

Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting, Porter Township School Corporation Board of School Trustees
February 8, 2024 | 5:30 pm CST

Board Members Present: Dr. Natalie Wargo, Lilann Sgouros, Eric McGinty, and Jeannette Skibbie

Board Members Absent: Mary Harlow

Staff Members Present: Dr. Stacey Schmidt, Superintendent, Ben Parrish, Assistant Superintendent, Kathleen Smith, CFO, Laura Scott, Executive Assistant, and Jackie Pillar, Corporation Attorney

There were no community members in attendance.



1. CALL TO ORDER – Dr. Natalie Wargo, President, 5:30 pm

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Welcome Visitors

2. AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS – Dr. Stacey Schmidt | There were no agenda adjustments

3. PUBLIC COMMENT | There were no public comments

4. CONSENT AGENDA – Dr. Schmidt

A. Personnel Report

B. Board Minutes, 1.11.24 Regular Meeting and 1.11.24 Board of Finance Meeting

C. Payroll and Claim Dockets

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the consent agenda as provided in the board packet. Jeannette Skibbie made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Lilann Sgouros. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4-0.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT – Mrs. Kathleen Smith

A. Financial Report

B. Fund Report

C. Investment Report

D. Monthly Fund Transfer Report

6. BUSINESS

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

The Technology Department has requested permission to apply for Common School Loans throughout the school year. A motion to approve this request was made by Eric McGinty, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4-0.

B. Approve Asset Control Solutions Contract – Mrs. Smith

Mrs. Smith explained that this contract pertains to our capital asset inventory, required every other year by SBOA. A motion to approve this contract was made by Lilann Sgouros, seconded by Eric McGinty. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4-0.

C. Appointment of Alternate Board Secretary – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt explained the importance of having an alternate board Secretary. Lilann Sgouros nominated Jeannette Skibbie as Alternate Board Secretary, seconded by Eric McGinty. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4-0.

D. Approve Dual Credit Supplemental Payments – Dr. Schmidt

At BGHS, we have several teachers who work with higher education to teach dual-credit classes. This adds to their workload and the benefits to our students are very valuable. These supplemental payments are an acknowledgement of their extra efforts and a gesture of our appreciation for helping students earn dual-credits. A motion to approve these payments was made by Eric McGinty, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4-0.

E. Approve Literacy Grant – Dr. Schmidt

The state has awarded us \$8,000 as a celebration of our 95%+ pass rate. A chart provided in the board packet shows the payouts going to teachers and instructional assistants. A motion to approve this grant was made by Lilann Sgouros, seconded by Eric McGinty. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4-0.

F Accept Transfer Students – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended additional in-good-standing transfer students for 2nd semester. We will not see any more transfer students for this school year. A motion to accept the transfer students was made by Eric McGinty, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4-0.

G. Approve Overnight Field Trips – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of three overnight field trips. Eric McGinty made a motion to approve overnight field trips, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4-0.

H. Approve Fundraisers – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of various fundraisers. A motion to approve fundraisers was made by Lilann Sgouros, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4-0.

I. Accept Donations – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended acceptance of a generous donation from Oak Partners to our BGMS Principal's Fund. A motion to accept this donation was made by Eric McGinty, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4-0.

J. Approve 2024 Summer School – Mr. Ben Parrish

Mr. Parrish explained that summer school intends to run as it has in the past, however due to IN state legislative sessions, requirements *may* change what summer school looks like. Currently, nothing has been approved, so we will move forward as planned. We will revisit summer school plans if/when it is necessary. Mr. Parrish answered questions from the board. A motion to approve 2024 summer school was made by Eric McGinty, seconded by Lilann Sgouros. The motion carried 4-0.

7. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Mr. Parrish

Mr. Parrish provided updates from each building. Special congrats to:

- Freshman wrestler Cayden Yuran for qualifying to represent Boone Grove at Semi-State
- 8 ensembles and 11 soloists from BG Choir who are State bound – good luck to them on February 17th!
- Noah Dukes and Ace Fizer, who both received multiple gold keys at the recent Scholastic Art Show
- BGHS Cheer and Dance for winning their PCC Competitions
- BGHS Teacher of the Month, Athena Welbourne

And extra thanks to:

- BGHS Culinary Arts for hosting the hospitality room during the PCC competitions – Mrs. Dobrowski and Mr. Ross did a phenomenal job
- BGMS Café Staff for providing the treats for the Academic Honors breakfast for students, parents, and teachers
- Mrs. Kenning for doing such amazing work at BGE and BGMS

8. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Dr. Schmidt

We have a very long punch list of things to be completed at the athletic complex.

Dr. Schmidt presented Senate Bill 1 regarding The Science of Reading, highlighted Indiana GPS Dashboard indicator “HS credits earned as a MS student”, and discussed how these may impact our future summer school offerings and reimbursements.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Eric McGinty at 6:02 pm, seconded by Lilann Sgouros. The motion carried 4-0.