

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
HINCKLEY-BIG ROCK COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #429**



**Board Retreat
January 28th, 2026**

The meeting begins at 5:30 PM. This is a Board / Administrator Retreat. No Action was taken at this meeting.
Big Rock Park District Meeting Room - 7S405 Madison, Big Rock, IL 60511

1) **Call to Order - Regular Meeting of the Hinckley-Big Rock Board of Education**

The meeting was called to order at 5:35PM by President Greg Pritchard

2) **Roll Call**

Policy 2:220 Board of Education Meeting Procedure

Present: Jack Haines, Darrin Gengler, Abigail Barrett, Myia Sittig, Tim Badal, Greg Pritchard

Absent: Debi White

Also Present: Superintendent Dr. Jessica Sonntag, Middle School Principal Kim Torman, Elementary School Principal Deb Kabasenche, High School Principal Becky Lauer, Director of Student Services Bonnie Osborne, Student Engagement Coordinator Jeffery Wilkie and Director of Operations Brandon Kriesch. Student Board Representatives: Savannah McMurtrie and Matthew Badal

3) **Approval of the Agenda**

Policy 2:220 Board of Education Meeting Procedure

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Tim Badal and seconded by Jack Haines, passed 6-0

Abigail Barrett: Yea, Darrin Gengler: Yea, Jack Haines: Yea, Myia Sittig: Yea, Greg Pritchard: Yea, Tim Badal: Yea

4) **Citizens Request to Address the Board**

None

5) **Discussion**

A. Mid-Year Review

The admin team shared district improvement goals specific to their buildings and departments.

B. Board Self Evaluation Planning

The Board services offered from IASB which include onboarding, evaluation and other training for Board members.

Motion to Enter Executive Session at 8:18pm

This motion, made by Darrin Gengler and seconded by Abigail Barrett, passed 6-0

Abigail Barrett: Yea, Darrin Gengler: Yea, Jack Haines: Yea, Myia Sittig: Yea, Greg Pritchard: Yea, Tim Badal: Yea

6) **Executive Session**

A. Legal Update

Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11).

The Board discussed the Attorney of record. They also discussed ongoing litigation.

B. Superintendent Mid-Year Evaluation

The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational

setting, or a volunteer of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee of a public body that is subject to the Local Government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and shall be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

The Board provided Dr. Sonntag with mid-year feedback on her performance.

Motion to Exit Executive Session at 9:32pm

This motion, made by Jack Haines and seconded by Tim Badal, passed 6-0

Abigail Barrett: Yea, Darrin Gengler: Yea, Jack Haines: Yea, Myia Sittig: Yea, Greg Pritchard: Yea, Tim Badal: Yea

7) **Adjournment**

The Board of Education adjourned the meeting at 9:33pm

Motion to adjourn was made by Abigail Barrett and seconded by Tim Badal, passed 6-0 with a unanimous voice vote, Aye

Abigail Barrett: Aye, Tim Badal: Aye, Jack Haines: Aye, Myia Sittig: Aye, Darrin Gengler: Aye and Greg Pritchard: Aye

The next regular meeting of the Hinckley-Big Rock CUSD #429 Board of Education will be February 18, 2026 at 6:30 PM in the Hinckley-Big Rock High School Library.