

**MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
BOARD OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES
PORTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL CORPORATION**

PTSC
BOARD APPROVED
DATE 2-20-2014

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

1. CALL TO ORDER – Mr. John Spangenberg, President – 6:30 p.m.

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Welcome Visitors

Board members present: Mr. John Spangenberg, Ms. Johanna Williams, Mr. Tom Keevin, Mrs. Nichole Kovacik and Mrs. Lilann Sgouros. Also present were: Superintendent, Dr. Stacey Schmidt; Attorney Cheryl Zic; Facilities Manager, Bryan Busse; Business Manager/Treasurer, Aline Busse and Secretary to the Superintendent, Linda Dusek. There were approximately 6 present in the audience.

2. AGENDA ADJUSTMENT – None

3. PRESENTATION: Boone Grove High School – I-Pad Presentation

Jesse Foster, a student at Boone Grove High School, shared his presentation on “Raising Chickens” which he created on his I-Pad.

4. CONSENT AGENDA – Dr. Schmidt

- A. Personnel Report
- B. Board Minutes
- C. Claim Docket

Dr. Schmidt recommended that the board approve the consent agenda consisting of payroll claims and accounts payable vouchers, approval of the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on Thursday, December 19, 2013 at 6:30 p.m., approval of the minutes of the organizational meeting held on Thursday, January 9, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. and approval of the following items listed on the Personnel Report waiving the readings and pending clear background searches:

- Accept the maternity leave request of Lindsay Trout beginning on or around March 14, 2014 until the end of the 2013-14 school year.
- Approve Tosha Hanvey as a cafeteria worker at Boone Grove High School beginning on January 9, 2014. Her rate of pay will be \$10.11 per hour for 5 to 5.5 hours per day as needed for the remainder of the 2013-14 school year.
- Approve Dan Kukulski as a Varsity Wrestling Volunteer Coach for the 2013-14 school year.

Ms. Williams made a motion to approve the consent agenda consisting of payroll claims and accounts payable vouchers, approve the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on Thursday, December 19, 2013 at 6:30 p.m., approve the minutes of the organizational meeting held on Thursday, January 9, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. and approve the items listed on the Personnel Report waiving the readings; seconded by Mr. Keevin. Motion carried 5-0.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT – Dr. Schmidt

- A. Appropriation Summary
- B. Fund Report
- C. Investments
- D. “Financial Moment” Presentation

Dr. Schmidt referred to the financial report provided in the board packet. Dr. Schmidt reviewed last month’s presentation on the approved budget for 2014, which indicated reductions of just under \$300,000 in the General Fund and the 2013 budget versus the 2014 budget is a reduction overall of \$70,000. Dr. Schmidt reported that every measure is being taken to ensure that personnel cuts will not be needed. Dr. Schmidt discussed recent legislative issues being discussed and how these issues may impact Porter Township Schools. Dr. Schmidt answered questions from the board. Mr. Spangenberg encouraged everyone to contact state representatives in regard to their plans for compensating for these reductions in our budget.

6. BUSINESS

A. Adoption of Resolution #0114-115 - Establishment of Board of Finance for 2014 – Mrs. Busse

Mrs. Busse stated that annually the Board of Finance must be established and recommended that the board adopt Resolution #0114-115 – Establishment of Board of Finance for 2014 and waive the reading. Mr. Tom Keevin made a motion to adopt Resolution #0114-115 – Establishment of Board of Finance for 2014 and waive the reading; seconded by Ms. Williams. Motion carried 5-0.

B. Adoption of Resolution #0114-116 – Fund Balance Transfers – Mrs. Busse

Mrs. Busse asked for adoption of Resolution #0114-116 Fund Balance Transfers and waive the reading. Adoption of this resolution will approve the transfers of all funds listed to balance the 2013 budget. Ms. Williams made a motion to adopt Resolution #0114-116–Fund Balance Transfers and waive the reading; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 5-0.

C. Old Checks Cancellation – Mrs. Busse

Mrs. Busse asked for permission to cancel one outstanding old check in the amount of \$382.32. Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to grant permission to allow cancellation of an outstanding old check in the amount of \$383.32 as requested by Mrs. Busse; seconded by Ms. Williams. Motion carried 5-0.

D. Accept Cash Transfer Tuition Students – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt stated that a window was posted to accept cash transfer tuition students at the start of the second semester. One application was received for a student in the 11th Grade. Since this application did not exceed the number of spaces posted for the 11th Grade, Dr. Schmidt recommended that the board accept this cash transfer tuition student at the beginning of the second semester of the 2013-14 school year. Mrs. Kovacik made a motion to accept a cash transfer tuition student as requested by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mr. Keevin. Motion carried 5-0.

E. Accept School Safety Grant – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt stated that last fall we applied for the Indiana Homeland School Safety Grant and was granted \$45,000 for this grant with a corporation match of \$45,000 totaling \$90,000 to be spent. These funds will go towards providing a Resource Officer for an additional day and for security upgrades to our buildings. Dr. Schmidt recommended the board accept this grant as presented. Ms. Williams made a motion to accept the School Safety Grant as presented by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 5-0.

7. DIRECTOR OF FACILITY SERVICES REPORT

Mr. Busse reported that his crew has been busy keeping up with the snow and they are thankful to have equipment to help with the snow removal process. Mrs. Kovacik thanked Mr. Busse for their time and dedication.

8. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- Dr. Schmidt thanked the maintenance crew for their dedication in working long hours and even overnight on several occasions during the snow removal process and also watching pipes to avoid any damage to the buildings.
- Dr. Schmidt wished a Happy Birthday to our two new computer technicians, Michael Skoda and Dominic Starcevic, who will celebrate their birthdays this month.
- Dr. Schmidt reported that letter grades were recently announced and Porter Township Schools moved from a “B” to an “A”. The data last year was at 3.04 and has increased to 3.88 this year. This is a significant improvement due to the hard work of our teachers and our students.
 - Both elementary schools moved from a “C” to an “A”.
 - The high school moved from a “B” to an “A”.
- The state is considering waivers for the recent school closures due to inclement weather. Waiver requests have been submitted for our district for January 6, 7 and 8 and we are awaiting their response.
- Tomorrow marks the end of our first semester.

9. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

- Ms. Williams reported that legislators will be available at Wheeler High School on Saturday, February 8 at 9:00 a.m.; registration is from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. This event is open to the public and written questions can be submitted at registration or at their website. Ralph Ayres will be the monitor for this panel. Ms. Williams encouraged all to attend.
- Mr. Spangenberg reported that the Student Athletic Association will partner with Special Olympics and Valparaiso University for the 2nd Annual Polo Plunge on February 15th at Valparaiso University and a fundraiser will also take place at the Boone Grove vs. Wheeler varsity basketball game on February 7th. They have set a goal of raising \$1,000 this year.

10. SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Mr. DeRossett reported that the Boys and Girls Basketball PCC Tourneys are scheduled for this coming week. Mr. DeRossett said that he asked students and faculty and moved testing finals to Friday and Monday.
- Mr. Lichtenberger reported that the Boone Grove Complex is working on the transition to have two administrators and over 60 applications are currently being reviewed. Everybody seems to be adjusting well and everything is running smoothly so far.
- Mr. Donnell thanked the PTSC PTO Club for provided documenting cameras for the classroom.

11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None**12. ADJOURNMENT – 7:14 p.m.**

Mr. Keevin made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

This meeting is a meeting of the School Board for the purpose of conducting the School Corporation's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There will be a time for public participation, as indicated by the agenda. The meeting site is fully accessible. Any person requiring further accommodation should contact the superintendent.