

**PORTAGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

September 25, 2006

A special meeting of the Board of Education for Portage Public Schools was held on Monday, September 25, 2006, and was called to order by President, Shirley Johnson, at 7:33 a.m. The meeting was convened in the Professional Development Center at the Portage Public School District Administration Building, 8111 South Westnedge Avenue, in Portage.

Board Trustees Present: Tom Eddy, Kathy Howland, Shirley Johnson, Linda Lueth, Wendy Mazer, Deb Polderman, and Jennifer Whistler

Administrative Staff Present: Pete McFarlane, Superintendent, Tom Noverr, Assistant Superintendent for Operations, John Manske, Legal Counsel, Michael Batterson, Director of Technology Systems, Ric Perry, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services, and Dan Vomastek, Director of Assessment and Student Information Services.

President Johnson called the meeting to order and asked if any miscellaneous information would be provided by the administration. Dr. McFarlane said that he contacted the City Manager from Portage to determine if there might be an interest in planning a meeting of the Board with the City Council. After a discussion with the Mayor of Portage, the City Manager contacted the Superintendent to indicate that there was an interest in such a meeting. Board of Education members discussed possible dates and decided to bring their calendars to the September 25th regular meeting so that available dates could be determined.

President Johnson initiated the discussion about facilities, technology, and redistricting planning. Board members reviewed current concepts and asked if more information was available pertaining to facilities planning. Members of the administration provided additional information regarding available land, preparation of data for the Board's Finance Committee, and modifications in current facilities and technology concepts.

Board members spent time discussing a relatively new concept that involved combining three middle schools into two sites. There were questions about location, housing of students, costs, and other aspects of implementing such a plan. It was determined that the administration should pursue this concept and provide greater detail for the Board. Dr. McFarlane indicated that administration would work with the District's architectural consultants and construction management consultants to prepare a more detailed plan for Board review.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Pete McFarlane
Secretary Pro Tem