

Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting, Porter Township School Corporation Board of School Trustees
December 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, Mary Harlow, Lilann Sgouros, and Jeannette Skibbie

Board Members Absent: Eric McGinty

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

Staff Members Absent: Laura Grayam, Executive Assistant



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. PROJECT HEARING & 2nd PRELIMINARY DETERMINATION HEARING

- A. Welcome**
- B. Statement of Purpose**
- C. Educational Need for Project**
- D. Overview of Project to Meet Education Needs, Cost & Timing**
- E. Financial Impact of the Project**
- F. Open Hearing for Public Comment**
- G. Adjourn Hearing**

Dr. Schmidt explained the purpose of the hearing and outlined the need for the project, as summarized in the Needs Matrix presented by Gibraltar Design. Classroom additions, kitchen and cafeteria renovations, and drop off/pickup improvements at PLE are currently under way. HVAC, touch-ups, and structural renovations at BGHS have kicked off. We are looking for further authorization to address continued needs that came out of the facilities study, such as: buses, mowers, trucks, plows, and gators coming to end of life that need to be replaced. At the HS, we have continued projects: roofs that need to be replaced, technology updates, emergency lighting. Additionally, at the Complex, we have some of the same things, in addition to asphalt sealcoating, HVAC at the Bus Barn. Despite the work we've done at PLE, there will be a few things coming to end of life there that will also need addressed. Dr. Schmidt invited Luke Bruggeman from Stifel to discuss the financial impact of the project. The \$15,340,000 bond will likely be broken out into multiple issuances, issued when needed, alleviating unnecessary interest payments.

Dr. Wargo opened the hearing for public comment. No one signed up to speak; Dr. Wargo closed the public hearing.

H. Adopt Resolution #1225-335, Project Resolution

A motion to adopt Project Resolution #1225-335 was made by Mary Harlow, seconded by Lilann Sgouros. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4-0.

I. Adopt Resolution #1225-336, Preliminary Determination Resolution

A motion to adopt Preliminary Determination Resolution #1225-3236 was made by Jeannette Skibbie, seconded by Mary Harlow. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4-0.

J. Adopt Resolution #1225-337, Reimbursement Resolution

A motion to adopt Reimbursement Resolution #1225-337 was made by Lilann Sgouros, seconded by Mary Harlow. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4-0.

4. CONSENT AGENDA – Dr. Schmidt

A. Personnel Report

B. Board Minutes, 11.13.2025 Meeting

C. Payroll and Claim Docket

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>Certified</i>	Bell, Kambria	5th Grade Teacher (Maternity Leave Sub)	BGE	Approx 12/8/2025
	Samanas, Christine	Special Ed Resource Room Teacher	PLE	12/8/2025
<i>Classified</i>	Galiher, Amy	Cafeteria Worker	PLE	12/1/2025
	Kenevan, Jennifer	LRE Paraprofessional	BGMS	11/18/2025
<i>Extra-Curricular</i>	Otero, Sarah	Social Studies Academic Team	BGMS	2025-2026 School Year
	Suggs, Catherine	MS Boys Volleyball Coach	BGMS	2025-2026 School Year
Leaves				
<i>Classified</i>	Davis, Deb	Teacher's Aide	PLE	12/1/2025
	Harker, Denise	Teacher's Aide	BGHS	11/13/2025
Resignations				
<i>Extra-Curricular</i>	Williams, Karen	Social Studies Academic Team	BGMS	2025-2026 School Year

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Jeannette Skibbie, seconded by Lilann Sgouros. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4-0.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT - BUSINESS ITEMS ONLY | There were no public comments

6. BUSINESS

A. PLE Project Update – The Skillman Corporation

Mr. Scott Cherry provided an update on PLE Construction. Things are looking good budget-wise and the project has been going good overall.

Dr. Schmidt asked for an update on the BGE gym floor, which is still out of commission due to flooding over the summer. Mr. Cherry expressed the importance of selecting the correct replacement material and also eliminating the flooding problem. They're working with Gibraltar on how to reduce the amount of water coming in, and how to divert the water that does come in to avoid further extensive damage.

B. Financial Report – Mrs. Smith

1. Financial Report

2. Fund Report

3. Monthly Fund Transfer Reports

4. Investment Report

C. Approve Stipends for Athletics Volunteers – Mrs. Smith

Mrs. Smith recommended approval of stipends for Athletics volunteers. A motion to approve these stipends was made by Mary Harlow, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4-0.

D. Permission to Pre-Pay Tolls – Mrs. Smith

Mrs. Smith asked the board for permission to pre-pay tolls in order to avoid fines. A motion to approve pre-payment of tolls was made by Lilann Sgouros, seconded by Mary Harlow. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4-0.

E. Approve Resolution #1225-338, Online Payment of Officials – Mrs. Smith

Mrs. Smith recommended approval of Resolution #1225-338, Online Payment of Officials, as recommended by IASBO and SBOA. A motion to approve Resolution #1225-338 was made by Jeannette Skibbie, seconded by Mary Harlow. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4-0.

F. Approve Revisions to Internal Controls Manual – Mrs. Smith

Mrs. Smith recommended approval of revisions made to our Internal Controls Manual, which is approved annually. A motion to approve these revisions was made by Lilann Sgouros, seconded by Mary Harlow. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4-0.

G. Contract Considerations – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of 2 contracts, as presented in the board packet. A motion to approve contracts was made by Jeannette Skibbie, seconded by Mary Harlow. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4-0.

H. Approve Fundraisers – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt requested approval of 3 fundraisers as presented in the board packet. A motion to approve these fundraisers was made by Mary Harlow, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4-0.

I. Approve the 2nd Reading and Adoption of the Following New Board Bylaws, Board Bylaw Revisions, New Board Policies, or Board Policy Revisions – Mr. Parrish

- 1. Revised Policy #0142 – Election and Eligibility to Serve**
- 2. Revised Policy #0144.1 – Compensation**
- 3. Revised Policy #0167.2 – Executive Session**
- 4. Replacement Policy #1422 – Vol 38, No 1, Nondiscrimination, Equal Employment Opportunity, and Anti-Harassment**
- 5. Rescind Policy #1422.02 – Nondiscrimination Based on Genetic Information of the Employee**
- 6. Rescind Policy #1662 – Anti-Harassment**
- 7. Revised Policy #2221 – Mandatory Curriculum**
- 8. Revised Policy #2260 – Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity**
- 9. Revised Policy #2260.01 – Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability**
- 10. Revised Policy #2266 – Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities**
- 11. Revised Policy #2410 – Audio, Video, and Digital Recording of Meetings**
- 12. Revised Policy #2411 – Guidance and Counseling**
- 13. Revised Policy #2414 – Reproductive Health and Family Planning and Human Sexuality Instruction**
- 14. Revised Policy #2416 – Student Privacy and Parental Access to Information**
- 15. Revised Policy #2461 – Recording of IEP Team Meetings/Case Conferences**
- 16. Revised Policy #2623 – Student Assessment**
- 17. Replacement Policy #3122 – Nondiscrimination, Equal Employment Opportunity, and Anti-Harassment**
- 18. Rescind Policy #3122.02 – Nondiscrimination Based on Genetic Information of the Employee**
- 19. Revised Policy #3220.01 – Teacher Appreciation Grants**
- 20. Revised Policy #3231 – Outside Activities of Staff**
- 21. Rescind Policy #3362 – Anti-Harassment**
- 22. Replacement Policy #4122 – Nondiscrimination and Equal Employment Opportunity**

23. Rescind Policy #4122.02 – Nondiscrimination Based on Genetic Information of the Employee
24. Revised Policy #4162 – Drug and Alcohol Testing of CDL Holders and Other Employees who Perform Safety-Sensitive Functions
25. Rescind Policy #4362 – Anti-Harassment
26. Revised Policy #5111 – Determination of Legal Settlement and Eligibility for Enrollment of Students without Legal Settlement in the Corporation
27. Revised Policy #5200 – Attendance
28. Replacement Policy #5350 – Student Suicide Awareness and Prevention
29. Revised Policy #5517 – Anti-Harassment
30. Revised Policy #5517.01 – Bullying
31. Revised Policy #5600 – Student Discipline
32. Revised Policy #5610 – Suspension and Expulsion of Students
33. Revised Policy #5771 – Search and Seizure
34. Revised Policy #6151 – Bad Checks and Uncollectable Debt
35. Revised Policy #6320 – Purchasing
36. Revised Policy #7440.01 – Electronic Monitoring and Recording
37. Revised Policy #7455 – Accounting System for Fixed Assets
38. Revised Policy #7540.02 – Digital Content and Accessibility
39. Revised Policy #8462 – Child Abuse and Neglect
40. Revised Policy #3213 – Student Supervision and Welfare
41. Revised Policy #5430 – Class Rank
42. Revised Policy #7540.03 – Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety
43. Revised Policy #7540.04 – Staff Technology Acceptable Use and Safety
44. Revised Policy #5460 – Graduation Requirements

Mr. Parrish recommended approval of the 2nd reading of the above listed policies. A motion to approve these was made by Mary Harlow, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4-0.

7. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Mr. Parrish

Mr. Parrish provided an update from each building:

BGHS – Congrats to November's teacher of the month, Will Fortenberry! Choir presents Madrigal this weekend. The staff and students celebrated spirit week with fun outfits every day. National Honor Society is hosting a canned food drive this week. The band had their holiday concert last night and did a great job. Boys and Girls basketball homecoming games versus Westville are tomorrow night!

BGMS – Shoutout to all the amazing cafeteria staff for putting together a great Thanksgiving feast.

Recognition to NJHS for their thoughtful planning and execution of the BGMS Veteran's Day program, which was wonderful! Thank you to the student council for organizing a successful food drive, supporting local families.

BGE – Congrats to Mrs. Garrett and the Spell Bowl Team – they improved over last year! The Student Council Angel Tree brought in more than \$2,300 to help families in our community – Mrs. Summers' class brought in the most money. Hot Wheels races have concluded – big congrats to this year's winner Autumn Anema, who beat Mr. Ivanyo! The BGE winter choir concert is tonight – good luck!

PLE – Very excited at how quickly the cafeteria construction is progressing. Preschool pre-registration is going on right now and will officially open for the 26-27 school year next week. Mrs. Garcia, Mrs. Magurany, and Mrs. Shimkus did an amazing job managing the Angel Tree gifts.

8. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recently sent a note out to the PTSC community with a link to our staff comment form and the response was overwhelming – over 40 compliments received within a couple days.

Dr. Schmidt shared about Goblins, which is an AI-powered math tutoring program, providing real-time feedback to students. Our 5th-12th grade students have access and it is provided through a STEM grant from the Indiana Dept. of Education.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Mary Harlow at 6:15 pm, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion and the motion carried 4-0.