

News Release

Board Approves Proposed 2008 Tax Levy

INGLESIDE, IL – November 20, 2008 – At its November 17th meeting, following a public hearing on the matter, the Big Hollow School Board voted to approve the proposed 2008 District 38 tax levy. The tax levy represents the District's formal request to Lake County for property tax revenues to apply towards 2009-10 school year expenditures. While the Board-approved levy represents the maximum allowable rate, the actual levy rate will be lower due to tax-cap legislation. Even at the maximum allowable rate, however, property tax revenues would not cover the District's projected expenditures. Further details are available in an FAQ on the tax-levy process posted at www.bighollow.us.

Other announcements at the November 17th meeting included:

- The premiere issue of *The Chalkboard*, Big Hollow's triannual community newsletter, was mailed on Wednesday, November 13 and began arriving in District mailboxes a couple days later. *The Chalkboard* is also available online in PDF form at www.bighollow.us.
- The PTO raised a record \$16,000 during its fall book fair. That translates to \$8,000 in profit to purchase library books! The PTO will reprise last year's successful Pajama Drive beginning Monday, December 1 and culminating Saturday, December 13 with the annual Holiday Breakfast.
- The District continues to solicit bids for management of its sports turf/athletic fields. Interested parties may contact the District office for specifications.
- A formal Big Hollow teacher-mentoring program will debut in January 2009. While the Big Hollow School District has a longstanding tradition of successful informal mentoring, the high number of new teachers this year has prompted the administration and faculty to work together to formalize the mentoring process.
- Adopt-An-Island applications are available in the District office. Adopt-An-Island allows Big Hollow organizations, clubs, classrooms, staff and families; community organizations; and community members and families to assist in the maintenance of the landscaped areas of the Fish Lake campus by performing weed removal, cultivating

approved plantings, and pruning bushes. Many of the areas eligible for “adoption” are parking lot islands, hence the program’s name.

- School Board candidate packets are available in the District office for any eligible District resident interested in running for one of four open School Board seats. Eligibility extends to U.S. citizens 18 years of age or older who are registered voters and have resided in Illinois and the Big Hollow School District for at least one year prior to the April 7, 2009 election. The filing period is January 20-26, 2009.

The Big Hollow School Board's next regular meeting is at 7 p.m. on Monday, December 15 in the Middle School's conference room. As always, the community is invited to attend and provide feedback.