

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



**Regular Meeting  
January 21, 2026**

The meeting begins at 6:30 PM in the Hinckley-Big Rock High School Library.  
This meeting is also live streamed for public  
viewing: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCcNJ6ijnqwe0nF8UpSCsB8A>.

- 1) **Call to Order - Regular Meeting of the Hinckley-Big Rock Board of Education**  
The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by President Greg Pritchard
- 2) **Roll Call**  
Policy 2:220 Board of Education Meeting Procedure  
Present: Abigail Barrett, Greg Pritchard, Debi White, Tim Badal and Jack Haines  
Also Present: Dr. Jessica Sonntag and Student Representatives: Alex Casanas and Matthew Badal  
Absent: Darrin Gengler, Myia Sittig and Student Representative Savannah McMurtrie
- 3) **Pledge of Allegiance**
- 4) **Approval of the Agenda**  
Policy 2:220 Board of Education Meeting Procedure  
Motion to approve the agenda was made by Jack Haines and seconded by Abigail Barrett , passed 5-0,  
Abigail Barrett: Yea, Debi White: Yea, Tim Badal: Yea, Jack Haines: Yea and Greg Pritchard: Yea
- 5) **Consent Agenda**
  - A. **Minutes** - Regular Meeting and Executive Session Minutes
  - B. **Annual Review - Closed Session Minutes & Recordings**
  - C. **Treasurer's Report**
  - D. **Bills and Payroll**
  - E. **Personnel Report**

Tim Badal pulled the name Joleigh Badal from the Personnel Report explaining a conflict of interest since this is his daughter-in-law. The Board will pull the name, vote and then a second vote will take place where Tim Badal will abstain.  
Motion to approve the agenda was made by Abigail Barrett and seconded by Jack Haines, passed 5-0,  
Abigail Barrett: Yea, Debi White: Yea, Tim Badal: Yea, Jack Haines: Yea and Greg Pritchard: Yea  
Vote to approve the hire of Joelight Badal was passed 4-0  
Abigail Barrett: Yea, Debi White: Yea, Tim Badal: Abstain, Jack Haines: Yea and Greg Pritchard: Yea
- 6) **Royal Shout Out**  
This month we recognized the Hinckley-Big Rock Special Olympics Basketball Team and their coaches, Denise Zartmann and Carissa Zill. The team was made up of five HBR Students, two Sandwich High School students and one Indian Creek student. Their hard work and heart showed in every game this season.
- 7) **Citizens Request to Address the Board-None**
- 8) **Committee Updates**
  - A. Buildings, Grounds & Transportation  
This committee did not meet this month. The next scheduled meeting will be February 4th.
  - B. IBCC  
This committee did not meet this month. The next scheduled meeting will be February 11th.
  - C. IVVC
  - D. This committee did not meet this month. The next scheduled meeting will be February 4th.

9) **Student Representative Update**

Student Representatives Badal and Casanas provided an update on student life, including information about the upcoming vaping assembly scheduled for January 26th with guest speaker Rob Holla from Texas. There would be two assemblies, one at the middle school and one at the high school. They also shared an update on the Board applicants, noting there are currently four applicants—three sophomores and one freshman.

Badal and Casanas also informed the Board that sports summer camp information will be coming out in February. They gave a shout to Ryan Shay for participating in the ILMEA Band Competition January 29th and 30th and they announced that the middle school will be following the IESA schedule for sports. Some sports seasons will be changing to follow this schedule. This change will enable HBR to compete against multiple other schools. The potential for adding cross country at the middle school is being talked about as we are seeing growth in this sport and a lot of children are able to participate in this.

10) **Administrative Update**

A. Mid-year Update on Goals and Finances

Dr. Sonntag provided a mid-year update on the district's finances and goals. Our current finances are trending with the proposed budget. After the 2nd quarter, the district has received 45% of the expected revenue and expended 48% of the budgeted expenditures. There have been approximately \$ 50,000 worth of maintenance costs that were not budgeted thus far, including the replacement of a water heater at the elementary school, the replacement of the middle school well pump, the repair of the high school gym floor, and the fixing of an HVAC leak in the high school gym ceiling.

The instructional staff has been working to complete curriculum mapping. Next steps include using IAR and Project Learning data to discern where instructional gaps may exist. The high school math department is reviewing the curricular options, determining how to best provide pathways for success for all learners.

11) **Discussion**

A. Triple I Review

The Triple I conference was discussed. Board members that attended the conference were Greg Pritchard, Tim Badal and Myia Sitting. Dr. Sonntag also attended the conference. Pritchard, Badal and Dr. Sonntag shared their individual highlights and key takeaways from this event.

B. Board Retreat

The Board discussed the plans for the upcoming Board Retreat scheduled for January 28th for Board members and the HBR Administrative Team.

C. Press Issue 120, 1st reading

Dr. Sonntag explained to the Board that there were some language updates and footnotes, making sure our board policy reflects new laws that go into effect in 2026. A second reading is scheduled with action for the February Board meeting.

D. Policy Review

The Board reviewed and discussed Section 3:General Administration. In February the Board will discuss Section 8 of the policy.

12) **Action**

A. **Motion to approve the IHSA Girls Soccer Co-op with Leland and Somonauk school districts for the 2026 and 2027 seasons.**

Motion to approve the IHSA Girls Soccer Co-op with Leland and Somonauk school districts for the 2026 and 2027 seasons was made by Jack Haines and seconded by Abigail Barrett passed 5-0,

Abigail Barrett: Yea, Debi White: Yea, Tim Badal: Yea, Jack Haines: Yea and Greg Pritchard: Yea

B. **Motion to approve the resolution to execute the IVVC Joint Agreement in alignment with the 6th Amendment**

Motion to approve the resolution to execute the IVVC Joint Agreement in alignment with the 6th Amendment was made by Tim Badal and seconded by Abigail Barrett, passed 5-0,

Abigail Barrett: Yea, Debi White: Yea, Tim Badal: Yea, Jack Haines: Yea and Greg Pritchard: Yea

C. **Motion to approve the resolution for the Designation of a Person or Persons to Prepare the Tentative Budget of the Hinckley-Big Rock CUSD #429 for Fiscal Year 2027**

Motion to approve the resolution for the Designation of a Person or Persons to Prepare the Tentative Budget of the Hinckley-Big Rock CUSD #429 for Fiscal Year 2027 was made by Jack Haines and seconded by Tim Badal, passed 5-0,

Abigail Barrett: Yea, Debi White: Yea, Tim Badal: Yea, Jack Haines: Yea and Greg Pritchard: Yea

D. **Motion to approve the School Maintenance Project Grant application**

Motion to approve the School Maintenance Project Grant application was made by Abigail Barrett and seconded by Debi White, passed 5-0,

Abigail Barrett: Yea, Debi White: Yea, Tim Badal: Yea, Jack Haines: Yea and Greg Pritchard: Yea

13) **FOIA**

A.

- **CT Mills Public Info Access LLC Staff List/Building Assignment**
- **Sheri Reid, Procure, purchasing records from 9/12/2025 to current**
- **Owen Wang, Teacher's Aide Collective Bargaining Agreement**
- **Owen Wang, Vendor contracts over \$1000 for the current fiscal year**
- **Chad Szekeres, Security system and life safety solutions, support and maintenance agreements, contracts and equipment which would have been purchased and/or installed in the past 5 years.**
- **Illinois Retired Teachers Association: contact information of certified staff who are planning to retire in 2026**

14) **Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

15) **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made by Jack Haines and seconded by Debi White, passed 5-0 at 7:49pm with a unanimous voice vote, Aye

Abigail Barrett: Aye, Debi White: Aye, Tim Badal: Aye, Jack Haines: 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.