

Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting, Porter Township School Corporation Board of School Trustees
January 9, 2025 | 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, Laura Scott, Executive Assistant, and Jacquelyn Pillar, Corporation Attorney

There were no community members in attendance.



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

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. ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

A. Oath of Office

CFO Kathleen Smith administered the Oath of Office to Natalie Wargo and Lilann Sgouros

B. Election of Officers – Board President

1. President

Mary Harlow made a motion to retain Natalie Wargo as School Board President, seconded by Eric McGinty.

There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

2. Vice-President

Mary Harlow made a motion to retain Eric McGinty as School Board Vice-President, seconded by Lilann Sgouros.

There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

3. Secretary

Jeannette Skibbie made a motion to retain Mary Harlow as School Board Secretary, seconded by Eric McGinty.

Mary Harlow made a motion to retain Jeannette Skibbie as School Board **Acting Secretary**, seconded by Lilann Sgouros. There was no discussion and both motions carried 5-0.

C. Determination of Member Compensation – Board President

Mary Harlow made a motion to retain Member Compensation at \$2,000 per year, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

D. Determination of Meeting Dates & Times – Board President

Mary Harlow made a motion to keep our monthly meeting on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 5:30 pm CST, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

E. Appointment of Corporation Treasurer – Board President

Mary Harlow made a motion to retain Kathleen Smith as Corporation Treasurer, seconded by Eric McGinty.

There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

F. Appointment of Corporation Deputy Treasurer – Board President

Mary Harlow made a motion to retain Angela Vale as Corporation Deputy Treasurer, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

G. Appointment of Board Attorney – Board President

Mary Harlow made a motion to retain Crist, Sears, and Zic as Board Attorney, seconded by Eric McGinty. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

H. Disclosure Statements – Board President

Mary Harlow made a motion to approve the Disclosure Statement, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion. Natalie Wargo abstained from voting. The motion carried 4-0.

5. CONSENT AGENDA – Dr. Schmidt

A. Personnel Report

B. Board Minutes, 12.12.24 Regular Meeting

C. Payroll and Claim Dockets

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the Consent Agenda, as presented in the board packet, consisting of board meeting minutes, payroll and claim dockets, and the following items listed on the personnel report:

Appointments

Certified

Name	Position	Location	Effective Date
Patterson, Katie	5th Grade Teacher	BGE	1/6/2025
Stowers, Emily	Temporary PKI Teacher	PLE	Approx 1/8/2025-4/12/2025
Sperry, Jillian	P/T Special Ed Aide	PLE	1/6/2025
Craig, Megan	7th Grade Girls Basketball Head Coach	BGMS	2024-2025 School Year
Brandy, Diane	Custodian	PLE	12/16, 12/18 (.5), 12/19/2024
Harker, Denise	Teacher's Aide	BGHS	12/11 & 12/12/2024
Raymond, Andrea	Teacher's Aide	PLE	12/20/2024
Pelc, Jennifer	Teacher's Aide	PLE	12/13/2024
Smith, Kathleen	CFO	CO	Approx 20 days' leave beginning 3/26/2025
Smith, Silvia	Custodian	BGMS	12/13/2024

Classified

Extra-Curricular

Leaves

Classified

Terminations

Classified

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented in the board packet, was made by Lilann Sgouros, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

6. FINANCIAL REPORT – Mrs. Kathleen Smith

A. Financial Report

B. Fund Report

C. Monthly Fund Transfer Reports

7. BUSINESS

A. Accept Donations – Dr. Schmidt

Eric McGinty made a motion to accept 2 donations to our Feed it Forward Program, seconded by Lilann Sgouros. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

B. Approve Overnight Field Trips – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval an overnight field trip for BGHS' Drama Club to compete at the State level. A motion to approve this field trip was made by Lilann Sgouros, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

C. Approve Fundraisers – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of a fundraiser for Boys & Girls Track. A motion to approve this fundraiser was made by Eric McGinty, seconded by Lilann Sgouros. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

8. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Mr. Parrish

Mr. Parrish provided an update from the buildings:

BGHS – Mr. Tauber was chosen as Teacher of the Month – congrats to him! 3 Girls Wrestling athletes qualified for Regionals, good luck to them as they compete tomorrow! PCC Basketball Tournament kicks off the week of January 20th.

BGE – Welcome our new 5th grade teacher, Katie Patterson! Science Bowl has kicked off and we're looking forward to competition on January 28th...thanks to Mrs. Rippe for all of her hard work with that team.

BGMS – Big thank you to our maintenance team for getting the new weight room set up over winter break! We're excited to add this for our 8th grade PE classes that are offering HS credits for Freshman PE.

PLE – Shoutout to Mrs. Hinchley for an outstanding Winter Performance from the 1st and 3rd graders! We're so appreciative of the HS band and choir for treating us to an awesome performance before winter break.

9. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt shared two data reports – the graduation rate report and iRead for grade 3.

We are thrilled to share that Boone Grove HS achieved a 100% graduation rate for 2024. Our staff works so hard to ensure that graduation is an achievable goal for all of our students and we're so grateful for their efforts.

Our iRead passing percentage rate came in just under 95%.

10. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Eric McGinty at 5:43 pm, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. The motion carried 5-0.