

PORTAGE LAKES JOINT VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING

Board Meeting Minutes
Portage Lakes Career Center
4401 Shriver Rd. Uniontown, OH 44685
Thursday, December 18, 2025
6:00pm

Present: Eric Chojnacki, Green; David Cohen, Green; Dan Fouser, Coventry; Donnie Furlong, Springfield; Dave Hofer, (Springfield); Jason Jividen, Manchester; Parker Mason, Springfield; Laura McGraw, Coventry; Richard Sponseller, Manchester

1 Call to Order

Minutes:

Meeting called to order at 6:05 PM.

2 Roll Call

Eric Chojnacki
Dave Cohen
Dan Fouser
Donnie Furlong
Dave Hofer
Jason Jividen
Parker Mason
Laura McGraw
Richard Sponseller

Minutes:

All members except Mrs. McGraw were present.

3 Pledge of Allegiance

4 Public Hearing on the FY 2026-2027 Tax Budget

Minutes:

No visitor comments.

5 Visitor's Comments

Minutes:

No visitor comments.

6 Treasurer's Reports and Recommendations

6.1 Minutes

It is recommended the Board approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 20, 2025, as presented.

Result: Approved

Resolution: 25-134

Motioned: Parker Mason

Seconded: Donnie Furlong

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
Eric Chojnacki, Green	X		
David Cohen, Green	X		
Dan Fouser, Coventry	X		
Donnie Furlong, Springfield	X		
Dave Hofer, (Springfield)	X		
Jason Jividen, Manchester	X		
Parker Mason, Springfield	X		
Richard Sponseller, Manchester	X		

6.2 Financial Reports

It is recommended the Board approve the financial reports, check register, bank reconciliation, and comparative financial report for the month of November 2025, as presented, subject to audit.

Result: Approved

Resolution: 25-135

Motioned: Jason Jividen

Seconded: Parker Mason

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
Eric Chojnacki, Green	X		
David Cohen, Green	X		
Dan Fouser, Coventry	X		

Donnie Furlong, Springfield	X		
Dave Hofer, (Springfield)	X		
Jason Jividen, Manchester	X		
Parker Mason, Springfield	X		
Richard Sponseller, Manchester	X		

6.3 2026 Organizational Meeting

It is recommended the Board set the Organizational and Regular meeting for January 15, 2026.

Result: Approved

Resolution: 25-136

Motioned: Richard Sponseller

Seconded: David Cohen

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
Eric Chojnacki, Green	X		
David Cohen, Green	X		
Dan Fouser, Coventry	X		
Donnie Furlong, Springfield	X		
Dave Hofer, (Springfield)	X		
Jason Jividen, Manchester	X		
Parker Mason, Springfield	X		
Richard Sponseller, Manchester	X		

6.4 Elect President Pro-Tempore

It is recommended the Board of Education approve Dan Fouser as the President Pro-Tempore for Portage Lakes Career Center from January 1, 2026 through the election of officers at the 2026 Organizational Meeting.

Result: Approved

Resolution: 25-137

Motioned: Dave Hofer

Seconded: Donnie Furlong

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
Eric Chojnacki, Green	X		
David Cohen, Green	X		
Dan Fouser, Coventry	X		
Donnie Furlong, Springfield	X		
Dave Hofer, (Springfield)	X		
Jason Jividen, Manchester	X		
Parker Mason, Springfield	X		
Richard Sponseller, Manchester	X		

6.5 Approval of the FY 2027 Tax Budget

It is recommended the Board approve the 2027 Tax Budget as presented.

Result: Approved

Resolution: 125-138

Motioned: Eric Chojnacki

Seconded: Dan Fouser

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
Eric Chojnacki, Green	X		
David Cohen, Green	X		
Dan Fouser, Coventry	X		
Donnie Furlong, Springfield	X		
Dave Hofer, (Springfield)	X		
Jason Jividen, Manchester	X		
Parker Mason, Springfield	X		
Richard Sponseller, Manchester	X		

7 Superintendent's Reports and Recommendations

7.1 Highlights of this past month's activities

The Career Center Students of the Month are:

D'Nyah Jackson, Senior, Medical Technician--Coventry
Madeline Burt, Senior, Cosmetology--Green
Alexis Porpora, Junior, Medical Technician--Manchester
Darian Ramsey, Junior, Manuweld--Springfield

Minutes:

Mr. Clark highlighted the following happenings over the last month.

- End of 1st Semester
- NTHS Food Drive
- 3M Certifications
- Juniors visited Stark State
- Powell Electric visited
- School counselors met at PLCC

Mrs. Tripney highlighted the following in her update.

- 1st quarter skills competitions
- Presentation about SkillsUSA from advisor Sarah Murphy
- 28 high school students are out on placement
- Adult Education graduated 15 estheticians, 14 nail technicians and 8 phlebotomists from our programs this Fall
- Adult Education cosmetology class volunteered at the Refuge of Hope to provide free haircuts
- Adult Education retention update: 86% daytime programs, 84% evening programs, and 85% overall

7.2 2026-2027 School Calendar

It is recommended that the board approve the attached calendar for the 2026-2027 school year.

Result: Approved

Resolution: 25-139

Motioned: Eric Chojnacki

Seconded: Jason Jividen

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
Eric Chojnacki, Green	X		
David Cohen, Green	X		
Dan Fouser, Coventry	X		
Donnie Furlong, Springfield	X		
Dave Hofer, (Springfield)	X		

Jason Jividen, Manchester	X		
Parker Mason, Springfield	X		
Richard Sponseller, Manchester	X		

7.3 Donations

Ohio Gratings, Inc.-- Stainless steel bar and grating valued at \$2,875.00

Ohio Gratings, Inc.-- Treds valued at \$156.00

Gina Knowlton-- gel dip and polish estimated value \$100.00

It is recommended that the board approve the donations listed above.

Result: Approved

Resolution: 25-140

Motioned: Donnie Furlong

Seconded: Parker Mason

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
Eric Chojnacki, Green	X		
David Cohen, Green	X		
Dan Fouser, Coventry	X		
Donnie Furlong, Springfield	X		
Dave Hofer, (Springfield)	X		
Jason Jividen, Manchester	X		
Parker Mason, Springfield	X		
Richard Sponseller, Manchester	X		

7.4 Resignations

Tyler Palmer, Custodian/Maintenance, effective 12/12/2025

Sarah Tolodzieski, Adult Education Instructor, effective 12/19/2025

It is recommended that the board approve the resignations listed above.

Result: Approved

Resolution: 25-141

Motioned: Richard Sponseller

Seconded: Donnie Furlong

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
Eric Chojnacki, Green	X		
David Cohen, Green	X		
Dan Fouser, Coventry	X		
Donnie Furlong, Springfield	X		
Dave Hofer, (Springfield)	X		
Jason Jividen, Manchester	X		
Parker Mason, Springfield	X		
Richard Sponseller, Manchester	X		

7.5 Employment

Adult Education Contracts (In accordance with the Adult Education Staff Handbook)

Ron Balis, Automotive Technology Consultant, \$37.50 per hour, 25 hours maximum, effective 1/2/2026-6/30/2026, no benefits

Dawn Tindell, Practical Nursing Instructor, 220 days per year, with benefits, effective 1/5/2025-6/30/2026

Support Staff Contract

Christian Wagner, Custodian/Maintenance, Salary Group III, Step 4, 260 days, effective 12/3/2025-6/30/2026, with benefits

It is recommended that the board approve the employment contract listed above.

Result: Approved

Resolution: 25-142

Motioned: Eric Chojnacki

Seconded: David Cohen

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
Eric Chojnacki, Green	X		
David Cohen, Green	X		
Dan Fouser, Coventry	X		
Donnie Furlong, Springfield	X		
Dave Hofer, (Springfield)	X		
Jason Jividen, Manchester	X		
Parker Mason, Springfield	X		
Richard Sponseller, Manchester	X		

8 New Business

Minutes:

No new business.

9 Board Members--Informal

10 Adjournment

Next Meeting:

Organizational Meeting followed by Regular Meeting
 Thursday, January 15, 2026
 6:00 p.m.

Minutes:

Meeting adjourned at 6:47 PM.

Result: Approved

Resolution: 25-143

Motioned: Donnie Furlong

Seconded: Parker Mason

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
Eric Chojnacki, Green	X		
David Cohen, Green	X		
Dan Fouser, Coventry	X		
Donnie Furlong, Springfield	X		
Dave Hofer, (Springfield)	X		
Jason Jividen, Manchester	X		
Parker Mason, Springfield	X		
Richard Sponseller, Manchester	X		

Portage Lakes Career Center (PLCC) is committed to equal opportunity for all governed by the protections of Title IX, IDEA, Title VI (Civil Rights), Title VII (Civil Rights) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The district prohibits harassment of individuals in any form. Any alleged act of discrimination or harassment should be referred to Mr. Gregg Clark, Title IX Coordinator, Portage Lakes Career Center, 4401 Shriver Road, Uniontown, OH 44685, phone: 330-896-8200 or email: gclark@plcc.edu.