

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

PTSC
BOARD APPROVED
DATE 10-8-2020

***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 – Dr. Natalie Wargo, President 6:30 p.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Welcome Visitors

Board members present were: Dr. Natalie Wargo, Mrs. Lilann Sgouros, Mrs. Laura Chavez, Ms. Johanna Williams and Mrs. Mary Harlow. Also present were: Superintendent, Dr. Stacey Schmidt; Assistant Superintendent, Ben Parrish; Board Attorney, Chery Zic; Business Manager/Treasurer, Kathleen Smith and Deputy Treasurer, Linda Bult. There were six (6) present in the audience.

2. AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS – None

3. PRESENTATION: BGE Virtual Library Presentation – Mr. Ivanyo and Mrs. Kegebein

Mrs. Kegebein gave an awesome presentation on the virtual library which every student is able to access. Dr. Schmidt and the Board congratulated Mrs. Kegebein on a job well done.

4. CONSENT AGENDA – Dr. Schmidt

A. Personnel Report

B. Board Minutes

C. Claim Docket

Dr. Schmidt requested 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, August 20, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. and approval of the following items listed on the Personnel Report waiving the readings.

	Name	Position	Location	Effective Date
APPOINTMENTS:				
CLASSIFIED:	GILMARTIN, Michael	Maintenance Worker	Annex	9/8/2020
EXTRA-CURRICULAR CERTIFIED:	DOMBROWSKI, Cora	8 th Grade Team Leader	BGMS	2020-2021 school year
	BEERE, Tara	Science Academic Team Coach	BGHS	2020-2021 school year
EXTRA-CURRICULAR CLASSIFIED:	FEERO, Katie	MS Cheerleading Coach	BGMS	2020-2021 school year
	HURST, Darrick	Girls' HS Volleyball Volunteer Assistant Coach	BGHS	2020-2021 school year
	VANDERMOLLEN, Mark	MS Softball Volunteer Assistant Coach	BGMS	2020-2021 school year
	PATE, George	MS Softball Volunteer Assistant Coach	BGMS	2020-2021 school year
	PIERCE, Deanne	HS Cheer Volunteer Assistant Coach	BGHS	2020-2021 school year
	RIPPE, Melissa	HS Cheer Volunteer Assistant Coach	BGHS	2020-2021 school year
	DIXON, Edward	Boys' Varsity Volleyball Volunteer Assistant Coach	BGHS	2020-2021 school year
RESIGNATIONS CLASSIFIED:	TOMASZEWSKI, Alexandra	Floating Sub/Teacher Aide	PLE	8/14/2020
	WEBB, Rachel	Teacher Aide	PLE	8/28/2020
	HUGAR, Jon	Part-Time Maintenance/ Groundskeeper	Annex	9/11/2020

(The personnel recommendations and/or appointments are made contingent upon the applicant's satisfactory completion of all application requirements, background checks (i.e., "no results found") and, when necessary, holding valid state certification/ licensing for the position.)

Ms. Williams 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, August 20, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. and approval of the items listed on the Personnel Report pending clear background searches and waiving the readings as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 5-0.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT – Mrs. Smith**A. Appropriation summary****B. Fund Report**

Mrs. Smith referred to the appropriation summary and the fund report provided in the board packet and asked for questions from the board; none were heard.

6. BUSINESS**A. Public Hearing of 2021 Budget – Mrs. Smith**

Mrs. Smith opened the Public Hearing of the 2021 Budget. Mrs. Smith reported that the board will take action on approving the 2021 budget at their next board meeting on October 8. The 2021 budget has been developed based upon rules associated with each fund. The Education Fund is for payment of expenses allocated to student instruction and learning. Revenue for this fund is based upon tuition support received from the state. Unfortunately, our student enrollment reflects a decrease by 54 students. Expenses are teacher salaries, principal salaries, special programs, classroom expenses and anything related to education. The Debt Service Fund and the School Pension Debt Fund are based upon the actual debt and the debt within the fund. The Operations Fund is based upon transportation, bus replacement, capital projects and operations. The overall tax rate being advertised this year is 1.0249 which is lower than most previous years. The total budget is \$17,724,842. Mrs. Smith asked for questions from the board and heard none.

1. Hearing for 2021 Budget

- a) Hearing of Education Fund
- b) Hearing of Debt Service Fund
- c) Hearing of School Pension Debt Fund
- d) Hearing of Operations Fund

Mrs. Smith opened the Public Hearing for the 2021 Budget for public comment and heard none. Mrs. Smith closed the public hearing.

2. Hearing for Bus Replacement Plan

Mrs. Smith opened the Public Hearing for the Bus Replacement Plan. Mrs. Smith said the Bus Replacement Plan is part of the Operations Fund and represents a plan developed to meet the needs for the bus fleet for 12 years; however only five years of the plan are advertised. No bus replacements are anticipated in 2021. Mrs. Smith opened the Public Hearing for the Bus Replacement Plan for public comment and heard none. Mrs. Smith closed the Public Hearing for the Bus Replacement Plan.

3. Hearing for Capital Projects Plan

Mrs. Smith opened the Public Hearing for the Capital Projects Plan. Mrs. Smith said the Capital Projects Plan has been developed through observation, facility reviews and evaluation of needs as the budget allows;

- PLE: new playground equipment and repaving the parking lot
- BGE: continue with playground updates, repaving the parking lot, hand dryers and carpeting
- BGMS: classroom renovations, carpeting, lockers, repaving the parking lot and sports facilities
- BGHS: library, carpeting, locker room, restrooms, repaving the parking lot and sports facilities
- Other needs include replacing a batwing mower and wastewater renovations for the district along with any additional required district repairs

Mrs. Smith answered questions from the board. Mrs. Smith opened the Public Hearing for the Capital Projects Plan for public comment and heard none. Mrs. Smith closed the Public Hearing for the Capital Projects Plan.

B. Adopt Resolution #0919-212 – Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan – Mrs. Smith

Mrs. Smith recommended adoption of Resolution #0919-212-allowing the annual approval of the Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan as presented in the board packet. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to adopt Resolution #0919-212 – Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan as recommended by Mrs. Smith; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 5-0.

C. Accept Donations – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended acceptance of a donation of wheeled storage containers for the Boone Grove Middle School Library from Home Depot to be used to transport books to and from the library. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to accept the donation of wheeled storage containers for the Boone Grove Middle School Library as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Ms. Williams. Motion carried 5-0.

D. Approval and Adoption of New Board Policy #2266 - Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities – Mr. Parrish

Mr. Parrish said at the last board meeting the board approved a resolution regarding changes to the Title IX policy to bridge the gap between the August effective date and the approval date of the policy revisions. Mr. Parrish

then recommended approval and adoption of the new board policy #2266 – Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities as provided in the board packet to reflect these changes. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to approve and adopt the new board policy #2266 – Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities as recommended by Mr. Parrish and to waive the reading; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 5-0.

E. Approval of the First Reading of the Following Board Policy Revisions/New Board Policies: Revised Board Policy #0154-Motions; Revised Board Policy #0167.2-Executive Session; Revised Board Policy #0171.4-Treasurer; Revised Board Policy #1520-Employment of Administrators in Addition to the Superintendent; New Board Policy #3120.11-Public Hearing Before Commencement of Collective Bargaining; Revised Board Policy #4162-Drug and Alcohol Testing of CDL Holders and Other Employees who Perform Safety-Sensitive Functions; Revised Board Policy #5111-Determination of Legal Settlement and Eligibility for Enrollment of Students Without Legal Settlement in the Corporation; New Board Policy #5136-Personal Communication Devices; Revised Board Policy #5460-Graduation Requirements; Revised Board Policy #6105-Authorization to Accept and Distribute Electronic Records and to Use Electronic Signature; New Board Policy #6250-Required ADM Counts for the Purpose of State Funding; and Revised Board Policy #8330-Student Records – Mr. Parrish

Mr. Parrish recommended approval of the first reading of the board policy revisions/new board policies as listed on the agenda and provided in the board packet to align with changes in statute and legislation. Ms. Williams made a motion to approve the first reading of the board policy revisions/new board policies as listed on the agenda and provided in the board packet as recommended by Mr. Parrish and to waive the readings; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 5-0.

F. Other – Dr. Schmidt - None

7. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Mr. Parrish

- Mr. Parrish reported receipt of approval for the secured safety grant for 2020 in the amount of \$76,560 which will cover SRO salaries.
- Mr. Parrish is setting up Virtual School Specialty Training which due to COVID-19 will be held virtual this year and being virtual will greatly increase the amount of safety specialists we have throughout the district.
- CPR training was held in the district yesterday for interested teachers and staff.
- Porter County Safe Schools Commission has donated 35 Stop the Bleed Kits and 5 individuals will be trained in each building on how to properly use the kits.

BUILDING UPDATES:

- NWEA started today.
- Mr. Corman praised two high school students who have both already been named Student of the Week:
 - Kyle Casbon, a Senior who is a great student and a huge part of the boys' volleyball team
 - Ryan Pierce is also a volleyball player and is always willing to help.
- Mrs. Katie Sarnowski has been named Teacher of the Month!
- PTSC Director of Nursing, Jamie Smec has done a fantastic job every day to monitor our schools and is a big part of why everything has run so smoothly this year. We are so thankful to have her at PTSC!
- Today is the last day for one of our part-time maintenance workers, Jon Hugar. Mr. Parrish said Jon is a great kid with a great work ethic and he will be missed.
- Mr. Parrish wished a Happy Birthday to Dr. Schmidt on October 1!

8. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Dr. Schmidt

- Dr. Schmidt echoed Mr. Parrish's praise for PTSC Director of Nursing, Mrs. Jamie Smec. Dr. Schmidt said Mrs. Smec has handled everything extremely well, she goes way beyond the call of duty and she is awesome!
- Dr. Schmidt congratulated Mr. Parrish for being elected as Vice-President of the Porter County Safe Schools Commission.
- Due to COVID-19 concerns, there has been recent discussion with teachers about other options for Parent/Teacher Conferences in October. Considerations include possibly holding zoom conferences or phone conferences and being flexible with scheduling while also following the same schedule provided on the district's school calendar. Information with the final decision is forthcoming from the schools.
- Dr. Schmidt said she is continuing to track student enrollment which is still down with 329 enrolled in eLearning and 1,145 traditional learning; additionally, 81 students are enrolled in preschool.
- Due to recent road construction, there has been issues with standing water on the corner in front of the Administration Building. Dr. Schmidt, Mr. Parrish and Mr. Busse met with INDOT, Walsh and Kelly and Troyer Group to discuss the drainage issue which is a major safety concern. Another major issue is the farmers are reporting that their equipment does not fit on the road with the new design of the parking lot. Dr. Schmidt encouraged patrons to call INDOT to express their opinions.

- Today is Day 21 and we are doing well and the Health Department continues to provide updates. The most current issue is what to do with siblings. Last Friday, the Health Department said the school nurse needs to use their clinical judgment with this issue, which is challenging guidance. We continue to struggle with these things as everything should be considered COVID until it is not.
- Dr. Schmidt wished Mr. Ivanyo a Happy Birthday on September 29.

9. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

- Ms. Williams said it is so good to be back and the board welcomed Ms. Williams back as well.
- Dr. Wargo asked Mr. Ivanyo if he has any school announcements to report.
- Mr. Ivanyo reported that the students are doing well with wearing masks and having lunch in their rooms. BGE started a "Caught Being Kind Program" and NWEA started today.

10. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

11. ADJOURNMENT – 7:17 p.m.

Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:17 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.