

**Big Hollow School District #38 Ingleside, IL 60041**

**REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, September 14, 2021

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, September 13, 2021.

Roll Call:

The following member were in attendance: Bennett, Dollinger, Kueter, Lyons, Pedersen, Plescia

The following members were absent: Cernuska

The following administration was present: Gold

2. Motion to move to Closed Session:

A motion was made by Kueter and seconded by Dollinger to move to closed session at 6:03 pm  
Motion carried.

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

Nay: None

3. Resume to Open Session:

Open session began at 6:46 pm.

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

The following members were absent: Cernuska

The following administration were present: Gold, Arndt, Biancalana, Hetrovicz, Janusz, King, McCulley, Pitman, Meek

The meeting was available via live stream.

4. Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

5. Conduct Hearing on the 2021-2022 Budget

A motion was made by Bennett and seconded by Plescia to enter the budget hearing.  
Motion carried.

Aye: All

Nay: None

Mr. Gold detailed the 2021-2022 budget as presented to the board. He emphasized that the goal is to continue to move forward with regards to the balancing of the budget. Although the budget will be tight this school year, he is confident that we will continue on the path of moving in the right direction. Mr. Lyons made mention of the tax payments that show in the month of June, which causes this month to appear inflated.

A motion was made by Pedersen and seconded by Kueter to exit the budget hearing.  
Motion carried.

Aye: All  
Nay: None

6. Added Items/Approval of the Agenda:

A motion was made by Plescia and seconded by Kueter to approve the agenda as written.  
Motion carried.

Aye: All  
Nay: None

7. Board Member "Code of Conduct" Review:

\_\_\_\_\_ Item #9: "I will respectfully listen to those who communicate with the Board, seeking to understand their views, while recognizing my responsibility to represent the interests of the entire community."

8. Approve Consent Agenda Items:

A motion was made by Plescia and seconded by Dollinger to approve the consent agenda items with the addition of raises for paraprofessionals and building secretaries.  
Motion carried.

Aye: Plescia, Dollinger, Lyons, Bennett, Kueter, Pedersen  
Nay: None

9. Public Comments:

Public comments were heard by Stephanie Meek, Middle School Assistant Principal and Evelyn Vasey, Middle School student.

10. Superintendent's Report:

\_\_\_\_\_ a. Mr. Gold shared a listing of all new certified staff members. Those that were in attendance had the opportunity to share with the board a little about themselves.

**PRIMARY:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
Katie Boyd	PreK Teacher
Barbara Gomez	Music Teacher
Aneta Luszczyk	Social Worker

**ELEMENTARY:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
Amanda Bergquist	ELL Teacher
Shannon Byker	3rd Grade Teacher
Missy Carr	2nd Grade Teacher
Sabrina Fortunski	3rd Grade Teacher
Vicki Stewart	3rd Grade Teacher
Kirsten Wilhelm	4th Grade Teacher

**MIDDLE:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
Thelma Allen	Bilingual Teacher
Nicole Buschek	6th Grade ELA Teacher
Bradley Doherty	6th Grade Social Studies
Kim Hanson	5-8 Electives Teacher
Heather Kolaski	5th Grade ELA Teacher
Chloe Kotiw	7th Grade Social Studies Teacher
Amanda McDonough	5th Grade Math Teacher
Catherine Polglaze	8th Grade Math Teacher
Jodie Ruden	6th Grade Science Teacher
Thomas Schorsch	8th Grade ELA Teacher
Ashleigh Wonsil	ELL Teacher

b. Certified employees that have received tenure status at the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year were honored.

- Hannah Ball (2nd Grade Teacher - Big Hollow Elementary)
- Douglas Erickson (6th Grade Math Teacher - Big Hollow Middle School)
- Heather Fischer (Math Specialist - Big Hollow Middle School)
- Kimberly Frazier (Speech Pathologist - Big Hollow Primary School)
- Kristen Glover (3rd Grade Teacher - Big Hollow Elementary School)
- Michael Gorelick (8th Grade Science Teacher - Big Hollow Middle School)
- Traci Hoos (Special Education Teacher - Big Hollow Primary School)
- Kristina Lancaster (2nd Grade Teacher - Big Hollow Elementary School)
- Sarah Loessl (7th Grade Science Teacher - Big Hollow Middle School)
- Sofia Mantzoukis (Bilingual Teacher - Big Hollow Elementary School)
- Sarah Nettis (School Psychologist - Big Hollow Elementary School)
- Erin Peska (5th Grade Science Teacher - Big Hollow Middle School)
- Kristina Vanderwerff (Social Worker - Big Hollow Elementary School)
- Bonny Walters (5th Grade Math Teacher - Big Hollow Middle School)

c. Return-to-School Discussion

Mr. Gold shared some back-to-school details. He indicated that although we face challenges on a daily basis everyone at Big Hollow steps in to help in any way possible. An update on the Shield testing was provided. The company running the program has proven difficult in getting the program up and running. We are looking into alternate options and will have more information for parents soon.

We continue to have a shortage of paraprofessionals and substitute teachers.

Pick up and drop off from parents and buses has improved dramatically since the first Day. There have been minimal issues with students wearing masks.

The state is providing free breakfast and lunch to all students this school year. Some parents have expressed a concern that students are eating at home and then again at school or taking free lunch as well as bringing a lunch from home.

d. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Update

Jessica M. Oladapo, who has provided service and training to Big Hollow School District over the past year, updated the Board on work that is planned for the 2021-2022 school year.

She presented an exhibit that detailed goals as well as how important it is that all members of Big Hollow (students, staff, and families) take part in the education of our students. We should appreciate all the individual things that students bring to the classrooms. "*Seeing*" them has a positive impact on self efficacy, academic achievement, relational interactions and has a positive impact on future outcomes for the community." Dr. Vicki King also shared her role in leading various school and district teams through this important work.

The board of education asked that they be kept up to date on the progress of the goals presented.

- e. Board Policy update on 2nd reading  
Press Plus Issue 107 was presented and discussed.  
Board policy 2:270, which was presented in August and was requested to be adjusted was removed and rewritten. It is presented later with the changes made.  
A motion was made by Plescia and seconded by Pedersen to approve on 2nd reading the recent Board Policy update Issue 107.  
Motion carried.

Aye: All

Nay: None

- f. New Board Policy 2:270  
Based on discussions at the August board meeting, new board policy 2:270 was revised and presented.  
A motion was made by Dollinger and seconded by Plescia to approve new board policy 2:270 as presented with the addition of the contact information to be added to the policy.  
Motion carried.

Aye: All

Nay: None

- e. Analysis of Enrollment  
6th day enrollment summaries were presented showing a data comparison from SY06-07 to SY21-22 as well as a breakdown of classroom enrollment for Primary and Elementary Schools.  
There is an increase in enrollment from last year but we are still down from previous years.

11. Other Action Items:

- a. August Employment Report  
A motion was made by Bennett seconded by Dollinger to approve the August employment report as presented.  
Motion carried.  
  
Aye: Bennett, Dollinger, Kueter, Lyons, Pedersen, Plescia  
Nay: None
- b. The MOU which was agreed upon by our teacher evaluation committee was presented

to the board.

A motion was made by Pedersen and seconded by Plescia to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of Education of Big Hollow School District and the Big Hollow Federation of Teachers for COVID-19 related issues for the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion carried.

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

Nay: None

c. Adoption of the 2021-2022 Budget

A motion was made by Bennett and seconded by Dollinger to approve the 2021-2022 Budget as presented during the budget hearing.

Motion carried.

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

Nay: None

d. A lease agreement for a 2017 Chevy Collins 19 passenger bus with wheelchair lift included was presented to the board.

A motion was made by Bennett and seconded by Kueter to approve the lease of an additional school bus for the purpose of transportation of students requiring handicap accessibility.

Motion carried.

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

Nay: None

12. Resignations Accepted:

- Accepted a resignation from Tad Grabnik, Middle School Graphics Arts Teacher, effective August 10, 2021.
- Accepted a resignation from Amanda Masini, Elementary Paraprofessional, effective August 11, 2021.
- Accepted a resignation from Carrie Miller, Boys Soccer Coach, effective August 17, 2021.
- Accepted a resignation from Renee Lynk, Transportation and Lunch Monitor, effective August 27, 2021.
- Accepted a resignation from Mary Lavanholi, Lunch Monitor, effective August 23, 2021.
- Accepted a resignation from Gail Peterson, Middle School Paraprofessional, effective August 23, 2021.
- Accepted a resignation from Annamarie Houghton, Food Service worker, effective August 23, 2021.

13. Informational Items:

- a. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Requests  
No FOIA requests were received for the month of August.
- b. Monthly Reports  
The Monthly Administrator Report and Administrator agendas from August were presented to the board.
- c. The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 12, 2021.

14. Motion to move to Closed Session:

Not needed

15. Return to Open Session:

Not needed

16. Take any necessary action following closed session regarding minutes, employment of personnel, resignations, terminations or leaves of absence:

None

17. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Dollinger and seconded by Plescia to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m.  
Motion carried.

Aye: All

Nay: None

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Board of Education President  
Big Hollow School District #38

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Board of Education Secretary  
Big Hollow School District #38