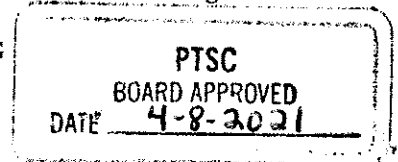


**MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
PORTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL CORPORATION**



\*\*\*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 – 6:29 p.m.**

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Welcome Visitors

Board members present were: Dr. Natalie Wargo, Mrs. Lilann Sgouros, Mrs. Laura Chavez and Mrs. Mary Harlow; Ms. Johanna Williams was absent. Also present were: Superintendent, Dr. Stacey Schmidt; Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Ben Parrish; Board Attorney Cheryl Zic; Deputy Treasurer, Mrs. Linda Bult; and Secretary to the Superintendent, Mrs. Linda Dusek. There was no audience.

**2. AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS – None**

**3. 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, February 11, 2021 at 6:30 p.m., and approval of the following items listed on the Personnel Report waiving the readings and pending clear background searches:

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
<b>APPOINTMENTS:</b>				
<b>TEMPORARY CERTIFIED:</b>	HARRISON, Jonathan	Temporary Art Teacher	BGE/BG MS	02/18, 02/23-02/26/2021
	HARRISON, Jonathan	Temporary 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher	BGE	03/01/2021-03/19/2021
<b>CLASSIFIED:</b>	BALL, Payton	Floating Sub/Teacher Aide	BGHS	02/25/2021
	COSLET, Michael	Maintenance Worker	ANNEX	02/22/2021
<b>ECA CLASSIFIED:</b>	AUBIN, Matthew	Varsity Baseball Volunteer Assistant Coach	BGHS	2020-2021 School Yr.
	DE ST. JEAN, Mark	Varsity Baseball Volunteer Assistant Coach	BGHS	2020-2021 School Yr.
	DIXON, Christine	Boys' Volleyball Coach	BGMS	2020-2021 School Yr.
	DIXON, Logan	Boys' Volleyball Volunteer Assistant Coach	BGMS	2020-2021 School Yr.
	HAMADY, Gianna	Varsity Softball Volunteer Assistant Coach	BGHS	2020-2021 School Yr.
	HOOVER, Doug	Varsity Baseball Coach	BGHS	2020-2021 School Yr.
	PATE, George	Varsity Softball Volunteer Assistant Coach	BGHS	2020-2021 School Yr.
	SZAKACS, Desiree	Varsity Baseball Volunteer Assistant Coach	BG HS	2020-2021 School Yr.
	VANDERMOLLEN, Mark	Varsity Softball Volunteer Assistant Coach	BGHS	2020-2021 School Yr.
<b>RESIGNATION CERTIFIED:</b>	HURLEY, Amanda	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher	BGE	05/26/2021
<b>RESIGNATION CLASSIFIED:</b>	COSLET, Michael	Floating Substitute Teacher	BGHS	02/19/2021
	JONES, Jamie	Custodian	PLE	03/03/2021
	STAWIARSKI, Janina	Custodian	BGHS	02/24/2021
<b>LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST-CERTIFIED:</b>	BOYER, Jeremy	Art Teacher	BGE/BG MS	02/16/2021–02/25/2021
	LONG, Angela	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher	BGE	03/01/2021–03/29/2021

Mrs. Sgouros 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, February 11, 2021 at 6:30 p.m., and approval of the following items listed on the Personnel Report waiving the readings and pending clear background searches; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 4-0.

**4. FINANCIAL REPORT – Dr. Schmidt****A. Financial Summary****B. Fund Report**

Dr. Schmidt said the financial summary and fund report are provided in the board packet and asked for questions from the board; none were heard.

**5. BUSINESS****A. Approve AIA B101–Standard Form of Agreement with Gibraltar Design - Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the AIA B101-Standard Form of Agreement with Gibraltar Design provided in the board packet pending revisions after final attorney review. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to approve AIA B101-Standard Form of Agreement with Gibraltar Design after the final review by the board attorney; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 4-0.

**B. Approve Apple Lease – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt said it is time to purchase new iPads and our Technology Director, Mr. Skoda, is excited to have all of the buildings on the same versions of iPads for the next school year. The old iPads will be collected and sold as well. Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the Apple Lease provided in the board packet to begin the process to purchase new iPads. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to approve the Apple Lease as presented by Dr. Schmidt and provided in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 4-0.

**C. Approve Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement of Indiana Counties Tax Refund Exchange and Compliance System Program (TRECS) – Mrs. Bult**

Mrs. Bult discussed the current process of attempting to collect outstanding student balances which reflects a maximum of up to a 40% commission charge to PTSC. Mrs. Bult presented a cheaper option available called Tax Refund Exchange and Compliance System Program (TRECS) which can be used to collect any debt over \$25.00 owed to a local unit of government. PTSC will be charged \$2.50 per account. The parents could be charged a collection fee of \$20.00 per account plus an additional 15% of the total debt setoff amount; however, all fees could be waived if the balance is paid in full within 30 days. Mrs. Bult explained that the families will receive a letter from PTSC notifying them of their outstanding balance before being turned over to the TRECS program for collection. Mrs. Bult requested the board's approval to begin with the TRECS program to attempt to collect outstanding balances for the 2019-2020 school year and the 2020-2021 school year. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement of Indiana Counties Tax Refund Exchange and Compliance System Program (TRECS) as presented by Mrs. Bult and provided in the board packet and to begin with collection of the outstanding balances for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 4-0.

**D. Approve Dual Credit Stipends – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt said several high school teachers are teaching dual credit classes which has proven to be very beneficial in allowing students to leave high school with college credits. After working through discussions, a recommendation is provided in the board packet with a proposal to provide stipends for high school dual credit teachers for their additional work load. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to approve the dual credit stipends for dual credit teachers as recommended by Dr. Schmidt and provided in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 4-0.

**E. Approve the Second Reading and Final Approval of the 2022-2023 District School Calendar – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the second reading and final approval of the 2022-2023 district school calendar as provided in the board packet. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to approve the second reading and final approval of the 2022-2023 district school calendar as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 4-0.

**F. Approve Fundraisers – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the fundraisers provided in the board packet. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to approve the fundraisers provided in the board packet as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 4-0.

**G. Accept Transfer Student – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended acceptance of one (1) out of district transfer student in the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade as presented in the board packet. Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to accept an out of district transfer student in the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 4-0.

**H. Approve the Second Reading and Adoption of the following Board Policy Revisions: Revised Board Policy #1220-Employment of the Superintendent; Revised Board Policy #2623-Student Assessment; Revised Board Policy #2700-Annual Performance Report; Revised Board Policy #5111-Determination of Legal Settlement and Eligibility for Enrollment of Students Without Legal Settlement in the Corporation; Revised Board Policy #5610-Suspension and Expulsion of Students; Revised Board Policy #5895-Student Employment; Revised Board Policy #6114-Cost Principles-Spending Federal Funds; Revised Board Policy #6325-Procurement-Federal Grants/Funds; Revised Board Policy #8390-Animals on School Corporation**

**Property; Revised Board Policy #8400-School Safety; Revised Board Policy #8405-Environmental Health and Safety Issues-Indoor Air Quality, Animals in the Classroom, and Idling Vehicles on School Property; Revised Board Policy #8462-Child Abuse and Neglect; Revised Board Policy #8600-Transportation; Revised Board Policy #8800-Religious/Patriotic Ceremonies and Observances; and Revised Board Policy #9700-Relations with Special Interest Groups - Mr. Parrish**

Mr. Parrish recommended approval of the second reading and adoption of the board policy revisions for the policies listed on the agenda and provided in the board packet. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to approve the second reading and adoption of the board policy revisions for the policies listed on the agenda and provided in the board packet as recommended by Mr. Parrish and to waive the readings; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 4-0.

**I. Other – Accept Donation – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended acceptance of a donation of approximately 50 books provided by Mrs. Kathy Sherman, Media Specialist at Boone Grove High School. Mrs. Sherman is in her second year serving on the YHBA Intermediate (Grades 3-5) Selection Committee and she received these books from this program. Mrs. Sherman has generously chosen to donate these books to share her love of reading and learning with the elementary school students. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to accept a donation of approximately 50 books provided by Mrs. Kathy Sherman for the elementary students; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 4-0.

**6. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Mr. Parrish**

Mr. Parrish reported the following announcements and events:

- BGE celebrated Read Across America with spirit week; Girls on the Run begins after spring break; and Math Bowl Practice has begun!
- PLE also celebrated Read Across America with activities and theme days; the third graders started iRead this week; and 24 students have chosen to return from eLearning!

**AT BGHS:**

- The Boys' Basketball Team won the IHSA Sectional title for the first time in eight years and will advance to the Regionals against Bowman Academy on Saturday morning at 10:00!
- The high school STEM Club went to their first robotics competition at Crown Point High School.
- The BGHS Band had a masterful spring production this past Wednesday night.
- The BGHS Choir Concert is Monday at 7:00 p.m. in the Auxiliary Gym.
- The BGHS Academic Team will compete in their first eLearning competition this upcoming Thursday.

Mr. Parrish also reported that he has received four requests for summer school courses to date, which include high school courses: Spanish II, Earth Space Science and Health along with an English course at BGMS.

**7. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Dr. Schmidt**

- Dr. Schmidt wished a Happy Birthday to two of our SROs: Matt Boone and Erik Palleson who both have upcoming birthdays.
- COVID Report: We currently have 6 active cases in the district and 3 close contacts. This is a rise from February counts which indicates it is not the time to relax and we all need to continue to practice COVID-19 precautions.
- The Federal Government has directed Indiana to begin vaccinations for all teachers as of March 15.
- Dr. Schmidt reported on Federal dollars coming to PTSC:
  - CARES: \$76,828.83 These funds paid for one floating substitute teacher provided in each school and we have \$100,000 in claims in a FEMA Program for PPE, hand sanitizer, sprayers and things used to reopen which we are waiting to have approved.
  - Esser II: \$327,531.91 These funds can be used for the same allowances as for the CARES program and also for addressing learning loss, addressing extra work loads for teachers who have been teaching in person instruction and virtual learning at the same time, and using dollars to support, build and develop learning while offering students a choice in learning and to accelerate learning.
  - American Rescue Plan Act from Congress: a recent notification of \$810,000
- Dr. Schmidt said ideas will be gathered and it may take some time to develop a comprehensive plan as we are waiting for additional guidance. Discussion continued with the board about possibilities to consider and Dr. Schmidt also answered questions from the board.

**8. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS – None**

**9. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None**

**10. ADJOURNMENT – 6:58 p.m.**

Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:58 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.*