

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

PTSC
BOARD APPROVED
DATE 4-17-14

**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; Business Manager/Treasurer, Aline Busse; Facilities Director, Bryan Busse, and Secretary to the Superintendent, Linda Dusek. There were approximately 15 present in the audience.

2. AGENDA ADJUSTMENT: None

3. PRESENTATION: Boone Grove Elementary School Math Bowl Presentation

Four students from the Boone Grove Elementary School Math Bowl Team challenged the Board and Dr. Schmidt with questions used during their competitions. There was a brief break for refreshments.

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, February 20, 2014 at 6:30 p.m., and approval of the following items listed on the Personnel Report waiving the readings and pending clear background searches:

1. Accept the resignation of Jeff Maier as the Junior Varsity Girls' Volleyball Coach effective as of January 14, 2014.
2. Accept the resignation of Alesia Bewick as Title I Aide at Porter Lakes Elementary School effective as of Monday, March 10, 2014.
3. Approve Alesia Bewick as a Temporary Third Grade Teacher at Porter Lakes Elementary School to fill a maternity leave beginning on Monday, March 10, 2014 until the end of the 2013-14 school year.
4. Approve Alyssa Martinek as a Temporary First Grade Teacher at Porter Lakes Elementary School to fill a maternity leave from approximately Monday, April 14, 2014 until the end of the 2013-14 school year.
5. Approve Sonia Veschak as a Title One Aide at Porter Lakes Elementary School beginning on Monday, March 17, 2014. Her rate of pay will be \$9.82 per hour for five hours per day.
6. Approve Kelly Kraus as the Junior Varsity Softball Coach for the 2013-14 school year. Her rate of pay will be based upon the ECA Salary Schedule at the zero (0) years of experience level.
7. Approve Dylan Harrington as the Junior Varsity Boys' Track & Field Coach for the 2013-14 school year. His rate of pay will be based upon the ECA Salary Schedule at the zero (0) years of experience level.
8. Approve Alexandria Bielec as a Full-Time Custodian at Boone Grove High School effective as of March 10, 2014. Her rate of pay will be \$10.32 per hour for 8 hours per day, 5 days per week.
9. Approve the position change of Steve Smith from Head Custodian at Boone Grove Elementary/Middle School to a Custodian at Boone Grove Elementary/Middle School on the day shift effective as of March 10, 2014.
10. Approve the position change of Elaine Castelli from Head Custodian at Boone Grove High School to Head Custodian at Boone Grove Elementary/Middle School effective as of March 10, 2014.
11. Approve the position change of Ron Sebens from Custodian at Boone Grove High School to Head Custodian at Boone Grove High School. Mr. Sebens will receive a \$.80 per hour increase with this position effective as of March 10, 2014.
12. Approve Mike Poynter as a Varsity Baseball Volunteer Coach for the 2013-14 school year.
13. Approve Mackenzie Starceovich as a Varsity Softball Volunteer Coach for the 2013-14 school year.
14. Accept the recommendation to grant 54 sick leave days from the Sick Leave Bank to Mrs. Johanna Knoop, Second Grade Teacher at Porter Lakes Elementary School.
15. Accept the resignation of Renee Bielec as Secretary/Receptionist at Boone Grove Middle School effective as of April 4, 2014.
16. Approve Lisa Broton as a Title I Aide at Boone Grove Elementary School effective as of April 1, 2014. Her rate of pay will be \$9.82 per hour working Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
17. Approve Dean Hill as a Volunteer Coach for the Baseball Team for the 2013-14 school year.
18. Approve the position change of Shawn Sebens from Custodian at Boone Grove Middle School/Boone Grove Elementary School to Custodian at Boone Grove High School on the day shift effective as of March 10, 2014.

Mr. Keevin made a motion to 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, February 20, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. and approval of the items listed on the Personnel Report waiving the readings; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. 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. During the “Financial Moment” Dr. Schmidt discussed Indiana School Funding and how the state calculates the funds based upon student enrollment counts taken throughout the year. Dr. Schmidt also reported that our district had a decrease of 13 students in our February count; 6 of these students were early graduates. Increasing our dual credit offerings is being considered to encourage students to look at dual credit opportunities to earn free college credits instead of graduating early. Ms. Williams asked how many students were lost due to moving out of district; Dr. Schmidt answered that 7 students moved out of district and 6 students graduated early.

6. BUSINESS

A. Approval of the First Reading of the following Board Policies & Bylaws: Revised Bylaws #0140-Membership; Revised Bylaws #0150-Organization; Revised Bylaws #0160-Meetings; New Policy #1662-Administration-Anti-Harassment; Revised Policy #3362-Professional Staff-Anti-Harassment; Revised Policy #4362-Support Staff-Anti-Harassment; Revised Policy #5410-Students-Promotion, Placement, and Retention; Revised Policy #5517-Students-Anti-Harassment; Revised Policy #5517.01-Students-Bullying; Revised Policy #6144-Finances-Investment Income; Revised Policy #6151-Finances-Bad Checks and Uncollectable Debts; Revised Policy #7217-Property-Possession of Firearms and Weapons by Visitors; New Policy #7510.01-Property-Use of Corporation Physical Fitness Facilities; New Policy #8390-Operations-Animals on School Corporation Property; Revised Policy #8750-Operations-Defense and Indemnification of Board Members and Employees – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt referred to the policies provided in the board packet and noted that Attorney Zic and teachers are reviewing the policies. Dr. Schmidt asked for approval of the first reading of the policies and bylaws listed above noting that one policy in regard to property possession of firearms and weapons by visitors needs additional review to ensure it aligns with the new legislation that was just passed. Ms. Williams made a motion to approve the first reading of the policies and bylaws: Revised Bylaws #0140-Membership; Revised Bylaws #0150-Organization; Revised Bylaws #0160-Meetings; New Policy #1662-Administration-Anti-Harassment; Revised Policy #3362-Professional Staff-Anti-Harassment; Revised Policy #4362-Support Staff-Anti-Harassment; Revised Policy #5410-Students-Promotion, Placement, and Retention; Revised Policy #5517-Students-Anti-Harassment; Revised Policy #5517.01-Students-Bullying; Revised Policy #6144-Finances-Investment Income; Revised Policy #6151-Finances-Bad Checks and Uncollectable Debts; Revised Policy #7217-Property-Possession of Firearms and Weapons by Visitors; New Policy #7510.01-Property-Use of Corporation Physical Fitness Facilities; New Policy #8390-Operations-Animals on School Corporation Property; Revised Policy #8750-Operations-Defense and Indemnification of Board Members and Employees; all of which were provided in the board packet and to waive the readings; seconded by Mrs. Kovacik. Motion carried 5-0. Mr. Spangenberg thanked Dr. Schmidt and Attorney Zic for their additional work involved in reviewing all of these policies and bylaws to ensure the district is working as smoothly as possible.

B. Approval of High School Course Addition – Mr. Ivanyo

Mr. DeRossett provided an outline of the proposed Finite Mathematics course to the Board. Mr. Ivanyo explained that Finite Mathematics is a Mathematics course being proposed as an optional course for juniors and seniors. This course is more of a “real world type” Mathematics course which is not as rigorous as Pre-Calculus and Calculus but prepares the students for college classes and would be taught by Ms. Vivian. Ms. Vivian is also investigating the possibility of offering this course as a dual credit course. Mr. Ivanyo and Ms. Vivian then answered questions from the board. The board thanked Ms. Vivian and Mr. Ivanyo for their work in presenting this new course option. Mr. Spangenberg asked for a motion from the board. Mrs. Kovacik made a motion to approve the addition of the Infinite Mathematics course as presented by Mr. Ivanyo and Ms. Vivian; seconded by Ms. Williams. Motion carried 5-0.

C. Approval of Drop-Off Recycling Site Lease Agreement – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt referred to the Drop-Off Recycling Site Lease Agreement provided in the board packet and explained that this agreement has been previously held for recycling and that Attorney Zic has reviewed the agreement. Dr. Schmidt then asked the board for their approval of the Drop-Off Recycling Site Lease Agreement with the Recycling and Waste Reduction District of Porter County. Mr. Keevin made a motion to approve the Drop-Off Recycling Site Lease Agreement as presented by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 5-0.

D. Approval of Spring Sports Camps – Ms. Schludecker

Dr. Schmidt referred to the paperwork submitted by Ms. Schludecker regarding Spring Sports Camps and asked for the board’s approval to hold these camps. Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to approve the Spring Sports Camps; seconded by Mrs. Kovacik. Motion carried 5-0.

E. Approval of ENA Services Agreement – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt referred to the ENA Services Agreement provided in the board packet. Dr. Schmidt explained that currently ENA provides our telephone services and our Internet Services Agreement is now up for renewal. We are not currently

using ENA for internet services and we have looked at several other options. There are several benefits to using ENA for our telephone system and our internet services.

- ENA has a greater ability to see our phone network which is valuable for troubleshooting when problems. Using a different provider would not provide this advantage.
- ENA provides an elevated tier system of internet which is a managed service that could provide internet trafficking and the ability to shift traffic flow to provide the district with elevated performance
- ENA would provide a rich, faster service.

With these things in mind, Dr. Schmidt recommended that ENA Services be used as our internet provider and asked for the board's approval of the ENA Services Agreement provided in the board packet. Ms. Williams made a motion to approve the ENA Services Agreement; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 5-0.

F. Approval of Updated 2013-14 School Calendar – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt discussed that she submitted a survey to the staff and the parents regarding makeup days. The survey results indicated that the top two choices were the addition of days at the end of the school year or the option of virtual learning days. These options have been considered and resulted in adding additional days at the end of the school year. In summary, our district had seven school closings; two of these days have been waived by the state and five of these days are required to be made-up. April 21 will be used as a make-up day and the remaining four days will be added to the end of the district calendar making the last day of school for students Thursday, June 5. Dr. Schmidt recommended updating the 2013-14 district calendar to include the required make-up days as presented and asked for the board's approval. Ms. Williams made a motion to approve the recommended update to the 2013-14 district calendar providing the addition of the required make-up days making June 5 the last student day; seconded by Mrs. Kovacik. Motion carried 5-0.

G. Approval of Disposal of Outdated Devices/Donation of Outdated Devices – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt reported that the new Tech Team has been cleaning and found the following outdated devices that are no longer being used: (20) Image Writers and (2) Image Writer carts; (28) 2000 Alpha Smarts, (58) 3000 Alpha Smarts and (1) Alpha Smarts cart. Dr. Schmidt suggested keeping a dozen of these devices and recycling the remaining devices as they are no longer of value or use to the district. Porter County Education Services expressed interest in these devices as opposed to destroying them. Dr. Schmidt recommended passing Resolution #0314-117 to allow the Inter-Governmental transfer of unusable property to Porter County Education Services and waive the reading of the resolution to allow these devices to be used at Porter County Education Services. Mr. Keevin made a motion to accept Resolution #0314-117 Inter-Governmental Transfer of Unusable Property to Porter County Education Services and waive the reading of the resolution; seconded by Ms. Williams. Motion carried 5-0.

H. Accept Donations – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended accepting the following generous donations which are very helpful to the school district:

- The Bellar family has offered to donate two new Nautilus Exercise Machines to the Boone Grove High School Weight Room: A Plate Loaded Four Way Neck Machine valued at \$1,700 and an Adjustable Tower Free valued at \$1,706. With freight and installation the total cost of these two machines is \$4,806. The football program and other athletic teams will greatly benefit from this donation.
- An anonymous donation of \$350 to the Empty Bowls Project at the Boone Grove Middle School/Elementary School.
- A donation from BP Fabric of America Fund, requested by Phillip Gibbs, in the amount of \$300 to be used in the Student Activities Fund at Boone Grove Middle School toward a speaker on bullying.

Ms. Williams made a motion to graciously accept the donations as presented by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Kovacik. Motion carried 5-0.

7. DIRECTOR OF FACILITY SERVICES REPORT

Mr. Busse referred to the Facility Services Report and asked for questions from the Board; none were heard. Mr. Busse reported that his crew has been busy plowing snow, they have had many break downs as the snow continues to fall, and they plan to work on fields in the next few weeks. Mrs. Kovacik thanked the Maintenance Department for all that they do.

8. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- Dr. Schmidt reported that Spring Break is next week.
- Dr. Schmidt wished Matt Boone a Happy Birthday on March 27 and Ms. Williams a Happy Birthday on April 9th.

9. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS – None

10. SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Mr. DeRossett encouraged the board to visit the weight room at the high school as a lot of expensive equipment has been donated and it is very nice for the students. Mr. DeRossett commended Officer Chavez for doing such a great

job in helping students and staff with whatever problem arises. Mr. DeRossett also discussed upcoming tests for the students.

- Mr. Lichtenberger reported that he was very impressed with Mr. Baum and Ms. Welbourne who have done a very fine job with the band and choir concerts last week. Mr. Lichtenberger also reported that the first round of ISTEP is over and the kids have done a fine job. Computerized testing is the end of April.
- Mr. Donnell reported that PLE students finished ISTEP, I-READ and Drug Free and the kids did well. Mr. Donnell commended the teachers and students for doing such a good job.
- Mrs. Sgouros shared that she is quite proud of our Choir Students who brought home 88 gold medals from the State ISSMA Vocal Solo & Ensemble Contest in February.

11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

12. ADJOURNMENT -- 7:36 p.m.

Mrs. Kovacik made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:36 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.