

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

PTSS
BOARD APPROVED
DATE 11-14-19

***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 -- Ms. Lilann Sgouros - 6:30 p.m.

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
B. Welcome Visitors

Board members present were: Mrs. Lilann Sgouros, Dr. Natalie Wargo and Mrs. Mary Harlow; Ms. Johanna Williams and Mrs. Laura Chavez were absent. Also present were: Superintendent, Dr. Stacey Schmidt; Assistant Superintendent, Ben Parrish; Board Attorney, Cheryl Zic; Aline Busse, Corporation Treasurer/Business Manager and Deputy Treasurer, Linda Bult. There were approximately 29 patrons present in the audience.

2. AGENDA ADJUSTMENT - None

3. PRESENTATION: Spell Bowl Presentation - Miss Hurley and Mrs. Peterson - BGE

Mr. Ivanyo, Miss Hurley, Mrs. Peterson and the BGE Spell Bowl Team challenged the Board in a Spell Bowl competition.

4. 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 Thursday, September 12, 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 **Kathy Lis** as Secretary at Boone Grove High School and Co-Sponsor for the Class of 2021 effective as of October 11, 2019.
- Approve **Carlie Allen** as a BGMS Homebound Instructor beginning on September 30, 2019 with compensation of \$19.88 per hour, not to exceed 2 hours per week, as needed.
- Approve the promotion of **Loretta Rowland** to the position of Cafeteria Manager/Cook at Boone Grove Elementary School/Boone Grove Middle School Complex with an increase in salary to \$17.00 per hour beginning on October 14, 2019 for the 2019-2020 school year.
- Approve **Katie Lawrence** as the Co-Sponsor for the Class of 2021 for the 2019-2020 school year with compensation as per the 2019-2020 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Bryan Hill** as the Boys' Varsity Baseball Coach for the 2019-2020 school year with compensation as per the 2019-2020 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Shannon Benko** as the Middle School Cheerleading Coach for the 2019-2020 school year with compensation based upon the 2019-2020 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Clarisse Fletcher** as the Girls' Junior Varsity Basketball Coach for the 2019-2020 school year with compensation based upon the 2019-2020 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Mallory Carroll** as the Freshman Girls' Basketball Coach for the 2019-2020 school year with compensation as per the 2019-2020 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Tara Beere** as the Freshman Girls' Volleyball Coach for the 2019-2020 school year with compensation as per the 2019-2020 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Sarah Otero** as the 7th Grade Girls' Volleyball Coach for the 2019-2020 school year with compensation as per the 2019-2020 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Dylan Broshar** as the 6th Grade Girls' Volleyball Coach for the 2019-2020 school year with compensation as per the 2019-2020 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Karen Yankauskas, Bill Knight, Jane Richardson-Kobus, and Kevin Kraus** as Volunteer Bowling Coaches for the 2019-2020 school year.
- Approve **Tonia Batesole** as a Middle School Baseball Volunteer Assistant Coach for the 2019-2020 school year.

Mrs. Harlow 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 Thursday, September 12, 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 3-0.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT – Dr. Schmidt

- A. Appropriation summary
- B. Fund Report
- C. 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.

6. BUSINESS**A. Adoption of the 2020 Budget #1019-214 - Ordinance or Resolution for Appropriations and Tax Rates –****Dr. Schmidt**

- a. Adoption of Education Fund
- b. Adoption of Debt Service Fund
- c. Adoption of School Pension Debt Fund
- d. Adoption of Operations Fund

Dr. Schmidt said we have discussed the budget for the past few months reviewing the Education Fund, the Debt Service Fund, the School Pension Debt Fund and the Operations Fund and we have advertised as required. Dr. Schmidt recommended adoption of the 2020 Budget #1019-214 Ordinance or Resolution for Appropriations and Tax Rates as provided in the board packet. Dr. Wargo made a motion to adopt the 2020 Budget #1019-214-Ordinance or Resolution for Appropriations and Tax Rates as presented and recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 3-0.

B. Adoption of Resolution #1019-215 - Resolution to Adopt the 2020 Capital Projects Plan – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt said last month we discussed the 2020 Capital Projects Plan and recommended adoption of Resolution #1019-215 to adopt the 2020 Capital Projects Plan as presented in the board packet. Dr. Wargo made a motion to adopt the 2020 Capital Projects Plan as recommended by Dr. Schmidt and provided in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 3-0.

C. Adoption of Resolution #1019-216 - Resolution to Adopt the 2020 Bus Replacement Plan – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended adoption of Resolution #1019-216 to adopt the 2020 Bus Replacement Plan as presented in the board packet. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to adopt Resolution #1019-216 to adopt the 2020 Bus Replacement Plan as presented by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 3-0.

D. Approve Student/Adult Meal Price Increase beginning January 1, 2020 – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt referred to the information provided by Mrs. Batesole in the board packet regarding the student/adult meal price increase beginning on January 1, 2020. Dr. Schmidt explained that our current meal prices are significantly lower than the price the state has set. We have chosen to raise the meal prices gradually over time until the meal prices meet the state recommended prices. Dr. Schmidt said Mrs. Batesole does a wonderful job in obtaining competitive pricing working with the Northern Service Center to obtain better prices. Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of a student/adult meal price increase beginning on January 1, 2020 as presented in the board packet. Dr. Wargo made a motion to approve the student/adult meal prices increase beginning on January 1, 2020; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 3-0.

E. Discussion of Tentative Teacher Collective Bargaining Agreement

Dr. Schmidt reviewed the timeline for the new collective bargaining process mandated this year. First of all, a joint public hearing between school administration and APTED was held as mandated to receive input on the collective bargaining process; however, no information was received during the hearing. The Association met and ratified the agreement on October 7 and the copy of the agreement was posted online to meet all state mandated timelines. The collective bargaining agreement will be brought to the November 14 board meeting for approval. Dr. Schmidt said the basics of the tentative teacher collective bargaining agreement will be discussed publicly tonight and is currently posted online for public review. The basics of the contract is for two years with a reopener for the compensation plan for funding and the base salary. The starting base salary was increased to \$40,000 with an additional exception for a new hire rate placement. The new hires placed for this school year will be placed based upon the results of this bargaining agreement. A salary range from \$37,000 to \$69,905 exclusive of any compensation plan increases as part of this agreement. In order to qualify for a compensation increase, the employee must be a paid certificated position for 120 days. To address the compression component a 1.5% increase to the base salary for an evaluation rating of highly effective or effective plus an additional 1.5% for 25 years or more for a total of a 3% salary increase. For the experience level of 1-24 years an additional 6.75% increase to the base salary plus 1.5% for the highly effective or effective evaluation rating for a total of an 8.25% salary increase. This calculation model reduces the gap by \$725, which you only have to reduce the gap by \$1 in order for it to be compliant. In addition to these things, a stipend was added for teachers who work during an instructional assignment or prep period and will be calculated at their hourly rate. Additionally, extending a provision for teaching an additional course and taking on an additional 150 students. Additionally, a 3% increase

for the ECA salary schedule positions. Dr. Schmidt asked for questions from the board. Mrs. Sgouros asked, "How many teachers qualify as 25 years of experience or above?" Dr. Schmidt answered, "There are 8 teachers above 25 years of experience and above with the remainder of 82 total teachers."

F. Approve Compensation Increase for Classified Staff – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended a compensation increase of 8.25% increase for all classified staff members in a paid position with PTSC for the past 120 days who have received a satisfactory rating in their evaluation. Dr. Schmidt said classified staff often leave our district for positions with a higher pay rate. We had an opportunity to review a study another Northwest Indiana district completed surveying 15 school districts in Lake and Porter counties looking at their master wage schedule comparing minimum wages and maximum wages. Findings showed that PTSC classified staff's starting base salaries wages were lower than most. In an effort to reduce staff turnaround, our goal is to try to move toward the minimum or get within that range if possible. Dr. Schmidt noted that we do have some employees who have not been employed in paid positions for 120 days, who may receive a compensation increase due to being moved to a new base salary because of the master wage schedule being reset. Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the proposed compensation increase for classified staff is in an effort to maintain our awesome employees noting there is a cost involved with staff turnover. Dr. Schmidt also noted that administrative recommendations will be brought to the November Board meeting. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to approve the compensation schedule for classified staff as presented by Dr. Schmidt and provided in the board packet; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 3-0.

G. Approve Agreement with The Lutheran University Association – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt said this agreement allows us to utilize nursing students primarily from Valparaiso University to come and work in our clinics, help with screenings and shadow our nurses. Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the agreement with the Lutheran University Association as provided in the board packet. Dr. Wargo made a motion to approve the Agreement with the Lutheran University Association as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 3-0.

H. Accept Fundraisers – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended acceptance of fundraisers provided in the board packet. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to accept fundraisers as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 3-0.

I. Accept Donations – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended acceptance of four donations: \$100 from 14D Event Services for the Boys' Golf Team; \$100 from Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories for Students at BGHS; \$507.50 from Mark Holder for Students at BGHS and \$500 from Boone Grove Athletic Boosters for the Athletic Department. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to accept donations as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 3-0.

J. Recognition of Boone Grove High School Wolfpack Football Club and Boone Grove Athletic Boosters for the 2019-2020 School Year – Dr. Schmidt

1. Boone Grove High School Wolfpack Football Club
2. Boone Grove Athletic Boosters

Dr. Schmidt recommended recognition and approval of Boone Grove High School Wolfpack Football Club and Boone Grove Athletic Boosters. Dr. Wargo made a motion to approve the Boone Grove High School Wolfpack Football Club and Boone Grove Athletic Boosters for the 2019-2020 school year; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 3-0.

K. Approve of the Second Reading and Adoption 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 recommended approval of the second reading and adoption of the proposed revisions to the Board policies listed on the agenda and to waive the readings. Dr. Wargo made a motion to approve the second reading and to adopt the board policy revisions as listed on the agenda and to waive the readings; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 3-0.

L. Approve SRO MOU Agreement Revisions – Mr. Parrish

Mr. Parrish recommended approval of the proposed SRO MOU Agreement revisions as presented in the board packet. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to approve the SRO MOU Agreement revisions as presented and recommended by Mr. Parrish; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 3-0.

7. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Mr. Parrish announced this month's personnel profile is Catherine Gamino, 8th Grade Reading Teacher at BGMS. This is Mrs. Gamino's 6th year teaching at BGMS. Mrs. Gamino graduated from Merrillville High School and from Ball State University. Mr. Lichtenberger said, "When she came to BGMS she was unsure of herself, but full of energy and ideas. She has now turned into a leader on our staff." Mr. Parrish said, "Ms. Gamino does a great job with our kids at the middle school. It can be a difficult age to teach and she does a fantastic job reaching these kids and forming relationships with them. We are happy to have her on our staff."

8. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- Dr. Schmidt announced that BGE will hold an optional online day on Tuesday, November 5 noting that BGHS and BGMS will also hold Online Days on Tuesday, November 5.
- Dr. Schmidt wished a Happy Birthday to Mr. Lichtenberger on October 10, Lilann Sgouros on October 17, Attorney Zic on October 18 and Kathleen Smith on October 28.
- Dr. Schmidt announced that Dr. Phil Downs, Superintendent of Southwest Allen County Schools, will be giving a presentation on "Follow the Money: An Analysis of Why Public Education Funding is Not Keeping Place in Indiana" at Merrillville High School on October 28.
- Dr. Schmidt gave a presentation on I-Learn reviewing 3rd Grade Language Arts.

9. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Lilann Sgouros asked all to keep Steve Tafflinger, a PTSC retired teacher, in their prayers for his upcoming transplant surgery.

10. SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENT

- Mr. Lichtenberger said a big and black moccasin snake was crawling across the road today and was enjoyed by all.
- Mr. Ivanyo said upcoming events are Parent/Teacher Conferences and Red Ribbon Week. Also, the Camp Tecumseh trip is over and praised staff and parents for a wonderful job.
- Mr. Donnell said Parent/Teachers Conferences will take place Thursday and Tuesday and looking forward to Red Ribbon Week.

11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - NONE**12. ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Wargo made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 3 0. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 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.