(ACTION ITEM)**

1. **Mr. Carl Creek** submitted his letter of resignation as assistant varsity football coach, effective immediately.

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

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors accept Mr. Creek's resignation as assistant varsity football coach, effective immediately.

**(ACTION ITEM)**

2. **Ms. Kathleen Bravin** submitted her letter of resignation as assistant cross country coach and assistant track and field coach, effective immediately.

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

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors accept Ms. Bravin's resignation as assistant cross country coach and assistant track and field coach, effective immediately.

## Big Spring School Board Meeting Minutes ~ Monday, February 7, 2011

### XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

#### A. PERSONNEL CONCERNS (Continued)

##### 3. Newville Elementary School Quiz Bowl Coaches (ACTION ITEM)

Mrs. Wendy Arnold and Mrs. Katie Ocker were recommended to serve as Quiz Bowl Coaches for the 2010-2011 school year for the Newville Elementary School Quiz Bowl Teams.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors appoint Mrs. Wendy Arnold and Mrs. Katie Ocker as Quiz Bowl Coaches for the 2010-2011 school year at Newville Elementary School and establish their compensation for this position based on the current contract between the Big Spring Education Association and the Big Spring School District.

##### (ACTION ITEM)

##### 4. Mr. Joseph Barnouski was recommended to serve as high school head baseball coach for the 2010-2011 school year, replacing Mr. Scott Penner who has resigned.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors appoint Mr. Joseph Barnouski to serve as high school head baseball coach for the 2010-2011 school year as presented.

##### (ACTION ITEM)

##### 5. Mr. Scott Penner was recommended to serve as Assistant Social Studies Department Chairperson, effectively immediately.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors appoint Mr. Scott Penner as Assistant Social Studies Department Chairperson, as presented.

##### 6. Additional Per Diem Substitute Teacher (ACTION ITEM)

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the addition of the individual listed to the 2010-2011 per diem substitute teacher list as presented, pending all required paperwork.

**Carrie Snider – Elementary Education**

##### 7. Additional Per Diem Substitute Guest Teachers (ACTION ITEM)

In an attempt to provide a sufficient number of substitute teachers for the 2010-2011 school year, the Big Spring School District is working in cooperation with the Capital Area Intermediate Unit to sponsor the "Guest Teacher Program." The individuals whose names appear 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.

**Pattie Creek  
Melinda Kierzkowski  
Scott Shepard**

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the additions of the above-named guest teachers to the 2010-2011 per diem substitute guest teacher list effective immediately.

## Big Spring School Board Meeting Minutes ~ Monday, February 7, 2011

### XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

#### A. PERSONNEL CONCERNS (Continued)

##### **(ACTION ITEM)**

8. **Mrs. Beth Dimino**, learning support teacher at the middle school, requested one day of leave without pay for Monday, February 21, 2011.

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."

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

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

##### **(ACTION ITEM)**

9. **Mrs. Karen Showaker**, family consumer science teacher at the middle school, requested three days of leave without pay retroactive to Thursday, January 13, 2011, Thursday, January 20, 2011, and Friday, February 4, 2011.

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 three days leave without pay as presented.

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

Motion by Blasco, seconded by Norris to combine and approve XIII., NEW BUSINESS, A., PERSONNEL CONCERNS, Items A-1 through A-9, as outlined and recommended above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, Gutshall, Norris, Piper, Roush, Lopp, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

### 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 amount in accordance with the negotiated contract.

<b>Katie Ocker</b>	<b>\$1,161.00</b>
<b>Leah Richwine</b>	<b>1,161.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,322.00</b>

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

**XIII. NEW BUSINESS** (Continued)

**(ACTION ITEM)**

**C. Proposed Updated Job Description**

Mrs. Jeanne Temple, Assistant Superintendent made some revisions to the job descriptions listed. A copy of the job descriptions was included with the agenda.

**Teacher**  
**English as a Second Language Teacher**  
**Dean of Students**  
**Home and School Visitor**  
**Coordinator of Student Assistance**  
**Aquatics Director – Pool**

**Secondary Pool Aide**  
**Elementary Instructional Coach**  
**Speech and Language Clinician**  
**High School Counseling Secretary**  
**Certified School Nurse**

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the job descriptions listed above as presented.

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

**D. Preliminary General Fund Budget for 2011-12**

**(ACTION ITEM)**

The Finance Committee has met several times over the past two months to consider the budget. At this point, with very little firm information, this budget preserves that status quo and provides the Board future options. The Board has the authority to lower or, if need be, raise the final budget in June. This budget will acknowledge the County reassessment. Our 2010-2011 mill rate is 16.072 mills; after reassessment our revenue neutral millage is 11.6548 for 2011-2012. This budget would increase that by 4.66%. That includes .4430 mills for the 3.8% index and .1 mill for the PSERS exception for a total preliminary budget figure of 12.198 mills.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the 2011-2012 Preliminary General Fund Budget in the amount of **\$41,721,017**.

Motion by Blasco, seconded by Lopp to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, Gutshall, Norris, Roush, Lopp, Barrick, and Swanson. Voting No: Piper and Wolf. Total Yes votes: Seven (7). Total No votes: Two (2). Motion carried by a majority vote.

**E. Message Board**

**(ACTION ITEM)**

The Board's Athletic Committee reviewed an option to include advertising on the gymnasium scoreboard at the high school. Currently, all exterior scoreboards on campus have sponsors advertising as they aided in the purchase of the board. The indoor board in the high school gymnasium was included within the construction of the high school. District Solicitor Spare has reviewed the proposal and made appropriate adjustments.

The administration recommended the Board of School Directors approve the purchase and marketing plan for a message board to be attached to the high school gymnasium score board.

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

## **Big Spring School Board Meeting Minutes ~ Monday, February 7, 2011**

### **XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)**

#### **F. District Wi-Fi Infrastructure Upgrade and Expansion** **(ACTION ITEM)**

Last month, the Board reviewed a proposal to replace the current collection of individual wireless access points. The wireless system would be upgraded to the newest standard using an integrated overlay of dual-channel managed access points to provide: 1) total coverage of the District, 2) greater security, 3) faster speed and 4) easier/reduced maintenance. It would be easily expandable in the future to support the additional density required by a one-to-one program.

The administration recommended the Board of School Directors approve the use of \$124,996.41 from the Capital Projects to replace the Wi-Fi system per the included COSTARS and MIU4 SMART Contract quote.

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

#### **G. District Phone Replacement Project** **(ACTION ITEM)**

Last month, the Board reviewed two specific authorizations to replace the District's old non-repairable phone system and to replace the current individual wireless access points. The new phone system would use our existing network and allow us to greatly reduce our expenses with CenturyLink while providing more flexibility, capability, and reduce maintenance costs. Both of these upgrades would require updating our network switch gear, and that was included with the phone quote. The phone replacement was included in the budget for the bond used to cover the Newville Project.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the use of \$192,769.32 in proceeds from the Newville Project Fund bond to replace the phone system per the included COSTARS quote.

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

#### **H. 2010-2011 Dual-Enrollment Grant** **(ACTION ITEM)**

Mrs. Jeanne Temple, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, received notification from the Pennsylvania Department of Education indicating that the 2010-2011 Dual-Enrollment grant has been approved in the amount of \$1,924.

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 2010-2011 Dual-Enrollment grant.

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

Mrs. Temple indicated that she was required to reconcile the grant, and she noted that 44 students participate in dual-enrollment classes: 35 in world history and 9 in horticulture. Two Big Spring High School teachers offer the dual-enrollment courses currently through Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC).



## Big Spring School Board Meeting Minutes ~ Monday, February 7, 2011

### XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

#### H. 2010-2011 Dual Enrollment Grant (Continued)

**(ACTION ITEM)**

Mrs. Temple added that the tuition for the HACC courses would be increasing from \$50 to \$90.

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

#### I. Tax Collector Settlement and Release

**(ACTION ITEM)**

Business Office personnel have met with the District's tax collectors and have prepared tax settlement data for each District municipality. Copies of the Annual School Tax Report summaries were included with the agenda.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors authorize the Board President and Secretary to sign the Tax Collector Release forms for all nine tax collectors for the 2010-2011 fiscal year and authorize the administration to forward all delinquent accounts to the appropriate delinquent tax collectors.

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

In response to a question from Director Roush, Mr. Fry indicated that the administration was trying to work out the recent difficulties associated with tax collection.

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

#### J. Planned Course Adoption

**(ACTION ITEM)**

Listed below are completed planned courses for board approval.

High School  
Living On Your Own  
Essential Home Projects

The administration recommended the Board of School Directors approve the planned courses as presented.

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

Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, Gutshall, Norris, Piper, Roush, Lopp, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

#### K. New Board Policy – Procurement Cards

**(INFORMATION ITEM)**

The Board previously approved a procurement card for District use. The flexibility to respond quicker to critical purchases and use cheaper online sources are real benefits to the District. This policy sets the parameters for a limited expansion to selected administrators as listed. It includes those controls suggested by the Auditor General. The Board will still review these purchases as a separate "check" list provided at the second meeting of each month.

**XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)**

**K. New Board Policy – Procurement Cards (Continued) (INFORMATION ITEM)**

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors review this policy as a first reading.

President Wolf encouraged Board members to direct to Mr. Fry any comments or questions regarding the procurement cards.

Mr. Fry indicated that the Board approved the procurement cards, and this policy solidifies the “very tight process” for using the cards.

**L. Revised Job Description for Accounting Controller (INFORMATION ITEM)**

With the Departure of Ms. Heckendorn, the administration revised the job description to align with the needs of the District. As we conduct more analyses of our spending and require more in-depth accounting and reporting, this will be a critical position. The position title is changed to Accounting Controller to reflect the additional expectations.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the revised job description as provided in the agenda.

Mr. Fry indicated that in the wake of a recent retirement in the business office, this job description has been revised to “get the most bang for the buck.” Mr. Fry encouraged Board members to contact him with any comments or questions regarding the proposed job description.

**XIV. FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEM**

There were no future Board agenda items.

**XV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. District Improvement Committee – Mrs. Lopp**

Director Lopp reported that a District Improvement Committee meeting was held on January 20, 2011.

The following items were addressed during the meeting:

1. Discussions are underway for the possible completion of the District’s newsletter in-house. Requests for price quotes have been sent to various printers.
2. Ms. Donna Hunter from the Greater Carlisle Area Chamber of Commerce addressed the committee regarding public relations opportunities.
3. A subcommittee of the District Improvement Committee is being formed to evaluate the District’s Web site.
4. Mr. Roberts offered a presentation regarding the 1:1 laptop initiative.

The District Improvement Committee will meet on March 17, 2011.

## **Big Spring School Board Meeting Minutes ~ Monday, February 7, 2011**

### **XV. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)**

#### **B. Athletic Committee – Mr. Swanson**

Mr. Swanson and Mr. Roush attended an Athletic Committee meeting on Tuesday, February 1, 2011, where the main topic of discussion was promotional opportunities and ways for the District to raise money with athletic advertising.

This evening the members of the Board of School Directors approved the purchase and marketing plan for a message board to be attached to the high school gymnasium score board where businesses could purchase as many as four exposures on the message board in one evening.

Other promotional opportunities for athletics that were discussed at the Athletic Committee meeting included athletic passes, T-shirts, parking passes, pocket schedules, and yearbook ads.

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

Mr. Wolf indicated that activities are going well at the vo-tech school. For the second time, the CPAVTS IBS team captured first place in the International Builders' Show competition in Florida.

The vo-tech school's horticulture display was a success at the Pennsylvania Farm Show.

Vo-tech students are in the process of constructing a house for the Pennsylvania Home Show March 5-13, 2011, at the Farm Show complex. The house will be auctioned on March 13, 2011.

#### **D. Buildings and Property Committee – Mr. Barrick**

Please refer to this evening's Buildings and Property Committee meeting minutes.

#### **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 announced that Ms. Amy Morton has resigned her position as the Executive Director of the CAIU and has accepted the position of Executive Deputy Secretary for the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Ms. Cindy Mortzfeldt will serve as the CAIU Acting Executive Director while the CAIU contracts with PSBA to conduct a search for a new Executive Director.

The CAIU is negotiating with staff for a contract, and those negotiations have proceeded to the factfinding stage. At some point in the future, the parties will meet with the factfinder.

## **Big Spring School Board Meeting Minutes ~ Monday, February 7, 2011**

### **XV. COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)**

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

President Wolf indicated that the TCC met several weeks ago and continues to move forward with the consolidation with West Shore Tax Bureau (WSTB) and finalization of the contract with WSTB.

Mr. Wolf noted that the WSTB's method for billing the District for services is different from the method used by Capital Tax Collection Bureau (CapTax). WSTB deducts operational costs as the year progresses. Mr. Wolf believes the cost for tax collection with WSTB would be comparable to what the District pays CapTax currently.

### **XVI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

#### **A. Congratulations, Wrestling Team!**

Superintendent Fry congratulated the wrestling team for being the first team in the history of Big Spring High School to advance to State competition.

Mr. Fry commended the wrestling team fans for their dedication to the team.

#### **B. School Delays and Cancellations**

Mr. Fry reported that to date, there have been four all-day cancellations and four 2-hour delays because of inclement weather. The District has used the four "built-in makeup days." If there are additional inclement days, the administration must be creative in finding makeup days in the school calendar. There is one day in March that could be a potential makeup day.

In response to a question from President Wolf, Mr. Fry indicated that students are scheduled to be in session up to Friday, June 8, 2011, a scheduled half day the day of graduation. Staff members are scheduled to be in school the Monday following graduation.

Mr. Fry indicated that he would have discussions with BSEA regarding makeup days if the need arises.

#### **C. Senate Education Hearing**

Mr. Fry indicated that on February 16, 2011, he would offer a 15-minute presentation at a Pennsylvania Senate Education hearing regarding vouchers, after which he will entertain comments and questions from Senator Jeffrey Piccola.

#### **D. Meeting with Freshmen Legislators**

Superintendent Fry indicated that he would meet with 20 freshmen legislators on February 14, 2011 to address the role of public education in trying times.

## **Big Spring School Board Meeting Minutes ~ Monday, February 7, 2011**

### **XVI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (Continued)**

#### **E. Elementary School Issues**

Mr. Fry thanked the members of the Board of School Directors for their patience and diligence during the elementary school configuration/closure discussions and process. Mr. Fry indicated that he believes the District is following the Pennsylvania School Code and doing due diligence in all areas of the process, including the Laughlin Mill Bridge reconstruction.

Mr. Fry suggested that the Board conduct another public forum in April 2011 to address concerns related to the proposed elementary school reconfiguration. Mr. Fry believes that the administration would have collected sufficient information at the time to present the material and answer questions from the public.

The Board agreed to conduct a public forum on April 4, 2011, beginning at 6:00 P.M. and continuing the public forum through the time ordinarily set aside for the Committee of the Whole of the Board meeting.

### **XVII. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

#### **Happy Valentine's Day!**

Director Barrick wished everyone a happy Valentine's Day.

### **XVIII. PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS**

There was no public comment regarding future Board agenda items.

### **XIX. ADJOURNMENT**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 P.M.

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Robert Lee Barrick, Secretary

**NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING: Monday, February 21, 2011**