

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

PTSC  
BOARD APPROVED  
DATE 4-9-2015

\*\*\*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 – 6:30 p.m.**

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Welcome Visitors

Board members present: Ms. Johanna Williams, Mrs. Nichole Kovacik, Mr. John Spangenberg, Mr. Tom Keevin and Mrs. Lilann Sgouros. Also present were: Superintendent, Dr. Stacey Schmidt; Attorney Cheryl Zic; Business Manager, Aline Busse; Director of Facilities, Bryan Busse and Secretary to the Superintendent, Linda Dusek. There were approximately 42 present in the audience.

**2. AGENDA ADJUSTMENT: None**

**3. PRESENTATION: Boone Grove Elementary School - Circle the State Choir Members**

The Circle the State Choir Members from Boone Grove Elementary School performed for the board.

**4. CONSENT AGENDA – Dr. Schmidt**

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

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, February 12, 2015 at 6:30 p.m., and approval of the following items listed on the Personnel Report waiving the readings and pending a clear background search:

- Accept the retirement request of Melia Spicer, Director of Food Services, effective at the end of the 2014-15 school year.
- Accept the resignation of Nicholas Cain as the Physical Education Teacher at Porter Lakes Elementary School, the Physical Education Teacher at Boone Grove Elementary School, the Freshman Boys Basketball Coach and the Junior Varsity Volleyball Coach effective as of March 20, 2015.
- Accept the request of Kristin Schumacher to extend her maternity leave until the end of the 2014-15 school year, returning at the beginning of the 2015-16 school year.
- Approve the extension of the temporary assignment for Helen (Marie) Dzomba as a temporary 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Language Arts Teacher at Boone Grove Middle School to fill a maternity leave until the end of the 2014-15 school year.
- Approve Nicholas Cain as the Assistant Facilities Director/Custodial/Maintenance Supervisor beginning on March 23, 2015. His annual salary will be \$53,500 based upon a 40 hour work week for 260 days per year.
- Approve Michael Steffel as a Maintenance Worker for the Porter Township School Corporation beginning on March 4, 2015. His rate of pay will be \$13.59 per hour for 40 hours per week.
- Approve Tom Marcheschi as a Volunteer Softball Coach for the 2014-15 school year.
- Approve David Laviolette as a Volunteer Softball Coach for the 2014-15 school year.

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 12, 2015 at 6:30 p.m., and approval of the items listed on the Personnel Report waiving the readings and pending a clear background search; seconded by Mr. Spangenberg. 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 providing the appropriation summary, fund report and investment report and no questions were heard. Dr. Schmidt reported on an update on 2014 House Budget Reporting during her “Financial Moment”.

**6. BUSINESS**

**A. Summer School Presentation – Mr. Parrish & Mr. Corman**

Mr. Parrish and Mr. Corman presented three offerings for summer school courses at the high school to allow students an opportunity to get ahead:

- 1.) A+ Credit Recovery: To be offered to high school students who have failed a course during the past year. The schedule will be Monday through Thursday starting June 8 through July 2 from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in Lab 171 and 172. Mr. Ivanyo and Mr. Corman will supervise and there is a cost of \$75 per course, per student.

- 2.) Algebra I or English 10: A traditional classroom setting for students who have not passed Algebra 1 and/or English 10 ECA and these students will be enrolled in the summer testing window so they can be retested; minimum enrollment of 15 students for these courses. The schedule will be Monday through Thursday starting June 8 through July 2 from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. There is no cost for these courses; however, the minimum enrollment requirement of 15 students probably will not be met.
- 3.) Flex Course at the high school: Flex Course is a course that is not mandatory to attend Monday through Thursday as it will be offered with a flexible schedule and blended online and classroom instruction. There is a minimum enrollment requirement of 15 students and there is no cost for this course.

Dr. Schmidt asked for questions from the board. Mr. Spangenberg said he thinks it is nice that we may not meet the minimum classroom size of 15 students who need to be retested for Algebra I and English 10 ECA and asked what will be offered for students who need to retest in these courses. Mr. Parrish answered that students could enroll in the A+ Credit Recovery Course for a \$75 fee and the students would be allowed to retest. The difference would be that this would not be a classroom setting because A+ credit recovery is an online course. Mrs. Kovacik asked with the Flex Course option, would the teachers coordinate so students can enroll in multiple courses if interested. Mr. Corman said steps will be taken to accommodate while meeting the requirements for enrollment to be fully funded and the benefit of this course is flexibility. Mrs. Sgouros asked if the ECA remediation is credit recovery with remediation. Mr. Corman said the ECA credit recovery for Algebra 1 and English 10 allows students the opportunity to pass the exam in the summer where this opportunity has not been available in the past. Mrs. Sgouros also asked if the Flex Course option offers courses currently offered or are they new courses. Mr. Corman said any course that is eligible for credit toward graduation can be offered with an enrollment of a minimum requirement of 15 students. Dr. Schmidt explained that we have a deadline of April 1 to submit to the state a list of courses that we would potentially offer as summer school courses. After the list is received, the state will submit our estimated state funding for summer school. Dr. Schmidt then asked for the board's approval to submit a list of summer school courses to the state. Mrs. Kovacik made a motion to allow Dr. Schmidt to submit a list of summer courses to the state as presented; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 5-0.

**B. Approval of Middle School Football Program – Ms. Schludecker**

Ms. Schludecker said the information and start-up costs presented in the board packet are based upon 30 students and discussed equipment costs. Ms. Schludecker asked for questions from the board. Ms. Williams said Ms. Schludecker did a great job researching and Mr. Spangenberg said he feels the start-up costs are extremely reasonable. Dr. Schmidt said it is a credit to Ms. Schludecker for building relationships with vendors. Dr. Schmidt thanked Ms. Schludecker for her hard work in presenting this program and thanked Pop Warner for their help as well. Dr. Schmidt asked for the board's permission to move forward with the middle school football program. Ms. Williams asked for a motion from the board. Mr. Spangenberg made a motion to approve the middle school football program; seconded by Mr. Keevin. Ms. Williams said she feels any way to keep the students involved is what we should be doing. Motion carried 5-0.

**C. Approval of the First Reading of Board Policy Revisions/New Policies: Revised Policy #1240-Administration-Evaluation of the Superintendent; Revised Policy #1543-Administration-Non-Renewal of Administrative Contracts; Revised Policy #1615-Administration-Use of Tobacco by Administrators; New Policy #1617-Administration-Weapons; Revised Policy #2700-Program-Annual Performance Report; Revised Policy #3124-Professional Staff-Employment Contracts with Professional Employees; Revised Policy #3215-Professional Staff-Use of Tobacco by Professional Staff; Revised Policy #3217-Professional Staff-Weapons; Revised Policy #4215-Support Staff-Use of Tobacco by Support Staff; Revised Policy 4217-Support Staff-Weapons; Revised Policy #5320-Students-Immunization; Revised Policy #5512-Students-Use of Tobacco; Revised Policy #5772-Students-Weapons; Revised Policy #5830-Students-Student Fund-Raising; Revised Policy #7217-Property-Possession of Firearms and Weapons by Visitors; Revised Policy #7434-Property-Use of Tobacco by Visitors; Revised Policy #8432-Operations-Pest Control and Use of Pesticides; Revised Policy #8500-Operations-Food Services; Revised Policy #8510-Operations-Wellness; Revised Policy #8540-Operations-Vending Machines; Revised Policy #9210-Relations-Adult Support Organizations and Revised Policy #9270-Relations-Equivalent Instruction for Compulsory Attendance Compliance Purposes (Home Schooling and Non-Accredited Schools) – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt referred to the list of board policy revisions and new policies provided to the board in the board packet for their review and recommended approval of the first reading of the revised/new board policies listed on the agenda and to waive the readings. Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to approve the first reading of the revised/new board policies as listed and to waive the readings as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mr. Keevin. Motion carried 5-0.

**D. Approval of Basketball Skills Camps – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt referred to the information provided by Coach McKay and Coach Eleftheri requesting permission to hold boys and girls basketball skills camps and recommended approval of these athletic camps. Mr.

Spangenberg made a motion to approve the boys and girls basketball skills camps as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Kovacik. Motion carried 5-0.

**E. Approval of Athletico Athletic Training Agreement – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt explained that currently our athletic training agreement is with Accelerated and at the end of 2014, Accelerated was purchased by Athletico. Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of a new Athletic Training Agreement with Athletico pending final revisions. Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to approve the Athletic Training Agreement with Athletico pending final revisions; seconded by Mr. Spangenberg. Motion carried 5-0.

**F. Accept Farm Lease Bid – Mr. Busse**

Mr. Busse said the three year farm lease is now due and a notice was posted to accept bids. Mr. Busse reported that the same farmer was the high bidder at \$25 less than the previous three year contract which was expected due to crop prices. Mr. Busse asked for approval of another three year farm contract with the high bidder. Mr. Spangenberg asked if the \$25 less is even with consideration of the fewer acreage with the cross country trail and Ms. Williams asked if the \$25 less is due to crop prices; Mr. Busse answered yes to both questions. Ms. Williams asked for a motion from the board. Mr. Keevin made a motion to accept the farm lease bid as presented at \$25 less than the previous three year contract; seconded by Mr. Spangenberg. Motion carried 5-0.

**G. Accept Donation – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended acceptance of a rebate check received from the 2015 Take Charge of Education Program from Target in the amount of \$125.91 for Boone Grove High School. Mrs. Kovacik made a motion to accept the rebate check in the amount of \$125.91 from Target for Boone Grove High School; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 5-0.

**H. Approval of High School Course - Cadet Teacher Program – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt said the teachers approached Mr. Corman with an idea for a Cadet Teaching Program and they have been working together to present a program for approval. Mr. Corman said he feels extremely fortunate to work with teachers who are so passionate and understand the benefits this course could provide for the students. This program would allow high school students to work with teachers who are willing to host a cadet teacher at their building. The cadet must be a responsible student, must provide their own transportation to and from the building, and will be scheduled with flexible two hour blocks. Mrs. Sgouros asked what kind of credits will be earned; Mr. Corman answered that they will earn a general high school credit. Mrs. Kovacik asked how the students will be chosen; Mr. Corman said he will make every effort to assign each request. Mrs. Sgouros asked if a grade will be earned or pass/fail and what are the requirements. Mr. Corman said a rubric was created and the service teacher will give a letter grade based upon the rubric. Ms. Williams asked for a motion from the board. Mr. Spangenberg made a motion to approve the Cadet Teacher Program at the high school as presented; Ms. Williams seconded the motion. Ms. Williams said she thinks this is a great opportunity for the students and commended the teachers for putting this program together. Motion carried 5-0.

**I. Approval of Copier Services Contract - Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt said the copier services leases are about to expire. Dr. Schmidt commended Mrs. Busse and Mrs. Bult for their hard work in gathering information from five different companies and for providing a highly organized colored comparison chart. Dr. Schmidt noted that we are currently exceeding our monochromatic copy limit with a huge overage fee and one quote stands above the others offering monochromatic copies with unlimited copies. Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of a copier services contract with Xerox for \$2,554.00 per month for 60 months. Mr. Keevin made a motion to approve a copier services contract with Xerox for \$2,554.00 per month for 60 months as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mr. Spangenberg. Motion carried 5-0. Mrs. Sgouros asked how many copiers are in each building; Dr. Schmidt replied two copiers per building.

**7. DIRECTOR OF FACILITY SERVICES REPORT**

Mr. Busse referred to his report provided in the board packet. Mr. Busse said he is hoping the snow if over and his crew is preparing for spring sports. Mr. Busse asked for questions from the board and heard none.

**8. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt highlighted a few items in the personnel report: Melia Spicer, Food Service Director, is retiring at the end of this school year and Mr. Nick Cain, Physical Education Teacher at PLE/BGE is changing positions to the Assistant Facilities Director as Mr. Parrish will move to his new position as Assistant Superintendent at the end of the month.

Dr. Schmidt also shared the following announcements and upcoming events:

- Congratulations to Mrs. Welbourne and the choir members on an outstanding job at the state competition!
- The Fish and Chicken Fry and School Safety Basketball game is tomorrow night.
- The Blood Drive is on March 17 at the high school.
- The next online day for BGHS/BGMS is on March 18.
- Spring Break begins on March 23

- Congratulations to the Video and Media Production Program who received the Prestigious Best Program Award at their state competition! Also congratulations to Kennedy Starceвич and Megan Gulotta who received individual awards.
- Happy Birthday to Detective Boone on March 27.
- Information on 1-1 expansion will be provided next month.

Dr. Schmidt also reported that responsive to parent feedback regarding the virtual makeup days becoming a challenge when a virtual makeup day is held without a weather related event, a decision was made for the next makeup day on April 6 to be held on campus and students will report to the buildings.

**9. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS**

Mrs. Sgouros commented on the video stream if you watch the newest Captain America movie, one of our former students did the animation for the credits. The Boone Grove community has lost a number of people recently: David Hildebrand and Chuck Eckert in December and just this week we lost Karen Briars.

**10. SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Mr. Lichtenberger reported that 7th grade boys' basketball team won their championship; the choir concert was held last night, the band concert was held tonight and the 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls' basketball team won a close game tonight.
- Mr. Donnell reported ISTEP/IREAD will be next Tuesday and Wednesday. PLE had an assembly where they learned about Leader Dogs for the Blind which was all a part of their Kids Caring for the Community Project.

**11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION- None**

**12. ADJOURNMENT – 7:29 p.m.**

Mrs. Kovacik made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:29 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.*