

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

PTSC
BOARD APPROVED
DATE 9-19-2013

**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 – 6:32 p.m.

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Welcome Visitors

Board members present: Mr. John Spangenberg, Mr. Tom Keevin, Ms. Johanna Williams, 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 12 present in the audience.

2. AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS - None

3. PRESENTATION – Jonah Parpart – Eagle Scouts Project at Stanley Nature Preserve

Jonah Parpart reported on his Eagle Scouts Project at the Stanley Nature Preserve. Jonah will be working to provide tree identification signs and will also be building bird and bat houses. This project is at no cost to the school and will be funded by fundraisers and donations. Any unused funds will be returned to the school. Dr. Schmidt shared that she was excited to have had an opportunity to tour the preserve to learn more about this project and how it will benefit the school district and residents. Jonah answered questions from the board. Members of the Board thanked Jonah for reporting on his project and wished him the best of luck in his work at the preserve.

4. PUBLIC HEARING ON SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT – Mr. Spangenberg

A. Open Hearing

Mr. Spangenberg announced that the Board of School Trustees would conduct a Public Hearing on the proposed Superintendent's contract as required by Indiana Law. The proposal extends the Superintendent's contract to and including June 30, 2016, no other changes to the contract are being proposed. Mr. Spangenberg continued that the Board has duly published notice of tonight's hearing along with the terms of the proposed contract in accordance with Indiana Law and the Board will hear and consider for purposes of this hearing only, comments in regards to the proposed contract in support for or objections to the proposed contract terms. Mr. Spangenberg emphasized that the proposal is to extend the contract to and including June 30, 2016 only and the monetary terms of the contract will remain unchanged from the current contract. Mr. Spangenberg asked anyone wishing to speak to step forward, state their name and address and address the Board with their comment.

One patron came forward and identified himself as Robert Parpart, 298 Seasons View Court, Hebron, IN 46341. Mr. Parpart said that with no disrespect to any other previous Administrators, one of his biggest concerns that many would like to see the new Superintendent take care of is the issue of communication with the community. Mr. Parpart said that he loves the weekly newsletters letters from Dr. Schmidt and also loves that she uses Instant Alert for things other than just school closings. Mr. Parpart said he is in favor of Dr. Schmidt staying and appreciates Dr. Schmidt for taking care of the communication issue with the community.

Mr. Spangenberg asked for any other comments and heard none.

B. Close Hearing – Mr. Spangenberg

After hearing no other requests to speak, Mr. Spangenberg closed the hearing. Mr. Spangenberg reported that the Board will reflect on the input received while considering the proposed contract as an agenda item for consideration at the regular board meeting scheduled for September 19, 2013.

5. 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, July 18, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. and approval of the following items listed on the Revised Personnel Report waiving the readings and pending clear background searches:

- Accept the resignation of Victoria Prochno as the Treasurer at Boone Grove High School effective as of August 16, 2013.
- Accept the resignation of Robert Lukas as the 6th Grade Boys Basketball Coach effective as of August 5, 2013.
- Accept the resignation of Starlisa Chavers as a Custodian at Boone Grove High School effective as of August 7, 2013.

- Accept the verbal resignation of Debbie Levine as Secretary/Receptionist at Boone Grove Middle School effective as of August 7, 2013.
- Approve Danyelle Vivian as a Math Teacher at Boone Grove High School at the beginning of the 2013-14 school year. Her salary will be based upon a Bachelor’s Degree at the two (2) years of experience level.
- Approve Terryel Krug as a 6th Grade Math Teacher at Boone Grove Middle School at the beginning of the 2013-14 school year. Her salary will be based upon a Bachelor’s Degree at the zero (0) years of experience level.
- Approve Bethany Eveland as a 7th Grade Science Teacher at Boone Grove Middle School at the beginning of the 2013-14 school year. Her salary will be based upon a Bachelor’s Degree at the zero (0) years of experience level.
- Approve Genna Noel as the full-time Physical Education/Health Teacher at Boone Grove Middle School at the beginning of the 2013-14 school year upon verification of a valid teaching license in Health. Her salary will be based upon a Bachelor’s Degree at the zero (0) years of experience level.
- Approve Katelyn Sarnowski as the Academic Team Coordinator at Boone Grove High School 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.
- Approve Jeff Lint as a full time Custodian at Boone Grove Middle School and Boone Grove Elementary School effective as of August 15, 2013. His rate of pay will be \$10.32 per hour.
- Approve James Rosinia as Business Department Chair 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.
- Approve Brook Billings as the Varsity Cheerleading 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.
- Approve Karie Lukas as a Volunteer Girls’ Golf Coach for the 2013-14 school year.
- Approve Patricia Jo Korzeniewski as a Volunteer Dance Team Coach for the 2013-14 school year.
- Approve Bob Watts as summer grounds helper starting on August 16 until the end of August. His rate of pay will be \$10.32 per hour for 8 hours per week, not to exceed 40 hours per week.
- Approve the transfer of Norma Martin to Boone Grove High School as Treasurer effective as of August 15, 2013. Her rate of pay will be \$10.04 per hour.
- Accept the resignation of Cara Moore as Title I Teacher for the 2013-14 school year effective as of August 12, 2013.
- Accept the request of Jennifer Finley for a maternity leave and family medical leave returning as a Kindergarten Teacher on Monday, September 30, 2013.
- Approve Jason Rippe as a Varsity/Junior Varsity Girls Volleyball Volunteer Assistant Coach for the 2013-14 school year.
- Approve the transfer of Mary Gutowski to Boone Grove Elementary School as a Title I Half-Time Teacher at the beginning of the 2013-14 school year.

Ms. Williams 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, July 18, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. and approve the items listed on the Revised Personnel Report and waive the readings; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 5-0.

6. 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 and announced that this month’s “Financial Moment” will be delayed to the budget discussion portion of the meeting.

7. BUSINESS

A. Approval of Insurance Renewal with MacLennan & Bain – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt reported that three insurance bids were received and rates have risen since last year particularly in Workman’s Compensation. Dr. Schmidt and Attorney Cheryl Zic spent a lot of time comparing coverages. Although Indiana Insurance was not the cheapest quote received, if the cheapest quote does not offer the same level of coverage, it may cost more in the long run. Mr. Lindburg from MacLennan & Bain was present and he shared that that they work as a team closely with the administration to offer the best possible price and product. He has no problems with remaining with Indiana Insurance Company. He feels that coverages between the policies are very comparable; the sexual abuse and molestation coverage is where differences appear. Mr. Spangenberg asked why Workman Compensation raised so high. Mr. Lindburg explained that they get pulled in a state wide reading which places maintenance and cooks all together statewide causing rates to jump up. The board thanked Mr. Lindburg for his assistance.

Dr. Schmidt recommended acceptance of the contract with Indiana Insurance based upon the quote provided. Mr. Keevin made a motion to approve Dr. Schmidt’s recommendation to accept the contract with Indiana Insurance as presented; seconded by Ms. Williams. Motion carried 5-0.

B. Phase 2C Report – Derek Anderson, Skillman Corporation

Mr. Scott Cherry from Skillman Corporation reported since Derek Anderson was unable to attend and discussed the status of the project. Ms. Williams commented that everything looks fantastic and everything is coming together quite well. Mr.

Spangenberg asked about the status of the pumps at the middle school. Mr. Cherry discussed the ongoing investigation of this issue and answered questions from the Board. Mr. Cherry said that he appreciates the Board's understanding and they realize the issue needs to be fixed and they will do their best to make sure it will be fixed. Dr. Schmidt shared her appreciation for Skillman and all they have done.

C. Approval of Resolution #0813-104 – Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan – Mrs. Busse

Mrs. Busse asked for approval of Resolution #0813-104 –Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan for the staff and waive the reading noting that the plan will remain with American Fidelity. Ms. Williams made a motion to approve the Resolution #0813-104 – Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan and waive the reading; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 5-0.

D. Approval of Resolution #0813-105 - Tax Neutrality Resolution – Mrs. Busse

Mrs. Busse explained that a Tax Neutrality Resolution is a DLGF requirement for the 2014 Budget and asked for approval of Resolution #0813-105 – Tax Neutrality Resolution as presented. Mr. Keevin made a motion to approve Resolution #0813-105 – Tax Neutrality Resolution as presented and to waive the reading; seconded by Mrs. Kovacik. Motion carried 5-0. (Attorney Cheryl Zic approved that the resolution wording can be revised to add Capital Projects Fund.)

E. Permission to Advertise 2014 Budget, Transportation Plan and Capital Projects Plan – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt gave a presentation on a summary of the 2014 proposed Budget, Transportation Plan and Capital Projects Plan. Dr. Schmidt asked for questions from the Board. Dr. Schmidt then asked for permission to advertise the 2014 Budget, Transportation Plan and Capital Projects Plan. Mr. Spangenberg asked for a motion from the Board. Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to grant permission to advertise the 2014 Budget, Transportation Plan and Capital Projects Plan; seconded by Mr. Keevin. Motion carried 5-0.

E. Approval of the Second Reading of the Revised ECA Coaches' Handbook – Ms. Schludecker

Dr. Schmidt explained that Ms. Schludecker is ill and was unable to attend the meeting this evening. Dr. Schmidt reminded the Board that Ms. Schludecker presented a first reading of the Revised ECA Coaches' Handbook at last month's meeting and she is now recommending approval of the second reading of the Revised ECA Coaches' Handbook and waive the reading. Ms. Williams made a motion to approve the Second Reading of the Revised ECA Coaches' Handbook and waive the reading; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 5-0.

F. Approval of Overnight Field Trips – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt reported that Ms. Schludecker provided a list of her annual overnight field trip requests for this year and recommended approval of these overnight field trips. Mr. Keevin made a motion to approve the overnight field trips as requested by Ms. Schludecker; seconded by Ms. Williams. Motion carried 5-0.

G. Approval of Cash Tuition Transfer Students – Dr. Schmidt

Effective as of July 1, the state has changed their procedures in accepting cash tuition transfer student and now requires that a window of opportunity be opened in which schools must post how many students their district has room to accept in each grade level. Our first window was posted, opened and closed in July. After student registration, enrollment numbers were reviewed again and an additional cash tuition transfer student window was opened for receiving applications. Should the number of applications submitted exceed the number of slots advertised as open, a public hearing must be held to draw the number of students available; however, our district did not exceed any advertised limits in class size and therefore, was not required to hold a public drawing. A list of cash transfer students is provided in the board packet and Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of these cash tuition transfer student as presented. Mrs. Kovacik made a motion to approve the cash tuition transfer students as requested; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 5-0.

8. DIRECTOR OF FACILITY SERVICES REPORT

Mr. Busse referred to the board packet noting there are a lot of projects in progress at this time and they are tying up loose ends. Mr. Busse thanked Skillman for their support with the recent ongoing water situation. Mrs. Kovacik said the buildings look great.

9. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Schmidt reported that New Teacher Orientation was held this past Monday and Tuesday which she felt went very well. Continued training with teachers on their iPads and iBooks Author was held on Wednesday and Thursday. iPad distribution scheduled for registration day was delayed because the covers for the iPads did not arrive on time. The covers did actually arrive today and she is anxious to see how iPads can change and transform teaching and learning. Teachers will report on Monday. The middle school and the high school will learn more about My Big Campus. Elementary teachers will work on Renaissance Learning which is a wonderful tool used to provide data painlessly. Dr. Schmidt expressed Birthday wishes to Ben Parrish and Robert Tierney. Dr. Schmidt continued that she is excited for the students returning and that the buildings and grounds look great. This year the district will have late starts on Wednesday instead of early releases noting that this means that on the first day of school our district will have a 30 minute delayed start.

10. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Williams shared that it was fun to be at the Teacher Orientation and share in their excitement.

Mr. Spangenberg announced that Friday, August 23rd Sack Committee will sponsor a fundraiser at the Boone Grove vs. Wheeler game at 7:00 p.m.

11. SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

*PLE Open House will be held on August 20 from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. New student enrollment at Porter Lakes Elementary School was way down and they now have 37 students back.

*BGE Open House will be held on August 22 from 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. BGE enrollment is up by 1 student.

*BGMS 6th Grade Open House will be held on August 18 from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

*7th and 8th Grade Open House will be held on Tuesday August 27 from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Anyone interested in marching in the Popcorn Parade on September 7th will need to meet across from Northside Tap at Calumet and Bush Street starting at 9:00 a.m. Mr. Spangenberg said that he was able to attend once and this is a phenomenal program.

*Mr. DeRossett reported that high school iPad covers are in and he will be sending out an Instant Alert and mass emails to parents with distribution information. The distribution dates will be on Monday from 2:30 – 5:30 p.m. or Tuesday, 7:30 – 10:00 a.m. Covers can also be brought in and will require a usage form signed by the parents. Varsity Football will Scrimmage at KV Friday night.

12. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

13. ADJOURNMENT – 7:33 p.m.

Mr. Keevin made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Ms. Williams. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:33 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.