

# PORTAGE LAKES JOINT VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT REGULAR MEETING

**Board Meeting Minutes**  
Portage Lakes Career Center  
4401 Shriver Rd. Uniontown, OH 44685  
Thursday, February 19, 2026  
6:00pm

**Present:** Eric Chojnacki, Green; David Cohen, Green; Dan Fouser, Coventry; Dave Hofer, Springfield; Jason Jividen, Manchester; Parker Mason, Springfield; Laura McGraw, Coventry; Richard Sponseller, Manchester; John Sulek, Coventry

## 1 Call to Order

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**Minutes:**

Meeting called to order at 6:04 PM.

## 2 Roll Call

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Eric Chojnacki  
David Cohen  
Dan Fouser  
Dave Hofer  
Jason Jividen  
Parker Mason  
Laura McGraw  
Richard Sponseller  
John Sulek

**Minutes:**

All members were present.

## 3 Pledge of Allegiance

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## 4 Visitor's Comments

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**Minutes:**

No visitor's comments.

## 5 Treasurer's Reports and Recommendations

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### 5.1 Minutes

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Recommend approval of the minutes of the Organizational and regular meeting of January 15, 2026, as presented.

**Result:** Approved

**Resolution:** 26-14

**Motioned:** Dave Hofer

**Seconded:** Richard Sponseller

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
Eric Chojnacki, Green	X		
David Cohen, Green	X		
Dan Fouser, Coventry	X		
Dave Hofer, Springfield	X		
Jason Jividen, Manchester	X		
Parker Mason, Springfield	X		
Laura McGraw, Coventry	X		
Richard Sponseller, Manchester	X		
John Sulek, Coventry	X		

### 5.2 Financial Reports

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It is recommended that the board approve the financial reports, check register, bank reconciliation, and comparative financial report for the month of January 2026, as presented, subject to audit.

**Result:** Approved

**Resolution:** 26-15

**Motioned:** Dave Hofer

**Seconded:** Parker Mason

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
Eric Chojnacki, Green	X		
David Cohen, Green	X		

Dan Fouser, Coventry	X		
Dave Hofer, Springfield	X		
Jason Jividen, Manchester	X		
Parker Mason, Springfield	X		
Laura McGraw, Coventry	X		
Richard Sponseller, Manchester	X		
John Sulek, Coventry	X		

### 5.3 Forecast

It is recommended that the board approve the PLCC Spring 2026 version of the five-year forecast. This forecast includes actual figures for 2023-2025 fiscal years, as well as 2026-2030 projections.

**Result:** Approved

**Resolution:** 26-16

**Motioned:** Dave Hofer

**Seconded:** Jason Jividen

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
Eric Chojnacki, Green	X		
David Cohen, Green	X		
Dan Fouser, Coventry	X		
Dave Hofer, Springfield	X		
Jason Jividen, Manchester	X		
Parker Mason, Springfield	X		
Laura McGraw, Coventry	X		
Richard Sponseller, Manchester	X		
John Sulek, Coventry	X		

## 5.4 Amounts and Rates

It is recommended that the board approve the resolution accepting the Fiscal 2027 Amounts and Rates as determined by the Summit County Budget Commission, and authorizing the necessary tax levies and certifying them to the Summit County Fiscal Office, as presented.

**Result:** Approved

**Resolution:** 26-17

**Motioned:** Richard Sponseller

**Seconded:** Dan Fouser

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
Eric Chojnacki, Green	X		
David Cohen, Green	X		
Dan Fouser, Coventry	X		
Dave Hofer, Springfield	X		
Jason Jividen, Manchester	X		
Parker Mason, Springfield	X		
Laura McGraw, Coventry	X		
Richard Sponseller, Manchester	X		
John Sulek, Coventry	X		

## 5.5 FY26 Appropriation Amendment #1

It is recommended that the board approve the amendments to the FY26 fund-level appropriations as presented.

**Result:** Approved

**Resolution:** 26-18

**Motioned:** David Cohen

**Seconded:** Jason Jividen

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

Dave Hofer, Springfield	X		
Jason Jividen, Manchester	X		
Parker Mason, Springfield	X		
Laura McGraw, Coventry	X		
Richard Sponseller, Manchester	X		
John Sulek, Coventry	X		

## 6 Superintendent's Reports and Recommendations

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### 6.1 Highlights of this past month's activities

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The Career Center Students of the Month are:

January/February:

Gary (Ray) Bekelesky, Senior, Automotive Technology--Coventry

Zuriana Lester, Junior, Cosmetology--Green

Emily Lewis, Senior, Building Trades--Manchester

Madison Moody, Junior, HVAC--Springfield

#### **Minutes:**

Mr. Clark recognized the students of the month. He gave high praise to the maintenance staff for the hard work keeping the parking lots cleared, ice free, and safe during the heavy winter snow. He also acknowledged Mrs. Eibel and the students in the DCM class for their works of art at the Northeast Central Ohio Division 2026 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. Mrs. Eibel shared the success of her students works at the show and highlighted Sarah Gresens's Ivory Sculpture, which is nominated for the American Visions Award. February is full of Skills USA competitions.

Mrs. Tripney recognized Mrs. Eibel, noting that her DCM program offers 4 college credits to students. To date, her students have been awarded over \$1.1M in college scholarships. The most recent focus of PLCC's social media has been on alumni and student placement in the workforce. Reminder that 2028 will be the 50th Anniversary of PLCC. She acknowledged students of the month for Adult Education. January Students of the Month were Bryson Croft, HVAC and Mara Lakins, Dental Assisting. February Students of the Month are Erin Quick, Welding and Michaela Church, Evening Esthetics. Lastly, she provided Adult Education retention rates, 78.6% daytime classes, 84.4% evening classes, and 81.5% overall.

## 6.2 Retirement

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*Robert Obermiller, Custodian/Maintenance, effective June 30, 2026*

**It is recommended that the board approve the retirement listed above.**

**Result:** Approved

**Resolution:** 26-19

**Motioned:** Richard Sponseller

**Seconded:** David Cohen

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
Eric Chojnacki, Green	X		
David Cohen, Green	X		
Dan Fouser, Coventry	X		
Dave Hofer, Springfield	X		
Jason Jividen, Manchester	X		
Parker Mason, Springfield	X		
Laura McGraw, Coventry	X		
Richard Sponseller, Manchester	X		
John Sulek, Coventry	X		

### 6.3 Resignations

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*Cole Haubert, Custodian/Maintenance, effective 1/23/2026*

*Melissa Middleton, Adult Education Instructor, effective 2/4/2026*

**It is recommended that the board accept the resignations listed above.**

**Result:** Approved

**Resolution:** 26-20

**Motioned:** Jason Jividen

**Seconded:** Parker Mason

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
Eric Chojnacki, Green	X		
David Cohen, Green	X		
Dan Fouser, Coventry	X		
Dave Hofer, Springfield	X		
Jason Jividen, Manchester	X		
Parker Mason, Springfield	X		
Laura McGraw, Coventry	X		
Richard Sponseller, Manchester	X		
John Sulek, Coventry	X		

### 6.4 Field Trip

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Skills USA to Columbus, Ohio, May 4, 2026 - May 6, 2026

**It is recommended that the board approve the field trips listed above.**

**Result:** Approved

**Resolution:** 26-21

**Motioned:** Parker Mason

**Seconded:** Eric Chojnacki

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
Eric Chojnacki, Green	X		
David Cohen, Green	X		
Dan Fouser, Coventry	X		
Dave Hofer, Springfield	X		
Jason Jividen, Manchester	X		
Parker Mason, Springfield	X		
Laura McGraw, Coventry	X		
Richard Sponseller, Manchester	X		
John Sulek, Coventry	X		

## 6.5 Equipment Donation

The Blick Center--Hypodermic needles in multiple sizes (approximate value \$100.00) for use in Practical Nursing lab

**It is recommended that the board approve the donation listed above.**

**Result:** Approved

**Resolution:** 26-22

**Motioned:** Laura McGraw

**Seconded:** Parker Mason

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
Eric Chojnacki, Green	X		
David Cohen, Green	X		
Dan Fouser, Coventry	X		
Dave Hofer, Springfield	X		
Jason Jividen, Manchester	X		
Parker Mason, Springfield	X		
Laura McGraw, Coventry	X		
Richard Sponseller, Manchester	X		
John Sulek, Coventry	X		

## 7 New Business

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**Minutes:**

No new business.

## 8 Board Members--Informal

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## 9 Executive Session

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Pursuant to ORC 121.22 to consider the appointment, employment, or compensation of an employee or official of the school district. No formal action expected to be taken following the executive session, related to topics considered in executive session.

**Minutes:**

The board entered into Executive Session at 6:37 PM.

The board exited Executive Session at 7:28 PM. No action was taken.

**Result:** Approved

**Resolution:** 26-23

**Motioned:** Jason Jividen

**Seconded:** Richard Sponseller

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
Eric Chojnacki, Green	X		
David Cohen, Green	X		
Dan Fouser, Coventry	X		
Dave Hofer, Springfield	X		
Jason Jividen, Manchester	X		
Parker Mason, Springfield	X		
Laura McGraw, Coventry	X		
Richard Sponseller, Manchester	X		
John Sulek, Coventry	X		

## 10 Adjournment

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Next Meeting  
Thursday, March 19, 2026  
6:00 p.m.

**Minutes:**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 PM.

**Result:** Approved

**Resolution:** 26-24

**Motioned:** Laura McGraw

**Seconded:** Parker Mason

Voter	Yes	No	Abstained
Eric Chojnacki, Green	X		
David Cohen, Green	X		
Dan Fouser, Coventry	X		
Dave Hofer, Springfield	X		
Jason Jividen, Manchester	X		
Parker Mason, Springfield	X		
Laura McGraw, Coventry	X		
Richard Sponseller, Manchester	X		
John Sulek, Coventry	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.