

Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting, Porter Township School Corporation Board of School Trustees
June 13, 2024 | 5:30 pm CST

**The following is a partial transcript of the meeting. A recording of the actual meeting is available at Central 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.*

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, and Laura Scott, Executive Assistant.
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, 5.9.24 Board Meeting
 - C. Payroll and Claim Dockets
Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the consent agenda, as presented 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. District-Wide Facility & Feasibility Study – Gibraltar Design
Jim Thompson from Gibraltar Design presented an update regarding our district-wide facility and feasibility study. Gibraltar plans to return for more discussion in August.
 - B. Contract Considerations – Dr. Schmidt
Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of contracts with the Porter County Sheriff’s Dept., the Valparaiso Police Dept., Ivy Tech Community College, NWEA, First Student, Skyward, Inc., and Software Systems, Inc. A motion to approve contracts was made by Eric McGinty, seconded by Mary Harlow. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.
 - C. Approve Transfer Students for the 2024-2025 School Year – Dr. Schmidt
Dr. Schmidt recommended 11 transfer students for the 2024-2025 school year. A motion to approve these transfer students was made by Lilann Sgouros, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was a brief discussion and the motion carried 5-0.
 - D. Approve Fundraisers – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of a car wash fundraiser for the Class of 2026. A motion to approve this fundraiser was made by Eric McGinty, seconded by Mary Harlow. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

E. Accept Donations – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of a donation made to BGMS Football. A motion to approve this donation was made by Jeannette Skibbie, seconded by Lilann Sgouros. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

F. Approve Overnight Field Trip – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of an overnight field trip for BGHS Cheerleading to Anderson University for cheer camp. A motion to approve this overnight field trip was made by Mary Harlow, seconded by Eric McGinty. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

G. Approve Attendance Policy – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of an updated attendance policy. A motion to approve this policy was made by Mary Harlow, seconded by Eric McGinty. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

H. Approve BGHS Proposal for Transition from Class Rank to Latin Honors – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt briefed the board on BGHS' goal to transition from class rank (valedictorian/salutatorian) to Latin honors. The board discussed. A motion to approve this proposal was made by Lilann Sgouros, seconded by Eric McGinty. The motion carried 5-0.

I. Approve Price Increases for 24-25 Student/Adult Lunches – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of meal pricing increases, as regulated by the State. A motion to approve the price increases was made by Mary Harlow, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

J. Approve 2024-2025 Food Service Vendor Procurements – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of food service vendors as presented in the board packet. A motion to approve these vendors was made by Jennette Skibbie, seconded by Lilann Sgouros. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

K. Approve First Reading of 2024-2025 ECA Coaches Handbook Revisions – Mr. Parrish

Mr. Parrish recommended approval of the first reading of revisions made to the 24-25 ECA Coaches Handbook. There was a brief discussion. A motion to approve these revisions was made by Mary Harlow, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. The motion carried 5-0.

L. Approve First Reading of 2024-2025 Student Handbook – Mr. Parrish

Mr. Parrish recommended approval of the first reading of the 24-25 Student Handbook. A motion to approve this first reading was made by Eric McGinty, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

M. Approve First Reading of the 2024-2025 Classified Employee Handbook Revisions – Mr. Parrish

Mr. Parrish recommended approval of the first reading of the 24-25 Classified Employee Handbook. A motion to approve this first reading was made by Mary Harlow, seconded by Lilann Sgouros. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

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

1. Revised Bylaw #0100 – Legislative Changes – Definitions

2. Replacement Policy #5136 – Legislative Changes – Personal Communication Devices

3. Revised Policy #5200 – Legislative Changes – Attendance

Mr. Parrish recommended approval of the first reading of the above revised policies, bylaws, and replacement policies. A motion to approve this first reading was made by Eric McGinty, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

O. Permission to Recycle Outdated Technology Items – Mr. Parrish

Mr. Parrish recommended granting permission for the technology department to recycle outdated and unused tech items. A motion to grant permission to donate the items listed in the board packet was made by Mary Harlow, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

7. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Mr. Parrish

Mr. Parrish gave a brief end of year update. He highlighted the success of our alternative program at New Horizons – they had 45 graduates and the program received 100% “satisfactory” or “very satisfactory” ratings from graduating students. Big thanks to Andrea Hicks and Tim Jones for all of the work they do there with those students.

8. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt provided an updated on the improvements continuing to happen at our Athletic Complex and the surrounding land. She shared about a new stone walking path going in between Porter Lakes and LOFS – this will improve safety of families walking through the pickup/dropoff area. Dr. Schmidt also highlighted Scholastic silver-medal winning art from BGHS student Noah Dukes.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made at 6:44 pm by Mary Harlow, seconded by Eric McGinty. The motion carried 5-0.