

BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newville, Pennsylvania

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2016

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 8:00 P.M. with President Wilbur Wolf, Jr., presiding. Six (6) directors present: Wilbur Wolf, Jr., President; Robert Lee Barrick, Secretary; David Gutshall, Treasurer; Bob Kanc; Todd Deihl; and William Piper.

William Swanson, Vice President; Kingsley Blasco; and Richard Roush, were absent.

Others in attendance: Richard W. Fry, Superintendent; Kevin C. Roberts, Jr., Assistant Superintendent; Richard E. Kerr, Jr., Business Manager; Curtis Garland, The Valley Times-Star; Emily Webber, Student Representative to the Board of School Directors; and Brenda Line, Board Minutes.

The members of the Board of School Directors met in Executive Session to discuss negotiations issues this evening from 7:18 to 7:57 P.M.

II. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

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

III. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2016 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES; THE SEPTEMBER 6, 2016 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE BOARD MEETING MINUTES; AND THE SEPTEMBER 6, 2016 BUILDING AND PROPERTY MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Kanc, seconded by Barrick for approval of the September 6, 2016 Regular Board Meeting Minutes; the September 6, 2016 Committee of the Whole of the Board Meeting Minutes; and the September 6, 2016 Building and Property Meeting Minutes as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Deihl, Kanc, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 6-0

IV. STUDENT/STAFF RECOGNITION AND BOARD REPORTS

Student/Staff Recognition and Board Reports - Emily Webber

Ms. Emily Webber offered the [attached student report](#).

V. Financial Reports

a. Payment of Bills

General Fund	\$	497,014.64
Capital Projects	\$	3,938.81
Stadium & Track Projects	\$	82,024.20
Cafeteria Fund	\$	19,275.59
Student Activities	\$	<u>6,187.06</u>
Total	\$	608,440.30

Motion by Gutshall, seconded by Barrick to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Deihl, Kanc, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 6-0

b. Treasurer's Fund Report

General Fund	\$	16,632,206.11
Capital Projects	\$	3,708,081.27
Cafeteria Fund	\$	488,006.35
Student Activities	\$	200,704.82
Stadium & Track Projects	\$	<u>1,542,471.89</u>
Total	\$	22,571,470.44

Motion by Gutshall, seconded by Barrick to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Deihl, Kanc, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 6-0

c. YTD General Fund Report and YTD Taxes

The administration prepared these reports for the Board. The General Fund report looks at our revenue and expense for this year against the budget and compares those amounts to last year. The YTD Tax report shows the monthly collections and cumulative collections and compares that to the two previous years.

Motion to accept Year-To-Date General Fund and Tax Reports as submitted. Motion by Barrick, seconded by Deihl to accept the Year-To-Date General Fund and Tax Reports as submitted. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Deihl, Kanc, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 6-0

VI. Reading of Correspondence - Pennsylvania Department of Education

Mr. Richard W. Fry, Superintendent of Schools received correspondence from Pennsylvania Department of Education regarding Big Spring School District being in compliance with Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Pennsylvania Department of Education commends Big Spring School District for the hard work being done to deliver high quality programs to students with disabilities.

Superintendent Fry noted that this is a yearly correspondence from the State, and he added that the District does a “fantastic job” with the IDEA compliance.

VII. Recognition of Visitors

Karla Dechene, Beth Laird, John McCrea, Bob Webber, and Chad Wert.

VIII. Public Comment Period

- A. Ms. Beth Laird**, 28 Chestnut Street, Newville, 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. Laird for attending this evening’s meeting and offering a prayer.

- B. John McCrea**, P.O. Box 341, Newville, Pennsylvania, addressed the members of the Board of School Directors and noted that, in his opinion, the Board members have been hoodwinked with regard to the new school resource officer (SRO) contract. Mr. McCrea explained the history of the word “hoodwinked” as it relates to the ancient sport of falconry when a leather hood was placed over the head of a falcon to trick the bird thinking it was night so it would release its recently captured prey.

Mr. McCrea indicated that he believes through the combined efforts of the administration and MGtechnical disadvantage, Board members have been left in the dark with regard to the SRO contract. Mr. McCrea noted that President Wolf’s comments in the Valley Times-Star were “totally false” when he indicated that the new SRO program will be wonderful, outstanding, and that the sheriff’s deputies have a broad background of policing skills.

Mr. McCrea cited the case of Commonwealth versus John Marconi in which the Supreme Court declared that sheriffs and deputy sheriffs have relatively few policing skills. Their policing skills are limited to the ability to arrest on view for breaches of the peace and felonies committed in their presence. Mr. McCrea noted that any citizen possesses this power under the rules of citizen arrest.

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VIII. Public Comment Period (Continued)

B. John McCrea (Continued)

Mr. McCrea added that several individuals were quoted in the newspaper as indicating they were excited about the program. Mr. McCrea noted that he is not excited about the prospect of the SRO from the sheriff's office, nor does he think it is wonderful. Mr. McCrea questioned: How, if at all, will safety be improved or increased by the presence in the high school or on the high school campus of a person who has had a one-week basic SRO course to the tune of the \$5,100 that the Big Spring School District has agreed to pay under its contract?

Mr. McCrea stated that, in his opinion, an inexperienced young person like that in the high school halls will bring about a condition of less safety, and he added that a guy packing heat in the high school halls will be an individual with a whole lot less weapons training and less experience than the rankest local police officer who has been qualified into duty in the borough of Newville, for example.

Mr. McCrea speculated that this change to the sheriff's department is "only about control, and it has always been about control." Mr. McCrea noted that he believes the administration was unable to exert control over the conduct of a recent investigation, and this new contract is an attempt to ensure that that lack of control will not happen again. Mr. McCrea added that, in his opinion, if a deputy sheriff were in the SRO position during the recent investigation, the "investigation would have been buried once and for all as soon as he turned it over to the principal."

Mr. McCrea suggested that, if the District purchases a Taser for the SRO, the Taser should first be used on each member of the Board and administration before it is agreed to have someone carry a weapon like that in the halls.

Mr. McCrea noted that he believes all the District is getting for an SRO is a glorified hall monitor or a safety patrol person, not a person who is going to bring about a safer school environment.

President Wolf noted that Mr. McCrea exceeded the three-minute time limit, and Secretary Barrick added that Mr. McCrea has been speaking for nearly eight minutes.

President Wolf thanked Mr. McCrea for his comments.

IX. Structured Public Comment Period

There was no Structured Public Comment.

X. Old Business

There was no Old Business.

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**(NOTE: The Board addressed
XI., NEW BUSINESS, A., PERSONNEL CONCERNS, Items A-1 through A-6,
following Item A-6.)**

XI. NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS

A. Personnel Items - Action Items

1. Resignation - Larry Darr

Mr. Larry Darr communicated to Mr. Rick Gilliam, Director of Building and Grounds, that he is resigning as a part-time custodian at Mt. Rock Elementary School, retroactive to September 13, 2016.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the resignation of Mr. Larry Darr, retroactive to September 13, 2016.

2. Coaching Recommendations

Mr. Jay Hockenbroch, Athletic Director, recommended the individuals listed as coaches for the 2016-2017 school year.

Nate Gutshall - Fitness Center Coach (split position)
Robert Smetana - Junior High Girls Basketball Coach

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the appointment of the above listed coaches, as presented.

3. Source4Teachers - Long-Term Substitute - Karyn Cunningham

The administration requests permission to move forward with the recommendation for the long-term substitute listed below with Source4Teachers, the District substitute teaching contractor.

Karyn Cunningham, Long-Term Substitute Elementary Grade 1 Teacher, replacing Theresa Yilek who will be on leave from approximately September 15, 2016 through approximately October 17, 2016.

4. Recommendation for Mt. Rock Quiz Bowl Coaches

Mrs. Karen Ward, Mt. Rock Elementary School Principal, recommended the individuals listed as Quiz Bowl Coaches for Mt. Rock Elementary School, for the 2016-2017 school year.

Vicki Brickner
Andy Pettit

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the above listed individuals as Quiz Bowl Coaches for Mt. Rock Elementary School for the 2016-2017 school year, as presented.

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A. Personnel Items - Action Items(Continued)

5. Recommendation for Honors Chorus Director - Melissa Kiehl

The administration recommended the individual listed as the Honors Chorus Director for the 2016-2017 school year, replacing Ms. Sarah O'Donnell, who has resigned.

Melissa Kiehl

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the appointment of the above listed individual as Honors Chorus Director, effective immediately.

6. Recommendation for Public Relations Coordinator - Jessica Winesickle

Mr. Kevin Roberts, Assistant Superintendent of Schools recommended Mrs. Jessica Winesickle, Home and School Visitor as the Public Relations Coordinator, replacing Mrs. Brandie Shatto who has resigned. This position is an extra-duty classified position.

The administration recommended the Board of School Directors approve Mrs. Jessica Winesickle as the Public Relations Coordinator, as presented.

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

Motion by Barrick, seconded by Kanc to combine and approve XI., NEW BUSINESS, A., PERSONNEL CONCERNS, Items A-1 through A-6, as outlined and recommended above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Deihl, Kanc, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 6-0

XI. New Business (Continued)

B. Credit Pay

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.

Shannon Brose	\$1,410.00
Amy Craig	\$ 369.00
Laura Fritz	\$1,395.00
Jonathan Hocker	\$2,790.00
Timothy Kireta	<u>\$2,757.96</u>
Total	\$8,721.96

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 Piper to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Deihl, Kanc, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 6-0

XI. NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS (Continued)

C. Approval of 2016-2017 FFA Field Trips

The FFA would like to request permission to attend the trips and leadership conferences listed below. Information is included with the agenda.

National FFA Convention, Indianapolis, Indiana - October, 2016

State FFA ACES Leadership Conference, Harrisburg, PA - February, 2017

State FFA State Legislative Leadership Conference, Harrisburg, PA - March, 2017

FFA Spring Trip, Details and Location TBD - March/April, 2017

State FFA Convention, State College, PA - June, 2016

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the above listed FFA trips and leadership conferences, as presented.

Motion by Kanc, seconded by Barrick to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Deihl, Kanc, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 6-0

D. Approval for the 2016-2017 Middle School Fundraiser

Mr. Christopher Boyd, Middle School Assistant Principal recommended the fundraiser listed for the Fall, 2016.

PBIS Fundraiser

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the above listed fundraiser, as presented.

Motion by Barrick, seconded by Deihl to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Deihl, Kanc, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 6-0

E. Approval for the Updated Policy 217 Graduation

The administration has updated the Board Policy listed and a copy of the policy has been included with the agenda.

Policy 217 Graduation

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

Motion by Barrick, seconded by Deihl to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Deihl, Kanc, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 6-0

XI. NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS (Continued)

F. Approval of the Proposed 2016-2017 FFA Program of Activities

The officers of the Big Spring FFA are requesting Board approval of the proposed 2016-2017 FFA Program of Activities. Board approval of the Program of Activities is a requirement in preparation for the State and National Chapter Awards. Included in the Program of Activities is a listing of current officers and information regarding the organization's standing committees.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the 2016-2017 Program of Activities for the Big Spring FFA, as presented.

Motion by Kanc, seconded by Barrick to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Deihl, Kanc, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 6-0

**(NOTE: The Board addressed
XI., NEW BUSINESS, Items G and H,
following Item H.)**

G. Facilities Utilization Request - Wrestling Kick Off Dinner

The Newville Wrestling Association is requesting to utilize the High School commons and concession area for the 2016 Wrestling Season Kick Off Dinner. The date of the request is Sunday, November 20, 2016, from 2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Because the utilization is on a Sunday, Board action is necessary.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the Newville Wrestling Association request to utilize the High School commons and concession area for the Wrestling Season Kick Off Dinner on November 20, 2016.

H. Facilities Utilization Request - Venom Softball

The Venom Softball League is requesting to utilize Mt. Rock Elementary School Gym on January 8, 15, 22, 29 and February 5, 12, 19, 26, 2017, from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. for softball practice. Because the utilization dates are on Sunday's, Board action is necessary.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve Venom's Softball request to utilize Mt. Rock Elementary School Gym for softball practices, as presented.

Motion by Gutshall, seconded by Kanc to combine and approve the recommendations as outlined in XI. NEW BUSINESS, Items G and H. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Deihl, Kanc, Piper, Gutshall, and Wolf. Voting No: Barrick. Total Yes votes: Five (5). Total No votes: One (1). Motion carried by a majority vote. 5-1

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XI. NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS (Continued)

I. Approve Stadium & Track Project Fund Payments

The District received the following applications for payment:

<u>Projects</u>	<u>Pay To</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Security Cameras	Honeywell Intl Inc	\$4,138.29	-
GC Pay App 5	eciConstruction, LLC	\$239,173.95	\$160,705.19
GC Pay App 6	eciConstruction, LLC	\$72,702.65	\$88,002.54
Mech Pay App 1	MidStateMech& Electric, LLC	\$128,754.00	\$16,146.00
Electrical Equip	The Hite Company	\$207.83	-

The administration recommended the Board of School Directors approve the payment of \$4,138.29 to Honeywell International, Inc., \$311,876.60 to eciConstruction, LLC, \$128,754.00 to Mid-State Mechanical & Electrical, LLC, and \$207.83 to The Hite Company from the Stadium and Track Project Fund.

Motion by Barrick, seconded by Deihl to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Deihl, Kanc, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 6-0

J. Approval of Newville Elementary School Financial Report

The Big Spring School District has received a copy of a letter and a report from Kevin Hurley, advising that the Newville Elementary PTO financial report was accepted with auditing standards for the 2015-2016 school year. A copy of the letter and report is included with the agenda.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors accept the 2015-2016 Newville Elementary School PTO annual audit report, as presented.

Motion by Barrick, seconded by Kanc to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Deihl, Kanc, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 6-0

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XI. NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS (Continued)

K. Approve Capital Project Reserve Fund Payments

The District received the following applications for payment from the Capital Project Reserve fund:

<u>Projects</u>	<u>Pay To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Track Design	Turf, Track & Court, LLC	\$4,868.50
MS Roof Design	Professional Roof Services, Inc	\$16,000.00
MR Pave Inspection	E.L. Diffenbaugh Associates	\$4,075.00
HS Gym Floor	Miller Flooring Company, Inc	\$32,871.99
MS/DAO/MR Roof	Garland/DBS, Inc.	\$143,466.96

The administration recommended the Board of School Directors approve payment from the Capital Project Reserve fund of \$4,868.50 to Turf, Track & Court, LLC, \$16,000 to Professional Roof Services, Inc., \$4,075.00 to E.L. Diffenbaugh Associates, \$32,871.99 to Miller Flooring Company, Inc., and \$143,466.96 to Garland/DBS, Inc.

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

In response to a question from Secretary Barrick, Mr. Fry indicated that Garland has completed the District administration office and the middle school; however, there is still some minor work for completion at the Mount Rock Elementary School.

Roll call vote on the motion by Barrick and second by Kanc to approve the recommendation as outlined above: Voting Yes: Deihl, Kanc, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 6-0

L. Approve Stadium Project Change Orders

Wolf Consulting Engineers provided the following change orders for approval:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>CO#</u>	<u>Projects</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Ellsworth	11	E-stop buttons for gas-fired kitchens	\$380.96
Ellsworth	12	Wiring of cabinet heater	\$559.18

The administration recommended the Board of School Directors approve changes orders 11 & 12 with Ellsworth Electric as included in the agenda.

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Motion by Barrick, seconded by Deihl to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Deihl, Kanc, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 6-0

XI. NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS (Continued)

M. Big Spring School District Fitness Center Service Agreement

The proposed 2016-2017 Big Spring School District Fitness Center Services Agreement has been prepared by Gareth D. Pahowka, Esquire, Big Spring School District Solicitor, and reviewed by Mr. Richard W. Fry, Superintendent of Schools. The agreement is included with the agenda.

The administration recommended that the Board of School Directors approve the 2016-2017 Big Spring School District Fitness Center Services Agreement, as presented.

Motion by Barrick, seconded by Deihl to approve the recommendation as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Deihl, Kanc, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 6-0

N. Proposed Electronic Signatures Policy 829 (INFORMATION ITEM)

The administration has drafted the Board Policy listed and a copy of the policy has been included with the agenda. After the policy has been reviewed by the Board of School Directors the administration will present the policy for Board approval at the October 3, 2016 Board meeting.

Electronic Signatures Policy 829

O. PSBA Voting (ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Robert Barrick, Board Secretary, shared information regarding PSBA Voting during the Committee of the Whole of the Board meeting, and the Board agreed to address this as an action item.

Electronic Ballot - 2017 PSBA Officers and PSBA Insurance Trust

PSBA Officer Elections

President-Elect: Michael Faccinetto

Vice President: David Hutchinson

Central At Large (three-year term)

PSBA Insurance Trust Trustees

Trustees: William S. LaCoff (term ends Dec. 31, 2018)

Kathy K. Swope (term ends Dec. 31, 2019)

Marianne L. Neel (term ends Dec. 31, 2017)

Michael Faccinetto (term ends Dec. 31, 2017)

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Motion by Barrick, seconded by Deihl to approve this item as an action item and approve the PSBA officer elections as outlined above. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Deihl, Kanc, Piper, Gutshall, Barrick, and Wolf. Motion carried unanimously. 6-0

XII. Future Board Agenda Items

There were no future Board agenda items.

XIII. BOARD REPORTS

A. District Improvement Committee - Mr. Bob Kanc

No meeting was conducted and no report was offered.

B. Athletic Committee - Mr. Swanson, Mr. Gutshall, Mr. Deihl

No meeting was conducted and no report was offered.

C. Vocational-Technical School - Mr. Wolf and Mr. Piper

No meeting was conducted and no report was offered.

D. Building and Property Committee - Mr. Barrick, Mr. Piper, Mr. Swanson, Mr. Roush, Mr. Gutshall

No meeting was conducted and no report was offered.

E. Finance Committee - Mr. Blasco, Mr. Piper, Mr. Swanson, Mr. Gutshall

No meeting was conducted and no report was offered.

F. South Central Trust - Mr. Blasco

G. Capital Area Intermediate Unit - Mr. Wolf

No meeting was conducted and no report was offered.

H. Tax Collection Committee - Mr. Wolf and Mr. Swanson

No meeting was conducted and no report was offered.

XIV. FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future Board agenda items.

XV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Staff Development

Superintendent Fry indicated that a two-hour scheduled delay would be held on Tuesday, September 20, 2016, for the purposes of staff development that is customized to the needs of individual buildings.

B. Principal Briefings

Superintendent Fry noted that 90-minute principal briefings would be conducted over the next two weeks. The principals are slated to meet with members of the central office administration to review goals and discuss building data goals.

C. Band Competition

Mr. Fry invited everyone to attend the band competition at the stadium on Saturday, September 24, 2016, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the stadium. Eleven bands will compete.

D. Collective Bargaining Agreement

Mr. Fry indicated that, if all goes well, the administration plans to have a collective bargaining agreement prepared for Board action at the October 3, 2016 meeting.

XVI. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

XVII. PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Kanc, seconded by Barrick to adjourn. Roll call vote: Voting Yes: Blasco, Deihl, Kanc, Piper, Roush, Gutshall, Barrick, Swanson, and Wolf.
Motion carried unanimously. 6-0

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 P.M.

Robert Lee Barrick, Secretary

The next scheduled meeting is **Monday, October 3, 2016.**