

**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: Dr. Natalie Wargo, Mrs. Lilann Sgouros, Mrs. Laura Chavez, Mrs. Mary Harlow and Mr. Eric McGinty. Also present were: Superintendent, Dr. Stacey Schmidt; Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Ben Parrish; Board Attorney, Cheryl Zic; CFO/Treasurer, Mrs. Kathleen Smith and Deputy Treasurer, Linda Bult. There was one patron in attendance in the audience.

2. AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS – Dr. Schmidt - None

3. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

4. CONSENT AGENDA – Dr. Schmidt

A. Personnel Report

B. Board Minutes

C. Payroll and Claim Dockets

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the consent agenda consisting of payroll and claim dockets, approval of the minutes of the Board of Finance Meeting held on Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 6:25 p.m. and approval of the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting held on Thursday, January 12, 2023 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	Location	Effective Date
CERTIFIED APPOINTMENT:	ALLEN, Carlie	Special Education Teacher	PTSC	08/14/2023
	JORSCH, Megan	Special Education Teacher	PTSC	08/14/2023
	KEENAN, Traci	Special Education Teacher	PTSC	08/14/2023
	LYNN, Heidi	Special Education Teacher	PTSC	08/14/2023
	WATKIN, Jayne	Special Education Teacher	PTSC	08/14/2023
CLASSIFIED APPOINTMENT:	SCOTT, Laura	Assistant to the Business Office	Central Office	02/06/2023
	ANDERSON, Blake	Special Education Paraprofessional	PTSC	08/16/2023
	DAVIS, Danielle	Special Education Paraprofessional	PTSC	08/16/2023
	DEMATO-FLORES, Diana	Special Education Paraprofessional	PTSC	08/16/2023
	FELDE, Tonya	Special Education Paraprofessional	PTSC	08/16/2023
	HARKER, Brandon	Special Education Paraprofessional	PTSC	08/16/2023
	HOAKS, Abbagale	Special Education Paraprofessional	PTSC	08/16/2023
	KELSEY, Trina	Special Education Paraprofessional	PTSC	08/16/2023
	RIDGON, Melissa	Special Education Paraprofessional	PTSC	08/16/2023
	SORENSEN, Kenzie	Special Education Paraprofessional	PTSC	08/16/2023
	TALBERT, Jennie	Special Education Paraprofessional	PTSC	08/16/2023
	WOZNY, Rachel	Special Education Paraprofessional	PTSC	08/16/2023
CERTIFIED ECA RESIGNATION:	BEERE, Tara	Boys' Golf Head Coach	BGHS	2/3/2023
CERTIFIED TEMPORARY POSITION:	STARK, Christina	Temporary 7 th Grade Reading Teacher	BGMS	01/30/2023-05/25/2023 (until the end of the 2022-2023 school year)
CERTIFIED REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE & UNPAID DAYS:	BAIRD, Bridget	7 th Grade Reading Teacher – Request for Leave of Absence and unpaid days until the end of the 2022-2023 school year.	BGMS	01/26/2023-05/25/2023 (until the end of the 2022-2023 school year)
CLASSIFIED REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE	DUSEK, Linda	Secretary to the Superintendent – Request for Leave of Absence for up to 12 weeks.	Central Office	Beginning 02/16/2023
CLASSIFIED REQUEST FOR UNPAID DAYS	RAYMOND, Andrea	Teacher Aide – Request for 3.5 Unpaid Days	PLE	01/26/2023, 01/27/2023, 02/9/2023, 02/24/2023
CERTIFIED RESIGNATION	BEERE, Tara	Resignation as Science Teacher and all other Extra-Curricular Positions	BGHS	End of 2022-2023 School Year

Mr. McGinty made a motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of payroll and claim dockets, approval of the minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting held on Thursday, February 9, 2023 and approval of the items listed on the Personnel Report waiving the readings and pending clear background searches; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 5-0.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT – Mrs. Smith

- A. Financial Summary
- B. Fund Report
- C. Investment Report

Mrs. Smith referred to the Financial Summary, the Fund Report and the Investment Report provided in the board packet and asked for questions from the board; no questions were heard.

6. BUSINESS

A. Approve BGHS Waste Water Treatment Plant Project Change Order #04 – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the BGHS Waste Water Treatment Plant Project Change Order #04 to attempting to connect the new sanitary line and the existing sanitary line elevation required a different structure. Mr. McGinty made a motion to approve the BGHS Waste Water Treatment Plant Project Change Order #04 to as requested by Dr. Schmidt and as provided in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 5-0.

B. Permission to Create a New Fund for BGMS – Mrs. Smith

Mrs. Smith requested permission to create a new Middle School Softball Fund for Boone Grove Middle School. Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to grant permission to create a new Middle School Softball Fund for Boone Grove Middle School as requested by Mrs. Smith; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 5-0.

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

Mrs. Smith requested permission to apply for Common School Loans throughout the year when opportunities arise. Mr. McGinty made a motion to grant permission to apply for common school loans as needed throughout the year as recommended by Mrs. Smith; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 5-0.

D. Accept Category 2 E-Rate Bids – Mrs. Smith

Mrs. Smith referred to the request for acceptance of Category 2 E-Rate Bids as provided in the board packet. Mrs. Smith said Michael Skoda has completed the bidding process done via the E-rate program for the Meraki wireless renewal licenses and the additional HP Aruba networking equipment expansion. Mr. Skoda's recommendation for the bid of Meraki wireless renewal licenses is the acceptance of the NSI bid. The Meraki license renewals will allow us to continue to operate our Wi-Fi infrastructure for the entire district. Mr. Skoda's recommendation for the bid of the HP Aruba networking switch equipment is for the acceptance of the CDW-G bid. The networking switch expansion will allow us to add on networking ports to BGHS MDF and BGE/BGMS MDF, which currently are almost out of networking ports. Mrs. Smith recommended acceptance of Category 2 E-Rate Bids as provided in the board packet by Michael Skoda. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to accept the Category 2 E-Rate Bids as presented by Mrs. Smith and as provided in the board packet by Michael Skoda; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 5-0.

E. Accept New Transfer Students for 2022-2023 School Year – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended acceptance of four new transfer students for the 2022-2023 school year as provided in the board packet. Dr. Schmidt noted that this will be the last transfer student request for this school year. Mr. McGinty made a motion to accept the four additional new transfer students for the 2022-2023 school year as provided in the board packet and as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 5-0.

F. Approve Donations – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt gratefully recommended acceptance of the following generous donations:

- A former board member, Johanna Williams, made a donation of \$1,000 for the support of the students and staff at PTSC.
- Brian Marlowe made a donation of \$100 for the support of the STEM Club at BGHS.
- Recognition of the Cooper Family for providing \$650 to provide 40 Ham Dinner in a Box Kits for the Ham Dinner in a Box project organized by the Builder's Club at BGMS.
- Food Service received \$60 during the month of January through the Feed it Forward Program for students in need.

Mrs. Chavez made a motion to accept the donations as provided in the board packet and as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 5-0.

G. Approve Fundraisers – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the fundraisers as provided in the board packet. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to accept the fundraisers as provided in the board packet and as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. McGinty. Motion carried 5-0.

H. Permission to Post for Three (3) Summer Maintenance/Groundskeeper Helpers – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt requested permission to post for three (3) summer maintenance/groundskeeper helpers for the summer of 2023. Mr. McGinty made a motion to grant permission to post for three (3) summer maintenance/grounds-keeper helpers for the summer of 2023 as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 5-0.

I. NITCO Lease Termination and Release Agreement - - Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the NITCO Lease Termination and Release Agreement provided in the board packet. Dr. Schmidt explained that NITCO had plans to place a tower at the Boone Grove Complex on the northeast corner of the property, which in turn would increase service to our families. Unfortunately, NITCO was unable to get the approval from Porter County to build the tower and the agreement needs to be terminated. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to approve the NITCO Lease Termination and Release Agreement provided in the board packet and recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mr. McGinty. Motion carried 5-0.

J. Approve Overnight Field Trip for Varsity Cheer Competition – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the overnight field trip request for the Varsity Cheerleaders to attend a US Cheer Competition in Cincinnati, Ohio on April 14-16, 2023. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to approve the overnight field trip request for the varsity cheer competition as provided in the board packet and as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mr. McGinty Motion carried 5-0.

K. Approve 2023 Summer School – Mr. Parrish

Mr. Parrish recommended approval of the 2023 summer school proposal for the summer of 2023 as provided in the board packet. Mr. Parrish said sessions will run Monday through Thursday from May 26 to July 14 depending on the length of the course. Currently, a few teachers are discussing offerings at BGMS for Band and Math and at BGHS for Health, Science and US History. As the course proposals are submitted, there is also a requirement of at least 15 students averaged per course. Mrs. Harlow made a motion to approve the 2023 summer school program as proposed by Mr. Parrish; seconded by Mr. McGinty. Motion carried 5-0.

7. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Mr. Parrish

Mr. Parrish reported the following news from each building:

PLE:

- PLE is having Bingo night tomorrow night beginning at 5:30 p.m.
- Preschool Registration for 2023-2024 is going very well

BGE:

- Science Bowl placed in the top 10 in the State.
- Math Bowl has 42 kids which is outstanding.
- BGE Family Game Night is February 27 sponsored by Student Council.

BGMS:

- Practices have begun for Academic Super Bowl.
- Mrs. Wotherspoon is working with the staff to create a program similar to the high school for students in good standing.
- BGMS did a fantastic job at the Choir ISSMA.

BGHS:

- BGHS did a fantastic job at the Band/Choir ISSMA.
- SAT begins on March 2 – good luck to our students.
- Four Boone Grove Wrestlers advanced to the Regionals and one of them advanced to the Semi-State.
- Congratulations to Mrs. Witt who was named Teacher of the Year at BGHS. Mr. Parrish said Mrs. Witt always does an outstanding job and we a fortunate to have her!
- Vocational student Angelina Fiore successfully gave CPR during her training class! Great job Angelina.

8. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Dr. Schmidt

- Dr. Schmidt wished a Happy Birthday to our newest employee, Laura Scott who is a Business Office Assistant and is having a birthday on Sunday. Additional upcoming birthdays are Mr. Corman on February 21 and Angela Vale on March 5.
- Dr. Schmidt gave a presentation with an update on the construction progress.
- Dr. Schmidt discuss the recent online day at BGHS. Dr. Schmidt said the goal for this online day was to look at PSAT scores, consider remediation for some of our students and to compare what others are doing in the state. It was a productive day for teachers as they collaboratively worked on motivational tools, ways to help prepare students and evaluation of the positive and the negative to make a help plan for next year. Dr. Schmidt answered questions from the board.

9. ADJOURNMENT – 7:00 P.M.

Mrs. Chavez made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mrs. Harlow. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

