

BIG SPRING SCHOOL DISTRICT

Newville, Pennsylvania

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2018

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The Finance Committee of the Board of School Directors for the Big Spring School District met in the Big Spring School District Administration Conference Room, at 3:45 p.m. with William Swanson, Vice President; William Piper, Secretary; David Gutshall, Treasurer; Todd Deihl, Bob Kanc and Robert Over

Others in attendance: Richard W. Fry, Superintendent; Kevin C. Roberts, Assistant Superintendent Richard Kerr, Jr. Business Manager; Vonda Kelso, Accounting Controller; Cathy Seras, Board Minutes

PRESENTATIONS:

1. The Budget Process – Mr. Richard Kerr, Jr., Business Manager

- Mr. Kerr talked about the budget process and communicated to the Board of School Directors his recommendation to stay within the index. Dr. Fry stated that the District will not go above the index which is 2.9%.
- Mr. Kerr stated that the Board does have to pass a resolution by January 31, 2019, promising to stay within the index.

2. BSSD Account Code Structure

- Mr. Kerr talked about the account structure to the Board of School Directors which describes how purchases are used to support education in Big Spring School District.

3. General Fund Balance

- Mr. Kerr talked about the year end fund balance trends.
- Mr. Kerr shared the comparison of other districts fund balance with Big Spring School District's fund balance and feels the District is in a good position.

4. YE 2018 Budget Review

- Mr. Kerr communicated the budgetary comparison of revenues and expenditures of the various programs within the District.
- Mr. Kerr talked about the YE 2018 Cost Center which involves Special Education Programs, Pupil Services, Wellness, Technology, Curriculum and Instruction, Grants and all elementary and secondary buildings cost within the District.

5. BSSD Real Estate Tax Breakout

- Mr. Kerr shared the year to date taxes by municipality to the Board of School Directors.
- Mr. Kerr updated the Board on the warehouse status within the District and talked about the LERTA.
- Dr. Fry shared that as more LERTA information comes forth it will be shared with the Board of School Directors.
- Mr. Kerr communicated the assessed value and assessment history within the District and talked about the large increase in assessment of \$273,142.00.
- Mr. Kerr shared the CSIU tax levy comparison of other Districts and how Big Spring measures up with other school districts.
- Dr. Fry communicated that Big Spring is the 3rd highest mills in Cumberland County, Carlisle School District is 2nd and Camp Hill School District is 1st. Dr. Fry talked about Dauphin Cumberland Counties being close in mills. Dr. Fry stated that within those sixteen districts Big Spring School District is 8th from the bottom.

6. PSERS

- Mr. Kerr talked about the PSERS projected annual increase.
- Dr. Fry communicated that the PSERS increase is a stand-alone increase from year to year and for 19-20 is approximately a \$262,000 increase.
- Mr. Kerr shared that once the PSERS Board meets the District will know what the actual number will be.
- Mr. Kerr communicated the PSERS numbers will climb due to the increase in salaries.

7. Medical Expense

- Mr. Kerr communicated to the board that the District cut their medical expenses by 25% in the past 4 years.
- Dr. Fry shared that industry states that it is no more than 3 years of decreases in health care.

8. Budget 2020

- Mr. Kerr communicated the 2020 budget of revenue and function.
- Mr. Kerr talked about the projection for the 2020 budget.
- Dr. Fry shared that approximately 60% - 65% of the budget is for salaries and benefits.
- Dr. Fry shared that almost 75% of the District salaries are going to our teaching staff.
- Dr. Fry communicated that the money is going to where it needs to be which are the teachers.
- Dr. Fry shared that the Districts numbers of teachers per student is in the top 10% of the state.
- Mr. Kerr shared the five-year projection for the District's budget.

9. Budget Calendar

- Mr. Kerr shared the budget calendar with the Board of School Directors to begin January 21, 2019 – June 3, 2019.

The Board Finance Conference Meeting adjourned at **5:20 p.m.**

William L. Piper, Secretary