

BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newville, Pennsylvania

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, APRIL 18, 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 Large Group Room, Room 140, at 8:01 P.M. with President Wilbur Wolf, Jr., presiding. Seven (7) directors present: Wilbur Wolf, Jr., President; William Swanson, Vice President; Robert Lee Barrick, Secretary; Kingsley Blasco; David Gutshall; Richard Norris; and William Piper.

Terry Lopp, Treasurer, and Richard Roush were absent.

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; Steve Smith, Big Spring High School Principal; Denny Clopper, The Valley Times-Star; Erica Dolson, The Sentinel; Douglas Kennedy and Sarah Weingarten, Student Representatives to the Board of School Directors; and Brenda Line, Board Minutes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The members of the Board of School Directors met in Executive Session from 7:16 P.M. to 8:01 P.M. to address personnel issues.

II. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

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

III. PRAYER

Director Blasco offered a prayer

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IV. APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 4, 2011 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES - CONFIGURATION OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GRADES; THE APRIL 4, 2011 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES, AND THE APRIL 4, 2011 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES.

Motion by Blasco, seconded by Norris for approval of the April 4, 2011 Special Board Meeting Minutes - Configuration of Elementary School Grades; April 4, 2011; the Committee of the Whole of the Board Meeting Minutes, and the April 4, 2011 Regular Board Meeting Minutes. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, Gutshall, Norris, Piper, 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. Steven Smith, high school principal, recognized those Vocational-Technical School students who earned "Student of the Quarter" awards for the third quarter of the 2010-2011 school year.

Grade 10	Jordan Farling	American Studies
Grade 10	*Faith McCommons	American Studies
Grade 11	*Justin Hair	World Studies
Grade 11	*Justin Hair	Automotive Technology
Grade 11	*Christopher Sauter	World Studies
Grade 11	*Harley Wilson	Automotive Technology
Grade 12	*Jacob Griffie	Automotive Technology
Grade 12	Erik Schall	Computer Information System

*Indicates those students present this evening.

Mr. Smith 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 Third Quarter

Mr. Steven Smith recognized those students who have earned the academic achievement award for the third quarter for the 2010-2011 school year.

Grade 9	Jessica Daniels	99.4
Grade 10	Wade Reichelderfer	98.8
Grade 11	Sarah Baum	98.86
Grade 12	Benjamin Morris	98.75

Mr. Smith 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 - Sarah Weingarten/Douglas Kennedy

1. Approximately 65 Big Spring students volunteered recently for Special Olympics events at the Big Spring swimming pool and the Dickinson College track and field facilities.
2. Placing second at both regional and state competition, the Odyssey of the Mind team has qualified for world finals to be held May 27 to May 31, 2011, at the University of Maryland. Team members include Sophomore Michael Daniel; Juniors Robin Lartin-Drake, Katherine Choate, Paul Roberts, and Hanna Swarner; and Senior Kelsey Mengle.
3. Elaina McGann performed in the All-State Band in Hershey over the weekend, playing her clarinet. Elaina is the first All-State Band performer from Big Spring in 32 years.
4. A two-hour delay day for faculty in-service was held on April 12, 2011. Faculty members addressed high school restructuring changes to date, reviewed the *High Schools that Work* key practices, and brainstormed on strategies to raise expectations in all departments at the beginning of the 2011-2012 school year.
5. There are 249 students participating in spring sports, including several junior high students. As a comparison, 295 students participated in fall athletics, and 232 students participated in winter athletics.
6. The baseball team has won four games; softball, six games; girls' soccer, three games.
7. There are 82 students participating in track this spring.
8. Students exceeded the fundraising goal and raised \$47,500 during the Mini-Thon Four Diamonds event. At a post-event assembly, teachers fulfilled their promises to students for achieving the fundraising goal.
9. AP exams are slated for May 2 to May 12, 2011, for 97 students, compared with 62 students who took the exams last year. AP tests will include calculus, English literature and composition, European history, biology, US government, and statistics. Online AP tests include psychology, US history, and macroeconomics. Next year AP US history will be offered at the high school to fulfill the 20th Century history requirement in 10th grade, but the course will be open to interested juniors and seniors as well.

Board members congratulated Mr. Kennedy for earning the Eagle Scout award that will be presented at a ceremony on May 1, 2011.

President Wolf thanked the students for the report.

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VI. TREASURER'S REPORT (Balances as of March 31, 2011)

General Fund	\$11,002,679.44
Cafeteria Fund	\$207,025.12
Student Activity Fund	\$212,578.31
Capital Projects	\$2,146,874.60
Newville Projects	\$1,343,484.40

Motion by Blasco, seconded by Norris for acceptance of the Treasurer's Report.
Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, Gutshall, Norris, Piper, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

(Mr. Barrick exited the meeting momentarily.)

VII. PAYMENT OF BILLS

General Fund	\$533,543.35	Checks #61853-62041
Cafeteria Fund	\$155,206.01	Checks #5413-5429
Capital Projects	\$103,877.47	Checks #561-564
Student Activity/Miscellaneous Fund	\$ 43,204.55	Checks #12566-12642 and voided Check #12606
Newville Project	\$9,253.63	Checks #172-173
Total	\$845,085.01	

Motion by Blasco, seconded by Norris for approval of General Fund, Cafeteria Fund, Capital Projects, Student Activity/Miscellaneous Fund, and Newville Project payments of bills as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, Gutshall, Norris, Piper, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

VIII. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE

There was no reading of correspondence.

IX. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Kelly Baum, Roy Baum, Sam Baum, Sarah Baum, Rick Beatty, Kathleen Bravin, Jason Brockman, Stephanie Cramer, Charlene D'Amore, Cynthia Daniels, Jessica Daniels, Travis Daniels, Lauren Eby, Sheila Gettle, Conner Griffie, Jake Griffie, Maureen Griffie, Rick Griffie, Seth Griffie, Justin Hair, Lisa Hair, Steve Hair, Adrienne Line, Becky McCommons, Faith McCommons, Michael McCommons, April Messenger, Art Morris, Ben Morris, Patty Morris, Heath Myers, Aubrey Reichelderfer, Kath Reichelderfer, Keith Reichelderfer, Wade Reichelderfer, Christopher Sauter, Donald Sauter, Valerie Sauter, Harley Wilson, John Wilson, and Susan Wilson.

X. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No public comment was offered.

(Director Barrick returned to Open Session.)

XI. STRUCTURED PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mr. Rick Beatty addressed the members of the Board of School Directors and read a prepared statement that questioned the scope and direction of the classes being taught at Big Spring, especially related to the broad scope of agriculture classes, and questioned the practices of the FFA leaders. Mr. Beatty indicated that “in the real world, a little knowledge could be harmful” regarding these specific issues, and he suggested that the Board examine the courses offered and update the curriculum. Mr. Beatty questioned whether it is appropriate to offer some of these agriculture classes in these tough economic times,

Mr. Beatty also questioned the advice and support offered by staff members to FFA students, especially with regard to the handling of sensitive matters and the appropriate communication to parents relating to student issues.

Mr. Beatty indicated that he believes students should be taught to communicate effectively and challenge each other in an appropriate forum in a way that would enlighten and not be destructive. Mr. Beatty added that students are text-messaging one another instead of debating in a constructive way in school, and he encouraged the staff members to teach effective methods of communication.

Mr. Beatty noted that he would answer any questions from the Board or discuss items in further detail.

In response to a suggestion from President Wolf, Mr. Fry indicated that he would prepare a written response to Mr. Beatty’s concerns and send the letter to Mr. Beatty and the members of the Board of School Directors.

Mr. Wolf suggested that Mr. Beatty’s prepared statement be included with the minutes. Please refer to Mr. Beatty’s prepared statement: [04-18-2011 Beatty Board Mtg Letter.pdf](#).

XII. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

**(NOTE: The Board addressed
XIII., NEW BUSINESS, A., PERSONNEL CONCERNS, Items A-1 through A-15,
following Item A-15.)**

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. PERSONNEL CONCERNS

1. Coaching Appointment

(ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Jay Hockenbroch, Athletic Director recommended the individual listed as head cheerleading coach for the 2011-2012 school year.

Tracey Feldbauer

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the recommendation of Ms. Feldbauer as head cheerleading coach for the 2011-2012 school year.

(ACTION ITEM)

2. Mrs. Stasia Rhine, Grade 2 teacher at Newville Elementary School, submitted her letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year.

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

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors accept Mrs. Rhine's resignation for the purpose of retirement as a grade two teacher, effective the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year.

(ACTION ITEM)

3. Mrs. Brenda Gabler, Grade 4 teacher at Newville Elementary School, submitted her letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year. Mrs. Gabler's severance allowance has been calculated and submitted to the Board for approval at this time.

As per the following calculations, Mrs. Gabler is entitled to a severance allowance in the amount of \$13,718.00, under option #2.

Option #1:

33.5 years of service X \$210.00 = \$7,035.00
(\$14,500.00 maximum)

Option #2:

180.5 unused sick leave days X \$76.00 = \$13,718.00
(\$14,500.00 maximum)

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors accept Mrs. Gabler's letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement and her severance allowance of \$13,718.00 as presented.

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XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

A. PERSONNEL CONCERNS (Continued)

(ACTION ITEM)

4. **Mrs. Violet Lebo**, cafeteria worker at Plainfield Elementary School, submitted her letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year. Mrs. Lebo's severance allowance has been calculated and submitted to the Board for approval at this time.

As per the following calculations, Mrs. Lebo is entitled to a severance allowance in the amount of \$9,500.00, under option #2.

Option #1:

32 years of service X \$175.00 = \$5,600.00
(\$9,500.00 maximum)

Option #2:

215 unused sick leave days X \$50.00 = \$10,750.00
(\$9,500.00 maximum)

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors accept Mrs. Lebo's letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement and her severance allowance of \$9,500.00 as presented

(ACTION ITEM)

5. **Mrs. Beverly Rosenberry**, Plainfield Elementary School secretary, submitted her letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement effective June 30, 2011 and the Board of School Directors accepted Mrs. Rosenberry's resignation at the April 4, 2011 meeting of the Board of School Directors. Mrs. Roseberry's severance allowance has been calculated and submitted to the Board for approval at this time.

As per the following calculations, Mrs. Rosenberry is entitled to a severance allowance in the amount of \$9,500.00, under option #2.

Option #1:

30 years of service X \$175.00 = \$5,250.00
(\$9,500.00 maximum)

Option #2:

221 unused sick leave days X \$50.00 = \$11,050.00
(\$9,500.00 maximum)

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors accept Mrs. Roseberry's severance allowance of \$9,500.00 as presented.

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XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

A. PERSONNEL CONCERNS (Continued)

(ACTION ITEM)

6. **Mrs. LuAnn Barrick**, learning support aide at the high school, submitted her letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective immediately.

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

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors accept Mrs. Barrick's resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective immediately.

7. Classified Transfer

(ACTION ITEM)

As per Board Policies 3850.1-3850.4, the administration will transfer the classified employee whose name is listed below:

<u>Employee</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Mrs. Debra Kelley	Learning Support Aide at Mt. Rock Elementary	Life Skills Aide at Oak Flat Elementary

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the transfer of the above listed individual as presented.

(ACTION ITEM)

8. **Mrs. Suzanne Brett**, long-term substitute English teacher at the high school, requested three days leave without pay for May 11, 12 and 13, 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. Brett's request for three days leave without pay as presented.

(ACTION ITEM)

9. **Mrs. Cherie Powell**, business teacher at the high school, requested one day leave without pay for May 19, 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. Powell's request for one day leave without pay as presented.

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XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

A. PERSONNEL CONCERNS (Continued)

(ACTION ITEM)

10. **Mrs. Courtney Moore**, English teacher at the high school, requested one day of leave without pay, retroactive to April 1, 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. Moore's request for one day leave without pay as presented.

(ACTION ITEM)

11. **Mrs. Kassandra Gordon**, elementary librarian, requested one and one-half day of leave without pay for May 18 and May 19, 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. Gordon's request for one and one-half day of leave without pay as presented.

(ACTION ITEM)

12. **Mrs. Stefani Bower**, elementary learning support teacher, requested one day of leave without pay for June 6, 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. Bower's request for one day leave without pay as presented.

13. **Approval of Child-Rearing Leave for Justine Sieg**

(ACTION ITEM)

Mrs. Justine Sieg, high school business education/career project teacher, requested leave of absence under the Family & Medical Leave Act from approximately May 6, 2011 through approximately the beginning of the 2011-2012 school year. According to Section 3.08 of the 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.

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

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XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

A. PERSONNEL CONCERNS (Continued)

13. Approval of Child-Rearing Leave for Justine Sieg (Continued) (ACTION ITEM)

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve Mrs. Sieg's request for leave under the Family & Medical Leave Act and a child-rearing leave of absence from approximately May 6, 2011 through approximately the 2011-2012 school year, according to the terms of the current contract between the Big Spring Education Association and the Big Spring School District.

(ACTION ITEM)

- 14. Todd Martin** Long-Term Substitute Business Education Teacher
Shippensburg, PA 17241 at the High School
(replacing Mrs. Justine Sieg, who will be on child-rearing leave)

Education:

Shippensburg University – Social Studies (Bachelor's Degree)

Experience:

Big Spring School District – Substitute Teacher
Fannett-Metal School District – Substitute Teacher
Greencastle-Antrim School District – Substitute Teacher

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors appoint Mr. Martin to serve as a long-term substitute Business Education Teacher at the High School beginning approximately May 6, 2011 until the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year, replacing Mrs. Sieg who will be on child-rearing leave. Mr. Martin's compensation for this position should be established at Bachelor's, Step 1 \$40,092.00, based on the current contract between the Big Spring Education Association and the Big Spring School District.

(ACTION ITEM)

- 15. Michael Statler** Accounting Controller for the Business Office
Dillsburg, PA 17241 (replacing Mrs. Earlene Heckendorn-Kohl who is retiring)

Education:

Shippensburg University – Bachelor's Degree/Accounting

Experience:

H & R Block – Tax Associate
Glen Moore – Financial Analyst/Payroll Manager
Carrier TAC - Accountant

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors appoint Mr. Michael Statler as Accounting Controller for the Business Office beginning approximately May 10, 2011, replacing Mrs. Heckendorn-Kohl who will be retiring. Mr. Statler's compensation for this position should be established at \$43,500.00.

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XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

A. PERSONNEL CONCERNS (Continued)

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

Motion by Barrick, seconded by Norris to combine and approve XIII., NEW BUSINESS, A., PERSONNEL CONCERNS, Items A-1 through A-15, as outlined and recommended above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, Gutshall, Norris, Piper, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

B. Credit Pay

(ACTION ITEM)

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

Sarah Vanderheijden	\$981.00
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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 Barrick, seconded by Norris to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, Gutshall, Norris, Piper, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Permission to Host a Joint Soccer Camp

(ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Scott Anderson and Mr. Randy Stevens requested permission to host a boys' and girls' high school and middle school soccer camp from July 10 – July 13, 2011, at the Big Spring High School Soccer Complex for the girls and at Carlisle High School for the boys.

Information was included with the agenda.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the request to host a boys and girls high school and middle school soccer camp from July 10 – July 13, 2011.

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

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XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

D. On-Line Learning Initiative

(ACTION ITEM)

The District has been actively involved with Capital Area On-Line Learning Association (COALA) since March, 2009. This involvement has enabled the District to provide full-time cyber instruction along with various single classes.

The contract for Capital Area On-Line Learning Association was included with the agenda.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the proposed agreement to continue participation in the Capital Area On-Line Learning Association (CAOLA).

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

Superintendent Fry indicated that the overall membership fee has decreased because CAOLA is attracting new members.

Mr. Fry indicated that CAOLA serves the District well because the District will be losing State subsidy for full-time cyber students. The membership in CAOLA allows Big Spring to continue to claim those full-time cyber students who are enrolled in CAOLA. The District has transferred 19 cyber students from other cyber programs to CAOLA, the highest number of full-time students of all CAOLA member districts. This offers a viable way for cost savings related to cyber students.

Several Big Spring teachers are being trained in the delivering and potential grading of cyber programs. Staff members are supporting this initiative, realizing that education is evolving.

In response to a question from President Wolf, Mr. Fry indicated that he estimates students would enroll in five to ten courses in the CAOLA next year. These are both full-time cyber students as well as students who might be taking just one cyber class because Big Spring does not offer that particular course.

The students enrolled in CAOLA are eligible to earn a Big Spring diploma.

Mr. Fry added that CAOLA has not worked well for some students, and they have been brought back to classes at the schools.

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

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XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

E. Proposed 2011-2012 Police Service Agreement

(ACTION ITEM)

The contract for 2011-2012 police service agreement between the Big Spring School District and the Borough of Newville/Newville Police Department is presented for Board action. The borough has agreed to hold the cost of the agreement at the 2010-2011 price of \$41,430.00

<u>Year of Contract</u>	<u>Cost</u>
2010-2011	\$41,430.00
2011-2012	\$41,430.00

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the 2011-2012 contract for police services between the Big Spring School District and the Borough of Newville as presented at a cost not to exceed \$41,430.00.

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

F. Settlement Agreement

(ACTION ITEM)

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the Settlement Agreement and Release in the matter of student #101045 and authorize the administration, Board Officers, and special counsel to take all steps necessary to implement the settlement.

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

G. Contractor Payments for Newville Project – Construction Fund **(ACTION ITEM)**

McKissick Associates reviewed the payment applications for work performed on the Newville Addition & Renovation project. These payments will come from the Newville Construction Fund. A copy of the completed and notarized payment applications was included with the agenda in the following amounts:

<u>Prime</u>	<u>Vendor / App #</u>	<u>Pay Amount</u>	<u>Balance to Pay</u>
General	eciConstruction, LLC / #12	\$64,000.18	\$58,200.00
General	eciConstruction, LLC / #13	\$42,750.00	\$15,450.00
Electrical	MidState Mechanical & Electrical, LLC	\$7,619.00	\$15,320.00
HVAC	MidState Mechanical & Electrical	-	\$27,693.04
Plumbing	Mann Plumbing and Heating, LLC	-	\$3,636.80

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XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

G. Contractor Payments for Newville Project – Construction Fund (ACTION ITEM) (Continued)

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve payment from the Newville Project Fund to MidState Mechanical & Electrical, LLC, in the amount of \$7,619.00 and to eciConstruction, LLC, in the amount of \$106,750.18.

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

H. Transportation Contract Rates with Richard Deitch for 2010-2011 (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 2010-2011 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 with the agenda.

	2009/10	2010/11		
	<u>Daily</u>	<u>Daily</u>	▲	<u>as %</u>
VoTech	751.88	735.95	(15.93)	-2.1%
Consortium *	765.01	1,004.38	239.37	31.3%
Activity	162.97	157.04	(5.93)	-3.6%
Regular	8,416.96	8,011.56	(405.40)	-4.8%
Nonpub **	778.55	1,179.83	401.28	51.5%
Total	10,875.37	11,088.76	213.39	2.0%
PDE Cost Factor	4.945	5.08	0.134	2.7%

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the 2010-2011 transportation rates as presented.

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

In response to a question from Director Barrick, Mr. Fry indicated that the decreases are not the result of an aging fleet but are the result of changing student demographics, along with shorter and more efficient bus routes. Mr. Fry added that the bus company appears to be moving in the right direction with respect to replacing worn buses.

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

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XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

I. Potential Bond Refunding

(ACTION ITEM)

As presented by RBCCM and PFM in the Committee of the Whole of the Board meeting, the District has an opportunity to refinance its 2006 Bond issue. Under IRS tax law the refunding must be within 90-days of the Bond call date of August 15, 2011. At current rates the District stands to save as much as \$110,000. If the Board decides to move forward, RBCCM/PFM would return in May with a Parameters Contract for Board approval and signatures. The RBCCM presentation was included in the Board packet.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors direct the administration to work with RBCCM and PFM to engage Bond Counsel and present a Parameters Contract for Board approval as soon as possible.

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

In response to a question from Director Blasco, Mr. Fry indicated that, although it would not cost anything for Big Spring to engage in this proposed refunding, the cost of the refunding would be subtracted from any resulting profit. RBCCM/PFM recommends a net profit of \$75,000 for Big Spring after costs are paid to the entities associated with the refunding (RBCCM/PFM, bond counsel, etc.). If this \$75,000 profit is not achieved in the preliminary estimates, RBCCM/PFM would return to the Board to discuss whether or not to proceed.

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

J. Case H of 2010-2011

(ACTION ITEM)

The parents of the student in Case H of 2010-2011 school year waived their right to a formal student discipline hearing before the Board of School Directors.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors exclude the student in Case H of 2010-2011 school year for a period of one year. During the period of exclusion, the student is not permitted on school property at any time for any reason.

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

K. Updated Year-to-Date Summaries/Taxes and General Fund (INFORMATION ITEM)

The Business Office prepared updated year-to-date summaries for taxes and general fund that were included with the agenda.

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XIII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

K. Updated Year-to-Date Summaries/Taxes and General Fund (INFORMATION ITEM)

(Continued)

Mr. Kerr indicated that earned income tax collection would be difficult to predict when we switch to the new reporting process under Act 32. It will also be difficult to predict earned income tax in light of the transition from CapTax to West Shore Tax Bureau in January 2012.

XIV. FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEM

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.

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

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

The Capital Area Intermediate Unit Board will meet next Thursday.

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

The TCC approved the "merger" with West Shore Tax Bureau, effective January 1, 2012.

XVI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. May 9, 2011 Board Meeting

Superintendent Fry reminded Board members that the first meeting in May has been rescheduled for May 9, 2011, and will be advertised appropriately in local newspapers and on the District's website.

B. Finance Committee

The Finance Committee members were encouraged to establish a meeting date prior to May 9, 2011.

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XVI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (Continued)

C. Congratulations, Odyssey of the Mind!

Mr. Fry congratulated the Odyssey of the Mind team for qualifying for world finals. Mr. Fry applauded the Bulldog Foundation for contributing \$3,000.00 to help defray the cost of the trip for the seven students and staff members. The District will pay the cost of transportation for this event. 2003 was the last time the Odyssey of the Mind team qualified for world finals.

D. Thank You, Mr. Denny Clopper!

Mr. Fry indicated that tonight is Mr. Denny Clopper's final Board meeting in his role as news reporter for the Valley Times-Star. Mr. Fry thanked Mr. Clopper for "serving the Big Spring School District quite well." Mr. Fry noted that Mr. Clopper is an avid fan of Big Spring School District and the "good things we have to offer."

Vice President Swanson encouraged Mr. Clopper to continue to attend Big Spring events.

XVII. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

A. Three Mile Island Drill

Director Barrick indicated that the TMI drill on April 12 and 13, 2011, went well from Cumberland County's perspective. Mr. Barrick noted that Big Spring played an integral role in the drill.

B. Happy Easter!

Director Barrick wished everyone a happy Easter.

XVIII. PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment regarding future Board agenda items.

XIX. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 P.M.

Robert Lee Barrick, Secretary

NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING: Monday, May 9, 2011