

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

PTSC  
BOARD APPROVED  
DATE 6-14-2018

\*\*\*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 – 6:36 p.m.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

B. Welcome Visitors

Board members present: Ms. Johanna Williams, Dr. Natalie Wargo, Mrs. Lilann Sgouros and Mrs. Laura Chavez; Mrs. Nichole Kovacik was absent. Also present were: Superintendent, Dr. Stacey Schmidt; Assistant Superintendent, Ben Parrish; Board Attorney, Cheryl Zic; and Secretary to the Superintendent, Linda Dusek. There were approximately 20 patrons present in the audience.

2. **AGENDA ADJUSTMENT - None**

3. **PRESENTATIONS:**

**Academic Wall of Fame - Mr. Corman – BGHS**

Mr. Corman shared a video highlighting seniors who received the honor of being named on the Academic Wall of Fame. One of the seniors, Rachel Wilkening, was able to attend the meeting and shared her future plans with the Board.

**Retirement Recognition – Mr. Ivanvo - BGE**

Mr. Ivanvo and Mr. Lichtenberger congratulated Sue Jones on her retirement and reflected on her service to Porter Township Schools. There was a brief break for refreshments and celebration.

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, May 10, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.; approval of the following items listed on the Personnel Report waiving the readings and pending clear background searches:

- Accept the resignation of Kelly Johnson as Guidance Counselor at Boone Grove High School effective as of June 2, 2018.
- Accept the resignation of Jessica Holmquest as Director of Food Services for Porter Township School Corporation effective as of April 13, 2018.
- Accept the retirement request of Sue Jones, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher at Boone Grove Elementary School, effective as of May 1, 2018.
- Accept the resignation of Norma Martin as the High School Treasurer effective as of May 4, 2018.
- Accept the resignation of Alexa MacDonald as a Dance Coach at Boone Grove High School effective as of April 9, 2018.
- Accept the resignation of Sean Hendron as the Junior Varsity Baseball Coach with compensation of 44.5% of 2017-18 ECA Salary Schedule for the Junior Varsity Baseball position (\$800).
- Approve Bryan Hill as the Junior Varsity Baseball Coach for the remainder of the 2017-18 season with compensation of 55.5% of the 2017-18 ECA Salary Schedule for the Junior Varsity Baseball position (\$1,000).
- Approve Officer Brian Gill as a Resource Officer for Porter Township School Corporation effective as of April 23, 2018 noting that Resource Officer's affiliation is pursuant to the 2015 Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the Sheriff's Office.
- Approve Lindsay Norrick as a full-time custodian for Porter Lakes Elementary School for 40 hours per week effective as of May 29, 2018 with compensation of \$10.32 per hour.
- Approve Katherine Lawrence as a Natural Helpers Sponsor for the 2017-18 school year with compensation as per the 2017-18 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve Jon Hugar as a Temporary Summer Maintenance Worker effective as of May 7, 2018, for 40 hours per week; \$10.32 per hour.
- Approve Pat Antone and Brian Sherwin as Temporary Summer Maintenance Workers effective as of May 29, 2018, for 40 hours per week at a rate of \$10.32 per hour.
- Approve Dan Kukulski as the Varsity Head Football Coach/Coordinator for the 2018-19 school year with compensation as per the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve Marco Perez as the Junior Varsity Boys' Soccer Coach for the 2018-19 school year with compensation as per the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule.

- Approve **Katie McKinney** as the Varsity Girls' Soccer Coach for the 2018-19 school year with compensation as per the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Brian May** as a Junior Varsity Girls' Volunteer Volleyball Assistant Coach for the 2018-19 school year.
- Approve **Ryan Seydel** as a Varsity Football Volunteer Assistant Coach for the 2018-19 school year.
- Approve **Frank Oliva** as a Volunteer Coach for the Middle School Soccer Club for the 2017-2018 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, April 12, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.; approval of the minutes of the special school board meeting held on Monday, April 23, 2018 at 3:30 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 4-0.

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 the Second Reading of the 2018-2019 Student Handbook – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the second reading of the revisions to the 2018-2019 student handbook as provided in the board packet. Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to approve the second reading of the 2018-2019 student handbook as presented in the board packet and to waive the reading; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 4-0.

**B. Approval of the Second Reading of Revisions to the Coaches' Handbook – Mr. Parrish**

Mr. Parrish said the proposed revisions to the coaches' handbook are provided in the board packet and recommended approval of the second reading. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to approve the second reading of the revisions to the Coaches' Handbook and to waive the reading; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 4-0.

**C. Accept Donations – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended acceptance of a donation to Boone Grove High School for the Boys' Track and Field team. Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to accept a generous donation of \$40.00 for the high school Boys' Track and Field team; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 4-0.

**D. Approval of Fundraisers – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of a few additional fundraisers as presented in the board packet. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to approve the fundraisers as presented by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 4-0.

**E. Approval of Transfer Students for the 2018-19 School Year – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt said an application period was posted for accepting applications for transfer students with a deadline of April 27, 2018 and recommended acceptance of the transfer students for the 2018-2019 school year as listed in the board packet. Mrs. Sgouros asked if current transfer students are grandfathered in for the next school year. Dr. Schmidt said that transfer students are only required to complete the initial application process to be accepted by the Board; each year thereafter transfer students must submit a transfer application as a returning transfer student to confirm their plans to return for the coming school year. Dr. Wargo made a motion to accept the transfer students as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 4-0.

**F. Approval of 2018-19 Student Textbook Fees – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the 2018-2019 student textbook fees as provided in the board packet. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to approve the 2018-2019 student textbook fees as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 4-0.

**G. Approval of Harmony 3 Upgrade – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt said Harmony 2 is our current student information system and it is outdated and needs to be updated or replaced by another student information system. A committee was formed to review student information systems and to compare costs and effectiveness. The committee's recommendation is an upgrade to Harmony 3. Dr. Schmidt said the upgrade will increase the cost to \$5.00 per student which is substantially cheaper than many of the other options and recommended the upgrade to the new version of Harmony 3. Mrs.

Chavez made a motion to approve the upgrade to the Harmony 3 student information system as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 4-0.

**H. Approval of the Bread and Bakery Bid for the 2018-2019 School Year – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt said there is a new bid process provided through the service center this year and the bids are presented in the board packet. Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the Bread and Bakery Bid for the 2018-2019 school year awarding the bid to Alpha Bakeries. Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to approve the Bread and Bakery Bid for the 2018-2019 school year as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 4-0.

**I. Approval of the Milk and Dairy Bid for the 2018-2019 School Year – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended approval of the Milk and Dairy Bid for the 2018-2019 school year as provided in the board packet awarding the bid to Clover Crest with school coolers. Dr. Wargo made a motion to approve the Milk and Dairy Bid for the 2018-2019 school year as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 4-0.

**J. Discussion on Kindergarten Early Entrance – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt said at last month's board meeting there was discussion regarding a legislative change stating that a child must be age 5 by August 1<sup>st</sup> to receive state funding with no option for an appeal for an early entrance waiver. Historically, a parent was allowed to appeal for an early waiver and to request evaluation to determine if their child would be eligible for early entrance to kindergarten. Dr. Schmidt said the new legislative change leaves two options: 1) Continue with the same process allowing students to appeal for an early entrance waiver if their child's birthdate is after August 1 with no state compensation for this child. or 2) Enforce the new legislative ruling that a child must be age 5 by August 1<sup>st</sup> to receive state funding with no option for an appeal for early entry. Attorney Zic said that it is not legally permissible to charge tuition to allow a student to enroll in kindergarten after August 1 to offset the loss of state funding. Dr. Schmidt said after discussion with the board, administrators, and teachers regarding continuing to allow the kindergarten waiver and also considering the impact it would have on the district's general fund. Most responses did not favor continuing with the appeal process for early entrance. Dr. Schmidt recommended to enforce the new legislature to only allow students who have reached age 5 by August 1<sup>st</sup> to enroll in kindergarten to receive state funding with no option to appeal for an early entrance into kindergarten. Dr. Schmidt said all board policies will be updated to reflect the new enrollment requirement for kindergarten. Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to approve Dr. Schmidt's recommendation to enforce the new legislative requirement that a child must be age 5 by August 1<sup>st</sup> to enroll in kindergarten to receive state funding with no option for accepting early entrance waivers; Mrs. Chavez seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

**K. Discussion on Porter Lakes Elementary School (PLE) Preschool – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt thanked Mr. Donnell, Mrs. Magurany and the entire staff for their hard work in providing the proposed preschool program. Dr. Schmidt gave a presentation on the proposed preschool program and recommended offering a half-day preschool program in the morning session only for the 2018-2019 school year. Dr. Schmidt answered questions from the Board. Dr. Wargo made a motion to approve a morning half-day preschool program as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 4-0.

**7. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Mr. Parrish said New Horizons is running a summer session which will be offered to current New Horizons students and also to new students. Currently, there is possibly 20-25 students interested. Mr. Parrish reported that New Horizons has been successful in the past few years with 398 credits earned during the 2015-16 school year; 473 credits earned during the 2016-17 school year and as of today 439 credits earned for the 2017-18 school year. Mr. Parrish said Jim Purcell is this month's Personnel Profile. Jim Purcell is a member of the Maintenance Department and has worked for PTSC for 20 years. Jim is a graduate of LaPorte High School and was the head custodian in every PTSC building before moving to the Maintenance Department. Mr. Cain said that Jim knows where every switch and valve is in the district. Mr. Cain said Jim is greatly appreciated and he can always count on Jim to get the job done! Just another great example of another fine employee!

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

Dr. Schmidt congratulated Mr. Rosinia who officially obtained licensure as a Building Level Administrator. Dr. Schmidt also said that in a recent tweet Kelly School of Business was bragging about Jessica Wotherspoon, Angela Long and Jim Rosinia who worked together on the preschool program proposal. Dr. Schmidt said the

end of the school year is fast approaching in two weeks. Dr. Schmidt also wished Natalie Wargo a Happy Birthday on June 12.

**9. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS – None**

**10. SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Mr. Corman said that a fundraiser honoring Mrs. Mayer, who is battling cancer, was planned during last night's softball game and the game was cancelled. The softball and baseball teams decided to still honor Mrs. Mayer and gathered in the cafeteria and the Wheeler teams joined them as well. The kids raised over \$1,100 in one night which was very uplifting. Mr. Corman said the support from the Wheeler students was awesome and a whole sense of community was an awesome experience.
- Mr. Ivanyo reported that ISTEP testing just finished and upcoming events include the Spring Concert, the 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Ag Day at the Expo Center, the end of the year dance by Student Council, the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Indianapolis trip and the talent show.
- Mr. Donnell reported that the Spring Carnival is tomorrow beginning at 5:30; the Blood Drive is May 15 from 3:30 to 7:30 and Perfect Attendance Awards is May 22.
- Mr. Lichtenberger reported that tomorrow is the 8<sup>th</sup> grade transition day, May 15 is the Band Concert, May 21 is the Choir Concert, May 22 is the Middle School play, May 23 is the Honors Breakfast for perfect attendance and Wolf Pride is the last day of school.

**11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None**

**12. ADJOURNMENT – 7:59 p.m.**

Mrs. Chavez made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:59 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.*