

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

September 1, 2006

A special meeting of the Board of Education for Portage Public Schools was held on Friday, September 1, 2006, and was called to order by President, Shirley Johnson, at 7:36 a.m. The meeting was convened in the superintendent's conference room 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, and Ric Perry, Assistant Superintendent for Instructional Services

After calling the meeting to order, President Johnson recognized Mr. Eddy. Mr. Eddy provided an update for the Board members about preliminary work that has been accomplished related to the search for a new superintendent. There was discussion about the work that a search firm might do to assist the Board with their search process. Board members agreed to invite two Michigan search firms to a meeting to hear proposals.

There were comments about the need for focus groups to gather input from the community. It was agreed that as many as six groups might be needed to obtain the desired input. The Board sub-committee that is charged with developing plans for the superintendent search will continue to bring recommendations to the Board for its review.

President Johnson presented the topic of facilities planning for discussion. Board members talked about a number of key questions dealing with facilities needs. They also reviewed current concepts as well as proposed timelines. Administrative staff provided information during the Board member discussions. It was agreed that the Board Finance and Facilities committees would continue to review the work that has been scheduled by our administrative staff, and that these committees would provide updates for the entire Board.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Pete McFarlane
Secretary Pro Tem