

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

***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, Mrs. Lilann Sgouros and Mrs. Laura Chavez. Also present were: Superintendent, Dr. Stacey Schmidt; Assistant Superintendent, Ben Parrish; Board Attorney, Cheryl Zic; Deputy Treasurer, Linda Bult and Secretary to the Superintendent, Linda Dusek. There were approximately (16) patrons present in the audience.

2. AGENDA ADJUSTMENT - None

3. PRESENTATION - 7th Grade Reading Presentation - Mrs. Kristin Schumacher - BGMS

Mrs. Schumacher said her class read a pair of essays written by authors Matt de la Pena and Kate DiCamillo published in Time Magazine regarding the inclusion of “dark” content in children’s literature. For their Article of the Week assignment, her students were asked to write a letter to either author, Matt de la Pena or author, Kate Di Camillo to explain whether or not children’s book authors should refrain from including darkness in their books with the promise to send the best letters to the chosen author. Three of these chosen students read their letters to the Board. Savannah Lipkovich and Lauren Jeffries wrote to author Matt de la Pena and Grady Pierce wrote to author Kate DiCamillo. These students are amazingly articulate and the Board commended them on an outstanding job! There was a brief break for refreshments.

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 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:

- Approve Kathleen Smith as a Part-Time Assistant to the Business Office beginning on March 6, 2018 with compensation of \$16.50 per hour for less than 30 hours per week with no benefits.
- Approve Thomas Magiera as the Middle School Wrestling Coach for the remainder of the 2017-18 school year with compensation of \$525.68.
- Approve Sean Hendron as the JV Baseball Coach for the 2017-18 school year with compensation as per the 2017-18 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve Kelly Kraus as a Varsity Softball Volunteer Assistant Coach for the 2017-18 school year.
- Approve Tom Marcheschi as a Volunteer Assistant High School Softball Coach for the 2017-18 school year.
- Approve Conner Smith and Jeff Birchfield as Volunteer High School Baseball Assistant Coaches for the 2017-18 school year.

Dr. Wargo 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 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 Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 5-0. Dr. Schmidt introduced Kathleen Smith to the Board announcing that Mrs. Smith was approved as a part-time Assistant to the Business Office in the personnel report tonight. Dr. Schmidt welcomed Kathleen to the Administration Office team.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT – Dr. Schmidt

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

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

6. BUSINESS

A. Approval of EMCOR Letter of Intent – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt said preparations are beginning with a tight project timeline and it is necessary to order equipment for the chillers and boilers soon. Dr. Schmidt said the window for filing a petition ends on March 14 and requested permission to sign and submit the Letter of Intent with EMCOR effective at end of the 30 day

remonstrance period in order to move forward. Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to approve the Letter of Intent with EMCOR at the end of the remonstrance period on March 14; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 5-0.

B. Approval and Adoption of the Second Reading of the following Board Policy Revisions/Deletion: Revised Board Policy #1220-Administration-Employment of the Superintendent; Revised Board Policy #1521-Administration-Personal Background Checks, References, and Mandatory Reporting of Convictions and Substantiated Child Abuse and Arrests; Revised Board Policy #2221-Program-Mandatory Curriculum; Revised Board Policy #2262-Program-Latch-Key Programs; Revised Board Policy #2623.01-Program-Test Security Provisions for Statewide Assessments; Revised Board Policy #3121-Professional Staff-Personal Background Checks, References, and Mandatory Reporting of Convictions and Substantiated Child Abuse and Arrests; Revised Board Policy #3131-Professional Staff-Reduction In Force ("RIF") in Certificated Staff; Revised Board Policy #4121-Support-Personal Background Checks, References and Mandatory Reporting of Convictions, and Substantiated Child Abuse and Arrests; Revised Board Policy #5200-Students-Attendance; Revised Board Policy #5350-Students-Student Suicide; Revised Board Policy #5460 - Students - Graduation Requirements; Revised Board Policy #5630.01-Students-Use of Seclusion and Restraint with Students; Revised Board Policy #5730-Students-Equal Access for Non Corporation-Sponsored Student Clubs and Activities; Revised Board Policy #6152-Finances-Student Fees and Charges; Revised Board Policy #8121-Operations-Personal Background Check-Contracted Services; Revised Board Policy #8462-Operations-Child Abuse and Neglect; Revised Board Policy #8600-Operations-Transportations; Revised Board Policy #8800-Operations-Religious/Patriotic Ceremonies and Observances and Deletion of Board Policy #6330- Finances-Approval of Contracts - Mr. Parrish

Mrs. Kovacik made a motion to approve and adopt the second reading of the Board Policy Revisions/Deletion as listed on the agenda and provided in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 5-0.

C. Approval of the First Reading of the following Board Policy Revisions: Revised Board Policy 3113 - Professional Staff - Conflict of Interest; Revised Board Policy 3213 - Professional Staff - Student Supervision and Welfare; Revised Board Policy 4213 - Classified Staff - Student Supervision and Welfare - Mr. Parrish

Ms. Williams asked for a motion from the board to approve the first reading of the following Board Policy Revisions: Revised Board Policy 3113 - Professional Staff - Conflict of Interest; Revised Board Policy 3213 - Professional Staff - Student Supervision and Welfare; Revised Board Policy 4213 - Classified Staff - Student Supervision and Welfare. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to approve the first reading of the board policies as listed on the agenda and provided in the board packet; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 5-0.

D. Approval of Summer School - Mr. Parrish

Mr. Parrish said 18 teachers have submitted proposals for summer school courses and requested permission to submit estimated instructional costs for all proposals to the state for consideration for the 2018 summer school program. Summer school courses will be determined based upon state funding awarded in May and on the highest student need. Mrs. Kovacik made a motion to approve Mr. Parrish's request to submit estimated instructional costs for summer school to the state as presented; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 5-0.

E. Approval of Internet Contract - Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt said the state negotiated internet contract with ENA has been used in the past and was not renewed this year to allow opportunities for districts to obtain more competitive pricing. After receipt of competitive bids, Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the internet contract as presented in the board packet. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to approve the internet contract as presented by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 5-0.

F. Permission to Purchase Meraki Equipment and License Renewals - Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt said with the 1 to 1 program our actual devices are our access points which provide our wireless internet and are vitally important to our infrastructure. Last year new access points were purchased at the high school and additional access devices are now needed to allow the infrastructure to run smoothly. Dr. Schmidt requested permission to purchase Meraki Equipment and license renewals to allow the infrastructure to run smoothly. Mrs. Kovacik made a motion to allow the purchase of Meraki equipment and license renewals as requested by Dr. Schmidt and provided in the board packet; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 5-0.

G. Permission to Advertise for Bids for BGE/BGMS iPad Airt – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended selling the current iPads used for Grades 4-8 and requested permission to advertise for bids to allow the purchase of new replacement iPads. Dr. Schmidt explained that last year the iPads costs was \$100 per device and she anticipates possibly a better iPad with possibly an even lower replacement cost. Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to approve the sale of the current iPads used for Grades 4-8 and permission to advertise for bids for new replacement Airts for Grade 4-8 as presented by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 5-0.

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

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the Drop-Off Recycling Site Lease Agreement explaining that the recycling site has been located at the complex for several years. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to approve the Drop-Off Recycling Site Lease Agreement as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 5-0.

I. Accept Donations – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended acceptance of additional donations received for celebrating staff appreciation and thanked the community for their support. Mrs. Kovacik made a motion to accept donations as requested by Dr. Schmidt and as presented in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 5-0.

J. Approval of Fundraisers – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt requested approval of an extensive list of fundraisers as provided in the board packet. Mrs. Kovacik made a motion to approve the fundraisers provided in the board packet; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 5-0.

7. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Mr. Parrish

Mr. Parrish said New Horizons has issued 311 credits to date which is an average of 4 lessons per day. The new Odyessyware credit recovery program is working well, students have adjusted well and 15 students have completed to date. Mr. Parrish announced that this month's Employee of the Month is Debbie Crouch. Debbie is the First Student Bus Barn Manager and has worked for PTSC for 21 years. Debbie is a Hebron High School graduate who was previously a bus driver for PTSC. Mr. Parrish thanked Debbie for always going above and beyond the call of duty and for always doing an awesome job!

8. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt began her report by wishing Johanna Williams a Happy Birthday on April 9. Dr. Schmidt also discussed the following:

- Update on Graduation Pathways: Dr. Schmidt said she has been continuing to meet with the State Board of Education and updated information on Graduation Pathways can be found on the State Board of Education website. Approval of Graduation Pathways could possibly be approved as soon as next month.
- Accountability Rule: Focus meetings are being held throughout the state. They are creating two separate plans where there is a federal accountability grade through the Essa plan and a state accountability grade.
- Legislation ends next week – the last few bills that haven't passed are in session
- Great news! PTSC was awarded a digital learning grant for \$75,000 which is focused on Stem Computer Science. Dr. Schmidt commended Mr. Corman for harnessing these great exciting ideas. At the last online day, BGMS learned that everyone can code and the Developer Academy will offer our kids a world of opportunity with skills that will help them with creative thinking.

9. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS – None**10. SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Corman reported:

- Friday night is the Sherriff vs. Staff Basketball Game and Fish Fry fundraiser at the high school.
- ISTEP testing finishes up this week. Retesters really struggle and it is inspirational to see how much effort they put into trying their best in a difficult environment.
- The Awards Athletic Banquet is coming up.
- The Academic Awards Ceremony Breakfast will be held on Tuesday.
- Academic teams were at PNW last night and will be at Kouts next Thursday for the conference meet.

Mr. Ivanyo reported:

- ISTEP testing finished as of today.
- Student of the Month will be announced soon – Check Facebook!
- Circle the State Choir will be at Hebron on Saturday.
- The Book Fair and Grandparents Day is the week of March 19.

Mr. Donnell reported:

- ISTEP testing is finished. Mr. Donnell commended the students for their efforts and thanked the teachers for helping the students get through online testing.
- Next week is IREAD.

11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

12. ADJOURNMENT – 7:19 p.m.

Mrs. Kovacik made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:19 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.