BIG HOLLOW SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
AUGUST 18, 2008 7:00 P.M.
BIG HOLLOW MIDDLE SCHOOL

President Gallichio called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board Present: Carsella, DeVito, Frank, Gallichio, Kueter, Pedersen, Wright
Board Absent: None
Administration Present: Pazanin, Arndt, Webb, Smith Jahnke
School Business Official: Mary Taylor
Guests: Robin Jensen, Jean Hamann, Deb Knudsen, Sophia Rogalevich, Jody Jared, Donna Rousseau, Bridget Massey, Eeva Burns, David Jesmer, Heather Wick, Laurie Barnowski

It Items of Public Concern: Sophia Rogalevich addressed the Board regarding the possibility of reducing class size in the fourth grade by designating an additional section.

Superintendent Pazanin replied that current enrollment numbers were being evaluated and a decision would be made before the end of the week.

Laurie Barnowski expressed her concerns pertaining to the district's informing parents about their child's kindergarten schedule.

Superintendent Pazanin informed the audience that this was the earliest the district has ever distributed this information to the parents.

There were no School Related Organization reports.

The Board discussed the Post-Referendum Considerations.

Teacher David Jesmer shared a hand-out with the Board regarding area school districts'sports participation fees.

The Board discussed 2008-2009 school year pay to play options.

The Board recommended a $50.00 fee per sport with a cap of $250 per family for the school year. Formal action will occur at the September School Board meeting.

President Gallichio discussed the possibility of starting ad Adopt-An-Island Program. Families and groups would "adopt" a section of the district's grounds and be responsible for cutting grass, weeding, planting flowers, etc.

Motion #1 by Carsella, seconded by Wright to accept the Consent Agenda (A. Minutes of July 21 School Board Meeting, B. Accounts Payable).
Aye: Carsella, Wright, DeVito, Frank, Gallichio, Kueter, Pedersen
Nay: None

Superintendent Pazanin presented the Superintendent's Report.

A. Springfield: The State is rescoring all the 2008 school year ISAT tests. There is continuing discussion about the Constitutional Convention issue on the November ballot.

B. New School Year: The current estimated student count in 1,560. The largest grade at this time is second grade. Three classrooms have been allotted for Early Childhood. There are two pre-school screenings scheduled for September 3 and 10.

C. RTI (Response to Intervention): Each administrator has been assigned a component of RTI.

Jackie Jahnke – Special Education
Margaret Webb - Technology & Enrichment
Dawn Smith – Discipline
Deb Coolidge (pending Board approval) – Curriculum
Christine Arndt – Facilitator

The two initial goals are to develop and submit a formal plan to Springfield by the January 1 deadline and to finalize the implementation plan for the 2009 – 2010 school year.

D. 2008 – 2009 School Year Budget Draft: The budget draft is available for public review. The adoption of the budget will be an agenda item for the September School Board meeting.

In Miscellaneous Items: The Board approved to pay the Big Hollow SEDOL portion of the building bond in August, but SEDOL has not finalized the sales date of the bond. Therefore, the payment will be made in September.

President Gallichio informed the Board that Jones Transportation would charge St. Bede's $202.00 a day, not including fuel costs, for 2008-2009 bus service.

President Gallichio contacted St. Bede's regarding the cost and St. Bede's declined the busing option.

Superintendent Pazanin reported that the district has hired 28 new teachers.

Motion #2 by DeVito, seconded by Pedersen to exit into closed session to discuss Personnel, Property and Collective Bargaining at 8:23 p.m.
Aye: DeVito, Pedersen, Carsella, Frank, Gallichio, Kueter, Wright
Nay: None

The Board returned to open session at 9:27 p.m.

Motion #3 by Gallichio, seconded by Kueter to accept Lois Bucher's retirement letter dated July 23, 2008 per terms of the 2007-2008 contract.
Aye: Gallichio, Kueter, Carsella, DeVito, Frank, Pedersen, Wright
Nay: None

Motion #4 by Gallichio, seconded by Wright to approve the pay for a certified instructional aide at $85.00 per day.
Aye: Gallichio, Wright, Carsella, Frank, DeVito, Kueter, Pedersen
Nay: None

Motion #5 by Gallichio, seconded by DeVito to approve hiring Deborah Coolidge as Assistant Principal.
Aye: Gallichio, DeVito, Carsella, Frank, Kueter, Pedersen, Wright
Nay: None

Motion #6 by Gallichio, seconded by Pedersen to hire: Jennifer Janek – Third Grade; Melissa Silverman – ½ day Kindergarten and ½ day Heather Hallman's replacement; Michelle Cashmore – Primary Computer; and Michelle Kellman – Elementary Computer
Aye: Gallichio, Pedersen, Carsella, DeVito, Frank, Kueter, Wright
Nay: None

Motion #7 by Gallichio, seconded by Kueter to move that the Board of Education approve the tentative agreement reached between the Big Hollow Federation of Teachers and the Board of Education, and authorize the President of the Board to execute such agreement on behalf of the Board, subject to receipt of advice from legal counsel for the Board that such Agreement is in proper form and appropriately reflects the tentative agreement.
Aye: Gallichio, Kueter, Carsella, DeVito Frank, Pedersen, Wright
Nay: None

Motion #8 by DeVito, seconded by Pedersen to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m.
Aye: DeVito, Pedersen, Carsella, Fran, Gallichio, Kueter, Wright
Nay: None

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Victoria Gallichio, President Board of Education	Doug Pedersen, Secretary Board of Education