

BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newville, Pennsylvania

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2021

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

Mr. Swanson, President, took roll call of the Board of School Directors present for the Big Spring School District, March 1, 2021, Virtual Board Meeting of the Big Spring Board of School Directors Meeting at 8:09 P.M. with nine (9) Board of School Directors present: William Swanson, President; Todd Deihl, Vice President; William Piper, Secretary; David Gutshall, Treasurer; Robert Over, Alexis Hurley, Richard Roush, Frank Myers and John Wardle.

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

II. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

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

III. Approval of Minutes

Approval of the February 16, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, the February 16, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes and the February 16, 2021 Finance/Building and Property Meeting Minutes.

Motion by Deihl, seconded by Myers, for the approval of the February 16, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, the February 16, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes and the February 16, 2021 Finance/Building and Property Meeting Minutes.

Roll call vote: Voting yes: Swanson, Deihl, Over, Hurley, Piper, Roush, Wardle, Gutshall and Myers.
Motion Carried unanimously. 9-0

IV. Student/Staff Recognition and Board Reports – No Student Report

V. Financial Reports

a. Payment of Bills

General Fund	\$ 2,707,900.59
Capital Projects Reserve Fund	\$ -
Cafeteria Fund	\$ 73,044.65
Student Activities	\$ <u>4,866.75</u>
Total	\$ 2,785,811.99

Motion to approve the payment of bills as presented.

Motion by Gutshall, seconded by Deihl for acceptance of the Payment of Bills as outlined above.

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

Motion Carried unanimously. 9- 0

VI. Reading of Correspondence

VII.. Recognition of Visitors - Bill Beck, 108 Lawrence Lane, Carlisle, PA addressed the members of the Board of School Directors and offered a prayer of encouragement for the Board members, administration, staff, students and community.

VIII. Public Comment Period

IX. Structured Public Comment Period

X. Old Business

XI. New Business

XII. Personnel Items

a. Resignation - ESS Aide

Ms. Wendy Johnston has submitted her resignation as a learning support aide at Mt. Rock Elementary School, retroactive to February 26, 2021.

The administration recommends the Board of School Directors approve Ms. Johnston's resignation as a learning support aide at Mt. Rock Elementary School, retroactive to February 26, 2021.

b. Resignation - Assistant Track Coach

Mr. Scott Braderman has submitted his resignation for the position of Assistant Track Coach, effective immediately. Mr. Braderman has requested to assist as a volunteer track coach.

The administration recommends the Board of School Directors approve Mr. Braderman's resignation as Assistant Track Coach, effective immediately and approve his request to assist as a volunteer track coach.

c. Resignation - Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach

Mr. Daniel Resavy has submitted his resignation for the position of Assistant Varsity Baseball Coach, retroactive to February 6, 2021.

The administration recommends the Board of School Directors approve Mr. Resavy's resignation, retroactive to February 6, 2021.

Personnel Items

d. Recommended Approval for a Long-Term Substitute High School Spanish Teacher

Dr. Kevin C. Roberts, Jr., would like to recommend Ms. Emily Tkacik as a High School Long-Term Substitute Spanish Teacher, replacing Mrs. Ashley Oldham and Mrs. Laura LaRose who will be on child-rearing leave of absence. Ms. Tkacik will begin her LTS position in Mrs. Oldham's class beginning on March 4, 2021 through May 7, 2021. Ms. Tkacik will begin in her next placement on May 10, 2021 in Mrs. LaRose's class through June 11, 2021.

The administration recommends the Board of School Directors approve Ms. Tkacik's as a High School Long-Term Substitute Spanish Teacher, as presented.

e. Recommended Approval for Child Rearing Leave - Mrs. Jenna McIntire

Mrs. Jenna McIntire, Middle School Agriculture Teacher, is requesting child-rearing leave of absence to begin the first day of the 2021-2022 school year through approximately January 3, 2022. According to Section 3.07 of the current contract between the Big Spring Education Association and the District, a professional employee may request up to one year of child-rearing leave upon the birth of a child. In addition to the duration of the leave period, her request meets all provisions for a child-rearing leave according to the current contract.

The administration recommends the Board of School Directors approve Mrs. McIntire's requested child-rearing leave of absence to begin on the first day of the 2021-2022 school year through approximately January 3, 2022, as presented.

f. Recommended Approval for Leave Without Pay

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. Mrs. Chelsea Jackson is requesting one day of leave without pay for Friday, March 19, 2021.

The administration recommends that the Board of School Directors approve Mrs. Chelsea Jackson's request for leave without pay, as presented.

g. Recommended Approval for an ESS Aide

Dr. Abigail Leonard, Supervisor of Ancillary Services, would like to recommend the individual listed as an aide for the position listed.

Isidra Rice - full-time learning support aide at Mt. Rock Elementary School, replacing Ms. Wendy Johnston who has resigned.

The administration recommends the Board of School Directors approve the ESS aide listed for the position, as presented.

h. Recommended Approval for a Volunteer Baseball Coach

Mr. Joseph Sinkovich, High School Assistant Principal/Athletic Director, would like to recommend the individuals below for the positions as noted.

Mr. Wes Reall - Middle School Boys Soccer

Mr. Brandon Kinneman - Volunteer Baseball Coach

The administration recommends the Board of School Directors approve the above listed coaches, as presented.

VOTE ON XII., NEW BUSINESS A-H, PERSONNEL CONCERNS

Motion by Diehl, seconded by Myers, to approve Items A – H, as outlined and recommended above.

Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Gutshall, Wardle Piper, Over, Roush, Hurley and Myers

Motion carried unanimously. 9– 0

XI. New Business - Action Items

a. Credit Pay

The professional employee whose name is listed below has successfully completed graduate work and is entitled to the specified amount in accordance with the negotiated contract.

Jana Barrick \$705.00

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 and the Big Spring School District.

Motion by Deihl, seconded by Myers to approve the recommendation as outlined above.

Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Gutshall, Piper, Over, Roush, Wardle, Myers and Hurley.

Motion carried unanimously. 9-0

b. Recommended Approval for Student Activities Account for the Class of 2024

The administration received a request from Mr. William August, High School Principal, to create a new student activity account for the Class of 2024. Information regarding the new account is included with the agenda.

The administration recommends the Board of School Directors approve the new student activity account for the Class of 2024 under the supervision of Mr. William August, High School Principal.

Motion by Deihl, seconded by Myers to approve the recommendation as outlined above.

Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Gutshall, Piper, Over, Roush, Wardle, Myers and Hurley.

Motion carried unanimously. 9-0

c. Recommended Approval for the Questeq Agreement Renewal Proposal

Dr. Richard W. Fry, Superintendent of Schools has reviewed the Questeq Agreement Renewal Proposal for the term of three years to begin April 1, 2021, with the ability to auto renew in years four and five. The agreement is included with the agenda.

The administration recommends that the Board of School Directors approve the Questeq Agreement Renewal Proposal for the term of three years to begin April 1, 2021, with the ability to auto renew in years four and five.

Mr. Swanson stated that he is pleased to have Questeq with BSSD.

Motion by Deihl, seconded by Myers to approve the recommendation as outlined above.

Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Gutshall, Piper, Over, Roush, Wardle, Myers and Hurley.

Motion carried unanimously. 9-0

d. Recommended Approval of PSDLAF Settlor Attestation

The District's funds are physically kept in PNC Bank as part of the Pennsylvania School District Liquid Asset Fund (PSDLAF) managed by RBC Global Asset Management. On February 1st, PSDLAF responsibility was transferred to PMA Financial Network, which specializes in local government investment pools (see [Liquid News](#)). With the change, they've asked settlors to reaffirm commitment to PSDLAF via the linked [Attestation document](#).

The administration recommends the Board of School Directors approve PSDLAF Attestation, as presented.

Motion by Deihl, seconded by Myers to approve the recommendation as outlined above.

Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Gutshall, Piper, Over, Roush, Wardle, Myers and Hurley.

Motion carried unanimously. 9-0

New Business - Action Items

e. Recommended Approval for CBC Benefit Plan Renewal

The District's current admin. Services contract with CBC on June 30; this agreement renews that contract for one-year as the SCT seeks a new consultant. As a self-funded entity, CBC administers our program for the fees shown below. [Link to agreement](#).

Fee Summary Renewal of Program Design(s)

Big Spring School District
00508183
July 1, 2021

Program	Program Accepted	Administrative Fees	Advance (if applicable)	Reserve (if applicable)	Letter of Credit (if applicable)
QHDHP		\$41.00 per contract per month - paid basis			
Healthy Rewards		\$3.45 per contract per month			
Rx Cross Accum Data Feed Fee		\$1.00 per contract per month			

Price does not include non-core health and wellness programs.

Capital will offer a Wellness Credit of \$10,000 (ten thousand dollars) for use 07/01/2021 through 06/30/2022 on a reimbursement basis for eligible expenses and there will be no rollover.

The administration recommends the Board of School Directors approve the one-year renewal of the Capital Blue Cross benefit plan included in the agenda and authorize the administration to sign appropriate documents.

Motion by Deihl, seconded by Myers to approve the recommendation as outlined above.

Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Gutshall, Piper, Over, Roush, Wardle, Myers and Hurley.

Motion carried unanimously. 9-0

XIII. New Business – Information Item

XIV. Discussion Item

XV. Future Board Agenda Items

XVI. Board Reports

a. District Improvement Committee - Mr. Over, Mr. Myers

- No report offered.

b. Athletic Committee - Mr. Deihl, Mr. Wardle, Mr. Myers

- No report offered.

c. Vocational-Technical School - Mr. Piper, Mr. Wardle

- Mr. Piper shared Vo-Tech information on the items listed.
 - Act 93 Agreement Review; Mr. Piper shared that there are five staff members at Vo-Tech that are part of the Act 93 Agreement.
 - Revamping the Social Studies offerings for the 2021-2022 school year.
 - Student Presentations by Masonry students were shared.
 - 20% of the Vo-Tech faculty received the 1st dose of the COVID vaccine.
 - Information was shared regarding a development of an EMS Course for the 2021-2022 school year.
 - PDE has approved Vo-Tech to administer the written portion of the NOCTI Test to Vo-Tech students. It was communicated that PDE will not collect the results if the Performance Test is not taken. Mr. Piper stated that the Vo-Tech Administration will give a Certificate of Advancement/Competent in the Written NOCTI tests.
 - Mr. Piper shared that JOC gave the administration approval to seek a waiver not to administer the Performance NOCTI test except in those programs identified by the Administrative Director.
 - It was shared that Mr. Bruhn is attempting to put together a plan for the Awards Night Program, despite the COVID-19 situation.
 - Approval was given to move forward with four contractors totaling \$1,031,850.00 for the renovation to the Health Occupation Project.

d. Building and Property Committee - Mr. Roush, Mr. Piper, Mr. Swanson, Mr. Over

- No report offered.

e. Finance Committee - Mr. Deihl, Mr. Piper, Mr. Swanson, Mr. Gutshall

- No report offered.

f. South Central Trust - Mr. Deihl

- No report offered.

g. Capital Area Intermediate Unit - Mr. Swanson

- Mr. Swanson stated that the meeting Information is in board folders.

h. Tax Collection Committee - Mr. Swanson

- Mr. Kerr shared information on EIT.

i. Future Board Agenda Items

- No report offered.

j. Superintendent's Report

- Dr. Fry shared the updated enrollment numbers as of February 26, 2021. Dr. Fry defined and discussed the enrollment numbers with the Board of School Directors.
- Dr. Fry communicated that the Board of School Directors Ethics Forms are in their board folders for processing and submission, no later than Monday, April 19, 2021.
- Dr. Fry talked about the Legislative update regarding Federal Stimulus Funding and emphasized to be cautious in how BSSD budgets and spend such stimulus funds.
- Dr. Fry talked about prior stimulus monies submitted to Districts in 2009 where it created a fiscal cliff in 2011 for those Districts that utilized the monies for reoccurring expenses. Dr. Fry stated while Districts used the monies for reoccurring expenses it hurt Districts in the 2011-2012 school year which pushed for 22 thousand teacher furloughs within the state of Pa.

- Dr. Fry stated that the BSSD Board of School Directors followed the guidelines for the 2009 stimulus funds, which moved BSSD in a very healthy direction.
- Dr. Fry talked about the pending voucher bill and stated much more to come on the bill.
- Mr. Kerr talked about the summer food program and stated that Ms. Morgan had a sample meal for each member in the faculty room.

XVII. Meeting Closing

a. Business from the Floor

- Mr. Wardle is hoping to continue to move forward in bringing back students 4 days of week.
- Mr. Over thanked all staff and stated that everyone is doing a wonderful job.
- Mrs. Hurley thanked everyone and appreciates all the hard work that has been done for the students and she is looking forward to the students getting back face to face.
- Mr. Deihl thanked the administration for all they have done and continue to do.
- Mr. Piper thanked Dr. Fry and Dr. Roberts for all their hard work. Mr. Piper also stated that he is hoping to have K-12 students back face to face before the end of the school year.
- Mr. Swanson stated he is hoping that BSSD can conclude the end of the year with a bit more normalcy. He also noted that the administration is doing everything possible to have students back in school face to face by the end of the school year.

b. Public Comment Regarding Future Board Agenda Items

- No future board agenda items.

c. Adjournment

Motion by Deihl, seconded by Myers, to adjourn the February 16, 2021 Board meeting.

Voting Yes: Swanson, Deihl, Gutshall, Wardle Over, Roush, Piper, Hurley and Myers.

Motion carried unanimously. 9-0

Meeting adjourned at **8:27 PM, March 1, 2021**. Next scheduled meeting is: **March 15, 2021**.


