

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

PTSC  
BOARD APPROVED

DATE 1-10-2019

\*\*\*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 – Ms. Johanna Williams, President – 6:31 p.m.**

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Welcome Visitors

Board members present: Ms. Johanna Williams; Mrs. Nichole Kovacik, Dr. Natalie Wargo and Mrs. Lilann Sgouros; Mrs. Laura Chavez was absent. Also present were: Superintendent, Dr. Stacey Schmidt; Assistant Superintendent, Ben Parrish; Board Attorney, Cheryl Zic; Business Manager/Treasurer, Aline Busse; Deputy Treasurer, Linda Bult and Secretary to the Superintendent, Linda Dusek. There were approximately six (6) patrons present in the audience.

**2. AGENDA ADJUSTMENT**

Dr. Schmidt added a Business Item to the Agenda: 5L. Approval of SRO Agreement – Mr. Parrish

**3. CONSENT AGENDA – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the consent agenda consisting of payroll claims and accounts payable vouchers, approval of the minutes of the regular school board meeting held on Thursday, November 8, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.; and approval of the following items listed on the Personnel Report waiving the readings and pending clear background searches:

- Accept the resignation of **James Purcell** as a Maintenance Worker for Porter Township School Corporation effective as of January 2, 2019.
- Accept the resignation of **Gloria Mockaitis** as a part-time ECA Bus Driver for Porter Township School Corporation for Porter Township School Corporation effective as of November 15, 2018.
- Accept a revision to the resignation of **Shannen Reynolds**, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies Teacher at Boone Grove Middle School, accepted on November 8, 2018, changing the effective date to **January 6, 2019**.
- Accept the resignation of **Shannen Reynolds** as Head Cross Country Coach at Boone Grove Middle School effective as of January 6, 2019.
- Approve **Nicole Truby** as a temporary Secretary at Boone Grove Elementary School to fill a Maternity Leave beginning approximately January 28, 2019 through May 3, 2019 with compensation of \$10.32 per hour.
- Approve **Ivette Westerman** to utilize instruction and grading coverage for Kristine Prater's Spanish Class during her Family Leave of Absence period beginning approximately November 27, 2018 through March 4, 2018 with compensation as contracted per the Collective Bargaining Agreement rate.
- Accept the request of **Marie Dzomba** for a Family Medical Leave beginning approximately on March 22, 2019 through the end of the 2018-19 school year.
- Accept the request of **Jennifer Finley** for a Family Medical Leave beginning approximately on February 3, 2019 for approximately 10 weeks.
- Accept the request of **Michelle Murphy** for four (4) unpaid days and one (1) personal day from March 4, 2019 to March 8, 2019.
- Approve a weekly time increase of 3.5 hours for a total of 5.75 hours per week for **Jacki Thorn**, the Pre-School Aide at Porter Lakes Elementary School, effective as of January 7, 2019, due to the addition of a two-day per week afternoon Pre-School session on Mondays and Wednesdays.
- Amend the previous recommendation approved on November 8, 2018 for Student Council Sponsors for the 2018-19 school year to the following: Approve **John Chant and Jamie Coffin** as Student Council Co-Sponsors at Boone Grove High School with the following split of the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule: **John Chant 50% and Jamie Coffin 50%**.
- Approve **William Seickman** as a full-time Custodian at Boone Grove Middle School with compensation of \$10.32 per hour effective as of December 13, 2018.
- Approve **Kyle Hernandez** as a Boys' Junior Varsity Baseball Coach for the 2018 – 2019 school year with compensation based upon the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Daniel Mitten** as a 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys' Basketball Assistant Volunteer Coach for the 2018-19 school year.
- Approve **Mac Magiera** as a High School Wrestling Volunteer Assistant Coach and a Middle School Wrestling Volunteer Assistant Coach for the 2018-19 school year.
- Approve **Debbie Nelson** as a Middle School Dance Team Volunteer Assistant Coach for the 2018-2019 school year.

- Approve Sarah Otero as an 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Social Studies Teacher at Boone Grove Middle School beginning on January 7, 2019, with compensation as per contract with a Bachelor Degree and 11 years of experience.
- Approve Mark Vandermolen and Carla Marcheschi as Varsity Softball Volunteer Assistant Coaches for the 2018-19 school year.

Mrs. Sgouros 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, November 8, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. and approval of the items listed on the Personnel Report waiving the readings and pending clear background searches; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 4-0.

#### **4. FINANCIAL REPORT – Dr. Schmidt**

- A. Appropriation summary
- B. Fund Report
- C. Investments

Dr. Schmidt referred to the appropriation summary, the fund report and investment report provided in the board packet and asked for questions from the board; no questions were heard.

#### **5. BUSINESS**

##### **A. Approval of Amendment to Superintendent Contract - Ms. Williams**

Ms. Williams asked for a motion from the board regarding the amendment to the Superintendent's contract. Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to approve the amendment to the superintendent's contract as advertised and presented in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Kovacik. Motion carried 4-0.

##### **B. Approval of Stipends – Ms. Williams**

Ms. Williams asked for a motion from the board regarding approval of stipends. Mrs. Kovacik made a motion to approve the stipends as presented in the board packet; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 4-0.

##### **C. Adoption of Resolution #1218-195 - Budget Transfers 2018 – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt explained that adoption of Resolution #1218-195 will allow the necessary budget transfers at the end of the year. Dr. Wargo made a motion to adopt Resolution #1218-195 – Budget Transfers 2018 as requested by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 4-0.

##### **D. Adoption of Resolution #1218-196 – Resolution Authorizing the Porter Township School Corporation, Porter County, Indiana, to Issue Tax Anticipation Warrants for the Education Fund and Operations Fund in Anticipation of Current Taxes Levied in the Year 2018 and Collectible in the Year 2019 – Dr. Schmidt**

Ms. Williams asked for a motion from the Board regarding the adoption of Resolution #1218-196 authorizing the Porter Township School Corporation, Porter County, Indiana, to issue tax anticipation warrants for the Education Fund and Operations Fund in anticipation of current taxes levied in the year 2018 and collectible in the year 2019. Mrs. Kovacik made the motion to adopt Resolution #1218-196 authorizing the Porter Township School Corporation to issue tax anticipation warrants for the Education Fund and Operations Fund in anticipation of current taxes levied in the year 2018 and collectible in the year 2019 and to waive the reading of the resolution; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 4-0.

##### **E. Adoption of Resolution #1218-197 – Resolution to Establish Initial Funding for the Education Fund January 1, 2019 – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended adoption of Resolution #1218-197 which allows the transfer of the General Fund balance to the Education Fund effective January 1, 2019 to establish initial funding. Dr. Wargo made a motion to adopt Resolution #1218-197 to establish initial funding for the Education Fund effective January 1, 2019 as recommended by Dr. Schmidt and presented in the Board packet; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 4-0.

##### **F. Adoption of Resolution #1218-198 – Resolution to Establish Initial Funding for the Operations Fund January 1, 2019 – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended adoption of Resolution #1218-198 which allows the transfer of the balances from Capital Projects Fund, Transportation Operations and Bus Replacement into the Operations Fund effective January 1, 2019. Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to adopt Resolution #1218-198 to establish initial funding for the Operations Fund effective January 1, 2019 as recommended by Dr. Schmidt and to waive the reading of the Resolution; seconded by Mrs. Kovacik. Motion carried 4-0.

**G. Adoption of Resolution #1218-199 – Resolution to Transfer Initial Cash Balance Portion from Education Fund to the Operations Fund January 1, 2019 – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended adoption of Resolution #1218-199 to establish a monthly procedure to transfer initial cash balance portion from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund effective January 1, 2019. Mrs. Kovacik made a motion to adopt Resolution #1218-199 to transfer initial cash balance portion from the Education Fund to the Operations Fund effective January 1, 2019 as recommended by Dr. Schmidt and to waive the reading of the Resolution; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 4-0.

**H. Accept Fundraisers – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended acceptance of the fundraisers provided in the Board packet. Dr. Wargo made motion to accept the fundraisers as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 4-0.

**I. Approval of Overnight Field Trip – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt said the Natural Helpers Overnight Retreat was previously approved by the board; however, the specific dates of April 3, 4 and 5, 2019 are now being provided for the board's approval. Mrs. Kovacik made a motion to approve the Natural Helpers Overnight Retreat on April 3, 4 and 5, 2019; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 4-0.

**J. Approval of the First Reading of the 2019-2020 District Calendar – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt said the draft of the 2019-2020 district calendar has been reviewed during Discussions to receive teacher feedback and is now being presented to the Board for their feedback. Mrs. Kovacik made a motion to approve the first reading of the 2019-2020 district calendar as presented in the board packet; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Dr. Schmidt noted that additional online days for the high school and the middle school have been added to the district calendar on election days since the high school is used as a voting poll on these days. Motion carried 4-0.

**K. Approval of the Reading of New Board Policy #7440–Facility Security Program–Property–Mr. Parrish**

Mr. Parrish recommended approval of the second reading and adoption of new Board Policy #7440-Facility Security Program as presented in the Board packet. Mr. Parrish asked for questions from the Board; none were heard. Mrs. Kovacik made a motion to approve the second reading and adopt the new Board Policy #7440 – Facility Security Program as recommended by Mr. Parrish and to waive the reading; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 4-0.

**L. Approval of SRO Agreement – Mr. Parrish**

Mr. Parrish recommended approval of an agreement with the Town of Porter and the Porter Police Department which is provided in the Board packet. Mr. Parrish said this agreement will allow the opportunity to provide an additional SRO to assist in scheduling one SRO at the high school and one SRO at the middle school each school day. Dr. Wargo made a motion to approve the agreement with the Town of Porter and the Porter Police Department as recommended by Mr. Parrish; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 4-0.

**6. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Mr. Parrish**

Mr. Parrish said New Horizons has received 349 credits with 8 students finishing and graduating during the first semester. Mr. Parrish said this is exciting and he hopes for continued success throughout the year. Mr. Parrish announced that one of our employees, Jim Purcell, will be retiring with 22 years of experience at PTSC, first as a custodian and then moving to the Maintenance Department. Mr. Parrish said that Mr. Purcell has been a key part of our district for a long time, thanked him for his dedicated service to PTSC and wished him the best of luck in his retirement. Mr. Parrish then announced Katie Belcher as this month's Personnel Profile. Mr. Parrish reported that Mrs. Belcher is a 1<sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher at PLE and has been with PTSC for 17 years. Mrs. Belcher graduated from Valparaiso High School and Purdue North Central. Mr. Donnell said that Mrs. Belcher is a kind, caring and dedicated teacher who truly believes that each of her students can succeed and endeavors to help each and every child reach their fullest potential. Mrs. Belcher loves each of her students and it is obvious that they all love her. Mr. Parrish said Mrs. Belcher is an outstanding teacher and an outstanding individual who we are very fortunate to have at PTSC.

**7. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt gave an update on Graduation Pathways sharing that the State Board of Education approved some new definitions which now align with Perkins Funding where a student must now earn a "C" average

in at least two advanced courses in a particular program of study. Dr. Schmidt said the goal is to ensure these courses are also dual credit courses allowing students to leave with credentialing. Dr. Schmidt said her goal is to ensure parents understand that our Career Center is amazing and offers a wide variety of programs and opportunities for students to succeed. Dr. Schmidt wished a Happy Birthday to Bryan Busse on December 19 and Laura Chavez on January 4.

**8. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS** - None

**9. SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Mr. Donnell reported that over 1,000 lbs. of food was donated for the Food Pantry during the recent annual event when students receive a ticket for each food item donated for the Food Pantry. The tickets are put in a drawing for a chance to throw pie in the face of an Administrator or member of the staff. Mr. Donnell also announced that the Angel Tree serviced 44 families this year and thanked the community and staff for their wonderful support. Mr. Donnell also thanked Mrs. Hinchley for a wonderful program last night.
- Mr. Ivanyo reported that the Choir Concert was held this past Tuesday. Mr. Ivanyo was also excited to announce that Mrs. Holland's 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Class participated in their first ever Powered Paper Airplane Challenge and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> Nationwide! They won two remote control motors for paper airplanes.
- Mr. Lichtenberger congratulated Mr. Belleville for a successful Band Concert last week. Additional upcoming events include Drama Club presentations on December 18 and 20, the Choir Concert on December 19 at 7:00 and Wolf Pride on December 21.
- Mr. Corman reported that the Band Concert was successful, Wrestling was last night and the Madrigal is this weekend. Mr. Corman was also excited to report that the attendance Waiver Program is currently around 267 students with two days or less of absences! Lastly, Mr. Corman wished Mrs. Corman a Happy Birthday on December 25!

**10. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – None

**11. ADJOURNMENT – 6:55 p.m.**

Mrs. Kovacik made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:55 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.*