

Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting, Porter Township School Corporation Board of School Trustees
September 10, 2026 | 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, and Kathleen Smith, CFO

Staff Members Absent: Laura Grayam, Deputy Treasurer, and Jacqueline Pillar, Corporation Attorney

There were no community members present.



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. **CONSENT AGENDA – Dr. Schmidt**
 - A. Personnel Report
 - B. Board Minutes, 8.20.26 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

Classified

Extra-Curricular

Name	Position	Location	Effective Date
Lopez, Kara	School Nurse	PLE	8/31/2026
Roth, Amanda	Special Ed Paraprofessional	BGMS	9/8/2026
Smith, Jamison	SRO	PLE	9/2/2026
Aguayo, Brad	MS Football Assistant Coach, Volunteer	BGMS	2026-2027 School Year
Allen, Carlie	8th Grade Girls Volleyball, Head Coach	BGMS	2026-2027 School Year
Baird, Bridget	Best Buddies Club Co-Sponsor, Games Club	BGMS	2026-2027 School Year
Belleville, Paul	Band Performances/Contests	BGMS	2026-2027 School Year
Bowman, Melissa	Yearbook	BGE	2026-2027 School Year
Boyer, Jeremy	BGE Art Club, BGMS Art Club	BGE/BGMS	2026-2027 School Year
Dombrowski, Cora	8th Grade Department Chair, Science Academic Team, Science Fair	BGMS	2026-2027 School Year
Draves, Jennifer	6th Grade Department Chair, Academic Team Head Coach, Social Studies Academic Team	BGMS	2026-2027 School Year
Hill, London	Math Bowl Coach	BGE	2026-2027 School Year
Hinchley, Holly	Choir	BGE	2026-2027 School Year

Hundt, Megan	Best Buddies Club Co-Sponsor	BGE	2026-2027 School Year
Jorsch, Megan	Best Buddies Club Co-Sponsor	BGMS	2026-2027 School Year
Garcia, Nicole	7th Grade Department Chair, Yearbook	BGMS	2026-2027 School Year
Lavolette, Olivia	Softball Assistant, Volunteer	BGMS/BGHS	2026-2027 School Year
McKee, Amanda	Student Council Sponsor	BGE	2026-2027 School Year
Otero, Sarah	JV Softball, Head Coach, BGMS Student Council Sponsor	BGHS/BGMS	2026-2027 School Year
Patterson, Katherine	Math Bowl Coach, Spell Bowl Coach	BGE	2026-2027 School Year
Richmond, Scott	Football Assistant Coach, Volunteer	BGHS	2026-2027 School Year
Rigsby, Christopher	Best Buddies Club Co-Sponsor	BGE	2026-2027 School Year
Rippe, Carrie	Science Bowl Coach	BGE	2026-2027 School Year
Schulte, Brad	Softball Assistant, Volunteer	BGMS/BGHS	2026-2027 School Year
Schultze, Edward	Football Assistant Coach, Volunteer	BGMS	2026-2027 School Year
Sherwin, Brian	MS Cross Country, Head Coach	BGMS	2026-2027 School Year
Welbourne, Athena	Choir Performances/Contests	BGMS	2026-2027 School Year
Retirement Requests			
<i>Classified</i>			
Stefanich, William	Custodian	BGHS	9/1/2026
Resignations			
<i>Classified</i>			
Born, Joyce	Cafeteria Worker	BGHS	8/31/2026

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented in the board packet, was made by Eric McGinty, seconded by Mary Harlow. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT – BUSINESS ITEMS ONLY | There were no public comments

5. BUSINESS

A. Project Updates – The Skillman Corporation

Scott Cherry from Skillman shared updated regarding Porter Lakes, which is mostly complete with the exception of a few punch-list items. At BGHS, painting, flooring, demolition of the guidance area, and renovations to the media center are all moving on schedule for completion in December. Regarding the new Admin Bldg, bids are due on October 1st with recommendations on October 8th. Completion is projected around July 30, 2027.

B. Financial Report – Mrs. Smith

1. Financial Report

2. Fund Report

3. Monthly Fund Transfer Reports

4. Investment Report

5. Policy Analytics Cash Flow

C. Public Meeting for 2027 Budget – Mrs. Smith

1. Hearing for 2027 Budget

a. Hearing of Education Fund

b. Hearing of Debt Service Fund

c. Hearing of Operations Fund

d. Hearing of Referendum Fund

Mrs. Smith opened the Hearing for the 2027 budget, which will be approved at the October 8, 2026 board meeting. The Board did not have any questions. Mrs. Smith opened the hearing for public comment. There were no public comments and Mrs. Smith closed the hearing.

2. Hearing of Proposed 2027 Bus Replacement Plan

Mrs. Smith opened the Hearing for the 2027 proposed bus replacement plan, which will be approved at the October 8, 2026 board meeting. The Board did not have any questions. Mrs. Smith opened the hearing for public comment. There were no public comments and Mrs. Smith closed the hearing.

3. Hearing of Proposed 2027 Capital Projects

Mrs. Smith opened the Hearing for the 2027 proposed capital projects plan, which will be approved at the October 8, 2026 board meeting. The Board did not have any questions. Mrs. Smith opened the hearing for public comment. There were no public comments and Mrs. Smith closed the hearing.

D. Approve Resolution #926-344 – Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan – Mrs. Smith

Mrs. Smith recommended approval of Resolution #926-344. A motion to approve this resolution was made by Lilann Sgouros, seconded by Jeannette Skibbie. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

E. Approve Administrative Contract Extensions – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of Administrative Contract Extensions through the end of the 2027-2028 school year. A motion to approve contract extensions was made by Eric McGinty, seconded by Mary Harlow. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

F. Approve Transfer Students for the 2026-2027 School Year – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of transfer students, as provided in the board packet. A motion to approve transfer students was made by Jeannette Skibbie, seconded by Lilann Sgouros. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

G. Contract Considerations – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of one contract for safety and compliance training. A motion to approve this contract was made by Eric McGinty, seconded by Mary Harlow. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

H. Approve Fundraisers – Dr. Schmidt

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

I. Accept Donations – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of two very generous donations this month, one from Mercer Insurance, and one from BGHS graduate, Judith Greenspon. A motion to accept donations was made by Eric McGinty, seconded by Mary Harlow. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

J. Recommendation for Employment of Candidate – Case #0004-2026 (IC: 20-26-2-11.2 – Mr. Parrish

Mr. Parrish recommended approval to employ a Substitute Teacher with an OWI on their background check from the year 2000. A motion to approve employment was made by Lilann Sgouros, seconded by Mary Harlow. There was no discussion and the motion carried 5-0.

6. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Mr. Parrish

Mr. Parrish provided updates from the buildings:

BGE – kids are working hard and it's been a great start to the year!

BGHS – Alyssea Kiger won the GSSC 1st place medal for girls' golf. Girls' soccer is off to a 6-0 start. Girls' volleyball is 10-2 to open their season and just won the KV Invitational; junior Mya Wargo set a new assist record with 1,685 assists, and junior Brooke Gluth recorded her 500th career kill. Athletic Director, Mr. Russell, took 12 BGHS students to the IHSAA Leadership Seminar

BGMS – Huge shoutout to teachers and staff for always going above and beyond to support their students.

7. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Dr. Schmidt

A. Report to the Board on the Public Hearing of the Association of Porter Township Educators and Porter Township School Corporation

Dr. Schmidt reported to the board on the Public Hearing that took place on September 3, 2026, to begin negotiations with The Association for Porter Township Educators.

Dr. Schmidt shared some basic information about the Federal Scholarship Tax Credit (FSTC) and Scholarship Granting Organizations (SGOs).

8. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made at 6:08 pm by Lilann Sgouros, seconded by Eric McGinty. The motion carried 5-0.