

Big Hollow School District #38 Ingleside, IL 60041

Board of Education Regular Minutes

January 11, 2016 – 6:00 pm – Big Hollow Library

1. Item I - Call to Order: The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:00 pm on Monday, January 11, 2016 by Heather Janquart at the Big Hollow School Library.

Roll Call: The following members were in attendance: Jim DeVito, Heather Janquart, Vivian Kueter, Kevin Lyons, Doug Pedersen

The following members were absent: Joe Cernuska, Julia Mazur

The following Administration were present: Robert Gold

2. Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Motion to move to Closed Session: A motion was made by Kevin Lyons and seconded by Vivian Kueter to move to closed session. Motion Carried.

Aye: Jim DeVito, Heather Janquart, Vivian Kueter, Kevin Lyons, Doug Pedersen

Nay: None

4. Return to Open Session: A motion was made by Kevin Lyons and seconded by Jim DeVito to return to Open Session. Motion Carried.

Aye: Joe Cernuska, Jim DeVito, Heather Janquart, Vivian Kueter, Kevin Lyons, Julia Mazur, Doug Pedersen

Nay: None

5. Added Items/Approval of the Agenda:

Amend agenda items:

- Item 9, letter C, Exhibit 15, change date to read January 4, 2016.
- In Item 11 add a letter e. Superintendent Evaluation.

A motion was made by Kevin Lyons and seconded by Doug Pedersen to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.

Aye: Joe Cernuska, Jim DeVito, Heather Janquart, Vivian Kueter, Kevin Lyons, Julia Mazur, Doug Pedersen

Nay: None

6. Consent Agenda:

Question was asked regarding Item 1, Exhibit 3 regarding money paid for e-write program. E-write program is a federal reimbursement program that has very complex rules. We pay a consultant to assist us in ensuring that we get all money back we are to get. We pay a portion of the money to the consultant for his/her services.

A motion was made by Jim DeVito and seconded by Julia Mazur to approve the consent agenda items. Motion Carried.

Aye: Joe Cernuska, Jim DeVito, Heather Janquart, Vivian Kueter, Kevin Lyons, Julia Mazur, Doug Pedersen  
Nay: None

7. Public Comments:

No public comments at this time.

8. Superintendent's Report

**Item 8 – Section A**

Board Policy section 2:220 should state 11 edition.

**Item 8 – Section B**

Mr. Gold shared results of several discussions that took place during the various transition meeting held with staff during Mr. Gold's first 6 months here at Big Hollow. The top concerns among teachers were:

- Class Sizes
- Instructional Resources lacking
- Desire for curriculum leadership
- Need for vertical articulation
- RTI needs improvement (received lots of positive comments about the old program)
- Lack of positive impact in co-teaching models

**Item 8 – Section C**

Mr. Gold shared some updates regarding the new transportation program and construction of the new facility. It was mentioned that the architect suggested investigating the idea of incorporating with Round Lake so that the school would no longer be in unincorporated territory. Mr. Gold and architect Ted attended a meeting with Round Lake to discuss the possibility of becoming an incorporated part of Round Lake. Round Lake did not give lots of reasons as to why we should further pursue becoming incorporated.

Architect Ted stated:

- He did not see any downfalls in becoming part of Round Lake
- Round Lake does not have the strenuous process that the county does
- Some of the fees may go away if we incorporated with Round Lake
- He was not sure as to how long the annexation process would take
- Dealing with the county could result in higher fees

- Big Hollow school address would stay the same if we incorporated with Round Lake

Questions asked in regards to becoming incorporated with Round Lake:

- What would Round Lake get out of the deal?
- How much money would Big Hollow save by incorporating with Round Lake?
- If we incorporate will they redistrict our school boundaries?
- Even if we do not become an incorporated part of Round Lake, will we still be able to stick to the timeline presented for constructing the transportation facility? (Ted indicated that the timeline would not change regardless of decision to incorporate or not to incorporate)
- Have the residents along Levi Waite been notified of construction of the new facility

Mr. Gold stated that we have successfully secured 18 buses. Only issue with hiring drivers is that bus companies such as Durham are able to offer a great benefit to their drivers that a school cannot offer. Durham is able to offer their drivers unemployment during the summer which may make it hard for us to acquire drivers.

#### **Item 8 – Section D**

There is an opportunity for the Board to be a part of a short workshop focusing on self-evaluation and setting expectations with new leadership. If the board is interested a time can be scheduled. The workshop would last 2 to 2 ½ hours. Board members indicated that these meetings can be costly and asked about getting feeder schools involved to help cut the costs (may be a good idea to conduct workshops with other area school boards).

#### **Item 8 – Section E**

The school report cards have been published and are now available for viewing. The link to the online report cards as well as a PDF copy of the report cards for each school will be emailed to students' parents. Copies will be mailed to parents who do not have access to email. The link to these reports is available on the BigHollow.us website. Mr. Gold shared the Interactive Report card that is available online.

Mrs. Janusz and Mrs. Arndt shared results to the first year of PARCC data that is now available. The PARCC test was taken with paper/pencil in 4<sup>th</sup> grade and on the computer in the Middle School. PARCC testing has been modified for this year to be completed only one time per year and it will not be as lengthy. This is a state mandated test that every student is required to take. Further information regarding PARCC testing can be found on the ISBE website. NWA results show that Big Hollow Reading and Math were both above the norm. Results of these tests will be shared with staff and used to determine growth and areas to work on.

#### **Item 8 – Section F (PERA Joint Committee)**

A final agreement has been developed and signed by the PERA Joint Committee. This is a development plan to implement student growth. The committee decided to go with an All-In Model. Each building will set individual goals for reading and math for MAP testing. Results from this year's MAP testing will be used for growth and goal setting for next year.

### **Item 8 – Section G (2016-2017 School Calendar)**

Mr. Gold shared with the Board the proposed 2016-2017 School Calendar.

Administrators, Union Leadership, and staff had input to developing this calendar. Some changes in the calendar for next year include:

- Lining up Winter and Spring breaks with Grant High School
- Not having Early Release days on months like December when we have 2 weeks off.
- Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on one day from 11 am – 7 pm and there will be no student attendance.

A motion was made by Kevin Lyons and seconded by Vivian Kueter to approve the School Calendar for 2016-2017. Motion Carried.

Aye: Joe Cernuska, Jim DeVito, Heather Janquart, Vivian Kueter, Kevin Lyons, Julia Mazur, Doug Pedersen

Nay: None

### **Item 8 – Section H (Technology Committee Update)**

A motion was made by Kevin Lyons and seconded by Vivian Kueter to add Julia Mazur to the Technology Committee. Motion Carried

Aye: Joe Cernuska, Jim DeVito, Heather Janquart, Vivian Kueter, Kevin Lyons, Julia Mazur, Doug Pedersen

Nay: None

### **Item 8 – Section I (Blended Learning Pilot)**

Mr. Gold and Matt McCulley presented to the Board information regarding a blended learning pilot that is underway. This program will provide staff with more devices in the classroom. Matt is looking at purchasing Chrome books. We would like to purchase a couple of sets. The idea would be to have 2 staff members be involved in piloting this program, then the Board will be taken through this program as they were the student. By April or May a recommendation would be made as to whether or not to go with this program for next year. The Chrome books will be purchased through fund 60. Eighty Two Chrome books will be purchased; 72 for the classrooms and 10 for the Special Ed department. The 10 for the Special Ed department will be purchased through a Special Ed Grant.

Janquart asked if Big Hollow had enough Internet capability to handle all these new devices. McCulley indicated that Big Hollow does have plenty of internet capability.

## **9. Other Action Items**

### **A. PRESS Update**

PRESS Plus Policy Reading will be approved at second reading.

### **B. Review of Closed Session Meeting Minutes**

A motion was made by Jim DeVito and seconded by Doug Pedersen to approve keeping closed session meeting minutes closed to the public. Motion Carried.

Aye: Joe Cernuska, Jim DeVito, Heather Janquart, Vivian Kueter, Kevin Lyons, Julia Mazur, Doug Pedersen

Nay: None

**C. Employment Recommendations**

- A motion was made by Kevin Lyons and seconded by Julia Mazur to approve the personnel employment change of Susan Grazier from part-time Paraprofessional to full-time Paraprofessional, effective January 4, 2016. Motion Carried.

Aye: Joe Cernuska, Jim DeVito, Heather Janquart, Vivian Kueter, Kevin Lyons, Julia Mazur, Doug Pedersen

Nay: None

- A motion was made by Kevin Lyons and seconded by Doug Pedersen to approve the personnel employment change of Nandita Viramgami as part-time Paraprofessional in addition to Lunch Monitor duties at Big Hollow Primary School, effective January 4, 2016. Motion Carried.

Aye: Joe Cernuska, Jim DeVito, Heather Janquart, Vivian Kueter, Kevin Lyons, Julia Mazur, Doug Pedersen

Nay: None

- A motion was made by Kevin Lyons and seconded by Vivian Kueter to approve employment of Jennifer Shepard as full-time Paraprofessional for the Primary School, effective January 4, 2016. Motion Carried.

Aye: Joe Cernuska, Jim DeVito, Heather Janquart, Vivian Kueter, Kevin Lyons, Julia Mazur, Doug Pedersen

Nay: None

- A motion was made by Jim DeVito and seconded by Kevin Lyons to approve the personnel employment change of Stepaney Wiley as Elementary Maintenance employee to full-time Food Service Worker at Big Hollow Elementary School, effective January 12, 2016. Motion Carried.

Aye: Joe Cernuska, Jim DeVito, Heather Janquart, Vivian Kueter, Kevin Lyons, Julia Mazur, Doug Pedersen

Nay: None

- A motion was made by Kevin Lyons and seconded by Julia Mazur to approve the employment of Gretchen Graham as a contracted Physical Therapist, for 6 hours per week, from Soliant Health Care Solutions, effective January 4, 2016. Motion Carried.

Aye: Joe Cernuska, Jim DeVito, Heather Janquart, Vivian Kueter, Kevin Lyons, Julia Mazur, Doug Pedersen

Nay: None

10. Resignations Accepted

The following resignations were accepted in the month of December:

- Bertha Cervantes, Food Service Worker, effective December 10, 2015.

11. Informational Items

**A. FOIA Requests**

There were no FOIA requests to report.

**B. Monthly Report for the Board**

No comments.

**C. Administrator Meeting Agendas**

No comments.

**D. Board Meeting Dates**

The next Board meeting will be held on Monday, February 8, 2016 with closed session beginning at 6:00 pm.

**E. Superintendent Evaluation**

Janquart will send out email to all Board Members to electronically evaluate the Superintendent. Results will be discussed in March.

12. Adjournment: A motion has been made by Kevin Lyons and seconded by Julia Mazur to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried

Aye: Joe Cernuska, Jim DeVito, Heather Janquart, Vivian Kueter, Kevin Lyons, Julia Mazur, Doug Pedersen

Nay: None

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Heather Janquart, President  
Board of Education

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Doug Pedersen, Secretary  
Board of Education