

February 10, 2022

PTSC
BOARD APPROVED
DATE 3-10-2022

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**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 – 6:31 p.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Welcome Visitors

Board members present: Dr. Natalie Wargo, Mrs. Laura Chavez, Mrs. Mary Harlow and Mrs. Lilann Sgouros; Ms. Johanna Williams was absent. Also present: Superintendent, Dr. Stacey Schmidt; Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Ben Parrish; Board Attorney, Cheryl Zic; CFO/Treasurer, Kathleen Smith; Deputy Treasurer, Linda Bult and Secretary to the Superintendent, Linda Dusek. There was approximately five (5) present in the audience plus one officer.

2. AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS – Dr. Schmidt - None

3. PUBLIC HEARING ON HIGH SCHOOL PROJECT PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION – Dr. Schmidt

A. Open Hearing – Overview

Dr. Wargo said the board needs to hold a Preliminary Determination Hearing on the proposed high school construction project and announced that anyone interested in speaking during the hearing should come forward to sign-up. Dr. Wargo said a notice of this Preliminary Determination Hearing was published in the Post Tribune and the Northwest Indiana Times on January 28, 2022 as legally required. Dr. Wargo asked Dr. Schmidt to explain the purpose of this hearing. Dr. Schmidt said according to Indiana code, two public hearings must be held and resolutions must be adopted to determine and issue bonds and enter into a lease for a project that has a cost in excess of a non-controlled project. These public hearings and the adoptions of resolutions are the beginning of the process and establish the maximum financial terms for the proposed project.

B. Presentation

Dr. Wargo asked Dr. Schmidt to explain the process of determining and communicating the project to the public and the need for the proposed project. Dr. Schmidt gave a presentation reviewing previous discussions about how to meet the needs of our students and identifying the needs in the district. Dr. Schmidt reviewed the proposed project and a master design including a new track and a new football and soccer field with lighting and scoreboards. Also included is a Multi-Sport Facility with separate concessions stand and restrooms strategically located near bleachers and drives to allow access for visitors, emergency vehicles, etc. Dr. Schmidt said the proposed timeline reflects the actual construction beginning in August 2022 with a projected completion date of the following August of 2023. Dr. Schmidt invited Mr. Jim Elizondo of Stifel, Nicolaus & Company to discuss the financial impact while being fiscally responsible and tax neutral. Mr. Elizondo discussed construction hard and soft costs of \$9,770,000 and an estimated \$230,000 cost of issuance, with a total construction project cost of \$10,000,000. Mr. Elizondo also discussed financing, debt, leasing and tax rates. The current debt service levy for 2022 is \$3,242,949. The current debt service rate is \$50.54 per \$100 of assessed value; the projected debt service rate increase over 2022 is 0 with a maximum lease term of 22. Estimated total interest costs is very conservative at \$6,295,000. The debt service ratio is 1.12% and the outstanding debt ratio is 4.65%, which are both low.

C. Public Comment

Dr. Wargo asked if anyone would like to speak regarding the proposed project. No requests to speak were heard.

D. Close Hearing

Dr. Wargo closed the hearing. Dr. Wargo announced that a second preliminary determination hearing will be held on Tuesday, February 15 at 7:30 p.m. in this boardroom.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – AGENDA ITEMS ONLY - None

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 Board of Finance Meeting held on Thursday, January 13, 2022 at 6:25 p.m.; approval of the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting held on Thursday, January 13, 2022 at 6:30 p.m., and approval of the following items listed on the Personnel Report waiving the readings and pending clear background searches:

	NAME	POSITION	BUILDING	EFFECTIVE DATE
CLASSIFIED APPOINTMENTS:	GOETZINGER, Elise	Drama Club Volunteer	BGHS	01/24/2022-05/24/2022
	ZORMIER, Judith	School Nurse	PLE	12/13/2021
CLASSIFIED ECA APPOINTMENTS:	BEERE, Jay`	Varsity Boys' Golf Volunteer Assistant Coach	BGHS	03/14/2022-06/14/2022
	BEERE, Tara	Varsity Boys' Golf Head Coach	BGHS	03/14/2022-06/14/2022
	DIXON, Christine	MS Boys' Volleyball Head Coach	BGMS	02/01/2022-03/18/2022
	DIXON, Ed	MS Boys' Volleyball Volunteer Assistant Coach	BGMS	02/01/2022-03/18/2022
	MINDER, Robert	Varsity Wrestling Coach	BGHS	11/01/2021-02/19/2022
	TABORSKI, Mike	Middle School Wrestling Coach	BGMS	01/10/2022-02/27/2022
CLASSIFIED REQUESTS:	KIPP, Jenny	Teacher Aide – Request for unpaid days	PLE	02/02/2022-02/13/2022 (approximately)
	WILSON, Maria	Cafeteria Worker - Request for unpaid days	BGHS	02/14/2022-02/18/2022 (approximately)
CLASSIFIED RESIGNATION:	ELLIS, Aaron	New Horizons Learning Center Instructional Aide	BGHS	02/11/2022
	MCCOY, Michelle	Cafeteria Manager	PLE	05/24/2022
	MURPHY, Michelle	Cafeteria Cook	PLE	05/24/2022
	WILLIAMSON, Meghan	Cafeteria Server	BGHS	02/04/2022

Mrs. Harlow made a motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of payroll claims and accounts payable vouchers, approval of the minutes of the Board of Finance Meeting held on Thursday, January 13, 2022 at 6:25 p.m.; approval of the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting held on Thursday, January 13, 2022 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. Chavez. Motion carried 4-0.

6. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

A. Financial Summary

B. Fund Report

Mrs. Smith referred to the financial report provided in the board packet and asked for questions from the board; no questions were heard.

7. **BUSINESS**

A. Permission to Apply for Common School Loans – Mrs. Smith

Mrs. Smith requested permission to apply for common school loans throughout the year as needed. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to grant permission to apply for common school loans as needed throughout the year as requested by Mrs. Smith; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 4-0.

B. 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.

C. Approve Transfer Student – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of one additional transfer student as provided in the board packet. Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to approve an additional transfer student as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 4-0.

D. Approve Overnight Field Trip Request – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of an overnight field trip request for the BGHS Key Club to attend a District Leadership Conference on March 4-6, 2022. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to approve the request for an overnight field trip for the BGHS Key Club as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Harlow.

E. Approve the Establishment of a PTSC/IAPSS 2022 Clearing Fund for an Event – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt said PTSC is hosting a IAPSS event at the Farmhouse Restaurant at the Fair Oaks Farms in June which is funded by donations. Dr. Schmidt recommended the establishment of a clearing fund to manage donated funds and distribution of funds for the event. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to approve the establishment of a PTSC/IAPSS 2022 clearing fund for an IAPSS event as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 4-0.

F. Approval and Adoption of Revisions to the Food & Nutrition Services Addendum to the Employee Handbook – Mr. Parrish

Mr. Parrish recommended the approval and adoption of the revisions to the Food & Nutrition Services addendum to the employee handbook as provided in the board packet. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to approve and adopt the revisions to the Food & Nutrition Services addendum to the employee handbook as provided in the board packet and recommended by Mr. Parrish; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 4-0..

G. Approve 2022 Summer School – Mr. Parrish

Mr. Parrish said summer school is a very important opportunity for our students and requested permission to offer summer school once again for the Summer of 2022 with anticipation of state funding. Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to approve the 2022 Summer School as provided in the board packet and recommended by Mr. Parrish; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 4-0.

8. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Mr. Parrish**BGE:**

- Science Bowl placed 17th in their class and finished scoring 66 points.
- Mrs. Kegebein started a Job Application Program and the kids are having fun with it.

PLE:

- Preschool Parent/Teacher Conferences took place yesterday and will continue tonight for a second night.
- PLE held a Jar Wars fundraiser for funds to paint a mural in the hallway.
- iRead testing will be given to 2nd graders this year to help prepare for iRead testing in 3rd Grade.

BGHS:

- The Girls' Basketball team finished their season with a 12-9 record.
- Xander Warren and Jeremy Kranz advanced to the Semi-State Wrestling meet on Saturday.
- BGHS students selected Mrs. McGinnley as Teacher of the Month.
- BGHS was awarded 166 Gold Metals and 22 Silver Metals with 60 State qualifying students at the ISSMA Competition! Huge Congratulations to all who participated and a huge thank you to Mrs. Welbourne for another fantastic job!
- Trey Steinhilber scored 1,000 points during the Tuesday night basketball game against Westville and BGHS also won the PCC Keg at this game. Additionally, Trey Steinhilber broke the single game record with a record of 44; the previous record was held by Josh Casbon from January of 1991 with a record of 43.

9. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Dr. Schmidt

- Dr. Schmidt reported that steel is going up at PLE, walls will go up soon, and inside work will begin.
- Dr. Schmidt said Mr. Corman has an upcoming milestone birthday and Angela Vale has an upcoming birthday on March 5.
- Dr. Schmidt gave Legislative updates on the following three bills:
 - SB82 – Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Requirement
 - HB 1251 – Various Education Matters and SB 356 Teacher Matters
 - HB 1134: Education Matters
- COVID Update: Dr. Schmidt reported 91 positive cases in the district in January and only seven positive cases in the district in February to date.

10. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS - None**11. ADJOURNMENT 7:02 p.m.**

Mrs. Chavez made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.