

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
GOVERNANCE RETREAT MINUTES**

**January 21, 2008**

The governance meeting of the Board of Education for Portage Public Schools was held in the Parfet Board Room at The Radisson, 100 W. Michigan, Kalamazoo, Michigan, on Monday, January 21, 2008. The meeting was called to order by President Mrs. Johnson at 5:03 p.m.

Board Trustees Present: Tom Eddy, Shirley Johnson, Melanie Kurdys, Wendy Mazer,  
Deb Polderman, Dale Posthumus, and Jennifer Whistler

Administrative Staff Present: Marsha Wells, Superintendent

Guests: None

**Board Governance Team Review & Future Governance Steps.**

Extensive discussion took place as the Board reviewed the key characteristics of peak performing governance teams and reflected upon its own work that has taken place during the first six months of this school year. As part of that discussion, communication processes were reviewed to strengthen connections between and among board members, the administration, staff and community. The key elements of effective policy governance were also discussed and the Board reaffirmed its commitment to move forward in making a transition to a Carver governance model over the next several months.

Discussion also took place to review the results of the KRESA community survey conducted in December 2007 regarding the possibilities of a renewal of the regional enhancement millage. Based on the results from those surveyed in Portage, the Board indicated it would consider support for a millage extension at the current rate or lower after it has had the opportunity to review the impact of the potential loss of the \$3 million millage revenue at its budget work session on February 11.

There being no further business for the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marsha Wells  
Secretary Pro Tem