

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL WORK SESSION MINUTES**

April 26, 2010

The special work session of the Board of Education of Portage Public Schools held on Monday, April 26, 2010, was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by President Whyte in the Professional Development Center of the Administration Building, 8111 S. Westnedge.

Board Trustees Present: Kevin Hollenbeck, Melanie Kurdys, Deb Polderman, Rusty Rathburn, Bo Snyder, Randy Van Antwerp, and John Whyte

Board Trustees Absent: None

Administration Present: Tom Vance and Marsha Wells

COMMENTS OR COMMUNICATIONS

President Whyte opened the comments and communications portion of the meeting and seeing as there were no citizens in attendance, he closed the comments and communications.

2010/11 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES DEVELOPMENT

The Board received an overview on the results of the Community Survey from Dr. Tom Van Valey, a retired professor with the Department of Sociology at Western Michigan University, from the Kercher Center for Social Research. He alerted the Board to the built-in percentage of error in the survey, noted the response rate of 38% was very good, provided some background on the open-ended questions, and shared recommendations for framing future survey questions. Dr. Van Valey noted the most positive comments centered around teachers and staff with general concern focused on economic issues and keeping cost cutting from eroding quality in the District.

President Whyte again opened the comments and communications portion of the meeting.

Dr. Millie Taraszka, 410 Marylynn Court, a citizen, inquired about temporary classrooms and Community High funding and shared concern about carpeting in new construction projects. Superintendent Wells responded to Dr. Taraszka regarding pupil allocation for Community High students.

The Board reviewed and discussed the 2009/10 Strategic Priorities in order to prepare a draft of the Strategic Priorities for 2010/11. Trustee discussions pertained to: the importance of educational leadership, Baldrige, short-term and long-term plans, marketing plans, balanced scorecard additions, and differences between the Board and Superintendent Goals as well as the substance and process. Mrs. Kurdys, Mr. Snyder, and Superintendent Wells agreed to rewrite the goals and provide copies of the draft with all Trustees.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Edna Kent
Recording Secretary