

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

PTSC  
BOARD APPROVED  
DATE 10-12-2017

\*\*\*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 – 6:32 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; Deputy Treasurer, Linda Bult and Secretary to the Superintendent, Linda Dusek. There were approximately 12 patrons present in the audience.

2. **AGENDA ADJUSTMENT**: None

3. **PRESENTATIONS**:

- **Student Athletes – Boone Grove High School**: Mr. Corman presented a video highlighting high school student athletes who are not only busy studying and participating in sports, but they are active with community service, as well.
- **Recognition of Staff for Years of Service**: The Administrators honored their staff who achieved each 5-year increment of years of service and presented service awards. 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, August 10, 2017 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 Nicole May as the MS Boys' Volleyball coach and the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys' Basketball Coach effective as of August 11, 2017.
- Accept the resignation of Kelly Kraus as the Study Hall/In-School Detention Supervisor at Boone Grove Middle School effective as of September 1, 2017.
- Accept the resignation of Diana Zaideman as a floating Custodian effective as of September 7, 2017.
- Accept the resignation of Katie Lawrence as the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls' Volleyball Coach for the 2017-18 school year.
- Accept the request of Sue Jones, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher at Boone Grove Elementary School, for a Family Medical Leave (FMLA) beginning on September 8, 2017 for approximately four (4) weeks or up to twelve (12) weeks, if necessary.
- Accept the request of Jessica McGinley, Math Teacher at Boone Grove High School, for a Maternity Leave of Absence (FMLA) for 10 weeks beginning on or around January 15, 2018 and returning on or around April 9, 2018 using sick days as per contract with no compensation after the first eight (8) weeks.
- Accept the request of Jamie Coffin, Director of Nursing, for two (2) unpaid leave days on October 12 and October 13, 2017.
- Approve Taylor Howell as a Volunteer Assistant to the Certified Athletic Trainer at football games for the 2017-18 school year.
- Approve Kyle Isch as a Natural Helpers Sponsor for the 2017-18 school year with compensation based upon the ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve Kristine Prater as the Foreign Language Department Chair and the French Club Sponsor at Boone Grove High School for the 2017-18 school year with compensation for each position based upon the ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve Laura Dexter as the Sophomore Class Sponsor at Boone Grove High School for the 2017-18 school year with compensation as per the ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve Heather Ashton as the Art Club Sponsor at Boone Grove Elementary School for the 2017-18 school year with compensation as per the ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve Shane Hillier as the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys' Basketball Coach for the 2017-18 school year with compensation based upon the ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve Stacy Davis as the High School Drama Coach for the 2017-18 school year with compensation of \$638 for the Fall play and \$638 for the Spring play.

- Approve **Colette Perez and Jenny Kipp** as a Teacher Aide at Porter Lakes Elementary School for 3.75 hours per day and as a Lunchroom Aide for two (2) hours per day beginning on August 14, 2017 for the 2017-18 school year. Their compensation will be \$10.22 per hour.
- Approve **Jennifer Luebke** as the Girls' 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Volleyball Coach for the 2017-18 school year with compensation based upon the ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **William Cain** as the Junior Varsity Softball Coach for the 2017-18 school year with compensation based upon the ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Jacy Schutkovske** as a Varsity Cheerleading Volunteer Assistant Coach for the 2017-18 school year.
- Approve **Brian May** as a JV Girls' Volleyball Assistant Coach for the 2017-18 school year.
- Approve **Brian May** as an 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls' Basketball Volunteer Assistant Coach for the 2017-18 school year.
- **Adjust** the previously approved compensation for **Patrick Antone** as a Middle School Baseball Co-Coach for the 2017-18 school year with compensation based upon one-third (1/3) of the 2017-18 ECA Salary Schedule, to **compensation based upon one-sixth (1/6)** of the 2017-18 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Jacob Gholston** as a Middle School Baseball Co-Coach for the 2017-18 school year with compensation based upon one-sixth (1/6) of the 2017-18 ECA Salary Schedule.
- Approve **Amanda Hawrot** as a Varsity Softball Volunteer Assistant Coach for the 2017-18 school year.
- **Adjust** the previously approved position of **Amanda Hurley** as the Spell Bowl Sponsor for Grade 4 and Grade 5 at Boone Grove Elementary to **Amanda Hurley as the Spell Bowl Sponsor for Grade 4 only at Boone Grove Elementary School** with compensation as per the ECA Salary Contract.
- Approve **Lisa Broton** as the Spell Bowl Sponsor for Grade 5 at Boone Grove Elementary with compensation as per the ECA Salary Contract.
- Approve **Gary Steinhilber** as an 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys' Basketball Volunteer Assistant Coach for the 2017-18 school year.
- Approve **Ember Fortenberry** as a Volunteer Varsity Dance Team Assistant Coach for the 2017-18 school year.
- Approve **Annie Eriks** as a Volunteer Middle School Football Assistant Coach for the 2017-18 school year.
- Accept the resignation of **Jack Wilson** as the JV Baseball Coach for the 2017-18 school year.
- Approve **Jack Wilson** as a Volunteer Baseball Program Assistant Coach 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, August 10, 2017 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

- 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. **Public Hearing of 2018 Budget** – Dr. Schmidt

1. **Hearing for 2018 Budget**
  - a) **Hearing of General Fund**
  - b) **Hearing of Debt Service Fund**
  - c) **Hearing of Debt Retirement/Severance Fund**
  - d) **Hearing of Transportation Operating Fund**
  - e) **Hearing of Bus Replacement Fund**
  - f) **Hearing of Capital Projects Fund**
2. **Hearing for Bus Replacement Plan**
3. **Hearing for Capital Projects Plan**

Dr. Schmidt opened the public hearing for the 2018 Budget. Dr. Schmidt reported that the board will take action to approve the 2018 Budget at the board meeting on October 12, 2017. The 2018 budget has been developed based upon the rules associated with each fund. The overall taxing rate is the same rate addressed at the last meeting and is lower than our advertised rate for last year. The goal has been to consistently try to maintain a neutral tax rate for our taxpayers. This has been accomplished even in the midst of a significant remodel at PLE and a construction of a new office which the board should be very proud. Dr. Schmidt opened the public hearing of the 2018 Budget and asked for public comments. Hearing no requests to speak, Dr. Schmidt closed the Hearing of the 2018 Budget.

Dr. Schmidt opened the public Hearing for the Bus Replacement Plan. Dr. Schmidt said the budget advertised represents a plan that has been developed for our fleet. There is a timeframe for maintaining and replacing busses and this year Bus 33, one of the 15 passenger mini buses, will be replaced. Dr. Schmidt asked for questions from the Board; hearing none, Dr. Schmidt opened the hearing for public comments. Hearing no requests for public comment, Dr. Schmidt closed the hearing for the Bus Replacement Plan.

Dr. Schmidt opened the public Hearing for the Capital Projects Plan. Dr. Schmidt explained that the Capital Projects Plan was developed based upon building needs, observations and evaluations of facility needs and prioritizing those needs. Rates are based upon assessed evaluation. Last year the advertised rate was \$520,000,000 and this year the advertised rate is \$532,000,000. Identified facility needs are: the HVAC system, lighting, solar needs and the roof at BGMS/BGE; lighting and solar needs at the high school; and solar needs at PLE. Dr. Schmidt asked for questions from the board; none were heard. Dr. Schmidt opened the hearing for the Capital Projects Plan for public comment; hearing none, Dr. Schmidt closed the Hearing for the Capital Projects Plan and completed the Hearing.

**B. Adopt Resolution #0917-170 – Tax Neutrality Resolution – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended adoption of Resolution #0917-170 regarding Tax Neutrality as provided in the board packet. Mrs. Sgouros made a motion to adopt Resolution #0917-170 – Tax Neutrality Resolution; seconded by Mrs. Chavez. Motion carried 5-0.

**C. Adopt Resolution #0917-171 – Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended adoption of Resolution #0917-171 Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan as provided in the board packet. Mrs. Kovacik made a motion to adopt Resolution #0917-171 – Section 125 Flexible Benefit Plan; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 5-0.

**D. Accept Transfer Students for 2017-18 School Year – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt said two applications were received during a recent open application period. Dr. Schmidt noted enrollment count day was last Friday and current enrollment is up by approximately 37 students this school year. Dr. Schmidt recommended acceptance of two additional transfer students. Mrs. Chavez made a motion to accept the transfer students as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Mrs. Sgouros. Motion carried 5-0.

**E. Recognition of the Porter Township PTO Club for the 2017-18 School Year – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt said the Porter Township PTO Club has provided all of the required updated information and recommended recognition of the Porter Township PTO Club for the 2017-18 school year. Dr. Wargo made a motion to recognize the Porter Township PTO Club for the 2017-18 school year; seconded by Mrs. Kovacik. Motion carried 5-0.

**F. Accept Donations – Dr. Schmidt**

Dr. Schmidt recommended acceptance of donations for the Baseball program at Boone Grove High School as presented in the board packet. Mrs. Kovacik made a motion to accept the donations as recommended by Dr. Schmidt; seconded by Dr. Wargo.

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

- Dr. Schmidt thanked the administrative team for doing a great job and working hard interacting with the students and staff.
- Dr. Schmidt discussed ESSA which is a federal accountability plan which replaces No Child Left Behind and is currently in effect today. Through Essa a letter grade and a state letter grade will be given based upon different criteria. Essa looks at proficiency and growth along with graduation rate at the high school and chronic absenteeism at K-8. Graduation rate will be worth 30%, college and career ready 30%, and proficiency on state assessment 15%.
- Dr. Schmidt also discussed changes in graduation rate and one Indiana diploma. Dr. Schmidt answered questions from the board and encouraged a call to action in talking to Legislators, the Graduation Pathways Panel and Dr. McCormick.
- Mr. Ivanyo's birthday is on September 29th and Mr. Lichtenberger's birthday is on October 10<sup>th</sup>.

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

- Mr. Parrish said he recently attended a school safety academy with Mr. Lichtenberger, Mr. Donnell, Mr. Cain and Luetendent Chavez. Mr. Parrish said it is great to gather new information to review and to implement new ideas.
- Mr. Parrish thanked building level administrators for leading by example to ensure a safe and caring environment.
- Alternative school enrollment is currently 33 and recently have had two or three finish and moved on.
- Mr. Parrish said work continues with Odysseyware to customize courses.
- Mr. Parrish wished Dr. Schmidt a Happy Birthday on October 1.

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

- Mr. Corman said the football team plays Griffith tomorrow night, volleyball is at home and the high school is holding a clothing drive for hurricane relief.
- Mr. Lichtenberger reported on middle school sports and congratulated the teams. Mr. Lichtenberger also reported that BGMS Honor Society will have a fundraiser for hurricane relief including a “Pie in the Face” event tomorrow.
- Mr. Ivanyo said BGE had Gather and Grow from Porter County Soil District and last week had an assembly which discussed bullying and better choices. Choir and Spell Bowl has begun and Student Council will have a fundraiser during spirit week for supporting hurricane relief.
- Mr. Donnell said October is safety month and Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held in a few weeks.

**11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None****12. ADJOURNMENT – 7:38 p.m.**

Mrs. Chavez made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Dr. Wargo. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 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.*