

Big Hollow School District #38 Ingleside, IL 60041

REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 9, 2020

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 9, 2020.

Roll Call:

The following members were in attendance: Enters, Kueter, Lyons, Mazur, 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 Pedersen and seconded by Mazur to move to closed session.

Motion carried.

Aye: Enters, Kueter, Lyons, Mazur, Pedersen, Plescia

Nay: None

3. Resume to Open Session:

Open session began at 6:32 p.m.

The following members were in attendance: Enters, Kueter, Lyons, Mazur, Pedersen, Plescia

The following members were absent: Cernuska

The following administration were present: Gold, Biancalana, Janusz, King, McCulley, Whipple

The meeting was live streamed.

4. Pledge of Allegiance:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

5. Added Items/Approval of the Agenda:

A motion was made by Enters and seconded by Kueter to approve the agenda.

Motion carried.

Aye: Enters, Kueter, Lyons, Mazur, Pedersen, Plesica

Nay: None

6. Recognition of School Board Members

Big Hollow School District 38 is joining communities throughout the State to say “thank you” to local board members on November 15, 2020. The date is officially designated each year as School Board Members Day in Illinois to recognize these public servants for their commitment and contributions to our public schools. Mr. Gold thanked the board for their continuous support and dedication.

7. Accomplishment Recognition

- For the month of October, the administration honored the following individuals who have been nominated by staff and selected by the administration for the following awards:
 - Student of the Month: Michael Espinoza, 4th Grade.
Mr. Brian Summers, Michael’s teacher shared with the board what a wonderful student Michael is and how he is an amazing example of STAR student behavior.
 - Employee of the Month: Stephanie Richardson, PreK Paraprofessional.
Mrs. Amanda Hatfield, PreK Teacher, spoke on behalf of Ms. Richardson and her amazing qualities as a co-worker.

8. Board member “Code of Conduct” Review:

The Board reviewed Item #11: “I will model continuous learning and work to ensure good governance by taking advantage of board member development opportunities, such as those sponsored by my state and national school board associations, and encourage my fellow board members to do the same.”

9. Approve Consent Agenda Items:

A motion was made by Plescia and seconded by Mazur to approve the consent agenda items. Motion carried.

Aye: Enters, Kueter, Lyons, Mazur, Pedersen, Plescia

Nay: None

10. Public Comments:

No public comments were received.

11. Superintendent’s Report:

- a. Monthly Board Policy review
Sections 5:270-5:300 were reviewed.
- b. COVID-19 Return to Blended-Hybrid schedule update
Mr. Gold updated the Board on the most recent information impacting the decision to return to the blended-hybrid schedule for students and staff. He shared how the Lake County Dashboard numbers are extremely high, especially in zip codes 60041 and 60073.

*Will the vaccine have any impact on the return of our students and if so, when?

*The Board requested information showing how middle school GPAs and the amount of missing assignments from Fall 2019 vs. Fall 202

*Student social emotional well being continues to be a concern. A survey will be sent out to students, parents and staff to assess any areas of concern.

*As cold and flu symptoms become a factor, more quarantines have had to be implemented. No COVID-19 in school transmissions have been identified.

*A mitigation information line has been added to the district dashboard. This shows that although the positivity and incidence rates are high we are able to consistently implement the 5 key strategies (mask use, social distancing, hygiene, cleanliness and contact tracing). It may be possible for students to return to school if the Positivity and Incidence Rates decrease and remain constant even if they don't fall into the virtual percentages if we can continue to maintain the mitigation strategies.

c. BHSD #38 School Improvement Planning for 2020-2021

Each building principal shared details on their executive summary reports which were created by building level leadership teams. At the conclusion of the school year, the administration will report back to the Board the progress made in each of the action plans that are listed

*Mrs. Janusz, Primary Principal, detailed information on their school improvement plan and how they are receiving positive feedback from parents on the Imagine Learning Literacy and Math programs and on-line learning. Primary school is working very hard to provide in person MAP testing for students. Many different time/date options will be available in order to accommodate parents schedules. They will also provide online testing for those that would prefer.

*Dr. Biancalana, Elementary Principal, shared highlights on the elementary improvement planning. They are following the Teacher Clarity Playbook and previously board approved resources. Their main focus will be on Datawise and aligning both vertically and horizontally amongst grade levels. It was asked if Eureka and Imagine Learning work together or if we were using one versus the other. Imagine Learning was purchased through a Grant because it is more conducive to online learning than Eureka, however, teachers do use both programs and they work alongside each other well.

*Mr. Whipple, Middle School Principal, shared how their school improvement plan was created to continue through 2021-2022. They continue to work on their goals and adjust to online learning accordingly.

d. 2019-2020 School Report Card Data Presentation

2019 School Report Card Data was presented and reviewed for each school. Data provided was impacted by the suspension of in person learning during the 2019-2020 school year due to COVID-19.

e. Immunization Update

BHSD had 43 students that were not in State compliance as of October 31, 2020 (24-Primary, 0-Elementary, 18-Middle). The Illinois State Board of Education requires at least 90% compliance. As of this date, 98.2% of students are in compliance. A big thank you goes out to our school nurses for their work on this matter.

- f. 2020 Audit Update
Mr. Gold provided an update on the BHSD38 2020 Audit. At this time it has been completed. Due to Federal fund support being over the allotted threshold a Single Audit is required. This audit is currently being completed and an update will be provided at the December Board meeting.
- g. Staffing Plan Timeline for SY 21-22
The timeline for establishing the staffing plan for the 2021-2022 school year was exhibited. No questions.
- h. Estimated Tax Levy for 2020
Mr. Gold recently met with the BHSD Finance Committee to review the tentative levy which was presented to the Board. Final approval of a levy will take place at the December Board meeting. Exhibits included background information to support the proposed 2020 tax levy and a draft copy of the proposed 2020 Certificate of Tax Levy for BHSD38.
*The finance analysis provided indicates a worse case scenario for the End of Year Balance Report. Bond payment details were shared, showing estimated amounts of property taxes as bond payments become due. A discussion was held regarding the possibility of transferring funds amongst accounts to help offset the 2024 bond payment.
*Evidence Based Funding was exhibited. This percent adequacy shows Big Hollow SD38 at 63%. As this amount is frustrating to see, we are doing well with the funds we have as our test scores show.
- i. IASB Resolutions Committee Report
Vivian Kueter is our IASB Delegate for the assembly meeting that will take place on November 14, 2020. The 2020 Resolutions Committee Report was exhibited. The board discussed new resolutions, reaffirmation of existing positions and new belief statements.

12. Other Action Items:

- a. Approve the October Employment Recommendations
The October employment report was exhibited.
A motion was made by Enters and seconded by Mazur to approve the October employment report.
Motion carried.

Aye: Kueter, Lyons, Mazur, Pedersen, Plesica, Enters
Nay: None

13. Resignations Accepted:

- Accepted resignation/retirement from Heather Cramer, Bus Driver, effective 12/10/20.

14. Informational Items:

- a. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Requests
There were no FOIA requests for the month of October.
- b. Monthly Reports and Agendas
The Monthly Administrator Report, Administrator Meeting Agendas and Citizen's Advisory Council Agenda that took place in October were all presented to the board.

- c. The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will take place on Monday, December 14, 2020 with closed session beginning at 6:00 p.m and open session beginning immediately after. Open session will continue to be held immediately after closed session, this will be noted on the website as well as the agenda each month.

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 Mazur and seconded by Kueter to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 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