

**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; Business Manager, Aline Busse and Secretary to the Superintendent, Linda Dusek. There were approximately 11 patrons present in the audience.

2. AGENDA ADJUSTMENT – None

3. PRESENTATIONS:

- **BGHS Principal's Council – Mr. Corman**

Mr. Corman explained that the Principal's Council involves great kids who are in good standing, typically a male and a female from each high school grade level. The members of the Principal's Council meet to provide student input, thoughts and ideas. Mr. Corman shared a video sharing what happens in their meetings.

- **Recognition of Staff for Years of Service – Dr. Schmidt**

Mrs. Kim Corman and Mr. Ed Ivanyo were the only honorees who were able to attend the celebration for years of service at Porter Township Schools. Mr. Donnell reflected on Mrs. Corman's 20 years of service at Porter Lakes Elementary School and Dr. Schmidt reflected on Mr. Ivanyo's 20 years of service as a teacher and an administrator at PTSC. Dr. Schmidt and the members of the Board congratulated the honorees. There was a brief break in the meeting 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, August 9, 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 **Michael Soloe**, Custodian, effective as of September 14, 2018.
- Accept the request of **Ashley Smithson**, Art Teacher at Porter Lakes Elementary School, for a family medical leave beginning approximately October 8, 2018 and returning approximately January 7, 2019.
- Accept the request of **Kristine Prater**, Spanish Teacher at Boone Grove High School, for a family medical leave beginning approximately December 7, 2018 and returning approximately March 4, 2019.
- Accept the request of **Annie Blanchard**, Secretary at Boone Grove Elementary School, for a family medical leave beginning approximately January 28, 2019 and returning on approximately May 3, 2019.
- Approve an adjustment to the hourly rate of pay for **Linda Dusek**, Secretary to the Superintendent, to \$18.98 per hour effective as of September 17, 2018, as Mrs. Dusek will no longer serve as the primary employee responsible for submission of district state reports.
- Approve a position change for **Kathleen Smith**, Assistant to the Business Office, changing her position from part-time to full-time with the additional job responsibility of serving as the primary employee responsible for submission of district state reports at her current hourly rate of pay.
- Approve a position change for **Kyle Ludovice** from Computer Technician to IT Specialist with an annual salary of \$32,000 effective as of September 17, 2018.
- Approve **Lisa Santana** as a full-time Custodian at Porter Lakes Elementary School effective as of September 13, 2018 with compensation of \$10.32 per hour.
- Approve **Megan Epler** as a Teacher Aide at Porter Lakes School for 3.75 hours per day and a Cafeteria Aide for 2 hours per day for the 2018-19 school year with compensation of \$10.22 per hour.
- Approve **Stacy Davis** as the High School Drama Coach for the 2018-19 school year. Her compensation will be \$638 for the Fall Play and \$638 for the Spring Play.
- Approve **Shana Wrigley** as the 5th Grade Math Bowl Coach at Boone Grove Elementary School beginning September 5, 2018.
- Approve **James Terry** as an Extra Curricular Activity Class B CDL School Bus Driver for the Porter Township School Corporation for the 2018-19 school year with compensation of \$11.43 per hour.

- Approve **John Chant and Jamie Coffin** as Student Council Co-Sponsors for the 2018-19 school year with compensation based upon 50% of the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Kyle Isch and Katherine Lawrence** as Sponsors for the Natural Helpers Program for the 2018-19 school year with compensation based upon the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Mary Edwards** as the **Senior Class Sponsor** for the 2018-19 school year with compensation based upon the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Erik Palleson and Matt Blackledge** as Security Resource Officers (SRO) as needed during the 2018-19 school year with compensation of \$30.00 per hour.
- Accept the resignation of **Tom Trapana** as the Varsity Girls' Track & Field Coach for the 2018-19 school year.
- Accept the resignation of **Jessica McGinley** as the Varsity Girls' Track & Field Assistant Coach for the 2018-19 school year.
- Accept the resignation of **Walter Bradford** as the Middle School Boys' Track & Field Coach for the 2018-19 school year.
- Approve **Larry Schiesser** as the Boys' 6th Grade Basketball Coach for the 2018-19 school year with compensation based upon the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Larry Schiesser** as the Girls' 6th Grade Basketball Coach for the 2018-19 school year with compensation based upon the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Ron Saunders** as the Varsity Softball Coach for the 2018-19 school year with compensation based upon the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **William Cain** as the JV Softball Coach for the 2018-19 school year with compensation based upon the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Joseph Reid** as the Varsity Girls' Tennis Coach for the 2018-19 school year with compensation based upon the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Jessica McGinley** as the Girls' Varsity Track & Field Coach for the 2018-19 school year with compensation based upon the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Tom Trapana** as the Girls' Varsity Assistant Track & Field Coach for the 2018-19 school year with compensation based upon the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Richard Gabey** as the Boys' Varsity Assistant Track & Field Coach for the 2018-19 school year with compensation based upon the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Kelly Kraus** as the Girls' 6th Grade Volleyball Coach for the 2018-19 school year with compensation based upon the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Jennifer Luebke** as the Girls' 7th Grade Volleyball Coach for the 2018-19 school year with compensation based upon the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Dave Hinkel** as the Varsity Wrestling Coach for the 2018-19 school year with compensation based upon the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Wesley Manderscheid** as the Middle School Wrestling Coach for the 2018-19 school year with compensation based upon the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Shannon Benko** as a Varsity Cheerleading Volunteer Assistant Coach for the 2018-19 school year.
- Approve **Shannon Benko and Jacy Schutkovske** as Middle School Cheerleading Volunteer Assistant Coaches for the 2018-19 school year.
- Approve **James Batkiewicz and Bryan Hill** as Varsity Football Volunteer Assistant Coaches for the 2018-19 school year.
- Approve **David Greinke** as a Middle School Football Volunteer Assistant Coach for the 2018-19 school year.
- Approve **Sarah Brown** as a Middle School Softball Volunteer Assistant Coach for the 2018-19 school year.
- Approve **Vanessa Arroyo** as a Varsity Cheerleading Volunteer Assistant Coach for the 2018-19 school year.
- Approve **Ivette Westerman and Kathy Lis** as Sophomore Class Co-Sponsors for the 2018-19 school year with compensation of 50% of the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Debbie Nelson** as a Middle School Dance Team Volunteer Assistant Coach for the 2018-19 school year.
- Approve **Sydney Rippe-Ellman** as a Varsity Cheerleading Volunteer Assistant Coach for the 2018-19 school year.
- Approve **Matt McKay and Bryan Hill** as Varsity Boys' Basketball Co-Coaches for the 2018-19 school year with compensation based upon 70% of the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule for Matt McKay and 30% of the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule for Bryan Hill.
- Approve **Dean Hill** as the Boys' Junior Varsity Basketball Coach for the 2018-19 school year with compensation based upon the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule.

- Approve **Austin Bills** as the Boys' Freshman Basketball Coach for the 2018-19 school year with compensation based upon the 2018-19 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Gary Steinhilber** as a Boys' Varsity Basketball Volunteer Coach for the 2018-19 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, August 9, 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.

5. FINANCIAL REPORT – Dr. Schmidt

- Appropriation summary
- Fund Report
- 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. Adopt Resolution #0918-187 – Resolution to Establish Initial Funding for the Education Fund – January 1, 2019 – Dr. Schmidt.

Dr. Schmidt reflected that last month two new budget funds were established and the next step is to establish initial funding for these funds. Dr. Schmidt recommended adoption of Resolution #0918-187 to establish the initial funding for the Education Fund which will give permission to make the transfers needed into the Education Fund beginning January 1, 2019. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to adopt Resolution #0918-187 to establish initial funding for the Education Fund beginning January 1, 2019 as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 5-0.

B. Adopt Resolution #0918-188 – Resolution to Establish Initial Funding for the Operations Fund – January 1, 2019 – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt said similarly the Operations Fund is the second new major fund that was established. Dr. Schmidt recommended adoption of Resolution #0918-188 to establish the initial funding for the Operations Fund beginning January 1, 2019, which will give permission to make the transfers needed into that fund. Ms. Williams made a motion to adopt Resolution #0918-188 to establish initial funding for the Operations Fund beginning January 1, 2019 as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 5-0.

C. Public Hearing of 2019 Budget – Dr. Schmidt

1. Hearing for 2019 Budget

- Hearing of Education Fund
- Hearing of Debt Service Fund
- Hearing of School Pension Debt Fund
- Hearing of Operations Fund

2. Hearing for Bus Replacement Plan

3. Hearing for Capital Projects Plan

Dr. Schmidt opened the public hearing on the 2019 budget with a budget presentation to the Board. Dr. Bill Gall, a consultant who assisted in preparation of the budget, commented on the budget as well. Ms. Williams then opened the public hearing on the 2019 Budget and asked for public comments; no requests for public comment were heard. Ms. Williams closed the hearings.

D. Adopt Resolution #0918-189 – Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended adoption of Resolution #0918-189 – Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan which is an annual resolution to establish the Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan. Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to adopt Resolution #0918-189 to establish the annual Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 5-0.

E. Accept Transfer Students for the 2018-19 School Year – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended acceptance of four additional transfer students for the 2018-19 school year as listed in the board packet. Mrs. Kovacik made a motion to accept four additional transfer students for the 2018-19 school year as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 5-0.

F. Recognition of Boone Grove High School Wolfpack Football Club for the 2018-2019 School Year – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended acceptance of the annual recognition of Boone Grove High School Wolfpack Football Club noting that the required information has been gathered and updated for the 2018-19 school year. Mrs.

Chavez made a motion to approve the recognition of the Boone Grove High School Wolfpack Football Club for the 2018-2019 School Year; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 5-0.

G. Accept Fundraisers – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt recommended acceptance of the fundraisers presented in the board packet. Dr. Wargo made a motion to accept the fundraisers as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 5-0.

H. Approve Overnight Field Trip – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt requested a Boone Grove Elementary School overnight field trip to Camp Tecumseh as provided in the board packet. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to approve the overnight field trip to Camp Tecumseh for Boone Grove Elementary School as requested by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 5-0.

G. Permission to Apply for Common School Loan – Dr. Schmidt

Dr. Schmidt said Mr. Skoda, Director of Technology, has requested permission in advance to apply for a Common School Loan when the opportunity arises to allow for continued technology advancement in the district. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to grant permission to apply for the Common School Loan at the next opportunity; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 5-0.

J. Approve Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with Town of Chesterton Metropolitan Police Department – Mr. Parrish

Mr. Parrish said our goal is to have two resource officers in the district each day; one resource officers at the middle school and one resource officer at the high school. Provided in the board packet is a proposal to approve an Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the Town of Chesterton Metropolitan Police Department which will provide the services of Erik Palleson, who is a Boone Grove graduate, a Boone Grove resident and a member of the Boone Grove Fire Department. Dr. Wargo made a motion to approve the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement with the Town of Chesterton Metropolitan Police Department as presented by Mr. Parrish; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 5-0.

K. Approve School Safety Plans – Mr. Parrish

Mr. Parrish said with recent new legislative statute, the DOE will be auditing school safety plans for every school throughout the state. Mr. Parrish recommended approval of the school safety plans provided in the board packet which have been updated to be compliant with new state statute. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to approve the School Safety Plans for each school in the district as recommended by Mr. Parrish and as provided in the board packet; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 5-0.

7. ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Mr. Parrish reported that two New Horizon students, who only needed one or two credits, have finished already. Currently 43 students are enrolled in the New Horizon Program which is an all-time high. Mr. Martinez, the new teacher at New Horizons, is doing a good job and is adjusting well. Mr. Parrish announced that the Personnel Profile for this month is Bethany Eveland. Ms. Eveland is a 7th Grade Math Teacher at Boone Grove Middle School and has been employed for six years. She graduated from Geneva High School in 2008 and Illinois State University in 2012. Mr. Lichtenberger said, "Ms. Eveland is the teacher we all want our kids to have in their lives. She shows her caring to each and every student she come into contact with and fights for what is right for the kids. I have great admiration for her as a teacher and a person. We are very lucky to have her as a family member at PTSC and I look forward to watching her to continue to grow and flourish as an educator." Mr. Parrish said he echoes those sentiments as Ms. Eveland is a great teacher and a great person who is just another example of the great people we have here at PTSC. Mrs. Sgouros said that she loves the fact that so many of our graduates want to come back which shows they have had a good experience here. Ms. Williams agreed.

8. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Schmidt said she had the opportunity to present at the ISBA/IAPSS Conference where she discussed some of the amazing things that are happening at Porter Township and also shared about the awesome coding work at BGHS. Jessica Wotherspoon is working hard with the Math Department to incorporate Everyone Can Code 1, 2 and 3 into Math Curriculum which will allow our students to leave with proficiency in that coding language. Additionally, Mrs. Wotherspoon is also working on starting a Coding Club. Dr. Schmidt said she, Mr. Parrish and Ms. Horvat had the opportunity to look at the new Fire Fighter Academy. Students could obtain two certifications in Firefighter 1 and Firefighter 2 and they would have a great experience involving hard work and incredible discipline. PTSC currently has two students involved in the program. Dr. Schmidt wished Mr. Ivanyo and Mr. Lichtenberger a Happy Birthday in the next few weeks. Mr. Parrish wished Dr. Schmidt a Happy Birthday on October 1.

9. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS - None

10. SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Mr. Corman thanked the high school staff for their hard work regarding pathways and preparation for the ACT test. Mr. Corman also shared that during the online day the high school staff worked hard on data informed instruction, technology enhanced items and implementation and they will be asking kids to adapt to the digital environment to allow a chance for success.
- Mr. Lichtenberger reported that the MS Baseball PCC Tourney started and Wolves will play tomorrow against Kouts; he recently attended the School Safety Specialist Academy with several others from the district; and the 8th Volleyball teams defeated Hebron.
- Mr. Ivanyo said their new building is looking great and getting organized and BGE will have a bullying presentation tomorrow.
- Mr. Donnell said October 15 is Red Ribbon Week.

11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

12. ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Chavez made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:32 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.