

# **BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Newville, Pennsylvania**

## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**MONDAY, MAY 19, 2014**

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### **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 8:00 P.M. with President Wilbur Wolf, Jr., presiding. Five (5) directors present: Wilbur Wolf, Jr., President; William Swanson, Vice President; David Gutshall, Treasurer; John McCrea; and William Piper.

Robert Lee Barrick, Secretary; Kingsley Blasco; Richard Norris; 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; Curtis Garland, The Valley Times-Star; Samuel Tigyer and Shania Radabaugh, Student Representatives to the Board of School Directors; and Brenda Line, Board Minutes.

### **II. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

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

### **III. APPROVAL OF THE MAY 5, 2014 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES; THE MAY 5, 2014 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES; AND THE MAY 5, 2014 BUILDINGS AND PROPERTY MEETING MINUTES**

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Piper for approval of the May 5, 2014 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, the May 5, 2014 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes and the May 5, 2014 Building and Property Meeting Minutes. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: , McCrea, Piper, Gutshall, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 5 - 0

# Big Spring School Board Meeting Minutes ~ Monday, May 19, 2014

## IV. ELECTION OF THE TREASURER

(1-year appointment)

### Election of Officers

Refer to Sections 402 and 404 of the Public School Code of 1949.

Motion by Piper nominate David Gutshall as the treasurer.

Motion by McCrea, seconded by Swanson to close the nominations.

Roll call vote on the motion by McCrea and second by Swanson to close the nominations and elect David Gutshall as the treasurer. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: McCrea, Piper, Gutshall, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 5 - 0

## V. STUDENT/STAFF RECOGNITION AND BOARD REPORTS

**A. Samuel Tigyer and Shania Radabaugh** offered a student report. Please refer to the following report: [05-19-2014 Minutes-Student Report.pdf](#).

### **B. 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 2013-2014 school year.

Grade 10	Laurel Deihl	Horticulture & Landscaping 1
Grade 10	Isaac Eshenour	Precision Machining Technology 1
Grade 10	Samantha Heckendorn	Advertising Art & Design 1
Grade 11	Justina Carpenter	Cosmetology 2
Grade 11	Andrew Kurnath	Diesel Technology 2
Grade 12	Benjamin Myers	Carpentry 3
Grade 12	Briana Risbon	Criminal Justice 2

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.

### **C. Recognition of Students of the Quarter**

Mr. Steven Smith also recognized those students who have earned the academic achievement award for the third quarter for the 2013-2014 school year.

#### **Art Department**

Grade 9	David Stitt
Grade 10	Aubrey Mooney
Grade 11	Meg Ronan
Grade 12	Tabatha Smith

## Big Spring School Board Meeting Minutes ~ Monday, May 19, 2014

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

#### C. Recognition of Students of the Quarter (Continued)

##### Agriculture Department

Grade 9 Courtney Matthews  
Grade 10 Cheyenne Fulton  
Grade 11 Lynn Finkenbinder  
Grade 12 Christina Kurnath

##### English Department

Grade 9 Cainan Riccio-Baum  
Grade 10 Morganne Frampton  
Grade 11 Jordyn Donnelly  
Grade 12 Blair Lehman

##### Music Department

Grade 9 Megan Baker  
Grade 10 Tyler Bennett  
Grade 11 Adam Baldoni  
Grade 12 Richard Monahan

##### Science Department

Grade 9 Natalie McNew  
Grade 10 Morganne Frampton  
Grade 11 Andrew Shriner  
Grade 12 Kaitlyn Brough

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.

### VI. TREASURER REPORTS

#### A. Treasurer's Fund Report

General Fund	\$ 13,776,854.48
Capital Projects	\$ 5,241,578.03
Cafeteria Fund	\$ 362,161.92
Student Activities	\$ 202,274.19
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 19,582,868.62</b>

The Treasurer's Report showed balances as outlined above as of April 30, 2014. Motion by Gutshall, seconded by Swanson for acceptance of the Treasurer's Report. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: , McCrea, Piper, Gutshall, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 5 – 0

## **Big Spring School Board Meeting Minutes ~ Monday, May 19, 2014**

### **VI. TREASURER REPORTS (Continued)**

#### **B. Payment of Bills**

General Fund	\$982,315.55	Checks #72687-5301400, including missing checks #72805-430143, 430145-430146, 4151408-4251409, 4251411-4301400, 4301404-4301404, 4301408-4301408, 4301411-4301420, 4301422-5081402, 5121402-5301400,
Capital Projects	\$ 25,302.64	Check #1042
Cafeteria Fund	\$ 3,769.20	Checks #70067-70071
Student Activities	\$ 15,636.09	Checks #14670-14693
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,027,023.48</b>	

Motion by Gutshall, seconded by Swanson for approval of the General Fund, Capital Projects, Cafeteria Fund, and Student Activity/Miscellaneous Fund payments of bills for 2013-2014, 4/29/14-5/11/14, as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: , McCrea, Piper, Gutshall, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 5 – 0

#### **C. Budget Transfers**

The Business Office prepared a budget transfer report for April that was included with the agenda.

### **VII. READING OF CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no reading of correspondence.

### **VIII. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS**

Cheryl Baker, Keith Baker, Megan Baker, Art Baldoni, Carole Baldoni, Terri Bennett, Tyler Bennett, Kaitlyn Brough, Amber Brown, Michael Brown, Justin Carpenter, Justina Carpenter, Lori Carpenter, Stephanie Carpenter, Charlene D'Amore, Laurel Deihl, Sheri Deihl, Todd Deihl, Jordyn Donnolly, Mark Donnolly, Dan Eshenour, Isaac Eshenour, Teresa Eshenour, Cindy Finkenbinder, Glenn Finkenbinder, Lynn Finkenbinder, Steph Flowers, Steve Fosburg, Morganne Frampton, Tricia Frampton, Carol Graham, Alex Heckendorn, Chris Heckendorn, Sally Heckendorn, Samantha Heckendorn, Cheryl Kennedy, Steve Kennedy, Andrew Kurnath, Chrissy Kurnath, Blair Lehman, Staci Lehman, Arika Matthews, Natalie McNew, April Messenger, Megan Minnick, Afton Monahan, Mike Monahan, Rich Monahan, Aubrey Mooney, Ben Myers, Jesse Myers, Andy Pettit, Amanda Riccio, BriRisbon, Jay Risbon, Rachel Risbon, Lisa Ronan, Meg Ronan, Karen Smith, Tabatha Smith, Angela Wilson.

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### IX. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Ms. Carol Graham, 2565 Walnut Bottom Road, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, addressed the members of the Board of School Directors and offered a prayer of encouragement for the Board members and community.

President Wolf thanked Ms. Graham for attending this evening's meeting and offering a prayer.

### X. STRUCTURED PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No structured public comment was offered.

### XI. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

### XII. NEW BUSINESS

#### A. PERSONNEL CONCERNS

##### 1. Child-Rearing Leave of Absence - Bethany Stanton (ACTION ITEM)

Mrs. Bethany Stanton, Learning Support Teacher at Mt. Rock Elementary School requested child-rearing leave of absence from approximately June 11, 2014 through approximately the first contracted teacher in-service day for the 2015-2016 school year. 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 recommended that the Board of School Directors approve Mrs. Stanton's requested child-rearing leave via section 3.07 of the current Collective Bargaining Agreement from approximately June 11, 2014 through approximately the first contracted teacher in-service day for the 2015-2016 school year.

##### 2. Resignation - Krista Boynton (ACTION ITEM)

Mrs. Krista Boynton, District Speech Clinician, submitted her letter of resignation as a District Speech Clinician, effective the end of the 2013-2014 school year.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve Mrs. Boynton's resignation, effective the end of the 2013-2014 school year.

## Big Spring School Board Meeting Minutes ~ Monday, May 19, 2014

### XII. NEW BUSINESS (Continued)

#### A. PERSONNEL CONCERNS (Continued)

##### 3. Resignation - TressaPalmateer (ACTION ITEM)

Ms. TressaPalmateersubmitted her letter of resignation as an aide at Oak Flat Elementary School, effective the end of the 2013-2014 school year.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve Ms. Palmateer's resignation as an aide at Oak Flat Elementary School, effective the end of the 2013-2014 school year.

##### 4. Extended School Year (ESY) Staff Appointments (ACTION ITEM)

Mr. William Gillet, Supervisor of Special Education, recommended the professional staff listed to assist with the 2013-2014 ESY Summer Program.

**Emily Bower - Teacher**

**Christie Katora - Aide**

**Tammy Holtry - Aide**

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the appointment of the above listed ESY professional staff as presented.

##### 5. Classified Personnel Transfer (ACTION ITEM)

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the transfer of the individual listed below.

<u>Employee</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Mrs. Mary Beidel	High School Principal Secretary	Newville Elementary School Secretary

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

##### 6. Middle School Math Teacher (ACTION ITEM)

**Jennifer Gregoris** - Middle School Sixth Grade Math Teacher

###### Education:

West Chester University - Bachelor's Elementary Education

East Stroudsburg University - Reading Classes (9 Credits)

Fresno Pacific University - Math Classes (36 Continued Ed. Credits)

###### Experience:

Cumberland County Schools, North Carolina - Middle School Math/Grade Seven

Stroudsburg Area School District - Middle School Teacher 5th/6th Grade

East Stroudsburg Area School District - Fourth Grade Teacher

## **Big Spring School Board Meeting Minutes ~ Monday, May 19, 2014**

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

#### **A. PERSONNEL CONCERNS (Continued)**

##### **6. Middle School Math Teacher (Continued)**

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors appoint Mrs. Gregoris to serve as Middle School Sixth Grade Math Teacher beginning the 2014-2015 school year, replacing Mrs. Susan Martin who is retiring. Mrs. Gregoris' compensation for this position should be established at Master's Equivalent, Step 7, \$55,215.00 based on the current contract between the Big Spring Education Association and the Big Spring School District.

##### **7. Leave Without Pay - Jolene Regetta**

**(ACTION ITEM)**

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. Jolene Regetta requested one half-day leave without pay, retroactive to April 29, 2014. Mrs. Regetta is also requesting four days leave without pay retroactive to April 30, May 1, May 2 and May 6, 2014 and May 13, 2014 one half-day leave.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the following request for leave without pay as presented.

##### **8. Severance - Nancy Bennett**

**(ACTION ITEM)**

Mrs. Nancy Bennett, full-time Middle School Aide, submitted her letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement effective at the end of the 2013-2014 school year, and the Board of School Directors accepted Mrs. Bennett's resignation at their May 5, 2014 meeting. Mrs. Bennett's severance allowance has been calculated and submitted to the Board for approval at this time.

As per the following calculations, Mrs. Bennett is entitled to a severance allowance in the amount of \$3,094.00, under option #1.

Option #1: 17 years of service X \$182.00 = \$3,094.00

Option #2: 33.5 unused sick leave days X \$52.00 = \$1,742.00

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors accept Mrs. Bennett's severance allowance of \$3,094.00 as presented.

##### **9. Severance - Marie Rickrode**

**(ACTION ITEM)**

Mrs. Marie Rickrode, Newville Elementary School Second Grade Teacher, submitted her letter of resignation for the purpose of retirement effective at the end of the 2013-2014 school year, and the Board of School Directors accepted Mrs. Rickrode's resignation at their April 7, 2014 meeting. Mrs. Rickrode's severance allowance has been calculated and submitted to the Board for approval at this time.

## **Big Spring School Board Meeting Minutes ~ Monday, May 19, 2014**

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

#### **A. PERSONNEL CONCERNS (Continued)**

##### **9. Severance - Marie Rickrode (Continued)**

As per the following calculations, Mrs. Rickrode is entitled to a severance allowance in the amount of \$11,412.00, under option #2.

Option #1: 25 years of service X \$230.00 = \$5,750.00

Option #2: 158.5 unused sick leave days X \$72.00 = \$11,412.00

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors accept Mrs. Rickrode's severance allowance of \$11,412.00 as presented.

##### **10. Resignation - Colleen Seibel (ACTION ITEM)**

Ms. Colleen Seibel submitted her letter of resignation as an aide at Mt. Rock Elementary School, effective the end of the 2013-2014 school year.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve Ms. Seibel's resignation as an aide at Mt. Rock Elementary School, effective the end of the 2013-2014 school year.

#### **VOTE ON XII., NEW BUSINESS, A., PERSONNEL CONCERNS, A-1 through A-10**

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Gutshall to combine and approve XII., NEW BUSINESS, A., PERSONNEL CONCERNS, Items A-1 through A-10, as outlined and recommended above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: McCrea, Piper, Gutshall, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 5 – 0

### **XII. NEW BUSINESS – OTHER ACTIONS**

#### **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>Michael Berry</b>	<b>\$1,260.00</b>
<b>Richard Fry</b>	<b>\$ 500.00</b>
<b>Dwain Messersmith</b>	<b>\$1,311.00</b>
<b>Brandie Shatto</b>	<b>\$1,650.00</b>
<b>Scott Penner</b>	<b><u>\$1,966.50</u></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,687.50</b>



## **Big Spring School Board Meeting Minutes ~ Monday, May 19, 2014**

### **XII. NEW BUSINESS – OTHER ACTIONS (Continued)**

#### **B. Credit Pay (Continued)**

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, the Act 93 Agreement and the Big Spring School District.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Piper to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: , McCrea, Piper, Gutshall, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 5 – 0

#### **C. Case I of 2013-2014**

**(ACTION ITEM)**

The parents of the student in Case I of the 2013-2014 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 I of the 2013-2014 school year for a period of thirty (30) days, reduced to fifteen (15) days, predicated upon completion of the Student Assistance Team process. During the period of exclusion, the student is not permitted to attend or participate in any school activities nor appear on school property at any time for any reason.

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

#### **D. Case J of 2013-2014**

**(ACTION ITEM)**

The parents of the student in Case J of the 2013-2014 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 J of the 2013-2014 school year for a period of thirty (30) days, reduced to fifteen (15) days, predicated upon completion of the Student Assistance Team process. During the period of exclusion, the student is not permitted to attend or participate in any school activities nor appear on school property at any time for any reason.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Gutshall to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: McCrea, Piper, Gutshall, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 5 – 0

## **Big Spring School Board Meeting Minutes ~ Monday, May 19, 2014**

### **XII. NEW BUSINESS – OTHER ACTIONS (Continued)**

#### **E. Case K of 2013-2014**

**(ACTION ITEM)**

The parents of the student in Case K of the 2013-2014 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 K of the 2013-2014 school year for a period of forty-five (45) days, reduced to thirty (30) days, predicated upon completion of the Student Assistance Team process. During the period of exclusion, the student is not permitted to attend or participate in any school activities nor appear on school property at any time for any reason.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Gutshall to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: McCrea, Piper, Gutshall, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 5 – 0

#### **F. Case L of 2013-2014**

**(ACTION ITEM)**

The parents of the student in Case L of the 2013-2014 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 L of the 2013-2014 school year for a period of forty-five (45) days, reduced to thirty (30) days, predicated upon completion of the Student Assistance Team process. During the period of exclusion, the student is not permitted to attend or participate in any school activities nor appear on school property at any time for any reason.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Gutshall to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: McCrea, Piper, Gutshall, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 5 – 0

#### **G. Updated Policy**

**(ACTION ITEM)**

The administration submitted the updated policy listed and a copy is included with the agenda.

##### **222 Tobacco**

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the policy as presented.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Gutshall to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: McCrea, Piper, Gutshall, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 5 – 0

## **Big Spring School Board Meeting Minutes ~ Monday, May 19, 2014**

### **XII. NEW BUSINESS – OTHER ACTIONS (Continued)**

**(ACTION ITEM)**

#### **H. Approval of 2014/15 Athletic and Student Accident Insurance**

Annually the District provides supplemental insurance to cover athletics (at District expense) and offers student accident insurance to parents. The District is not liable for accidents at school under PA Code and this is a relatively inexpensive way for parents to provide coverage during school time if they do not have their own insurance. There is no change in premiums from last year.

The administration recommended the Board of School Directors approve the proposal from Christian-Baker Co. for Athletic and Student Accident Insurance for the 2014/15 School Year at a cost of \$15,570 for Athletics and the Student coverage at parent expense.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Gutshall to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: McCrea, Piper, Gutshall, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 5 – 0

**(ACTION ITEM)**

#### **I. Approval of 2014/15 Cafe Budget and Chartwells Contract Renewal**

Included with the agenda is the renewal letter and budget for 2015 from Chartwells. This includes a 1.5% increase in fees along with a guarantee of \$60,000 profit in operations that does not fully offset other District expenses from the food service fund as shown in the included budget for the food service fund. A summary of Chartwells performance to date is also included.

The administration recommended the Board of School Directors approve the Chartwells budget for 2014/15 food service operations and authorize the administration to sign those documents necessary for renewal of the Chartwells contract for 2014/15.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Gutshall to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: McCrea, Piper, Gutshall, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 5 – 0

#### **J. Facilities Utilization Request**

**(ACTION ITEM)**

Mr. Shea Hurley requested permission to use Oak Flat softball field, retroactive to May 18, 2014, at 2:00 P.M. for a U-8 Softball game. Because the utilization date was on a Sunday, Board action is necessary.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve Mr. Hurley's request to use the Oak Flat softball field, retroactive to May 18, 2014, at 2:00 P.M. for a U-8 Softball game.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Gutshall to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: McCrea, Piper, Gutshall, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 5 – 0

**Big Spring School Board Meeting Minutes ~ Monday, May 19, 2014**

**XII. NEW BUSINESS – OTHER ACTIONS (Continued)**

**K. Students Eligible for Early Graduation**

**(ACTION ITEM)**

Based on successful completion of semester one course work the student listed will be eligible for early graduation for the 2014-2015 school year.

**Paige Burrell**

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve January, 2015 graduation for the student listed based on their successful completion of all graduation requirements

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Gutshall to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: McCrea, Piper, Gutshall, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 5 – 0

**L. Cumberland Perry Area Vocational Technical School General Fund Budget Proposal**

The Cumberland Perry Area Vocational Technical School has developed a General Fund Budget Proposal for the 2014-2015 school year. The proposed budget reflects a -3.27% decrease for the 2014-2015 school year. The dollar value of this decrease for Big Spring School District is \$22,042.00.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the proposed 2014-2015 CPAVTS budget as presented.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Gutshall to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: McCrea, Piper, Gutshall, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 5 – 0

**M. Planned Course Adoption**

**(ACTION ITEM)**

Listed below is a completed planned course and materials for board approval.

**Planned Course**  
**Elementary -- Writing**

**Materials**  
**WriteSteps - Writing and Grammar Program**

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

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Gutshall to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: McCrea, Piper, Gutshall, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 5 – 0

## Big Spring School Board Meeting Minutes ~ Monday, May 19, 2014

### XII. NEW BUSINESS – OTHER ACTIONS (Continued)

#### N. Approval of Construction Payment Applications (ACTION ITEM)

The District received the following payment applications for ongoing projects. A copy of the Oak Flat PC payment schedule is included with the agenda.

Project	Contractor	This Payment	Balance
OF HVAC	Honeywell	\$378,404	\$842,343

The administration recommended the Board of School Directors approve payment of \$378,404 to Honeywell from the Oak Flat Project fund.

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Gutshall to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: McCrea, Piper, Gutshall, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 5 – 0

#### O. Updated Policies (INFORMATION ITEM)

The administration submitted the updated policies listed for Board review.

**313 Evaluation of Employees**  
**317 Discipline of Employees**

The updated policies will be an action item on June 2, 2014, Board Agenda.

### XII. NEW BUSINESS – OTHER ACTIONS (Continued)

#### (INFORMATION ITEM)

#### P. Updated Year-to-Date Summaries/Taxes and General Fund

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

#### Q. Proposed Textbook Adoption (INFORMATION ITEM)

Mr. Kevin Roberts, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, is recommending the following book to the Superintendent of Schools. The book is available for review in the curriculum office by any member of the Board of School Directors who wishes to review the book, prior to the June 2, 2014 Board of School Directors meeting.

**Course -- Middle School Science - 4 C's      Title -- Maximum Ride**

### XIII. FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future Board agenda items.

**XIV. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. District Improvement Committee - Mr. Norris/Mr. McCrea**

No meeting was conducted, and no report was offered.

**B. Athletic Committee – Mr. Swanson/Mr. Roush/Mr. Gutshall**

The Athletic Committee will meet on Thursday, May 29, 2014, at 7:00 a.m. in the Board room of the District Administration Office.

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

No meeting was conducted, and no report was offered.

**D. Buildings and Property Committee - Mr. Barrick/Mr. Piper  
Mr. Swanson/Mr. Roush**

No meeting was conducted, and no report was offered.

**E. Finance Committee – Mr. Gutshall/Mr. Piper/Mr. Swanson/Mr. Blasco**

The Finance Committee is slated to meet on Wednesday, May 28, 2014, at 4:30 p.m.

**F. South Central Trust – Mr. Blasco**

No meeting was conducted, and no report was offered.

**G. Capital Area Intermediate Unit – Mr. Wolf**

A CAIU meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 22, 2014.

**XV. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

**A. Kudos to High School Baseball Team**

Superintendent Fry read for all in attendance a letter from the Mr. and Mrs. Rathgeber, parents of Kevin Rathgeber, a special-needs student who has been a manager of the Big Spring High School baseball team this year. The letter commended the team for the kindness shown to Kevin all season, especially during the final game, and noted that Kevin will remember this experience for years to come.

The Rathgeber family expressed gratitude to the families of the baseball players for welcoming Kevin and creating a wonderful environment for him.

**XV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (Continued)**

**B. State Education Funding**

Superintendent Fry indicated that the state's final budget would be constructed soon, and Mr. Fry noted that the potential for flat funding exists.

Mr. Fry indicated that bills supporting special education funding in the House and Senate have been thwarted as the result of pressure from the charter school alliance. Mr. Fry has been communication with local representatives regarding the special education funding issue.

Mr. Fry noted that in 2012-2013, Pennsylvania public schools paid charter schools \$350 million for students with special needs. Of that \$350 million, charter schools spent just \$156 million on special-education students, resulting in a \$200 million profit for the year. The rate of tuition for a Big Spring cyber charter student is \$10,000, while the rate for a student with special needs is \$22,000.

Mr. Fry addressed this issue at a community forum last week. Big Spring School District taxpayers paid \$1.1 million as the result of cyber charter payments, and special education is only one component of that.

Mr. Fry encouraged Board members to contact Representatives Bloom and Tallman regarding this issue.

**C. Middle School Resource**

Superintendent Fry indicated that he and Mr. Roberts have received written questions from two parents, mainly focused on restructuring the resource period. Mr. Fry indicated that a restructuring is taking place at the middle school similar to the restructuring at the high school seven years ago, and he added that the schedule process at any building is tweaked periodically to address student needs.

Mr. Fry indicated that there is information on the middle school website explaining the scheduling changes, and hard copies of the information have been sent to all middle school families.

## **Big Spring School Board Meeting Minutes ~ Monday, May 19, 2014**

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

#### **D. Advanced Placement Tests**

Superintendent Fry indicated that the number of students enrolled in advanced placement tests has nearly tripled over the last ten years, and the number of students scoring a passing grade of 3 or higher has increased as well. Mr. Fry commended the teachers and administration involved with enhancing the AP program.

#### **E. Baccalaureate**

Superintendent Fry indicated that the baccalaureate service will be held at Green Spring First Church of God on June 1, 2014, at 7:00 p.m.

#### **F. International Test Results**

In response to a question from Director Piper, Mr. Roberts indicated that he would investigate and report to the Board regarding the results of the international test that 75 random 15-year-old Big Spring students have taken.

Mr. Fry indicated that Big Spring was invited to participate in the testing through relationships in the educational testing industry, and he added that Big Spring was the only school tested in Pennsylvania. The \$12,000 test was free to Big Spring, courtesy of a financial grant.

### **XVI. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

There was no business from the floor.

### **XVII. FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no future Board agenda items.

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

There was no public comment regarding future Board agenda items.

### **XIX. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Swanson, seconded by Gutshall to adjourn. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: McCrea, Piper, Gutshall, Swanson, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 5 – 0

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

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Robert Lee Barrick, Secretary

**NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING: Monday, June 2, 2014.**