

Big Hollow School District #38 Ingleside, IL 60041

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

Monday, February 12, 2024

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:01 p.m. on Monday, February 12, 2024.

Roll Call:

The following members were in attendance: Bennett, Cernuska, Dollinger, Lyons, Plescia

The following members were absent: Kueter, Pedersen

The following administration was present: Gold

2. Motion to move to Closed Session:

A motion was made by Dollinger and seconded by Cernuska to move to closed session at 6:02 pm

Motion carried.

Aye: All

Nay: None

3. Resume to Open Session:

Open session began at 6:42 pm.

The following members were in attendance: Bennett, Cernuska, Dollinger, Kueter, Plescia

The following members were absent: Pedersen

The following administration were present: Gold, Biancalana, Cornwell, Janusz, McCulley, Steinseifer, Summers

4. Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

5. Added Items/Approval of the Agenda:

A motion was made by Plescia and seconded by Bennett to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried.

Aye: All

Nay: None

6. Public Comments

No public comments

7. Academic Spotlight

Big Hollow Elementary students shared with the board the projects that they worked on in honor of Black History Month. They studied Tyree Guyton and his Heidelberg Project found in Detroit Michigan. Tyree Guyton chose to try and clean up his neighborhood by making sculptures out of trash. Elementary students began their projects in Art with drawing their designs. They then engineered their creations out of trash in STEM. Students then finished their projects in Art with painting and adding details. Some of these projects were exhibited to the board.

8. Accomplishment Recognition

The following individuals were honored as the January 2024:

- o Student of the Month Primary: Gabriel Rogoz, 1st Grade. Mrs. Sterbenz, Gabriel's teacher, shared with the board the reason she nominated him; "he is a child that LOVES learning". He is always positive and a wonderful role-model.
- o Student of the Month Elementary: Dakota Mitchell, 3rd Grade. Dakota was nominated by Ms. Miller, Elementary PE Teacher. Dakota is an amazing student who has a kind empathetic heart and never focuses on limitations. He greets every day with a smile and enthusiasm.
- o Student of the Month Middle School: Steven Tzoumis, 6th Grade. Steven was nominated by Mr. Peyrot, 6th Grade Science Teacher and Mrs. Holm, MS Safety Paraprofessional. Steven has made tremendous progress and has worked so hard to find his passion for learning. The 6th grade team is super proud of him!
- o Employee of the Month: Denise Shireman, Primary School Paraprofessional. Denise was nominated by Kerry Arellano for being dedicated and going above and beyond for everyone all the time. She is a hard worker who always does so with a smile on her face.

9. Board Member "Code of Conduct" Review:

Item #4: "I will take no private action that might compromise the board or administration and will respect the confidentiality of privileged information."

10. Approve Consent Agenda Items:

A motion was made by Cernuska seconded by Plescia to approve the consent agenda items as presented.

Motion carried.

Aye: Cernuska, Plescia, Dollinger, Kueter, Lyons, Bennett

Nay: None

11. Superintendent's Report:

a. Instructional Coaching

Barb Steinseifer, Director of Curriculum; Nicole Stroup, Teaching and Learning Coordinator; along with Big Hollow Instructional Coaches and Teachers presented to the board the impact that the instructional coaching program is having on the teaching and learning of both students and teachers.

The instructional coach's main objective is student achievement and growth through collaboration and professional learning and is available to all teachers.

b. January 31st Enrollment

Mr. Gold shared an updated enrollment count comparing the 6th day enrollment to January 31, 2024 enrollment.

c. Facilities Planning Update

Mr. Gold shared an update on the current facilities improvement planning process. The estimated planning timeline is as follows:

- February 22nd
 - Mr. Gold will meet with representatives from Veregy to review their recommendations on projects that need to be pursued over the next 10 years along with estimated costs and a recommended timeline.
- February 29th
 - Mr. Gold will meet with the Building/Grounds/Transportation committee to review the information shared by Veregy and determine District priorities.
- March 4th
 - Mr. Gold will meet with the Finance committee to determine financing options
- March 11th– Board meeting
 - The Board will select what will be part of phase 1 to give Veregy the approval to move forward with getting final documents and firm numbers in place.
- April 8th - Board meeting
 - Final approval of Phase 1 projects and pricing

12. Other Action Items:

a. Certified and Support Staff Seniority Lists

A motion was made by Dollinger and seconded by Kueter to approve the certified and support staff seniority lists as presented.

Motion carried.

Aye: All

Nay: None

b. 2024-2025 School Fees

A motion was made by Plescia and seconded by Kueter to approve the recommended student fee structure for 2024-2025.

Motion carried.

Aye: Plescia, Kueter, Lyons, Bennett, Dollinger, Cernuska

Nay: None

c. Big Hollow School District 38 Well Decommission Project

Mr. Gold shared details on the recent bid activity for the well decommissioning project. He recommended not to accept the bid at this time to allow for more research into the requirements and additional options.

A motion was made by Cernuska and seconded by Dollinger to table the acceptance of exhibit 11 at this time.

Motion carried.

Aye: All

Nay: None

d. January Employment Recommendations

A motion was made by Cernuska and seconded by Kueter to approve the employment report for January 2024 as presented.

Motion carried.

Aye: Cernuska, Kueter, Plescia, Bennett, Lyons, Dollinger

Nay: None

13. Resignations Accepted:

- Accepted retirement for Paulette DeGeorge, Elementary School Library Clerk, effective May 28, 2024 after 21 years of service.
- Accepted retirement for Lenayn Janusz, Primary School Principal, effective July 19, 2024 after 33 years of service.
- Accepted resignation of Jessica Ritchey, Lunch Monitor, effective January 24, 2024.
- Accepted resignation of Tracy Bauske, Food Service Worker, effective March 10, 2024.
- Accepted resignation of Courtney Wegrzyn, Middle School Reading Specialist, effective February 2, 2024.

14. Informational Items:

- a. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Requests
FOIA's from January 2024 were exhibited. No questions or comments.
- b. Monthly Reports
Board of Education Administrator Report, Administrator Meeting Agenda, Monthly Attendance, AAPAC Agenda from January 11, 2023 and CAC agenda from January 22, 2024 were all exhibited.
- c. The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will take place on Monday, March 11, 2024 with closed session beginning at 6:00 pm and open session immediately following.

15. Motion to move to Closed Session:

A motion was made by Cernuska and seconded by Dollinger at 7:32 pm to move to return to closed session for the purpose of student disciplinary cases.
Motion carried.

Aye: All

Nay: None

16. Return to Open Session:

A motion was made by Cernuska and seconded by Kueter at 8:19 pm to return to open session.
Motion carried.

Aye: All

Nay: None

17. Action on resolution authorizing a student expulsion

A motion was made by Cernuska and seconded by Dollinger to approve the resolution authorizing student expulsion.

Motion carried.

Aye: All

Nay: None

18. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Cernuska and seconded by Bennett to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

Motion carried.

Aye: All

Nay: None