

BIG HOLLOW SCHOOL DISTRICT #38

26051 W. Nippersink Rd – INGLESIDE, IL 60041

Phone (847) 740-1490 FAX (847) 740-9172

WEB SITE: www.bighollow.us

RONALD D. PAZANIN, Superintendent

Sharon Hassberger, Financial Coordinator

Christine Arndt, Principal
Dawn Smith, Asst Principal
Big Hollow Primary School (K-1)
33335 N. Fish Lake Rd
Ingleside, IL 60041
847-740-5320
fax 847-740-3490

Christine Arndt, Principal
Lenayn Janusz, Asst Principal
Big Hollow Elementary (2-4)
33315 N. Fish Lake Rd
Ingleside, IL 60041
847-740-5321
fax 847-740-3795

April Miller, Principal
Deborah Coolidge, Asst Principal
Big Hollow Middle School (5-8)
26051 W. Nippersink
Ingleside, IL 60041
847-740-5322
fax 847-740-9021

December 4, 2009

PTO HOLIDAY BREAKFAST

The breakfast will held on Saturday, December 12, from 8-11 a.m. in the middle school.

PTO PAJAMA DRIVE

Following is information from the monthly PTO Newsletter:
“Pajamas Needed! Please send a new pair of pajamas and/or new book to school, and they will be donated to “The Pajama Program” which is a non for profit organization that delivers Warm Sleepwear and Nurturing Books to Children in Need, many of whom are living in foster group homes and waiting to be adopted. Some of these children have never had warm pajamas or a good night story. All sizes from infant to teen are needed. PTO’s 3rd annual Pajama Drive begins December 1st and runs until December 12th. Collection boxes will be in all three school offices as well as at the Holiday Breakfast on December 12th. For more information please visit www.pajamaprogram.org.”

PTO MARKET DAY PICK-UP

Wednesday, December 9, 4:45 – 5:45 p.m., at the middle school.

PROPOSED ILLINOIS LEARNING STANDARDS REVISIONS AND STATE AND FEDERAL FINANCIAL PROPOSAL

Last week Illinois State Board of Education representatives announced the intention of revising the current State Learning Standards. Action is being implemented to identify and implement learning standards which will complement the State Board’s revised GOAL #1: “Every student will demonstrate academic achievement and be prepared for success after high school.” The new focus is to revise and align State Learning Standards and assessments to **national and international standards**. At this time 48 states have agreed to work cooperative to identify a clear, common core of standards; Alaska and Texas chose not to participate.

A financial incentive motivating the states is a new United States Department of Education program titled "Race to the Top". State program applications are due in January with "winners" announced in the spring and summer; Illinois could potentially be awarded between \$200 – 400 million. One major component of the Race to the Top application is the identification of a revised set of State Learning Standards. There is a concern which should be noted: while the expectation is that revised standards will be identified for the 2010-11 school year, revised assessments might not be constructed and utilized for another 2-3 years. If such a timeline was implemented there would be decreased validity and reliability between the new standards being measured by the old (current) state tests. Public school districts throughout Illinois, and other states, will be anxiously monitoring the progress of this new initiative.