

# BIG HOLLOW CHALKBOARD

COMMUNITY  
NEWSLETTER  
OF THE  
BIG HOLLOW  
SCHOOL  
DISTRICT # 38

Volume 2, Issue 1

August, 2010

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## Big Hollow School District Information

Questions are often asked seeking information about various components of the school district's operations. Although finalized numbers, applying to many of these items, will not be available until the fall, the following is information which might be of interest.

How many students are estimated to attend Big Hollow during school year 2010-11? Currently, kindergarten registration is at 150, but over 165 families received registration packets; grade 1, 226; grade 2, 196; grade 3, 177; grade 4, 194; grade 5, 172; grade 6, 196; grade 7, 171; and grade 8, 180. The number of Big Hollow students who will attend out-of-district programs has not been determined.

How large are the three school buildings on the Big Hollow Campus? The primary and elementary school buildings are both 75,000 square feet while the middle school is 145,000 square feet. It should be noted that all the classrooms, in the three buildings, will be utilized this school year.

What is the operating expense per pupil? Based on the annual independent audit, it is approximately \$8,500.

Big Hollow will receive how much in property taxes this year? Approximately \$8,275,000 will be extended for operational expenses and approximately

\$5,300,000 for bond payments.

What is the percentage of revenues Big Hollow receives from local, state, and federal sources? The amounts for the last school year have not been finalized (Springfield still owes Big Hollow approximately \$440,000 for last school year), but for the previous year the allocation was: local 83.1% (of which 90.2% was property taxes), state, 14.1% and federal, 2.8%.



## School Calendar

- 8/25 1st Day Grades 1-8
- 8/26 1st Day Kindergarten
- 9/14 Meet the Board
- 9/20 School Board Meeting
- 10/8 8th Grade Springfield Trip
- 10/12 Teacher Institute
- 10/18 School Board Meeting
- 11/15 School Board Meeting
- 11/23 Parent Teacher Conferences 1/2 Day
- 11/24 Parent Teacher Conferences

## Big Hollow Mission and Vision Statements

The Big Hollow School District's Mission Statement is: Big Hollow will provide a strong educational foundation that empowers students to excel and instills the desire for life-long learning. The district has also developed five Vision Statements:

1. The District will de-

- velop in students the ability to apply problem-solving skills in their daily lives.
2. The District will have open, honest, effective communication that creates a strong bond between school, home and community.

3. The District will meet the individual education needs of all students.
4. The District will develop students with a respect for self, others, and the environment.
5. The district will develop students with a passion for learning.

## National Education Standards

Illinois has joined with approximately 40 other states in adopting National Education Standards. The initial standards pertain to Language Arts/Reading and Mathematics. The Common Core State Standards initiative is the result of a collaboration of the National Governors Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers. These national standards were developed as the response to the creation of academic skill expectations, by individual states, as required by the now discredited No

Child Left Behind Law. No program timeline has been identified, but implementation is expected to be a long term process. A copy of the standards is available by contacting the school district.



## Response to Intervention (RtI)

Big Hollow is implementing the state-mandated Response to Intervention (RtI) Program. This program is a process designed to provide instructional interventions and assessments to students who have been identified with reading and mathematics needs. Interventions are also provided for students with behavioral needs. A guide to the RtI Program is available by contacting the school district.

## What is going on with the Rt. 12 property?

During the past two years there have been two contracts tendered for the purchase of the property; in both cases, the potential buyers cancelled their offers. With the direction of our school district attorney, the School Board is investigating options which could be initiated during the upcoming school year.

A wide variety of information is available at the school district's website [www.bighollow.us](http://www.bighollow.us). Topics include finances, school board news, calendar of events, and other numerous items of student, parent, and community interest.

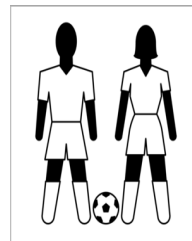
## District Contracts

The School District requested proposals pertaining to contracted services for School Year 2010-11. Contracts were approved for Durham Transportation (school bus), Arbor Management (hot lunch program) and Perfect Cleaning (custodial services).

## Co-Ed Soccer Team for Fall 2010

Big Hollow will field a Middle School co-ed soccer team this fall. Currently the school district athletics include volleyball, basketball, cheerleading, wrestling, and track. Big Hollow belongs to the Lakes Region Athletic Conference which includes the Alden Hebron, Emmons, Grass Lake, Harrison, Johnsbury, Milburn West, North Prairie, Prairie Crossing, and Stanton School Districts. The team will com-

pete in an approximately eleven game match schedule plus a conference tournament. The team coaches are Mrs. Sarley and Mrs. Siman who are both teachers in the district. We are excited that our students will have this new sports opportunity.



## Lunch Program Advisory Committee

The first meeting of the newly created Lunch Program Advisory Board will be on Wednesday, September 22 at 7:00 p.m. in the Middle School conference room. Information will be provided to parents, teachers, and students concerning their opportunity to offer input on the district's hot lunch program. Contact Julia Mazur at 847-740-2135 or [jmazur4@gmail.com](mailto:jmazur4@gmail.com) for additional information.



Did you know that Big Hollow is the longest operating school district in Lake County? We started in 1836 as a one room log school building housing approximately a dozen students and have grown to three modern buildings serving nearly 1,700 girls and boys. During the past 174 years, Big Hollow students and community have been offered a quality educational program provided by dedicated, professional teachers. Obviously,

## Superintendent's Desk

Illinois public education has experienced changes during a span of one-and-three-quarters centuries—local controls have been eroded by a consistent wave of federal, state, and judicial mandates; requirements which necessitate increased expenditures, but are minimally funded with federal or state revenue. The fact is, the foundation of Illinois public school operational finance is the antiquated and unequal system of property taxation. Fortunately, the Big Hollow citizen taxpayers have exercised a strong traditional commitment to their school system; a fact which reinforces a re-

ciprocal response from the school staff to provide a professional, effective education program on a daily basis.

As we begin the 2010-11 school year, you are invited to view information on the district's website ([www.bighollow.us](http://www.bighollow.us)), attend monthly school board meetings (the third Monday of each month), or attend various events such as "Meet the Board" sessions (see the website for dates and times of weekly/monthly activities). On behalf of the Big Hollow school staff, thank you for your continued support.

## Residency Verification

During the week of August 2-6, the school district conducted a residency verification of all families seeking to register their children for the upcoming school year. With an increasing student population, it is crucial that the district's residents' property taxes and limited state resources be used for the education programs of students who reside in the Big Hollow School District.

## Meet the Board

The first "Meet the Board" session, of the new school year, will be held on Tuesday, September 14, from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at the middle school. This is an opportunity for community members to ask questions and provide input on school district-related topics.

## State Funding

Big Hollow, like most Illinois public school districts, continues to wait for Springfield to send owed operational funding. Currently, the state has not paid approximately \$440,000 for School Year 2009-2010.

## Big Hollow School District Building Use

The Board of Education allows eligible members of the community to use its facilities during non-school hours. School functions have priority over all other uses.

Permission to use the facilities must be obtained by submitting a written application to the building principal or superintendent. The use of the

facilities must be for a lawful purpose and of a nature suitable for a public school.

Fees are determined by the classification of the organization. Big Hollow affiliated and benevolent organizations may pay no fee or a nominal fee. Other organizations will pay fees which are determined by the day of the week



and the part of the school facility which is utilized.

Contact the district office (847) 740-1490 for more information regarding fees or for a building use application.

**Big Hollow  
School  
District 38**

26051 W. Nippersink Road  
Ingleside, IL 60041

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Fax: 847-740-9172

THE CHALKBOARD IS A  
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[www.bighollow.us](http://www.bighollow.us)

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**Big Hollow Schools**

**Superintendent**

Ron Pazanin

**Associate Superintendent**

Christine Arndt

**Business Manager**

Sharon Hassberger

**Primary School (K-1)**

(ECH-SEDOL)

Christine Arndt, Principal  
Dawn Smith, Asst. Principal  
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Phone (847) 740-5320  
Fax (847) 740-3490

**Elementary School (2-4)**

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Deborah Coolidge, Asst. Principal  
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Ingleside, IL 60041  
Phone (847) 740-5321  
Fax (847) 740-3795

**Middle School (5-8)**

April Miller, Principal  
Matt Mayer, Dean  
26051 W. Nippersink Road  
Ingleside, IL 60041  
Phone (847) 740-5322  
Fax (847) 740-9021

**Big Hollow  
School Board**

**President**

Mrs. Vickie Gallichio

**Vice President**

Ms. Vivian Kueter

**Secretary**

Mr. Doug Pedersen

**Members**

Mr. Joe Bridge

Mr. Ken Frank

Mrs. Heather Janquart

Mrs. Julia Mazur

School Board meetings are typically held on  
the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m.  
in the Middle School conference room.