

Big Hollow School District #38 Ingleside, IL 60041

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 16, 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 Tuesday, January 16, 2024.

Roll Call:

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

The following members were absent: none

The following administration was present: Gold

2. Motion to move to Closed Session:

A motion was made by Bennett 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 6:28 pm.

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

The following members were absent: none

The following administration were present: Gold, Biancalana, Cornwell, Janusz, Pittman

4. Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

5. Added Items/Approval of the Agenda:

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

Motion carried.

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

Nay: None

6. Public Comments

A public comment was stated by 5th grade student, Marianna Longino, regarding her experiences as a black student at Big Hollow Middle School.

7. Academic Spotlight

Big Hollow PreK collaborated with Art and Fashion & Design teachers and students from Grant Community High School to create a Magnificent Monster Project.

PreK students drew and colored a monster, these drawings were then submitted to the high school, where students created stuffed animals to replicate each student's drawing. There were a few students in attendance to show the board their creations.

Students from Mrs. William's Advanced ELA class participated in a Problem Based Learning Project where they investigated the issue of bullying and developing suggested solutions for it. A group of students presented their ideas as well as suggestions for implementing them. This project is being documented by Nickelodeon.

8. Accomplishment Recognition

The following individuals were honored as the December 2023:

- o Student of the Month Primary: Alayna Antoniewicz, Kindergarten. Alayna's teacher, Mrs. Rusciolelli, shared with the board how hard Alayna has worked academically and how she goes out of her way to make others feel good about themselves.
- o Student of the Month Elementary: Nyla Jackson, 2nd Grade. Nyla's teacher, Ms. Vazquez, shared with board how Nyla comes to school every day with a smile on her face, ready to learn and how she helps motivate her fellow classmates.
- o Student of the Month Middle School: Gianna Reyes, 6th Grade. Gianna's teacher, Mr. Doherty, shared with board how Gianna works extremely hard to set and achieve her goals. She is not afraid to advocate for herself or her fellow classmates.
- o Employee of the Month: Sabrina Summers, 3rd Grade Teacher. Sabrina was nominated for being an outstanding educator who puts her children and their needs above all else. She adores her students and takes time to get to know them, their interests and what motivates each and every one of them.

9. Board Member "Code of Conduct" Review:

Item #3: "I will recognize that a board member has no legal authority as an individual and that decisions can be made only by a majority vote at a board meeting."

10. Approve Consent Agenda Items:

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

Motion carried.

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

Nay: None

11. Superintendent's Report:

a. HumanEx Data

Mr. Gold shared the results for the recent HumanEx staff survey, which was completed in December 2023. The overall staff satisfaction for each building has increased from last year.

b. Proposed 2024-2025 School Calendar

Mr. Gold, in collaboration with BHSD administrators and union leadership, submitted a proposed calendar for the 2024-2025 school year.

A motion was made by Plescia and seconded by Cernuska to approve the proposed 2024-2025 school calendar as presented.

Motion carried.

Aye: All

Nay: None

c. Grant High School Data Summary

A data summary provided from GCHS was exhibited which outlines various performance measures for their students who were previously Big Hollow students.

d. PRESS Plus

A motion was made by Cernuska and seconded by Kueter to approve on second reading the IASB PRESS Plus policy revision recommendations from issue number 113.

Motion carried.

Aye: All
Nay: None

e. 8th Grade Graduation

The 8th grade graduation will take place on Thursday, May 23, 2024 at 7:00 pm in the BHMS gymnasium.

12. Other Action Items:

a. Review of Closed Session Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Dollinger and seconded by Cernuska to approve the recommendation to keep all closed meeting minutes in closed status as per Board Policy 2:220.

Motion carried.

Aye: All
Nay: None

b. Transportation Lease Agreement

Mr. Gold shared details of a 3-year lease agreement to begin on July 1, 2024 for a new transportation fleet of 20/ 71 passenger buses; 4/ 27 passenger buses; and 4 wheelchair smaller buses.

A motion was made by Plescia and seconded by Cernuska to approve the 3-year lease agreement with Midwest Transit beginning on July 1, 2024.

Motion carried.

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

c. December 2023 Employment Recommendations

A motion was made by Pedersen and seconded by Dollinger to approve the employment report as presented.

Motion carried.

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

13. Resignations Accepted:

- Accepted resignation from Mikeely Taylan, Paraprofessional, effective December 11, 2023.
- Accepted a resignation from Margaret Miller, Transportation Driver, effective December 15, 2023.
- Accepted a resignation from James Kidd, Transportation Driver, effective December 21, 2023.
- Accepted a resignation from Troy Foster, Paraprofessional, effective January 9, 2024.
- Offer rescinded for employment of Kathryn Jones, Transportation Driver, due to failure to complete the required School Bus Endorsements in the required time allowed, effective January 10, 2024.
- Offer rescinded for employment of Christine Ramirez, Transportation Driver, due to failure to complete the required School Bus Endorsements in the required time allowed, effective January 10, 2024.

14. Informational Items:

- a. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Requests
FOIA's from December 26, 2023 and January 9, 2024 were exhibited. No questions or comments.
- b. Monthly Reports
Administrator Report, Administrator Meeting Agenda, Monthly Attendance, and the AAPAC Agenda from December 2023 were all exhibited.
- c. The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will take place on Monday, February 12, 2024 with closed session beginning at 6:00 pm and open session immediately following.

15. Motion to move to Closed Session:

Not needed

16. Return to Open Session:

Not needed

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

None

18. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Cernuska and seconded by Plescia to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Motion carried.

Aye: All

Nay: None

Board of Education President
Big Hollow School District #38

Board of Education Secretary
Big Hollow School District #38