

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
PORTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL CORPORATION**

PTSC
BOARD APPROVED
DATE 10-14-2019

***The following is a partial transcript of the meeting. A recording of the actual meeting is available at the Administration Office and is kept on file for approximately 5 months after the date of the meeting. Approval of this transcript as official minutes will be at the next regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees.

1. CALL TO ORDER – Mrs. Lilann Sgouros, Vice-President – 6:34 p.m.

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Welcome Visitors

Board members present were: Mrs. Lilann Sgouros, Dr. Natalie Wargo, Mrs. Laura Chavez and Mrs. Mary Harlow; Ms. Johanna Williams was absent. Also present were: Superintendent, Dr. Stacey Schmidt; Assistant Superintendent, Ben Parrish; Board Attorney, Cheryl Zic; Deputy Treasurer, Linda Bult; Assistant to the Business Office, Kathleen Smith and Secretary to the Superintendent, Linda Dusek. There were approximately 29 patrons present in the audience.

2. AGENDA ADJUSTMENT – None

3. SOLAR PROJECT – Dr. Schmidt

A. Joint Public Hearing on Project and Additional Appropriations

- 1. **Open Hearing – Overview**
- 2. **Information Session**
- 3. **Public Comment**
- 4. **Close Hearing**

Dr. Schmidt opened the public hearing on the Solar Project. Dr. Schmidt explained that the Solar Project will install solar panels on the roof of the Boone Grove Elementary School/Boone Grove Middle School Complex to allow energy savings and will require additional appropriations. Dr. Schmidt opened the public hearing for public comment and no requests for public comment were heard. Dr. Schmidt closed the public hearing.

4. PRESENTATIONS:

• **BGHS Athletics and Involvement – Mr. Corman**

Mr. Corman reported that Mr. Rosinia will be presenting tonight in Mr. Russell's absence. Mr. Rosinia reported on the impact sports has on students and shared Mr. Russell's video highlighting high school sports. Mr. Rosinia thanked the board for their continued support of student athletes and the Athletic Department.

• **Recognition of Staff for Years of Service – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt and the principals honored employees in attendance who achieved each five-year increment of years of service at PTSC by reflecting on each employee's years of service and presented certificates to each honoree. There was a brief break in the meeting for refreshments and celebration.

5. CONSENT AGENDA – Dr. Schmidt

- A. Personnel Report
- B. Board Minutes
- C. Claim Docket

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the consent agenda consisting of payroll claims and accounts payable vouchers, approval of the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting held on August 8, 2019 at 6:30 p.m., and approval of the following items listed on the Personnel Report waiving the readings and pending clear background searches:

- Accept the resignation of **Jacki Thorn** as the Pre-School Aide at Porter Lakes Elementary School effective as of June 25, 2019.
- Accept the resignation of **Michelle Bothwell** as a Cafeteria Worker at the Boone Grove High School effective as of September 9, 2019.
- Accept the resignation of **Lisa Broton** as a 4th Grade Spell Bowl Co-Coach at Boone Grove Elementary School effective as of April 25, 2019.
- Approve **Jeremy Boyer** as the Art Teacher at Boone Grove Elementary School and Boone Grove Middle School beginning on August 12, 2019 with compensation as per contract based upon a Bachelor Degree at the one (1) year of experience level.
- Approve **Autumn Dexter** as the Guidance Counselor at Boone Grove Middle School beginning on September 6, 2019, with compensation as per contract plus 13 additional days, based upon a Master Degree at the six (6) years of experience level.
- Approve **Jeremy Savage** as a 260-day, full-time IT Specialist for Porter Township School Corporation beginning on September 5, 2019 with an annual salary of \$32,000 with an additional \$2,000 upon obtaining CompTIA certification.

- Approve **Jenny Kipp** as a Teacher Aide at Porter Lakes Elementary School for 4.75 hours per day and as a lunchroom aide for 1 hour per day beginning on Wednesday, August 14, 2019 for the 2019-2020 school year with compensation of \$11.37 per hour.
- Approve **Colette Perez** as a Teacher Aide at Porter Lakes Elementary School for 4.75 hours per day and as a lunchroom aide for 1 hour per day beginning on Wednesday, August 14, 2019 for the 2019-2020 school year with compensation of \$10.53 per hour.
- Approve **Kimberly Carpenter** as a Teacher Aide at Porter Lakes Elementary School for 4.75 hours per day and as a lunchroom aide for 1 hour per day beginning on Wednesday, August 14, 2019 for the 2019-2020 school year with compensation of \$10.22 per hour.
- Approve **Kristina Packard, Meghan Williamson, Rebecca Roelfs and Rachel Webb** as Kindergarten Aides for the 2019-2020 school year beginning on August 14, 2019 for 180 days for 28.75 hours per week, \$10.22 per hour.
- Approve **Nancy Fisher** as a Kindergarten Aide for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year beginning on August 26, 2019 for 28.75 hours per week with compensation of \$10.22 per hour.
- Approve **Shana Peterson** as a 4th Grade Spell Bowl Co-Coach at Boone Grove Elementary School with compensation as per the 2019-2020 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Katie Lawrence and David Bock** as Co-Sponsors for the Natural Helpers Program for the 2019-2020 school year with compensation as per the 2019-2020 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Jennifer Leach** as the Cafeteria Chef at the Boone Grove Complex for the 2019-2020 school year beginning on August 19, 2019 with compensation of \$18.00 per hour.
- Approve **Michele Niemeyer** as a Cafeteria Worker at the Boone Grove Complex for the 2019-2020 school year beginning on August 19, 2019 with compensation of \$8.55 per hour.
- Approve **Shelley Neis** as a Cafeteria Worker at the Boone Grove Complex for the 2019-2020 school year beginning on August 12, 2019 with compensation of \$8.55 per hour.
- Approve **Tiffani Kreiger** as a Cafeteria Worker at Boone Grove High School for the 2019-2020 school year beginning on September 9, 2019 with compensation of \$8.55 per hour.
- Accept the recommendation for termination of **Jennifer Leach** as the Cafeteria Chef at the Boone Grove Complex effective as of September 3, 2019.
- Approve **Laura Dexter** as the Senior Class Sponsor for the 2019-2020 school year with compensation as per the 2019-2020 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Andrew Willis** as the Freshman Class Sponsor for the 2019-2020 school year with compensation as per the 2019-2020 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Kathy Lis and Ivette Westerman** as Junior Class Co-Sponsors for the 2019-2020 school year with compensation as per 50% of the 2019-2020 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Ken Snow and Rollie Thill** as Co-Sponsors for the National Honor Society at Boone Grove High School for the 2019-2020 school year with compensation of 50% of the 2019-2020 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve the request of **Andrew Willis**, Art Teacher at the Boone Grove High School, for two (2) unpaid leave of absence days on November 22 and November 26, 2019.
- Approve the request of **Ann Weir**, Cafeteria Worker at the Boone Grove Complex, for four (4) unpaid leave of absence days from October 7 through October 12, 2019.
- Approve **Justine McGinley** as the JV Girls' Volleyball Coach for the 2019-2020 school year with compensation as per the 2019-2020 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Dylan Broshar** as the Boys' and Girls' Middle School Cross Country Coach for the 2019-2020 school year with compensation as per the 2019-2020 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Doug Hoover** as the Boys' Baseball Coach at Boone Grove Middle School for the 2019-2020 school year with compensation as per the 2019-2020 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Dave Greinke** as a Middle School Football Volunteer Assistant Coach for the 2019-2020 school year.
- Approve **Kathleen Smith**, Assistant to the Business Office, to transition from an hourly wage to an annual salary of \$20,881.13 for 109 days from August 1, 2019 until December 31, 2019 with a benefits package as per her administrative salary addendum.
- Approve **Loretta Rowland** as the Cafeteria Manager at the Boone Grove Complex for the 2019-2020 school year beginning on September 10, 2019 with compensation of \$15.00 per hour.

- Approve **Janina Stawiarski** as a full-time Custodian at Boone Grove High School beginning on September 9, 2019 with compensation of \$10.32 per hour.

Mrs. Chavez made a motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of payroll claims and accounts payable vouchers, approval of the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting held on August 8, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. and approval of the items listed on the Personnel Report waiving the readings and pending clear background searches; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 4-0.

6. FINANCIAL REPORT – Dr. Schmidt

- Appropriation summary
- Fund Report
- Investments

Dr. Schmidt referred to the appropriation summary, the fund report and investment summary provided in the board packet and asked for questions from the board; none were heard.

7. BUSINESS

A. Adopt Resolution #0919-210 – Resolution to Transfer Amounts from Education Fund to the Operations Fund Recurring Basis: Monthly – Dr. Schmidt.

Dr. Schmidt said the Business Office has been working hard preparing the budget and working to present transfers at 85% in the Education Fund and 15% in the Operations Fund. Dr. Schmidt thanked Kathleen Smith and Linda Bult for all of their hard work on the budget. Dr. Schmidt recommended adoption of Resolution #0919-210 to allow the transfer of funds from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund on a monthly recurring basis. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to adopt Resolution #0919-210 to transfer amounts from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund on a monthly basis as presented in the board packet and recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 4-0.

B. Adopt Resolution #0919-211 – Resolution of Porter Township School Corporation Pursuant to House Enrolled Act 1001 (2019) – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt said the Governor made adjustments to the Teacher Retirement Fund. Due to reduction in expenditures and reduction of the percentage the district pays for certificated staff, Resolution #0919-211 takes these dollars and applies the dollars to wages, salaries and benefits of certificated employees. Dr. Schmidt recommended adoption of Resolution #0919-211 pursuant to House Enrolled Act 1001 (2019). Mrs. Chavez made a motion to adopt Resolution #0919-211 as presented in the board packet and recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 4-0.

C. Public Hearing of 2020 Budget – Dr. Schmidt

- Hearing for 2020 Budget
 - Hearing of Education Fund
 - Hearing of Debt Service Fund
 - Hearing of School Pension Debt Fund
 - Hearing of Operations Fund

Dr. Schmidt opened the Public Hearing for the 2020 Budget. Dr. Schmidt said the board will take action to approve the 2020 Budget at their October board meeting. The 2020 Budget has been developed based upon the rules associated with each Fund. The Education Fund is funded from tuition support dollars received from the state and expenditures include teacher salaries and benefits, principal salaries and benefits, classroom supplies and equipment, and extra-curricular. Other funds are Debt Service Fund, School Pension Debt Fund and Operations Fund. Dr. Schmidt explained the Operations Fund now encompasses transportation, bus replacement, capital projects and general fund operation such as: the Business Office, Human Resources, utilities, custodial, maintenance, SROs and superintendent salary. The overall tax rate being advertised is 1.31, which is lower than previous years. The approved tax rate for 2019 was .96, which is much lower than advertised. Every attempt has been made to maintain a consistent tax rate for local taxpayers. Dr. Schmidt opened the public hearing for public comment on the 2020 Budget; no requests for public comments were heard. Dr. Schmidt closed the Public Hearing on the 2020 Budget.

2. Hearing for Bus Replacement Plan

Dr. Schmidt opened the public hearing on the Bus Replacement Plan. Dr. Schmidt reported that the budget advertised represents a plan developed to meet the needs according to statute for the 12-year bus replacement cycle. One bus with a lift will be replaced this year with an approximate cost of \$115,000. Dr. Schmidt opened the public hearing for public comment on the Bus Replacement Plan; no requests for public comments were heard. Dr. Schmidt closed the Public Hearing on the Bus Replacement Plan.

3. Hearing for Capital Projects Plan

Dr. Schmidt opened the public hearing on the Capital Projects Plan. Dr. Schmidt reported that the Capital Projects Plan is developed according to the needs of the facilities. Facility needs for this year include: the

playground at PLE, carpeting and hand dryers at BGE, classroom carpeting at BGMS, carpeting in the library and hallways at BGHS, replacing a batwing mower and equipment repairs. Dr. Schmidt opened the public hearing for public comment on the Capital Projects Plan; no requests for public comment were heard. Dr. Schmidt closed the public hearing on the Capital Projects Plan and concluded all public hearings on the 2020 Budget.

D. Adopt Resolution #0919-212 – Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended adoption of Resolution #0912-212 which allows the annual renewal of the Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan for employees as presented in the board packet. Dr. Wargo made a motion to adopt Resolution #0919-212 regarding the Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan as requested by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 4-0.

E. Consideration of Additional Appropriation Resolution #0919-213 – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt said Resolution #0919-213 deals with the solar project funding plans for additional appropriation and issuance of bonds. Dr. Schmidt recommended consideration of additional appropriation and adoption of Resolution #0919-213 to allow additional appropriation as presented in the board packet. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to adopt Additional Appropriation Resolution #0919-213 for additional appropriation as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 4-0.

F. Accept Additional Transfer Students for the 2019-2020 School Year – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt requested acceptance of two additional transfer students for the 2019-2020 school year as presented in the board packet. Dr. Wargo made a motion to accept two additional transfer students as requested by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Dr. Harlow. Motion carried 4-0.

G. Accept Fundraisers – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt requested acceptance of several fundraisers as presented in the board packet. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to accept fundraisers as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 4-0.

H. Approve Overnight Field Trips – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the overnight field trips provided in the board packet. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to approve the overnight field trips as requested by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 4-0.

I. Accept Donations – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended acceptance of some generous and unique donations received this month. Two BGE students forfeited their birthday gifts and donated their birthday money to benefit BGE students. Ian Drasich donated \$220 and Summer Drasich donated \$240 and these funds will be designated to the Student Allotment Fund at BGE. Dr. Schmidt commended Ian and Summer Drasich for their generous and thoughtful act of kindness to their fellow students. Secondly, Kathy Sherman reported that a tree that survived the Oklahoma City Bombing on April 19, 1995 bombing was donated by a parent in memory of the 19 children killed in this horrible bombing; BGE students watched the tree being planted. Mrs. Sherman organized a donation of a memorial stone, which was funded by the Porter Township Trustee, to be placed by the tree at BGE. Dr. Schmidt thanked Mrs. Sherman for her part of organizing these donations. Dr. Wargo made a motion to accept the donations as presented and recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 4-0.

J. Recognition of the Following Clubs/Organizations for the 2019-2020 School Year – Dr. Schmidt

1. BGMS PTO
2. PTSC PTO

Dr. Schmidt said the BGMS PTO and PTSC PTO has presented their annual information for review. Dr. Schmidt thanked all who volunteer countless hours while donating their time supporting these clubs and requested recognition of the BGMS PTO and the PTSC PTO. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to accept recognition of the BGMS PTO and the PTSC PTO; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 4-0.

K. Approval of the First Reading of the Following Board Policy Revisions: Revised Board Policy #0100–Bylaws– Definitions; Revised Board Policy #2261–Program–Title I Services; Revised Board Policy #2261.01–Program– Parent and Family Member Participation in Title I Programs; Revised Board Policy #2281–Program–Parent and Family Engagement; Revised Board Policy #2623.01–Program–Test Security Provisions for Statewide Assessments; Revised Board Policy #5330.02–Students–Care of Students with Diabetes; Revised Board Policy #5335–Students–Care of Students with Chronic Health Conditions; Revised Board Policy #5341–Students–Emergency Medical Authorization; Revised Board Policy #5410–Students–Promotion, Placement and Retention; Revised Board Policy #6144–Finances–Investment Income; Revised Board Policy #6145–Finances–Short-Term Indebtedness; Revised Board Policy #6220–Finances–Budget Preparation; Revised Board Policy #6605–Finances–Crowdfunding; and Revised Board Policy #8121–Operations–Personal Background Check–Contracted Services – Mr. Parrish.

Mr. Parrish requested approval of the first reading of board policy revisions as listed on the agenda and provided in the board packet. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to approve the first reading of the board policy revisions as requested by Mr. Parrish and provided in the board packet; seconded by Dr. Wargo.

8. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- Mr. Parrish reported that New Horizons is off to a good start with 5 students who have already finished, 37 students enrolled and 78 total credits have already been earned.
- Mr. Parrish reflected that a few years ago SROs were transitioned from W2 employees to 1099 employees as Independent Contractors, which resulted in some tax implications to the SROs. Since then, the need for SROs at every school district has increased and most Porter County districts pay their SROs on a W2. In an effort to keep our current SROs and to have the ability to recruit new officers when necessary, Mr. Parrish recommended restructuring our current MOUs with the Porter County Sheriff's Department, Hebron Police Department and Chesterton Police Department to transition the SROs to W2 employees. Dr. Wargo made a motion to approve Mr. Parrish's recommendation to begin restructuring the SRO program; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 3-0; Mrs. Chavez abstained from voting.
- Mr. Parrish announced John Chant as this month's Personnel Profile. Mr. Chant is in his third year as a Government and Econ Teacher at BGHS. Mr. Chant is a graduate of Highland High School and IU Northwest. Mr. Rosinia said, "Mr. Chant does a wonderful job building relationships with his students, creates a culture of respect in his classroom, engages his students in learning and he is a true team player." Mr. Parrish said, "Mr. Chant is a great teacher and we are very fortunate to have him at BGHS."
- Mr. Parrish congratulated Dr. Schmidt for being named Superintendent of the Year for District 1! Mr. Parrish said, "This is a very well-deserved honor for Dr. Schmidt as she is an outstanding leader, who is the most selfless leader I have ever worked with. Dr. Schmidt truly is committed to the students and our district is so lucky to have her as our leader! Congratulations Dr. Schmidt!"

9. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Schmidt shared a video showing the progress on the construction at the high school entrance project. Dr. Schmidt congratulated Kathleen Smith for receiving her IASBO School Business Official certification after completing 99 hours of instruction. Dr. Schmidt received a thank you from Sheriff Reynolds for utilizing the district's mini buses during his Sheriffs' three-day camp during the summer. Dr. Schmidt wished a Happy Birthday to Mr. Ivanyo on September 29. Mr. Parrish wished a Happy Birthday to the Superintendent of the Year on October 1st!

10. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS - NONE

11. SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Mr. Corman reported that the first online day for the year was yesterday.
- Mr. Lichtenberger thanked Mr. Russell for doing a great job in his new position as Athletic Director.
- Mr. Ivanyo announced upcoming events at BGE: Choir Concert, Camp Tecumseh Field Trip and the start of Spell Bowl practice.
- Mr. Donnell reported 93% attendance at their parent night and progress reports go out on Friday.

12. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - NONE

13. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Wargo made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

This meeting is a meeting of the School Board for the purpose of conducting the School Corporation's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There will be a time for public participation, as indicated by the agenda. The meeting site is fully accessible. Any person requiring further accommodation should contact the superintendent.

