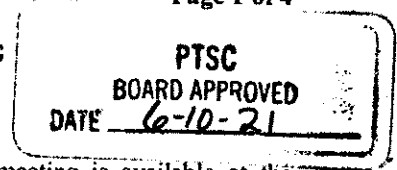


**MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES  
PORTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL CORPORATION**



\*\*\*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 – 6:30 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, Attorney Cheryl Zic; Chief Financial Officer, Mrs. Kathleen Smith, Deputy Treasurer, Linda Bult and Secretary to the Superintendent, Mrs. Linda Dusek. There were five (5) present in the audience.

**2. AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS – Addition of two items to Business Item 6V. Other:**

- 6V.1 Other: Approval of Waste Removal/Recycling Costs – Mr. Parrish**
- 6V.2 Other: Approval of Gibraltar Standard Form of Agreement – Dr. Schmidt**

**3. PLE PRESCHOOL ADDITION PROJECT**

**PUBLIC HEARING ON PROJECT – Dr. Schmidt**

**A. Open Hearing – Overview**

Dr. Wargo opened the hearing. Dr. Wargo announced that Notice of a public hearing on the proposed PLE Preschool/Addition Project was advertised in two newspapers and posted accordingly. Dr. Schmidt explained as per Indiana code, any cost greater than \$1,000,000 to repair or alter any school building must follow a legal process and holding a public hearing begins this legal process.

**B. Presentation**

Dr. Schmidt shared a presentation on PTSC facility priorities and anticipation of future facility needs. It was established that the PLE building has some needs in regard to instruction space, parent drop-off/pick-up drive loop reconfiguration for efficiency and playground improvements. Dr. Schmidt also shared proposed diagrams with an estimated cost of \$4,000,000 which includes some district-wide improvements as well. The proposed timeframe will move forward in May with construction documents, submitting for permits, issuing permits in August, receiving bids in September, and construction beginning in the fall with hopes to move into the new building next summer.

Mr. Jim Elizondo of Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated, gave a presentation on the financial impact and added capitalized interest in the budget to be used in the first year to smooth out the tax rate if needed. Mr. Elizondo also discussed the cost of issuance, attorney fees, underwriting of bonds, etc. and the total tax rate.

**C. Public Comment**

Dr. Wargo asked for anyone wishing to make a comment regarding the proposed PLE Preschool Addition Project to come forward; no requests to comment were heard.

**D. Close Hearing**

Dr. Wargo closed the hearing.

**4. CONSENT AGENDA – Dr. Schmidt**

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

Dr. Schmidt took a moment to recognize Mrs. Kristin Mucha in attendance in the audience and noted that a recommendation is provided in the personnel report to approve Mrs. Mucha as the new Director of Early Learning/Assistant Principal at Porter Lakes Elementary School. Dr. Schmidt then 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, April 8, 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:

	<b>NAME</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b>
<b>APPOINTMENTS CERTIFIED:</b>	<b>HARRISON, Jonathan</b>	New Horizons Learning Center Instructor	BGHS	08/09/2021
	<b>MUCHA, Kristin</b>	Director of Early Learning Assistant Principal	PLE	07/01/2021
	<b>GARCIA, Samantha</b>	Fifth Grade Teacher	BGE	08/09/2021
<b>APPOINTMENTS CLASSIFIED:</b>	<b>HERNANDEZ, Michelle</b>	Custodian	BGMS	04/16/2021
	<b>PAUL, Dylan</b>	Floating Sub/Teacher Aide	BGHS	04/13/2021
	<b>WILLIAMSON, Meghan</b>	Cafeteria Worker	PTSC	06/01/2021
	<b>WOOLEY, Rachel</b>	Custodian	PLE	04/19/2021

	NAME	POSITION	LOCATION	EFFECTIVE DATE
ECA CLASSIFIED:	HARRETOS, Peter	High School Boys' Track Volunteer Assistant Coach	BGHS	2020-2021 School Year
RESIGNATION CERTIFIED:	McKAMEY, Brittany	Alternative School Instructor	BGHS	04/13/2021
RESIGNATION CLASSIFIED:	BLANCHARD, Annie	Secretary	BGE	Approx. 06/07/2021
	MOZHAM, Bridgette	Cafeteria Worker	PLE	05/25/2021
LEAVE OF ABSENCE CLASSIFIED	BLANC, Billie	School Nurse	PLE	05/25/2021

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, April 8, 2021 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 Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 4-0. The Board thanked Mrs. Mucha for attending the meeting and congratulated Mrs. Mucha on her new position.

5. **FINANCIAL REPORT – Mrs. Smith**

A. **Financial Summary**

B. **Fund Report**

Mrs. Smith said the financial summary and fund report are provided in the board packet. Mrs. Smith also gave a presentation on the state budget and funding sources received throughout the year. Mrs. Smith answered questions from the board.

6. **BUSINESS**

A. **Award and Approve Bid for PLE Site Improvements - Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt said recent advertisements for bids on the PLE Site Improvement Project were advertised and reviewed. Dr. Schmidt recommended awarding the lowest responsive bid provided by Gough, Inc. and accepting their base bid and the Alternates 1, 2, 3 and 5 for the PLE Site Improvement Project as provided in the board packet. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to award the bid for the PLE Site Improvement Project to Gough, Inc. accepting their base bid and the Alternate 1, 2, 3 and 5 as presented by Dr. Schmidt and provided in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 4-0.

B. **Adopt Resolution #0521-239-Project Resolution for PLE Preschool Addition Project – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt said a resolution is required when a school is planning to spend more than \$1,000,000 per building. Dr. Schmidt recommended adoption of Resolution #0521-239-Project Resolution for PLE Preschool Addition Project which contains the estimated hard and soft construction costs, the cost of issuance, establishes the total project cost and contains the estimated tax impact. Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to adopt Resolution #0521-239-Project Resolutions for PLE Preschool Addition Project as recommended by Dr. Schmidt and presented in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 4-0.

C. **Adopt Resolution #0521-240-Resolution Determining Need for PLE Preschool Addition Project – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended adoption of Resolution #0521-240 which establishes the need of the project and relates to financing of the construction project as provided in the board packet. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to adopt Resolution #0521-240 Resolution Determining Need for PLE Preschool Addition Project as recommended by Dr. Schmidt and provided in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 4-0.

D. **Adopt Resolution #0521-241-Reimbursement Resolution for PLE Preschool Addition Project – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended adoption of Resolution #0521-241 which permits reimbursement of funds from the bond proceeds for any cash spent on the project prior to the closing of bonds and is required by federal tax law in order to preserve the school corporation's ability to reimburse itself. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to adopt Resolution #0521-241-Reimbursement Resolution for PLE Preschool Addition Project as recommended by Dr. Schmidt and as provided in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 4-0.

E. **Approve Payment and Reimbursement Rates – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of payment and reimbursement rates for per diem, meals, lodging and mileage for official business travel as provided in the board packet. Dr. Schmidt said this recommendation will be brought to the board for approval annually during the Organizational meeting in January hereafter. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to approve payment and reimbursement rates as recommended and presented by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 4-0.

F. **Adopt Resolution #0521-242-Certificates of Deposit and/or Trust/Indiana Investments – Mrs. Smith**

Mrs. Smith recommended adopting a resolution every two (2) years to allow for investment opportunities at the most advantageous time without the requirement to wait for the next board meeting for the board's approval.

Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to adopt Resolution #0521-242-Certificates of Deposit and/or Trust/Indiana Investments as recommended by Mrs. Smith and presented in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 4-0.

**G. Permission to Create Three (3) New School Funds – Mrs. Smith**

Mrs. Smith requested permission to create the following three (3) new school funds: Student Activity Fund at PLE, Summer School Fund at BGMS and Lilly Richmond Donation Fund at BGMS. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to grant permission to create the following three (3) new school funds: Student Activity Fund at PLE, Summer School Fund at BGMS and Lilly Richmond Donation Fund at BGMS as recommended by Mrs. Smith and provided in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 4-0.

**H. Approve Student Textbook Fees for the 2021-22 School Year – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the student textbook fees for the 2021-2022 School Year for BGE, BGMS and BGHS as provided in the board packet. Dr. Schmidt noted that Student Textbook fees for PLE will be presented to the board for approval at the June board meeting. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to approve student textbook fees for BGE, BGMS and BGHS as presented by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 4-0.

**I. Approve Agreement with Adidas – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt said our Athletic Director, Mr. Russell, has been working hard to provide an agreement with Adidas which will benefit our sports teams and recommended approval of the Adidas Agreement provided in the board packet. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to approve the Adidas Agreement as presented by Dr. Schmidt and provided in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 4-0.

**J. Approve Fundraisers – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of a fundraiser for the Baseball Team and a fundraiser for the STEM Club at BGHS as provided in the board packet. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to approve the two (2) BGHS fundraisers as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 4-0.

**K. Permission to Advertise for Bids for Staff and Student iPads – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt said it is time for refreshing iPads for staff and students. Mr. Skoda is requesting permission to advertise for bids for the old iPads. Mr. Skoda has provided a list of the old iPads in the board packet and anticipates receiving possibly up to \$180 per device. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to grant Mr. Skoda permission to advertise for bids for staff and student iPads; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 4-0.

**L. Approve the Extension of the Internet Access (IA) Contract with NITCO – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the extension of the internet access (IA) contract with NITCO as provided in the board packet. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to approve the extension of the internet access (IA) contract with NITCO as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 4-0.

**M. Approve the Extension of the Wide Area Network (WAN) Contract with NITCO – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the extension of the wide area network (WAN) contract with NITCO as provided in the board packet. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to approve the extension of the wide area network (WAN) contract with NITCO as provided in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 4-0.

**N. Approve Summer Feeding Pay Increase – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt government will continue to fund feeding student families through the summer. Foods Director, Mrs. Batesole, is working hard to create a fun menu for the students. Dr. Schmidt said she is thankful for state funding to provide these meals during the summer and during breaks as it has helped many families make ends meet. Mrs. Batesole has provided a proposal for a pay increase for her summer foods service staff which is provided in the board packet. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to approve hourly pay increases for summer foods service staff as provided in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 4-0.

**O. Approve Donation – Dr. Schmidt**

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

**P. Accept Transfer Students for the 2021-2022 School Year – Mr. Parrish**

Mr. Parrish referred to the list of transfer students who meet criteria for qualifying as a transfer student and recommended acceptance of these transfer students for the 2021-2022 school year as provided in the board packet. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to accept the transfer students for 2021-2022 school year as recommended by Mr. Parrish and as provided in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 4-0.

**Q. Approve Extension/Amendment of the Porter County Sheriff's SRO Agreement – Mr. Parrish**

Mr. Parrish recommended approval of the extension of our current agreement with the Porter County Sheriff's SRO Agreement and the amendment to allow for a three-year extension as provided in the board packet. Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to approve the extension and amendment to the Porter County Sheriff's SRO Agreement with a three-year extension as provided in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 4-0.

**R. Approve Extension/Amendment of the Surveillance Cameras and Police Emergency Responders Agreement – Mr. Parrish**

Mr. Parrish recommended approval of the extension of our current agreement for the Surveillance Cameras and Police Emergency Responders Agreement and the amendment to allow for a three-year extension as provided in

the board packet. Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to approve the extension and amendment to the Surveillance Cameras and Police Emergency Responders Agreement with a three-year extension as provided in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 4-0.

**S. Approve Extension/Amendment of the Valparaiso Police Department Agreement – Mr. Parrish**

Mr. Parrish recommended approval of the extension of our current agreement with the Valparaiso Police Department Agreement and the amendment to allow for a three-year extension as provided in the board packet. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to approve the extension and amendment to the Valparaiso Police Department Agreement with a three-year extension as provided in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 4-0.

**T. Approve Summer Hours – Mr. Parrish**

Mr. Parrish said the past several years the summer schedule has been modified to shut down all buildings on Fridays. Mr. Parrish recommended that the summer staff will work 10-hour days, Monday through Thursday starting June 7 through July 23 and the buildings will be open from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to approve summer hours as presented by Mr. Parrish; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 4-0.

**U. Permission to Post for One Summer Maintenance Helper – Mr. Parrish**

Mr. Parrish said the Maintenance Department has requested permission to post for one summer maintenance helper to help with summer duties. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to grant permission to post for one summer maintenance helper to assist with summer duties; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 4-0.

**V.1 Other: Approval of Waste Removal/Recycling Costs – Mr. Parrish**

Mr. Parrish recommended approval of the waste removal/recycling costs included in the board packet which reflects a cost increase of 3% with no increase through 2023. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to approve the waste removal and recycling costs as recommended by Mr. Parrish and provided in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 4-0.

**V.2 Other: Approval of Gibraltar Standard Form of Agreement – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt said there is a current Standard Form of Agreement with Gibraltar for the work for the preschool drive at Porter Lakes Elementary School. A proposed revision to the Standard Form of Agreement with Gibraltar adds the work for the preschool classroom addition and related work to this agreement as provided in the board packet. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to approve the revision to the Standard Form of Agreement with Gibraltar adding the work for the preschool classroom addition and related work as recommended by Dr. Schmidt and provided in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 4-0.

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

Mr. Parrish reported the following announcements and events:

- **BGE:** Student testing is now completed, tomorrow is Occupation Awareness Day, May 17 is Field Day, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation is May 24 and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Awards is May 25.
- **PLE:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade iLearn testing is finished, NWEA testing for Kindergarten–Grade 3 is finished, Occupation Day is May 21 and Field Day is May 25.
- **BGHS:**
  - Congratulations to Arianna Amelse for being named BGHS Teacher of the Month. Mr. Corman said Mrs. Amelse put together a spectacular year, created and organized awesome instructional practices and formed positive relationships with students. Congratulations Mrs. Amelse on a job well done!
  - Girls' Softball Team won the PCC round robin title and will compete this weekend.
  - Boys' Track won the PCC round robin title and conference meet.
  - Baseball team is having a great season!
  - BGHS National Honor Society Induction will be held on Saturday evening.
  - BGHS Choir Concert will be held tomorrow night.
- **BGMS:** Awards assemblies for each grade will be held on the last day of school. The Health Department approved an 8<sup>th</sup> Grade celebration on May 21.

**8. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Dr. Schmidt**

- Dr. Schmidt said two surveys have been sent out to gather staff input on protocols for next year and suggestions for using ESSER I and ESSER II funding in ways to give the best impact for learning and remediation and also potential consideration of funding to support special needs as well.

**9. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS – None**

**10. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None**

**11. ADJOURNMENT – 7:29 p.m.**

Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:29 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.*