REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

Monday, June 8, 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, June 8, 2020.

   **Roll Call:**
   The following members were in attendance: Cernuska, Enters, Kueter, Lyons, Mazur, Pedersen, Plescia (Mazur attended via zoom)
   The following members were absent: None
   The following administration was present: Gold

2. **Pledge of Allegiance:**
   The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. **Motion to move to Closed Session:**
   A motion was made by Mazur and seconded by Plescia to move to closed session.
   Motion carried.

   Aye: Mazur, Plescia, Cernuska, Enters, Kueter, Lyons, Pedersen
   Nay: None

4. **Resume to Open Session:**
   Open session began at 6:16 p.m.
   The following members were in attendance: Cernuska, Enters, Kueter, Lyons, Mazur, Pedersen, Plescia
   The following members were absent: none
   The following administration were present: Gold, Arndt, Janusz, Biancalana, McCulley, Morley, DeNovo, Whipple

5. **Added Items/Approval of the Agenda:**
   A motion was made by Pedersen and seconded by Enters to approve the agenda.
   Motion carried.

   Aye: All
   Nay: None
6. **Board member “Code of Conduct” Review:**
The Board reviewed Item #6: “I will encourage and respect free expression of opinion by my fellow board members and will participate in board discussions in an open, honest, and respectful manner, honoring differences of opinion or perspective.”

7. **Approve Consent Agenda Items:**
A motion was made by Pedersen and seconded by Enters to approve the consent agenda items. Motion carried.

   Aye: Pedersen, Enters, Kueter, Lyons, Mazur, Plescia, Cernuska
   Nay: None

8. **Public Comments:**
No public comments were received.

9. **Superintendent’s Report:**
   a. **Retirees Honored**
      Big Hollow honored JoAnne Achtor, Business Office Assistant, who will be retiring at the end of the 2019-2020 school year after 17 years of service. The board thanked JoAnne for all her hard work and dedication. JoAnne thanked everyone for making Big Hollow such a wonderful place to work for so many years.

   b. **Academic Accomplishment Recognition**
      Over 14,500 students nationwide competed in the Spring 2020 Noetic Math Contest. For the very first time, this year’s contest was taken online. Students had 45 minutes to complete 20 math problems that involved multiple steps and critical thinking. Big Hollow had 118 students in the competition. An exhibit was presented listing the various winners from Big Hollow School District 38.

   c. **Monthly Board Policy review**
      Sections 5:35-5:60 were reviewed.

   d. **The board had an opportunity to ask questions to administrators regarding the impact of COVID-19 and the end to the 2019-2020 school year.**
      *Our middle school administrators will be moving forward with creating schedules for students with a normal return envisioned. Electives will be assigned based on a rotating schedule. Each student will be assigned 3 electives to start the year and they will then rotate to different 3 electives for the 2nd half of the school year.
      *Band and Choir sign up has not yet been determined
      *Advanced course placement: a lot of time and thinking has gone into how students will be assigned to advanced courses at BHMS. The current plan is to pull Winter MAP data and well as incorporate grades and teacher recommendations. A possible Summer MAP test will be administered.
*Mr. Gold is working closely with Grant High School, Gavin Grade School and Fox Lake Grade School to align our return to school plans as best as possible.

e. Board Policy Update
IASB Press Plus 103 policy revision was presented to the board for review on second reading.
A motion was made by Kueter and seconded by Enters to approve on second reading Press Plus policy 103.
Motion carried.

Aye: All
Nay: None

f. Board Meeting Dates
An exhibit showing the 2020-2021 Board meeting dates was presented.

g. Adoption of the 2020-2021 Budget Calendar
The tentative budget for SY20-21 will be presented during the Monday, August 10, 2020 Board Meeting. According to the Illinois School Code, the budget will need to be on display in our office for thirty (30) days prior to the board adopting the final budget. All public school budgets must be approved by September 30th of each year. The budget will be on display at the District office by August 7, 2020.

The budget calendar is outlined below:

**Monday, August 3, 2020** – Local ad appears in the Daily Herald regarding thirty-day notice of budget on display.

**Monday, August 10, 2020** – Board approves Tentative Budget for SY20-21.

**Friday, August 7, 2020 through Monday, September 14, 2020** – Budget on public display at the District office.

**Monday, September 14, 2020** – Board adopts budget for 2020-2021 school year.

A motion was made by Cernuska and seconded by Pedersen to approve the budget calendar as presented.
Motion carried.

Aye: Cernuska, Pedersen, Lyons, Mazur, Plescia, Enters, Kueter
Nay: None

h. 2020 Summer Learning Opportunities
The Summer Learning Opportunities that are being offered at this time were presented to
the board. With the current COVID-19 restrictions, the courses are provided through a remote learning platform. All programs are currently full. In addition, the EL teachers are providing instruction to our lowest proficiency students from June 1st - June 25th, focusing on English Language acquisition and listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills.

i. Solar energy update
Mr. Gold shared an update with the Board as the solar energy project enters the final stages of completion.
* Any damage to the lawn and/or property will be repaired.
* The system was up and running as of May 12, 2020.
* There is one final step to be completed by Hudson Energy.
* Midwest will be providing an outdoor classroom for teachers to bring their students to learn more about the solar project.

j. 8th Grade Graduation
The 2019-2020 8th Grade Graduation took place on Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at the McHenry Outdoor Theater.
* There was an abundance of positive responses from parents on this program.
* All social distancing guidelines were followed.
* Parents donated over $2,000 to the McHenry Outdoor Theater in thanks.
* Conducting future graduation ceremonies in this matter will be discussed and brought back to the board. Incorporating old and new traditions will be the focus.

k. Insurance Update
An update on the 2020-2021 property/casualty and workers’ compensation premiums was exhibited. In summary, the total cost for these coverages has increased from $140,444 to $156,190.

10. Other Action Items:
a. Approve the May Employment Recommendations
The May employment report was exhibited.
A motion was made by Plescia and seconded by Enters to approve the May employment Report with the addition of Ashley Austin, Elementary ELL Teacher.
Motion carried.

Aye: Plescia, Enters, Mazur, Pedersen, Cernuska, Kueter, Lyons
Nay: None

b. Approve the budgeted expenses for the Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief Grant.
A motion was made by Pedersen and seconded by Plescia to approve the summary of budget expenses that were submitted and approved by ISBE, which primarily focus on support of a remote learning instructional environment.

Motion carried.

Aye: Pedersen, Plescia, Cernuska, Enters, Kueters, Lyons, Mazur
Nay: None

c. Approve the certification of hazardous bus conditions
The Illinois School Code requires that the Board of Education annually review areas within 1½ miles of school where free bus transportation is provided because conditions are such that walking constitutes a serious hazard. Currently, five such areas have been approved by the Illinois Department of Transportation:

- Heading east on W. Nippersink Rd. from the entrance of Big Hollow Middle School
- Heading west on W. Nippersink Rd. from the entrance of Big Hollow Middle School
- Heading north on Fish Lake Rd. from the entrance of Big Hollow Primary/Elementary Schools
- Heading south on Fish Lake Rd. from the entrance of Big Hollow Primary/Elementary Schools
- Heading west on Molidor Rd. from the entrance of Big Hollow Primary/Elementary Schools

A motion was made by Pedersen and seconded by Kueter to approve the recommendation that the Board certify that the hazardous conditions in these areas remain unchanged and that walking continues to constitute a serious hazard to students due to vehicular traffic.

Motion carried.

Aye: Pedersen, Kueter, Plescia, Cernuska, Enters, Lyons, Mazur
Nay: None

d. Approve the renewal of the transportation agreement with St. Bede Catholic School
A motion was made by Cernuska and seconded by Pedersen to accept the renewal agreement contract with St. Bede Catholic School as presented to the board.

Motion carried.

Aye: Cernuska, Pedersen, Enters, Kueter, Lyons, Mazur, Plescia
Nay: None

e. Approve the appointment of a Treasurer for the 2020-2021 school year and the corresponding School Treasurer’s Bond
Two exhibits were presented to the board for approval.

1) A contract from DyoPath to provide business office services once per month, which will include work as the District Treasurer and assistance in bank account reconciliation each month.
2) The School Treasurer’s Bond that will be secured through Liberty Mutual Insurance Company for a total of $5,000,000.

A motion was made by Enters and seconded by Cernuska to accept the contract and bond as presented.
Motion carried.

Aye: Enters, Cernuska, Kueter, Lyons, Mazur, Pedersen, Plescia
Nay: None

11. Resignations Accepted:
Accepted resignation of Jackie Buchert, Elementary ELL Teacher, effective May 29, 2020.
Accepted resignation from Consuelo Cervantes, Bus Driver, effective May 29, 2020.
Accepted resignation from Christine Arndt, Assistant Superintendent, effective June 30, 2023.

12. Informational Items:
   a. Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Requests
      A FOIA request received on May 28, 2020 was shared with the board. No questions/comments.

   b. Monthly Reports for the Board
      The Administrator Report was presented to the board. There was no Meal Program, Attendance or Discipline Reports for the month of May. No questions/comments.

   c. Administrator Meeting Agenda
      The May Administrator meeting agenda was exhibited. No questions/comments.

   d. The next regularly scheduled Board Meeting will take place on Monday, July 13, 2020 with closed session beginning at 6:00 p.m and open session beginning immediately after.

13. Motion to move to Closed Session:
Not needed

14. Return to Open Session:
Not needed.

15. Take any necessary action following closed session regarding minutes, employment of personnel, resignations, terminations or leaves of absence:
None
16. **Adjournment:**
A motion was made by Cernuska and seconded by Kueter to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m.
Motion carried.

Aye: All
Nay: None

_________________________________                        __________________________________
Board of Education President                        Board of Education Secretary
Big Hollow School District #38                        Big Hollow School District #38