

Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting, Porter Township School Corporation Board of School Trustees  
April 11, 2024 | 5:30 pm CST

Board Members Present: Dr. Natalie Wargo, Eric McGinty, Mary Harlow, Lilann Sgouros, and Jeannette Skibbie  
Board Members Absent: None

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, 3.14.24 Board Meeting**

**C. Payroll and Claim Dockets**

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the consent agenda as provided in the board packet. A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Eric McGinty, seconded by Mary Harlow. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

**5. FINANCIAL REPORT – Mrs. Kathleen Smith**

**A. Financial Report**

**B. Fund Report**

**C. Investment Report**

**D. Monthly Fund Transfer Report**

**6. BUSINESS**

**A. Gibraltar Design – District-Wide Facility Assessment & Feasibility Study**

Kris Kingery from Gibraltar Design presented data regarding our facilities from staff surveys. Gibraltar will return with another update in June.

**B. Approve Fundraisers – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of various fundraisers, as presented in the board packet. A motion to approve these fundraisers was made by Lilann Sgouros, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie; the motion carried 5-0.

**C. Accept Donations – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of a Scholastic Dollars donation from the PTO to the Boone Grove Elementary library. Mary Harlow made a motion to accept this donation. It was seconded by Eric McGinty; the motion carried 5-0.

**D. Approve Transfer Students for the 2024-2025 School Year – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended a batch of in-good standing transfer students for the 2024-2025 school year. A motion to accept these transfer students was made by Eric McGinty, seconded by Lilann Sgouros. The motion carried 5-0.

**E. Approve Overnight Field Trips – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of two overnight field trips. Mary Harlow made a motion to approve these overnight field trips, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. The motion carried 5-0.

**F. Approve Moving Health & PE for High School Credit to BGMS – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended moving Health and PE class for High School credit to 8<sup>th</sup> grade at BGMS. Dr. Schmidt answered questions from the board regarding this change. A motion to approve this move was made by Lilann Sgouros, seconded by Eric McGinty; the motion carried 5-0.

**G. Contract Considerations – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the following contracts:

- Imagine Learning/Odysseyware for both BGHS and New Horizons Learning Center
- Recycling & Waste Reduction District of Porter County - Drop-Off Recycling Facility at the Complex
- Pitney Bowes/Postage Meter Lease at Central Office
- Magic Wrighter, Inc/e-Funds for Schools for the district

Mary Harlow made a motion to approve all contracts, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

**H. Approve the First Reading of the Following New Board Bylaws, Board Bylaw Revisions, New Board Policies, or Board Policy Revisions – Mr. Parrish**

1. New Bylaw #0164 – Notice of Meetings
2. Rescind Policy #0164.1 – Regular Meetings
3. Rescind Bylaw #0164.2 – Special Meetings
4. Rescind Bylaw #0164.3 – Emergency Meetings
5. Rescind Bylaw #0164.4 – Meeting of the Board Defined
6. Replacement Bylaw #0165 – Board Meetings
7. Rescind Bylaw #0165.1 – Notice of Regular Meetings
8. Rescind Bylaw #0165.2 – Notice of Special Board Meetings
9. Rescind Bylaw #0165.3 – Notice of Emergency Meetings
10. Rescind Bylaw #0165.4 – Notice Requirements Established by Other Statutes
11. Rescind Bylaw #0165.5 – Series of Meetings (Gatherings)
12. Revised Policy #0167.1 – Voting
13. New Policy #1422.01 – Drug-Free Workplace
14. New Policy #1662.01 – Threatening and/or Intimidating Behavior Toward Staff Members
15. Revised Policy #3120.08 – Employment of Personnel for Extracurricular Activities
16. Revised Policy #4120.08 – Employment of Personnel for Extracurricular Activities
17. Revised Policy #5340.01 – Student Concussions and Sudden Cardiac Arrest
18. Revised Policy #5350 – Student Suicide Awareness and Prevention
19. Revised Policy #5517.01 – Bullying
20. Rescind Policy #6320.01 – Purchasing Using Online Reverse Auctions
21. Reapprove Policy #6325 – Procurement - Federal Grants/Funds
22. Revised Policy #7540.02 – Web Content, Apps, and Services
23. Revised Policy #8400 – School Safety
24. Revised Policy #8452 – Automated External Defibrillators (AED)
25. Revised Policy #8455 – Coach Training, References, and IHSAA Reporting
26. Revised Policy #9130 – Public Complaints and Concerns
27. Copy of Policy #1520.08 - Employment of Personnel for Extracurricular Activities
28. Revised Policy #6320 – Purchasing

Mr. Parrish recommended approval of the first reading of the above new board bylaws, board bylaw revisions, new board policies, and/or board policy revisions. A motion to approve the first reading was made by Eric McGinty, seconded by Lilann Sgouros. The motion carried 5-0.

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

Mr. Parrish provided a brief update from each building. Special congratulations to our HS Boys Volleyball team, who went undefeated in the PCC.

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

Dr. Schmidt discussed absenteeism at PTSC and within Porter County and presented her 1st draft of a revised district-wide attendance policy. There was significant discussion. Dr. Schmidt plans to have a 2<sup>nd</sup> draft ready to share in May.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn was made by Lilann Sgouros at 7:06 pm, seconded by Eric McGinty. The motion carried 5-0.

