

Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting, Porter Township School Corporation Board of School Trustees
September 11, 2025 | 5:30 pm CST

**The following is a partial transcript of the meeting. A recording of the actual meeting is available on the PTSC website Board of School Trustees page, <https://www.ptsc.k12.in.us/school-board/agenda-minutes/>
Approval of this transcript as official minutes will be at the next regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees.*

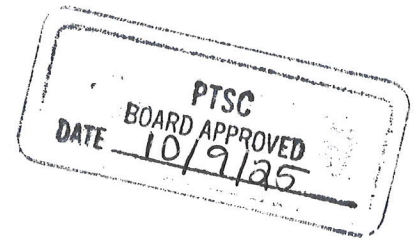
Board Members Present: Dr. Natalie Wargo, Eric McGinty, Mary Harlow, Lilann Sgouros, and Jeannette Skibbie

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Members Present: Dr. Stacey Schmidt, Superintendent, Ben Parrish, Assistant Superintendent, Kathleen Smith, CFO, and Laura Grayam, Executive Assistant

Staff Members Absent: 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, Superintendent | There were no agenda adjustments**
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT | There were no public comments**
4. **CONSENT AGENDA – Dr. Schmidt**
 - A. Personnel Report
 - B. Board Minutes, 8.21.25 Board 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		Name	Position	Location	Effective Date
<i>Classified</i>		Crisp, Georgia	Special Education Para	PLE	2025-2026 School Year
<i>Extra-Curricular</i>		Baird, Bridget	Games Club Sponsor, Best Buddies Co-Sponsor	BGMS	2025-2026 School Year
		Belleville, Paul	Band Performances/Contests	BGMS	2025-2026 School Year
		Belleville, Paul	Games Club Sponsor, Pep Band, Band Performances/Contests	BGHS	2025-2026 School Year
		Bowman, Melissa	Yearbook	BGE	2025-2026 School Year
		Boyer, Jeremy	Art Club	BGMS	2025-2026 School Year
		Boyer, Jeremy	Art Club	BGE	2025-2026 School Year
		Chant, John	Social Studies Academic Team Head Coach, Social Studies Dept. Chair	BGHS	2025-2026 School Year
		Davis, Stacy	Fall Drama, Spring Drama	BGHS	2025-2026 School Year
		Draves, Jennifer	6th Grade Dept. Chair, Math Academic Team, Academic Teams Head Coach	BGMS	2025-2026 School Year
		Dombrowski, Cora	8th Grade Dept. Chair, Science Fair, Science Academic Team	BGMS	2025-2026 School Year
		Garcia, Nicole	7th Grade Dept. Chair, NJHS, Yearbook	BGMS	2025-2026 School Year
		Garrett, Wendy	Math Bowl Coach, Spell Bowl Coach, grades 4/5	BGE	2025-2026 School Year
		Gibbs, Jennifer	Natural Helpers Co-Sponsor	BGHS	2025-2026 School Year

Hinchley, Holly	Choir Performances	BGE	2025-2026 School Year
Hill, Dean	P.E. Dept. Chair	BGHS	2025-2026 School Year
Hundt, Megan	Best Buddies Co-Sponsor	BGE	2025-2026 School Year
Janesheski, Troy	Science Fair, Spell Bowl, NHS Co-Sponsor	BGHS	2025-2026 School Year
Jorsch, Megan	Best Buddies Co-Sponsor	BGMS	2025-2026 School Year
Kennedy, Justine	STEM Club, Science Fair, Science Academic Team, 11th Grade Co-Sponsor	BGHS	2025-2026 School Year
Krause, Karen	Student Council Sponsor	BGHS	2025-2026 School Year
Loving, Sheryl	Art Club, Art Show, Yearbook, 10th Grade Class Sponsor, Art Dept. Chair	BGHS	2025-2026 School Year
McKee, Amanda	Student Council	BGE	2025-2026 School Year
Mikulich, Ginger	Science Fair, Science Dept. Chair	BGHS	2025-2026 School Year
Moreno, Tamitha	12th Grade Sponsor, GSA Co-Sponsor	BGHS	2025-2026 School Year
Perry, Kaitlyn	9th Grade Sponsor, GSA Co-Sponsor	BGHS	2025-2026 School Year
Rhoades, Jordan	Yearbook	PLE	2025-2026 School Year
Rigsby, Christopher	Best Buddies Co-Sponsor	BGE	2025-2026 School Year
Rippe, Carrie	Science Bowl Coach	BGE	2025-2026 School Year
Saco, Melissa	11th Grade Co-Sponsor	BGHS	2025-2026 School Year
Sarnowski, Katie	Academic Team Head Coach, Math Academic Team Coach	BGHS	2025-2026 School Year
Suggs, Catherine	Student Council Sponsor	BGMS	2025-2026 School Year
Swan-Caratini, Jori	English Academic Team Head Coach, English Dept. Chair	BGHS	2025-2026 School Year
Tauber, Anthony	Natural Helpers Co-Sponsor	BGHS	2025-2026 School Year
Thill, Rollie	NHS Co-Sponsor, Math Dept. Chair	BGHS	2025-2026 School Year
Trapana, Thomas	Business Dept. Chair	BGHS	2025-2026 School Year
Welbourne-Swetalla, Athena	Choir Performances/Contests	BGMS	2025-2026 School Year
Welbourne-Swetalla, Athena	Fine Arts Academic Team Head Coach, Choir Performances/Contests, Swing, Music Dept. Chair	BGHS	2025-2026 School Year
Westerman, Ivette	Spanish Club, Key Club, Foreign Language Dept. Chair	BGHS	2025-2026 School Year
Williams, Karen	Social Studies Academic Team, English Academic Team Spell Bowl Coach	BGMS	2025-2026 School Year
Loving, Sheryl	Art Teacher	BGHS	intermittent leave 9/12/25 through 6/20/25
Plummer, Sandra	Teacher's Aide	PLE	9/12/25 and 9/15/25
Rainford, Shelley	Teacher's Aide	PLE	9/2/2025

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Jeannette Skibbie, 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. Monthly Fund Transfer Reports

6. BUSINESS

A. PLE Project Update – The Skillman Corporation

Mr. Chris Muvceski shared a brief update on the construction progress at Porter Lakes Elementary. In the next 4 weeks, we can expect to see progress on underground plumbing and electric, pouring of concrete slabs, metal studs, courtyard concrete, structural steel, and completion of the retention pond.

B. BGHS Project & BGE Gym Floor Updates – Gibraltar Design

Mr. Jim Thompson shared the overall plan for the BGHS project, including HVAC, updating underused areas to create useful space within the current footprint, bringing bleachers up to code, updates to increase safety, and updating outdated finishes, creating a more neutral look.

Mr. Thompson also shared ideas on how to address the BGE gym floor that was damaged over the summer due to flooding.

C. Public Meeting – Mrs. Smith

Mrs. Smith apologized for not having the full budget prepared for today's meeting; the follow up meeting will be September 19th at 7:00 am.

1. 2025 Additional Appropriations

Mrs. Smith opened the public hearing for 2025 proposed additional appropriations. These additional appropriations are needed to pay for the mid-year tax-anticipation warrant interest in the amount of \$6,219.00, the exact interest amount on the final amortization schedule of the loan.

There were no questions from the board and there was no public comment; the hearing was closed.

2. 2025 Amended Bus Replacement Plan

Mrs. Smith opened the public hearing for the 2025 amended bus replacement plan. The bus replacement plan has been amended to replace one 2011 bus over the one originally selected. There were no questions from the board and there was no public comment; the hearing was closed.

3. 2026 Proposed Bus Replacement Plan

Mrs. Smith opened the public hearing for the 2026 proposed bus replacement plan. The board will approve this proposed bus replacement plan at the October 9, 2025 board meeting. In 2026, we plan to replace one 60-passenger bus with a lift and one 14-passenger bus with a lift. These buses will be paid for with our 2023 General Obligation bond. There were no questions from the board and there was no public comment; the hearing was closed.

4. 2026 Proposed Capital Projects Plan

Mrs. Smith opened the public hearing for the 2026 proposed capital projects plan. The board will approve these proposed capital projects at the October 9, 2025 board meeting, however, due to SEA 1, we have elected not to do any capital projects out of the operations fund. All projects will be expensed through our 2023 General Obligation bond or with any remaining funds in our leaseholder loans. There were no questions from the board and there was no public comment; the hearing was closed.

D. Approve Resolution #0925-326, Additional Appropriations – Mrs. Smith

Mrs. Smith recommended approval of Resolution #0925-326, Additional Appropriations. A motion to approve this resolution was made by Eric McGinty, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

E. Approve Resolution #0925-327, Amend 2025 Bus Replacement Plan – Mrs. Smith

Mrs. Smith recommended approval of Resolution #0925-327, Amended 2025 Bus Replacement Plan. A motion to approve this resolution was made by Lilann Sgouros, seconded by Mary Harlow. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

F. Approve Fundraisers – Dr. Schmidt

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

G. Accept Donations – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended acceptance of generous donations to our academic teams, BGHS students, and Athletics, as presented in the board packet. A motion to accept these donations was made by Jeannette Skibbie, seconded by Lilann Sgouros. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

H. Contract Considerations – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended consideration of a contract with Policy Analytics in order to get the most up to date and accurate data pertaining to our district and SEA 1 in order to help us make the most financially responsible decisions now and in the future. Policy Analytics plans to have initial data to the board sometime in October. A motion to accept this contract was made by Eric McGinty, seconded by Mary Harlow. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

I. Accept Transfer Students for the 2025-2026 School Year – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended acceptance of 1 transfer student, as presented in the board packet. A motion to accept this transfer student was made by Jeannette Skibbie, seconded by Lilann Sgouros. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

7. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Mr. Parrish

Mr. Parrish shared an update from each building:

PLE – Things are running as smoothly as possible with all of the ongoing construction. PLE is excited about their new Student of the Month initiative; this month they're focused on Self-Control

BGE – Girls on the Run has started, they'll be having a Family Fine Arts night on October 7th

BGMS – 7th grade recently went on a career exploration field trip, baseball and softball have wrapped up, football and cross country are off to a strong start, volleyball practices have begun, and the cheerleaders have been working hard on perfecting their routines for the upcoming October football game, and after school homework help has kicked off for the year and has seen great attendance thus far.

BGHS – Congrats to August teacher of the month, Ms. Perry! All Juniors and Seniors recently participated in a career exploration activity. Mr. Russell recently accompanied 10 student-athletes to the IHSAA Student Leadership Conference at Lowell High School – thanks Mr. Russell! Parent/Teacher Conferences are coming up, and next week is Homecoming week!

8. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt reminded the board about the upcoming meeting on September 19th. She shared that Mr. Busse is working on issues with our generator. Recently, some HS students were able to go to the Central Midwest Carpenter's Training Center to speak with current apprentices and do some hands-on activities.

Dr. Schmidt shared additional information on the new flooring option for the BGE gym and discussed with the board.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made at 6:54 pm by Lilann Sgouros, seconded by Mary Harlow. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.