

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

**REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, November 13, 2023

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

The regular meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 13, 2023.

Roll Call:

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

The following members were absent: Cernuska, Kueter

The following administration was present: Gold

2. Motion to move to Closed Session:

A motion was made by Bennett and seconded by Plescia to move to closed session at 6:01 pm

Motion carried.

Aye: All

Nay: None

3. Resume to Open Session:

Open session began at 6:56 pm.

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

The following members were absent: Cernuska

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

4. Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

5. Added Items/Approval of the Agenda:

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

Motion carried.

Aye: All

Nay: None

6. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

7. Academic Spotlight

Students from 2nd grade presented highlights from their Hispanic Heritage Month activities. Hispanic Heritage Month is September 15-October 15. Students shared their individual research projects as well as activities that they participated in.

8. Accomplishment Recognition

\*The 2023 Boys Cross Country team was recognized for qualifying for the Cross Country State Finals. This is the 2nd time in Big Hollow history that the boys team has qualified.

\*We also recognized Tyler Wahls for placing 19th at the state meet.

\*The following individuals were honored as the October 2023:

- o Student of the Month Primary: Finley Attermeier, Kindergarten. Mrs. Adams, Finley's Kindergarten Teacher, shared with the board that she nominated Finley, specifically for her help with a new student that speaks Russian. Findley, welcomed the new student and helped daily with learning the classroom and building expectations.
- o Student of the Month Elementary: Aadelynn Gamboa, 2nd Grade. Ms. Ostruszka, Aadelynn's reading teacher and Ms. Dovichi, Aadelynn's classroom teacher, both shared what a hard worker she is. She has a way of keeping herself and others on task in a way that is supportive and fun! She is always kind and always has a smile on her face.
- o Student of the Month Middle School: Dan Hayes, 8th Grade. Ms. Buschek, 8th Grade ELA, shared how Dan is such a polite student; always saying hello at the start of class and good day at the end. He offers thoughtful comments to class discussions and is a good example to his peers.
- o Employee of the Month: Beth Leginski, Kindergarten Teacher. Beth was nominated by Hayley Janney, 1st Grade Teacher, for her dedication to Big Hollow as well as ensuring her students' academic and behavioral needs are met. She follows up on them even after they have left her grade level. Beth is active in the community and plans the Primary School Pumpkin Patch each year.

9. Board Member "Code of Conduct" Review:

Item #1: "I will represent all school district constituents honestly and equally and refuse to surrender my responsibilities to special interest or partisan political groups."

10. Approve Consent Agenda Items:

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

Motion carried.

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

Nay: None

11. Superintendent's Report:

a. 2023 School Report Card

A link to the School Report Card was provided and reviewed by the board.

A representative from ECRA was present to provide an analysis of the IAR/MAP data for BHSD 38. Detailed information regarding the growth/progress of our students was explained, as well as the state comparisons. Charts were provided showing how BH students are competing at the state level.

b. Immunization Update

BHSD had 9 students (MS =3, ELE = 2, PRI = 4) that were not in State compliance as of October 15, 2023. The Illinois State Board of Education requires at least 90% compliance. As of October 31, 2023 all of these students were in compliance. We thank our school nurses for their hard work on this matter.

c. Staffing Plan

The staffing plan timeline for SY 24-25 was exhibited.

d. IASB Resolutions Committee Report

A listing of the 2023 IASB Resolutions to be considered at the Delegate Assembly was exhibited. Vivian Kueter is our delegate for the assembly and will attend the meeting on November 18, 2023.

12. Other Action Items:

a. October 2023 Employment Recommendations

A motion was made by Plescia and seconded by Kueter to approve the employment report with the addition of:

\*The employment of Mikeely Taylan, Middle School Paraprofessional, effective November 14, 2023.

\*The personnel change for Andrew Bernsee from Safety Paraprofessional to School Safety Coordinator, effective November 14, 2023.

Motion carried.

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

Nay: None

b. Approval of Estimated Tax Levy for 2023

Mr. Gold recently met with the BHSD Finance Committee to review the tentative levy. This was presented to the board and questions were addressed. Final approval of a levy will take place at the December Board meeting

A motion was made by Dollinger and seconded by Pedersen to approve the draft 2023 Certificate of Tax Levy for BHSD38.

Motion carried.

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

Nay: None

c. 2022-2023 Audit Report

A summary of the 2022-2023 audit recently completed by Eder, Casella & Co. was presented to the board.

A motion was made by Plescia and seconded by Pedersen to accept and approve the SY 2022-2023 Audit Report as presented.

Motion carried.

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

Nay: None

d. FY24 School Maintenance Project Grant

The Illinois State Board of Education is offering a 2024 School Maintenance Project Grant, which is a \$50,000 matching grant. Mr. Gold met with the Building/Grounds/Transportation committee to discuss the project submission which is outlined in the exhibit. Questions were addressed on the items presented in the grant proposal.

A motion was made by Pedersen and seconded by Plescia to approve the School Maintenance Project Grant for submission to the Illinois State Board of Education as presented.

Motion carried.

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

Nay: None

- e. Proposed Education Support Personnel Tuition Reimbursement Program  
Mr. Gold, along with legal counsel, has developed a tuition reimbursement plan for Big Hollow Education Support Personnel who desire to further their education to become licensed PK-8th grade educators.  
Mr. Gold addressed questions.  
A motion was made by Bennett and seconded by Dollinger to approve the proposed tuition reimbursement program.  
Motion carried.

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

Nay: None

- f. Performance Contract Agreement with Veregy  
Veregy is a comprehensive, industry accredited performance contractor in the State of Illinois. They have been selected through a formal RFP process through the Schools of Illinois Cooperative (SIPC), which Big Hollow School District does participate in.  
  
Mr. Gold and the Building/Grounds committee presented district plans for campus repair/maintenance/improvement projects over the next several years in partnership with Veregy. Questions were addressed.  
  
A motion was made by Pedersen and seconded by Kueter to approve moving forward with discussions regarding the services which Veregy will provide.  
Motion carried.

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

Nay: None

13. Resignations Accepted:

- Accepted a resignation from Victoria Rathke, Paraprofessional, effective October 13, 2023.
- Accepted resignation from Kristie Longino, MS Lunch Monitor, effective October 17, 2023.
- Accepted resignation from Tina Bourbon, 7th Grade Social Studies Teacher, effective October 26, 2023.

- Accepted resignation from Matt Langford, MS Special Education Teacher, effective December 25, 2023.
- New Hire paperwork has been withdrawn for Katherin Ison, Transportation Driver, due to lack of communication.

14. Informational Items:

- a. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Requests  
FOIA requests received in October 2023 were exhibited.
- b. Monthly Reports  
Administrator Report, Administrator Meeting Agendas, Monthly Attendance, AAPAC Agenda and CAC Agenda were all exhibited.
- c. The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will take place on Monday, December 11, 2023 with closed session beginning at 6:00 pm and open session immediately following.

A brief video compiled by the elementary building staff and students thanking our board members for their dedication was presented.

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 Bennett and seconded by Plescia to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 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