

Porter Advisory Council
Meeting Agenda
March 19, 2026

I. Call to Order @ 6:33

II. New Business

a. Budget Status

- i. School Board approved budget 3/18. Funding strategy have changed county-wide. Consideration is being given to additional funding coming through the state. Central office is advocating for Porter to receive additional funding, so there is an effort to rightsize funding to operations. But stay tuned for more info as we get to the end of the year.

Tutoring is an area that will be impacted but we are working to extend the program into next year.

Summer camp information is coming out next week. This is free and usually a week after school breaks for the year. Children get a summer plan aligned to their needs.

b. Staffing

Hiring is ongoing, and interviews were being held even today. Ms. Gier is retiring after 30 years. Ms. Patterson our 4th grade teacher is retiring. Ms. Gibson, our fantastic Custodial Manager, who had Mary G. Porter as her teacher, is retiring.

c. SOL's

- i. Calendar and Testing – This is posted.
- ii. Bootcamp – Opportunities are coming up. Tutoring ends next week and after spring break bootcamps will start up.
- iii. Discussion: What do parents need from us to support students at home for SOL's?
Parents offered several ideas, including instructional packets with references to outside resources for additional learning support.

d. 5th grade transition to 6th grade

Zoom schedule will be posted in an eUpdate. Parents will receive guidance on what middle school is like. Parents and students are highly encouraged to attend.

e. House System Update

End of year activities planning is in progress. Recently had a sock fundraiser. Next week students have a spirit day. Look for more opportunities in an upcoming eUpdate.

f. Leader In Me Update

Over 50 students completed the leader in me calendar challenge. Students received a brag tag and candy. We also had a drawing for a basket with prizes to encourage family participation.

This month we have a Bingo Board where students and families can complete challenges.

g. Discussion: Block Party

Scheduled for May 9th and planning is in progress. We have been informed that our request for a historical marker is in. We will honor Mary G. Porter and the historical 4. We'll have games and food trucks and will be a great way to celebrate the community. Will probably run from 10 -2, but stay tuned.

III. Superintendent Representative Report

a. Ms. Dinarte

February Meeting

Focused on revised funding model

Objectives:

- Simply school allocation rules
- Reduce administrative and budgeting burdens to school
- Make objectives explicit
- Will also transition from per pupil to FTE models
- Operational enhancements add support for economically disadvantage students in areas of IT and sports equipment with a goal of creating no reduction to school budgets

Grading policy updates were also reviewed, and the policy update process will include peer reviews, SAC council engagements, zoom sessions and gradebook audits

March Meeting:

Reviewed gifted education and how to refer a student

Provided an overview of ombudsman services

Discussed future capital improvement program goals – school construction projects and other improvements were reviewed

IV. Counseling Department

a. March Madness Attendance Bracket

Over the next couple of weeks classes will compete for the best homeroom attendance. Top 2 classes will earn a pizza party.

b. Academic Advising (6th and 7th grade)

This is ongoing. 6th and 7th grader advising is complete.

c. High School Scheduling

Colgan and Potomac have visited. Forrest Park and Hylton are coming up. Please review the form students received because there are deadlines that apply for schedule changes.

V. Upcoming Events

a. Pancakes with our Patriots Breakfast and Military Walk- April 7th

This is right after spring break. Military connected are invited to come. Please reach out to Ms. Johnson. Please send pictures.

b. Father and Daughter Dance- April 18th ...Note, this is a Saturday.

c. Talent Show- April 24th

d. Mother and Son Dance- May 2ndNote, this is also a Saturday

VI. Citizen Comment Time – Comment time was offered. No comments were provided.

VII. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.