

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



Regular Meeting
November 19, 2025

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, Darrin Gengler, Myia Sittig and Jack Haines

Also Present: Dr. Jessica Sonntag and Student Representatives: Savannah McMurtrie and Matthew Badal

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 Abigail Barrett and seconded by Darrin Gengler, passed 7-0,

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

5) Consent Agenda

A. Minutes - Regular Meeting and Executive Session Minutes

B. Treasurer's Report

C. Bills and Payroll

D. Personnel Report

Motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Jack Haines and seconded by Abigail Barrett, passed 7-0,

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

6) Royal Shout Out

This month's royal shoutout goes to Mrs. Sanderson and Ms. Dye for their hard work and dedication. They spent many hours planning and running the Sandwich Fair events, including organizing the petting zoo and coordinating the middle school charter signing. In addition, both advisors recently took students to the National FFA Convention, providing valuable opportunities and experiences. Their commitment to students and the FFA program is truly appreciated.

7) Citizens Request to Address the Board-none

8) Presentation

A. FFA Mid-Year Update

Several FFA students, accompanied by Mrs. Sanderson, presented a mid-year update to the Board. They highlighted their activities so far, including the state convention, officer retreat, various fall events, and the National FFA Convention. The group also discussed future plans such as State Degree Applications, HBR Plant Sales, Ag Safety Day, just to name a few and requested permission to attend the 2026-27 convention. Students shared their favorite convention moments and their goals for the rest of the year, including mentoring middle school members and increasing community involvement. They ended by thanking the Board for its continued support.

9) Committee Updates

A. Buildings, Grounds & Transportation

The middle school's booster pump recently failed, temporarily disrupting water flow and causing an E-Learning day just for the middle school. Contractors rerouted the system so water now flows directly from the main pump, maintaining stable pressure. A full inspection of the well, tanks, and pump is scheduled for November 4, and a detailed report will recommend any necessary improvements, including whether a new booster pump is needed. Obtaining estimates on replacing the tank and digging well deeper to get better water supply and better quality water. Applying for a maintenance grant was discussed.

Driveway improvement options at 540 W. Lincoln Highway were discussed, and the committee chose asphalt millings as the most practical, cost effective solution while coordinating with neighboring property owners. The Millings will create a durable surface that reduces potholes and allows both school and community traffic to safely access the gravel lot. The cost estimate would be \$17,270 for the drive, additional \$7,985 for the east side of the building, totalling to \$25,225.

At the FFA Building, the piping has been approved, floor work is nearly complete, and gas lines will be extended from the high school, with roughly \$200,000 still needed to finish the project. The committee reviewed the potential impact of the Royal Estates development on future enrollment and agreed to gather updated information on facility needs. The District is not pursuing construction at this time but will conduct a no-cost assessment of possible building additions, which could take 2.5–3 years if needed. The committee also revisited 2019 site plans by Cordogan Clark for a track project and agreed to obtain a current, no-cost estimate for an eight-lane high school track to guide future planning.

B. IBCC

IBCC Met on November 12th. The focus of the meeting was to review the survey results and develop the 26/27 and 27/28 school calendars.

C. IVVC

No update. The next meeting is scheduled for December 4th.

10) Student Representative Update

In November, the school hosted several activities, including a student-led game night with Nine Square, Octaball, Knockball, and other fun events. The National Honor Society induction welcomed eight new members and featured an encouraging message from Mr. Badal about making a positive impact beyond social media. Students were also recognized at the fall sports awards ceremony, where many earned all-conference honors and maintained high GPAs, while winter sports began their new seasons. Matthew Badal highlighted the Veterans Day assembly being at the High School this year and had a great turn out. Savannah McMurtrie told the Board about the Drama Showcase on November 21. The student board representative application will be released before Thanksgiving break, and discussions continued about next steps to address vaping on campus.

11) Administrative Update

A. Summative Designation & School Report Card Data

Dr. Sonntag presented the school report card data, noting that all three schools earned a Commendable rating from ISBE, the second-highest designation. While students are demonstrating growth in both ELA and math, overall performance in math and science is still below the state's target levels. To address these gaps, the district is implementing benchmark assessments and continued curriculum development. These efforts are designed to pinpoint specific instructional needs and guide improvements in teaching. Overall, the district is making progress but remains focused on strengthening achievement in key academic areas.

12) Discussion

A. Calendar Survey results and proposed calendars

The Board discussed the proposed 2026-27 and the 2027-28 school year calendars. Highlights include starting August 19, ending before Memorial Day, and a full week off at Thanksgiving. Note that if Election Day becomes a required holiday in 2026, the end of the school year will

move one day later, to May 28 (Friday before Memorial Day). Parent Teacher Conferences are valued and will be available as virtual, phone call, or in person.

- B. IASB Resolutions Committee Recommendations for Delegate Assembly
The Board reviewed the resolutions for the Delegate Assembly at the Triple I Conference on November 22nd. One resolution proposed that all newly purchased school buses be equipped with seat and lap belts. The remaining resolutions involved only minor language updates without any significant changes. After discussion, the Board decided to vote in favor of all the resolutions.
- C. Policy Review: Section 1: School District Organization
The Board reviewed and discussed Section 1: School District Organization. In January the Board will discuss Section 3 of the policy.

13) Action

- A. Motion to approve the 2025 Levy as submitted
Motion to approve the 2025 Levy as submitted was made by Tim Badal and seconded by Abigail Barrett, passed 7-0,
Abigail Barrett: Yea, Debi White: Yea, Tim Badal: Yea, Jack Haines: Yea, Darrin Gengler: Yea, Myia Sittig: Yea and Greg Pritchard: Yea
- B. Motion to approve a 60-month Fair Market Value copier lease and service agreement with Marco Technologies, as submitted
Motion to approve a 60-month Fair Market Value copier lease and service agreement with Marco Technologies, as submitted was made by Jack Haines and seconded by Abigail Barrett, passed 7-0,
Abigail Barrett: Yea, Debi White: Yea, Tim Badal: Yea, Jack Haines: Yea, Darrin Gengler: Yea, Myia Sittig: Yea and Greg Pritchard: Yea
- C. Motion to approve the FFA to attend the 2026 National Convention
Motion to approve the FFA to attend the 2026 National Convention was made by Debi White and seconded by Darrin Gengler, passed 7-0,
Abigail Barrett: Yea, Debi White: Yea, Tim Badal: Yea, Jack Haines: Yea, Darrin Gengler: Yea, Myia Sittig: Yea and Greg Pritchard: Yea
- D. Motion to approve the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 School Calendars as presented
Motion to approve the 2026-2027 and 2027-2028 School Calendars as presented was made by Abigail Barrett and seconded by Jack Haines, passed 7-0,
Abigail Barrett: Yea, Debi White: Yea, Tim Badal: Yea, Jack Haines: Yea, Darrin Gengler: Yea, Myia Sittig: Yea and Greg Pritchard: Yea

14) FOIA-none

15) Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Motion to enter Executive Session was made by Jack Haines and seconded by Tim Badal, passed 7-0 at 7:57pm

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

16) Executive Session

- A. 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).

Motion to exit Executive Session was made by Jack Haines and seconded by Abigail Barrett, passed 7-0 at 8:39pm

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

17) Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Tim Badal and seconded by Abigail Barrett, passed 7-0 at 8:39pm

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

The next regular meeting of the Hinckley-Big Rock CUSD #429 Board of Education will be January 21st, 2026 at 6:30 PM in the Hinckley-Big Rock High School Library.