

PPS Budget Survey

List three areas that should be reduced, restructured, or eliminated.		
		Response Count
		1,340
<i>answered question</i>		1,340
<i>skipped question</i>		444

Response Text		
1	wage, benefit, and retirement costs for all employees	Nov 6, 2009 11:08 PM
2	Counseling program, teacher inservice days, half days for students, art, music, have longer days by an hour and shorten the school year.	Nov 6, 2009 11:29 PM
3	Upper administration pay/benefits Athletics should be self-funding, similar to the arts Reduced transportation at the middle/high school level/longer bus rides	Nov 7, 2009 12:46 AM
4	Look at the athletic bussing: do you really need a large bus to bus 8 players to Battle Creek or Grand Rapids - make the teams get responsible on cuts that are easy before cuts that mean those without means have to give up their chance to play. Stop Mailing multiple mailings to one address and get smarter on communication - look in to what people really use for their information. Get rid of the superintendent's leased cars before teachers! I want my tax dollars going for education NOT luxurys for the leaders while the children suffer with fewer and more inexperienced teachers.	Nov 7, 2009 12:47 AM
5	administration positions	Nov 7, 2009 1:07 AM
6	Benefits, Benefits, Benefits	Nov 7, 2009 1:29 AM
7	Eliminate Middle School Interscholastic sports and replace it with Middle school Intramural sports program. Reduce number of counselors, librarians, and administration.	Nov 7, 2009 1:31 AM
8	Administrative staff, administration and board member budgets, E squared and IB program.	Nov 7, 2009 1:36 AM
9	Technology staff and administration staff	Nov 7, 2009 1:43 AM
10	1. Request teachers take a pay decrease to decrease the number of layoffs. Almost everyone in Michigan has done this or at least take a pay freeze. Michigan teachers one of the highest paid teachers in the U.S. 2. Consider private busing. 3. Reconsider teacher's healthcare.	Nov 7, 2009 1:43 AM
11	1. bus transportation for free/reduced lunch students only. All other routes cut or family pays to ride. 2. fees for all extra-curricular activities and sports EXCEPT for free/reduce lunch families.	Nov 7, 2009 1:47 AM
12	high school sports, curriculum, transportation	Nov 7, 2009 2:29 AM
13	High School IB program Handwriting Without Tears Program Elementary Counselors and Psychologists	Nov 7, 2009 2:49 AM

Response Text		
14	<p>1. Consider a 4 day instructional week, with longer school days. This would be an effective way to decrease the number of days that transportation would be needed, decrease number of days that lights/heating/etc needed.</p> <p>2. Eliminate "seminar" or "study halls". Homework can/should be done at home. This would free up teachers to continue to teach, as opposed to monitor cell phone, iPod, etc. use, as occurs in most study halls.</p> <p>3. Consider "lecture hall" style instruction, especially at the 11 & 12 grade levels. This would prepare the students better for college life. "Lab" portions of the classes could be smaller, "break out sessions" to meet the need for individualized instruction/reinforcement if necessary.</p>	Nov 7, 2009 4:21 AM
15	turn off banks of lights at the buildings, raise the milage, have parents pay for books then buy them back at the end of the year at a reduced price. Reduce cleaning schedule.	Nov 7, 2009 9:52 AM
16	elminate high school programs that are not used by majority of the students or add fees for those programs reduce administration personnel by combining depts. and job	Nov 7, 2009 3:16 PM
17	<p>1. Downsizing some of the current construction projects</p> <p>2. Club activity/athletics should be pay to play</p>	Nov 7, 2009 3:17 PM
18	<p>Athletics</p> <p>lunch program</p> <p>school day-restructure</p>	Nov 7, 2009 3:27 PM
19	sports, teacher professional development, transportation	Nov 7, 2009 4:51 PM
20	?	Nov 7, 2009 4:57 PM
21	Gifted and Talented program should be eliminated at the elementary and middle school level; school counselors, elementary in particular, should be eliminated and middle and high school counselors significantly reduced; and library personnel should be eliminated and replaced with volunteers and hourly employees (paraprofessionals); reduce personnel in the administration building (secretaries/assistants to the directors of each area)	Nov 7, 2009 5:06 PM
22	Eliminate transportation for high/middle school students, elminate extra curricular activities unless totally funded by the parents/community support, restructure and reduce administration positions.	Nov 7, 2009 5:56 PM
23	Sports reduced or eliminated, fieldtrips for all levels eliminated, any small high school classes including IB eliminated; elementary gifted eliminated; Community High share administration with high schools	Nov 7, 2009 6:01 PM
24	<p>administrative staff</p> <p>people doing the same work, to avoid duplication</p> <p>spending money on coffee and doughnuts for PTO</p>	Nov 7, 2009 6:23 PM
25	IB program where only 28 of Portage students earned a diploma.	Nov 7, 2009 6:40 PM
26	PREP, E2, specialized classes in high schools	Nov 7, 2009 6:53 PM
27	pay to place after school activities, perhaps small reduction in wages/benefits and keep all of the teachers, I don't know what else	Nov 7, 2009 7:09 PM
28	I think the teaching staff should take a one year, 2-3% pay cut, but the benefits should stay the same	Nov 7, 2009 7:34 PM
29	<p>Pay for athletics</p> <p>Pay for busing or outsource it</p> <p>Consider going back to AP instead of IB if there are significant savings</p>	Nov 7, 2009 8:08 PM

Response Text		
30	<p>kindergarten go to an all day every other day program...many districts have done this. It eliminates the noon bus run and provides more time in class.</p> <p>Reduce teacher wages..or at least freeze them. They are much higher then most districts in s.w. Michigan.</p> <p>Does the school really need a "spokes Person"? Isn't that the job of the superintendent?</p>	Nov 7, 2009 8:10 PM
31	<p>The PEP program could be taught by people who don't have such high salaries (Para-pros) or part-time teachers. The Kindergarten and first grade students don't need Art because they do a lot of it in their classroom. Eliminate bussing and offer before and after school programs (for a fee) for people who would have conflicts due to their jobs. People can car-pool (that's the way we did it when I was growing up) Sports should be pay to play. Drama (theater performances) should be pay to play if they are operating at a loss to the school. Phys ed, art and music could be alternated each semester/marking period in the elementary schools. So they would just have one at any given time. Para-Pros could handle the Media Centers if they all had one person as a mentor to train and advise.</p>	Nov 7, 2009 8:14 PM
32	<p>Administration--reduced, Transportation--restructured, contract renegotiated with teachers--take paycut or lose jobs--you decide!!</p>	Nov 7, 2009 9:16 PM
33	<p>Transportation Secondary Asst. Principals Secondary Counseling</p>	Nov 7, 2009 9:16 PM
34	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pay reductions for all to allow everyone to keep their jobs 2. Eliminate lunch monitors-get volunteers to do it 3. Cut some of the extras that the school offers 	Nov 7, 2009 9:38 PM
35	<p>Restructure/reduce administration at all levels, reduce transportation, reduce sports, turn heat and air conditioning down in all buildings.</p>	Nov 7, 2009 9:41 PM
36	<p>transportation, athletics (increase participation fee) and parking (parking fees instituted) -- could institute a school fee per student as well</p>	Nov 7, 2009 9:44 PM
37	<p>Would it be possible to look at longer winter break and go a couple of weeks longer into June. Would that be cost effective on heating costs?</p>	Nov 7, 2009 10:18 PM
38	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is there a way to reduce our costs for KAMSC, EFE, EFA, and ATYP? 2. Is there a way to restructure some of our shared countywide services? 3. Can we restructure our music program to create a district wide marching band, wind ensemble, orchestra, etc.? The same goes for some of our sports (similar to lacrosse and water polo). 	Nov 7, 2009 10:57 PM
39	<p>One of the middle schools should be eliminated!</p>	Nov 7, 2009 10:59 PM
40	<p>administration should be reduced (the athletic director should not get AP pay at the high school level, for example) Reduce/eliminate "team leaders" that duplicate dept. or grade level heads consolidate programs- no need for two IB directors creative scheduling that may result in the reduction of transportation, lunch, janitor hours; however, it would not eliminate them. Result in savings in electricity as well as hourly wages and will not impact the education of the students</p>	Nov 7, 2009 11:11 PM
41	<p>Have ATYP, KAMSE etc. be a program in which free and reduced lunch participants stay at current rates but others pay on a sliding scale fee up to the full tuition.</p>	Nov 7, 2009 11:16 PM
42	<p>Administrative support and district office staff</p>	Nov 7, 2009 11:20 PM
43	<p>adjust transportation needs or eliminate this area before cutting in other areas, reduce or adjust health benefits(employees should help to pay for benefits to share costs)</p>	Nov 7, 2009 11:51 PM
44	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduce administrative staff 2. Extra-curriculars 3. Less resources for IBO and other special programs 	Nov 7, 2009 11:54 PM

Response Text		
45	Eliminate IB and increase AP opportunities.	Nov 8, 2009 12:01 AM
46	I would need to see a budget to see how money is allocated in order to answer this.	Nov 8, 2009 12:03 AM
47	teacher benefits (not wages), administration wages, number of administrators in the schools. Do we really need a Principal and Vice Principal?	Nov 8, 2009 12:11 AM
48	Staff benefits (health) decreased. Perhaps a HMO like many of us have. Mailings: I know this is not a huge savings, but I frequently get 2 of the same mailings from PCHS, where I have 2 kids. Use EMail or post on your web site. It would be parents responsibility to check. Eliminate all field trips.	Nov 8, 2009 12:28 AM
49	sports, medical insurance to retirees, IB program	Nov 8, 2009 12:34 AM
50	Administration positions, restructure	Nov 8, 2009 12:42 AM
51	Using Busses for Field Trips	Nov 8, 2009 1:23 AM
52	Athletics should be restructured to reduce those sports where costs are high and participation is low. Limit distance for travel to events, athletic or extra-curricular. Fund curricular programs first, then add a mix of extra-curricular and athletic programs.	Nov 8, 2009 1:44 AM
53	Possibly eliminate IB curriculum; maintain 1.5 mile walking zone; reduce or eliminate round-trip bus transportation for athletic teams	Nov 8, 2009 2:06 AM
54	administration, sports, extra curricular activities	Nov 8, 2009 2:50 AM
55	IB Diploma Programme and IB courses	Nov 8, 2009 3:24 AM
56	The IB Program should be eliminated. Use a private bus service. Restructure your elementary buildings to K buildings, Lower EI buildings and Upper EI buildings which would perhaps allow you to close your oldest building.	Nov 8, 2009 12:24 PM
57	Eliminate Assistant Principals and reduce Assistant principals at the high school. Reduce # of administrators in the administration building. Use up the fund balance first.	Nov 8, 2009 1:15 PM
58	I work in the cafeteria & I feel that the food menu needs to be restructured. I think there are way too many salads being made for the kids, some of the "balanced" meals are not so balanced. I feel there is too much food waste. There are things that are made that we know the kids will not eat, but we make it, & then throw it away after all the lunches.	Nov 8, 2009 1:21 PM
59	Highest paid employees in district reduce pay (i.e. Mrsha Wells - how did 29 communities members lose their jobs last year through the custodian outsourcing while Marsha (and who knows who else) got a pay raise??? This is terrible!!! What message is this sending to our community?? Principals and teachers who are past the point of effectiveness with students should be greatly encouraged to retire or resign. This would open up opportunities for fresh, new teachers who are willing to accept a much lower salary than what you are currently paying these people who are really not doing a service to our students. This would also give the opportunity to increase personal payment of benefit premiums.	Nov 8, 2009 2:07 PM
60	Reduce Admin and overhead costs E2 needs new leadership and energy or can be cut	Nov 8, 2009 2:41 PM

Response Text		
61	<p>1) Expand bus walk zones while working with city to install and maintain sidewalks, crossing lights, and possibly part time crossing guards where needed (would not elimated costs but would reduce them).</p> <p>2) Identify families without daily internet access and only send paper announcements home for them -- post the rest on-line or e-mail them home. This would save not only cost of paper and ink, but time/labor of distributing them. These could include monthly newsletter, pto letters, activity/program offers, teacher weekly newsletters, lunch menus, scholastic book order forms, market day order forms, etc.</p> <p>3)Reduce cost of extra-curricular activities by adding a 'pay-to-play' structure that includes needs-based assistance and fees that correspond to the cost of the activity (not just flat fee for any activity...football (with pads, uniforms, etc) should cost more than soccer).</p>	Nov 8, 2009 3:07 PM
62	<p>transportation - restructured middle school - restructured counseling - high school</p>	Nov 8, 2009 3:12 PM
63	As painful as it would be I would rather see reductions in Art, Music, and Gym than classroom instruction.	Nov 8, 2009 3:12 PM
64	<p>1) Providing of vehicles to administrators (Marsha Wells, Tom Nover etc.). One vehicle that these people drive is roughly the cost equivalence to a starting teacher's salary.</p> <p>2) Clothing allowances</p> <p>3) If reductions (salary, number etc) are made in personnel there should also be reductions in the administration as well. The effects of this crisis should be widespread.</p>	Nov 8, 2009 3:19 PM
65	<p>Transportation Text Books Special Education</p>	Nov 8, 2009 4:37 PM
66	<p>1. Adminstrator Privledges-Like the Superintendent's car and clothing budget.</p> <p>2. Cutting combined sports teams like gymnastics.</p>	Nov 8, 2009 4:44 PM
67	teacher benefits (obscene compared to the private sector), field trips, band travel and purchasing of new music rights	Nov 8, 2009 5:47 PM
68	<p>1. Sports</p> <p>2. Bus transportation</p> <p>3. Increase class size of advanced students (ie: IB program students)</p>	Nov 8, 2009 5:48 PM
69	<p>cuts at thenn top to many assistants cut the trips not needed cut adminastrors extra perks</p>	Nov 8, 2009 7:57 PM
70	<p>Longer school days, shorter week.</p> <p>Eliminate all financial support for sports, run it like the drama department.</p> <p>Combine the high school administration</p>	Nov 8, 2009 8:20 PM
71	<p>1. Restructure high school schedule for longer days</p> <p>2. Elimination of two athletic programs - combine schools</p> <p>3. Eliminate High School Supervisor at Community High</p>	Nov 8, 2009 8:30 PM

Response Text		
72	<p>I realize we are not talking programs yet, but we should be. For example, IB. AP has an international component and we simply cannot afford to maintain a program like this when so many teachers are bound to loose their jobs and so few of our students over the years have participated in the diploma program.(percentage to whole) I wonder if you asked the teachers which they would prefer: to keep their job or lose IB, how many would chose to drop IB as well? But it is not up to them is it? I see this reduction coming ahead of reductions in sports or transportation since so few students benefit from the diploma. A budget neutral program like AP exists with higher levels of participation in higher performing schools than ours throughout the country. Given the economic challenges of our families it si simply arrogant and illogical to continue this program. I think it is more important to ensure the kids are in their seats than to try and sell this "value add" any longer to the community. Get your head out of the sand and simply move over to a more conventional honors program that does not seep into our dwindling resources. WE don't buy it, or want it!</p> <p>Restructure the district to a full SITE base model. Have buildings report as "divisions" to the board and hold them accountable to an annual review using their Building Improvement Plans as the template for performance based evaluations. Eliminate the number of Central office staff, expenses and salaries and outsource IT, HR, and over time finance. Consolidate all to director levels that support the individual units and get rid of the number of Superintendents we pay. Consider consolidating teacher contracts with other area districts.</p> <p>I believe there is enough "wiggle room" at the high school level in this first round to not even impact middle or elementary at this stage of the cut backs by incorporating the elimination of teachers and the switch to AP. Try these first, then have discussions in the next round relative to middle years where a more comprehensive review of needs and changing demographics can be considered more thoughtfully.</p> <p>Consolidate busing regionally with Schoolcraft and Vicksburg.</p>	Nov 8, 2009 8:40 PM
73	Salaries for ALL employees in the Portage Public Schools should be reduced. Librarians and counselors in the elementary schools could re reduced or eliminated if necessary. Perks such as cars and clothing allowances should be reduced or eliminated.	Nov 8, 2009 8:46 PM
74	Secretaries in the Middle School and High School Media Centers. Administrative Salaries and Perks should be looked at in relation to teacher salaries. Are cell phones necessary? Cars and housing? Salaries for Central Office Administrators	Nov 8, 2009 8:51 PM
75	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. USELESS Lunchroom Monitors at Angling Rd. Elementary need to be eliminated. 2. Elininate Teacher in service days 3. Eliminate Field Trips 	Nov 8, 2009 9:25 PM
76	The elementary gifted and talented program, IB at the high school - change it to AP and stop paying all the fees to be an IB school, outsource the remaining custodial employees and transportation.	Nov 8, 2009 9:28 PM
77	field trips, expensive high-school theater productions, projects like the middle school autobiography that cost the parents extra \$\$ (for binder, decoration, etc)	Nov 8, 2009 9:28 PM
78	Bussing, administrators, small high school sections	Nov 8, 2009 9:37 PM
79	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Eliminate the E2 program 2. Athletic program should be a pay-to-participate program. 3. Field trips should not funded by the school. Collect fees from participating students. 	Nov 8, 2009 9:52 PM
80	You've spelled eliminated incorrectly. Gifted and Talented program, KRESA, and no gas, clothing or car allowances for admin. staff. If a wage reduction is taken, it should include the administrative groups.	Nov 8, 2009 10:04 PM

Response Text		
81	retirement benefits combine healthcare insurance across districts in county	Nov 8, 2009 10:16 PM
82	administration, specials, library, enrichment and special education	Nov 8, 2009 10:29 PM
83	Teacher salary, Mandatory retirement, Elimination of Clothing and car allowances for administrative position, contract out the busing staff	Nov 8, 2009 10:31 PM
84	gifted and talented (E2) - eliminate classroom teachers are very capable of challenging their students IB program - eliminate or replace with AP classes	Nov 8, 2009 10:43 PM
85	Administrative positions, as well as administrative perks, such as clothing and car allowances, and unneeded secretarial support	Nov 8, 2009 10:48 PM
86	1. Clothing allowances - eliminated 2. Car allowances - eliminated 3. administrators salaries - reduced	Nov 8, 2009 10:53 PM
87	Elementary Counseling Services Music, gym, and art for elementary students Get rid of the team planning concept at our middle schools Transportation-what happens after students that sign up to ride the bus in the spring and then don't ride-are routes reconfigured so that students who were placed into walk zones could now possibly ride the bus? What about reopening negotiations with teachers to see if they would be willing to take a wage concession in lieu of losing staff members?	Nov 8, 2009 10:57 PM
88	Restructured: athletics	Nov 8, 2009 11:03 PM
89	extra curriculars -	Nov 8, 2009 11:03 PM
90	Non teaching personnel Removal of color copiers at schools Classroom budgets	Nov 8, 2009 11:08 PM
91	sports, ineffective/underperforming staff members, can the school day be lengthened to save \$ by keeping the schools open fewer days of the year?	Nov 8, 2009 11:10 PM
92	Teachers' pensions & health care - more in line with general populace who has no health care after retirement... think of GM and what union benefits wrought there. A parking fee for high school students would be a great idea to help offset transportation costs or parking lot maintenance. I have no trouble at all paying for Extracurriculars - just be certain that low income family subsidies aren't paid exclusively by those that can pay please - keep it fair - we can't do everything for everyone. Make ATYP, KAMSC & Dual-Enrolled students' parents pay for tuition. Just getting the opportunity is prize enough. (Yes, I have an ATYP student.) Again, school system should provide the basics not all the extras.	Nov 8, 2009 11:17 PM
93	athletics - assistant coaches transportation secretaries	Nov 8, 2009 11:30 PM
94	Administration perks (autos, gas, clothing allow. or housing allowances), bus routes	Nov 8, 2009 11:38 PM
95	Elementary E2 program IB program Sports should be "pay to play"	Nov 8, 2009 11:44 PM
96	High school transportation, secondary school day schedules	Nov 8, 2009 11:46 PM

Response Text		
97	<p>1)Teacher benefits...health care is expensive. Every year my family pays more for health insurance and looks for cheaper rates. I think the teachers need to make some concessions in this regard!</p> <p>2) Class sizes. Last year my daughter was in a 3rd grade class with 25 students, I thought this was going to be too large, but the teacher had a para-pro and from what I could tell everything worked very smoothly.</p> <p>3) Energy costs, I have been in the buildings in the cooler days when it is so hot in there that people are opening the windows. I have also been in classrooms where the teacher is NOT using the overhead florescent lights and instead had 4-5 lamps with incandescent bulbs in them.</p>	Nov 8, 2009 11:51 PM
98	<p>1) Teachers should be asked to teach an extra hour per day</p> <p>2) Charge a small fee for bus service</p> <p>3) Consolidate extracurricular activities (i.e. sports, band, etc)</p>	Nov 9, 2009 12:06 AM
99	<p>Reduce planning periods in the middle school from 2 to 1.</p> <p>Reduce middle school counselors to one full time counselor.</p> <p>Eliminate high school seminar and freshman focus.</p>	Nov 9, 2009 12:15 AM
100	Athletics, transportation, utilities	Nov 9, 2009 12:28 AM
101	Review all levels of the school system, Review each department from Administration down to individual schools to see where restructured, eliminated or reduce would be cost efficient during these difficult times	Nov 9, 2009 12:34 AM
102	<p>1. E2 program at the elementary level should be eliminated.</p> <p>2. IB program in high school should be eliminated.</p> <p>3. Restructure the way the school year is set up. Instead of 4 marking periods, think about going to trimesters. Other districts in the area have done this. All of Allegan county is on trimesters.</p>	Nov 9, 2009 12:34 AM
103	Look at administration and support personal. Should these postions become 11 month or 10 month to save money and not have people lose jobs?	Nov 9, 2009 12:39 AM
104	<p>Increase walking distance</p> <p>Elminate playground supervisors and have teachers rotate covering the playground</p> <p>Privatize janitor staff</p>	Nov 9, 2009 12:47 AM
105	<p>play ground supervisors</p> <p>High School hall monitors</p> <p>reduce, reuse paper products in all schools</p>	Nov 9, 2009 12:54 AM
106	Athletics, Transportation, Counseling	Nov 9, 2009 12:55 AM
107	<p>1) consolidate secretarial duties such as attendance secretary or use just one for both secretaries.</p> <p>2. One day a week have no food service or a sack lunch only available one day a week to reduce staff/food costs for the day.</p> <p>3. You could reduce athletic busing for any games within a 20-25 mile radius.</p>	Nov 9, 2009 1:19 AM
108	1. Any and all frivolous spending	Nov 9, 2009 1:23 AM
109	<p>IBO program at high school.</p> <p>E-Squared program at elementary level.</p> <p>Unnecessary administrative positions.</p>	Nov 9, 2009 1:28 AM
110	<p>Look at extracurricular sports first</p> <p>Buses - maybe have those utilizing this feature pay a fee for such service</p> <p>Personnel benefits MUST be economized</p>	Nov 9, 2009 1:35 AM
111	Athletics	Nov 9, 2009 1:39 AM
112	Pay to participate sports, fundraise for scholarships	Nov 9, 2009 1:50 AM
113	<p>IB</p> <p>Gifted and Talented</p> <p>Athletics</p>	Nov 9, 2009 1:50 AM

Response Text		
114	1. lifetime health benefits for retired staff, especially after age 65. 2. Overall benefits reduced to level of private sector employees. 3. Reduced athletic funding.	Nov 9, 2009 2:04 AM
115	Busing Supervisors (managers) who make big bonuses and have all car allowances paid for can be drastically reduced.	Nov 9, 2009 2:15 AM
116	Administration Salaries, Non-Educational Supportive Events	Nov 9, 2009 2:24 AM
117	Administrative perks eliminated cars, gas, clothing. Administrative wages reduced. Fees students pay to participate in band, cheer, driver's ed.	Nov 9, 2009 2:45 AM
118	Transportation, athletics, work week days to 4	Nov 9, 2009 2:49 AM
119	Admin benefits ie car allowances, cell service etc... Energy efficient savings with buildings Consolidation of some services	Nov 9, 2009 2:53 AM
120	pay to play and have scholarships for those who need them,	Nov 9, 2009 2:54 AM
121	teachers' benefits, heating (the buildings are too warm - we can cut our heating budget), and possibly transportation	Nov 9, 2009 3:12 AM
122	Turn down the heat, the classrooms at Amberly are always so hot and the teachers have their windows open wasting \$\$.	Nov 9, 2009 3:13 AM
123	1. Advanced classes at high school could be offered by Internet - restructured 2. Blended Classes - offered in high school for some classes and eliminate several staffing positions. 3. Reduce staffing outside of classroom teachers first, so as to maintain the same academic environment. Parents assist on playgrounds with one staffed parapro on the playground.	Nov 9, 2009 3:22 AM
124	driving to different fields for 'home' games. how much \$\$ could we save in transportation costs & how much \$\$ could we make?? Save \$\$ & make more \$\$ seems the right thing to do.	Nov 9, 2009 3:46 AM
125	athletics school day/year	Nov 9, 2009 5:03 AM
126	Teacher wages - step increases should be earned, not automatic. They should be paid by performance, not longevity. Teacher benefits, they should pay what other professions outside of education pay.	Nov 9, 2009 11:51 AM
127	Having the higher paid teachers retire so that new teachers can be highered at lower rates. And maybe not having the greatest insurance in the world might save some money	Nov 9, 2009 12:22 PM
128	Administration staff, Superintendant clothing budget and transportation	Nov 9, 2009 12:25 PM
129	Any benefit perks (car allowances or clothing allowances) that come out of the central administration office; a reduction in administration jobs; a restructuring in administration jobs,	Nov 9, 2009 12:32 PM
130	IB PROGRAM E2 Elementary counselors and half of the secondary	Nov 9, 2009 12:33 PM
131	1. Elementary Choir--this would include 2 instructional sections per school--a total of 16 teaching sections. Also eliminate the \$1500.00 music budget for the elementary choir music. 2. Elementary Music Staff feels we can give up our annual Music K8 subscription. It's only \$120 per building per year, but it might help in the long run. 3. Eliminate the .4 for high school band assist.	Nov 9, 2009 12:44 PM
132	field trips, reduce heating cost(turn it down)	Nov 9, 2009 12:49 PM
133	longer days to meet time needed days off in winter to cut heating/electrical costs put communications in on-line format to reduce paper cost	Nov 9, 2009 12:52 PM

Response Text		
134	Grade group leaders Cars for administrators Personnel cuts at the administration level as we seem to be very top-heavy The international baccalaureate program as it only benefits a small number of students Paying for doctorate degrees for our administrators Eliminating one secretary at all schools Elementary counselors Assistant principals, especially at the middle school level Eliminating all non-essential paraprofessionals	Nov 9, 2009 1:03 PM
135	pay to play, elem. coueslors, reading recovery, E2	Nov 9, 2009 1:11 PM
136	athletics, reduced transportation, reduced longer but 4 day classes in middle & High	Nov 9, 2009 1:21 PM
137	E2 for the elementary level should be eliminated. It is not beneficial at all for anyone!	Nov 9, 2009 1:22 PM
138	KAMSC, IB instruction and use AP instead. I am parent of students at KAMSC and using IB. We do not need KAMSC. Not better than PPS.	Nov 9, 2009 1:23 PM
139	School hours. Can start a little later. school paid trips	Nov 9, 2009 1:30 PM
140	transportion, kamsc, athletics	Nov 9, 2009 1:33 PM
141	1. some sports at junior high level 2. transportation to/from extra curricular activities 3. reduce salaries of district administrators	Nov 9, 2009 1:35 PM
142	elementary counseling, salaries, turn the heat down (the schools are hot)	Nov 9, 2009 1:44 PM
143	arts,sports,languge,	Nov 9, 2009 1:53 PM
144	E2, IB,	Nov 9, 2009 1:59 PM
145	Records day for teachers, I understand they need time to get ready for conferences and such but that is part of a teachers job. Working some extra time a few nights prior to would still get the job done. Less variety of lunch or breakfast for the kids' meals. When I was in school we had no where near the options and we were just fine. Actually I would consider doing away with the breakfast program together, after speaking with other parents I don't know one parent that gives their child money for school breakfast.	Nov 9, 2009 2:06 PM
146	Out -of -town "workshops" that involve overnight lodging and meal expenses for teachers. Teachers need to contribute to their healthcare insurance premium costs.	Nov 9, 2009 2:12 PM
147	Denise Bresson Middle school asst. principals need to be reduced in # counseling and media can be reduced IBO out of state fieldtrips	Nov 9, 2009 2:13 PM
148	1. Health care benefits can probably be reduced through competitive bidding 2. Consider bidding out transportation and selling buses 3. Take a hard look at noninstructional personnel in buildings and admin.	Nov 9, 2009 2:26 PM
149	ALL administration should at least take across the board pay cut. eliminate the assistant superintend position and alot of overhead.Maintenance staff (new schools)	Nov 9, 2009 2:37 PM
150	E2 program, IB program, administrators salaries and benefits such as leased cars and clothing allowances.	Nov 9, 2009 2:38 PM

Response Text		
151	<p>1. Focus on cost savings in all areas- even the little things. Graduation doesn't have to be at Wings Stadium, air conditioning shouldn't be running in the winter. Charge more for student parking before eliminating transportation.</p> <p>2. Get rid of or restructure IB/KAMSC and other advanced programs that cost us money rather than EFE (the motivated students ARE going to make it even without those programs).</p> <p>3. Pay cuts/reduction of upper level administration. Many administrative things can be handled within the building. If teachers were to take a cut in pay- upper level administration should as well.</p>	Nov 9, 2009 2:47 PM
152	<p>IB programs</p> <p>E2 programs</p> <p>Clothing and car allowances for any administrator</p>	Nov 9, 2009 3:23 PM
153	Administration - Restructure, Media Specialist - Restructure, Counselor - Reduction (Highschool)	Nov 9, 2009 3:26 PM
154	Athletics, Art, Music.	Nov 9, 2009 3:29 PM
155	Transportation, Athletics, Custodial/Secretary	Nov 9, 2009 3:47 PM
156	<p>1. E squared (Eliminated)</p> <p>2. IBO (Eliminated - AP is just as effective and results in the same end with an extremely reduced price tag</p> <p>3. Conferences all over the country that middle school teachers are being sent to with all their airfare, rooms and board being paid for by the district.</p>	Nov 9, 2009 4:02 PM
157	IB, Administrative areas, technology	Nov 9, 2009 4:23 PM
158	salaries, health insurance paid by employee,	Nov 9, 2009 4:26 PM
159	<p>opportunities to for us to contribute could include: *allow car pooling for away athletic events instead of required busing *charge textbook rentals (most of the local schools do, we currently do not) * increase costs of ticket prices for athletic events *include pay to play for all extra-curricular activities (football, track-n-field, swimming, music, choir, drama) *evaluate the school lunch program and pricing *offer new/replacement positions as flex-time *If layoffs are required, offer teachers an opportunity to work in flextime prior to eliminating entire departments *offer parents and opportunity to contribute the difference missing from the budget--yes the economy is bad and not all parents could afford to do so, but if some can and are willing to contribute why not? *have we considered changing the school day (lengthening it so we do not need to be in session between 12-15 and 01-15 the coldest, darkest months.) *</p>	Nov 9, 2009 4:27 PM
160	<p>transportation for high school sports</p> <p>reducing the number of athletic directors</p>	Nov 9, 2009 4:32 PM
161	<p>Pay to play sports.</p> <p>Reduce bus routes</p> <p>Revise school schedule to avoid utility bills fuel costs.</p>	Nov 9, 2009 4:34 PM
162	<p>E-squared</p> <p>IB</p> <p>Purchase of any new materials.</p>	Nov 9, 2009 5:06 PM
163	Maybe cut down on High School transportation, but not eliminate entirely.	Nov 9, 2009 5:09 PM
164	<p>1. Number of administrators and benefits</p> <p>2. No wage increases</p> <p>3. Reduce communication director</p>	Nov 9, 2009 5:10 PM
165	<p>IB programs could be eliminated in favor of AP classes</p> <p>cars and clothing allowances should be eliminated</p>	Nov 9, 2009 5:11 PM
166	<p>Some of the athletic programs should be eliminated.</p> <p>The IB Program should be assessed--is the cost worth 28 students graduating with IB degrees. I am aware there are others that take a few of the IB classes. What benefit does the IB Program offer that the regular classes don't? Are the outcomes that different?</p>	Nov 9, 2009 5:12 PM

Response Text		
167	Possibly hot lunch, could provide low income families with healthy sack lunch. Can't think of anything else.	Nov 9, 2009 5:18 PM
168	Eliminate: 1. Middle School athletics - not essential	Nov 9, 2009 5:24 PM
169	Librarians Principals IT people	Nov 9, 2009 5:33 PM
170	transportation, employee pay and benefits	Nov 9, 2009 5:53 PM
171	Schools need to be more empowered and less afraid. If a student is misbehaving in school, throw them out. If a student clearly has no interest in completing work and sitting in a course, I don't want to spend my tax dollars trying to educate that student. Teachers should be able to negotiate down some of the benefits they are currently receiving; statistically teachers are not a one salary household.	Nov 9, 2009 5:55 PM
172	purchase of school provided supplies - ridiculous amounts of paper are wasted families purchase/rent text books - similar to the college used books program	Nov 9, 2009 5:58 PM
173	no employee benefits for part-time help. (those working under 40 hours a week)	Nov 9, 2009 6:23 PM
174	Transportation (eliminate all), shorten the school year, eliminate school libraries,	Nov 9, 2009 6:29 PM
175	# of administrators administrative benefits	Nov 9, 2009 6:30 PM
176	Clothing and vehicle allocation for upper level administration eliminated	Nov 9, 2009 6:30 PM
177	Consolidate administrative positions. Executive assistants reduction. Reduce administrative perks (vehicles).	Nov 9, 2009 6:47 PM
178	reduce wages in administration, eliminate positions in administration, eliminate school sponsored sports	Nov 9, 2009 6:48 PM
179	1. eliminate IB curriculum at the HS-AP might be more cost efficient-seems IB is a very expensive program and in this time of financial issues do we really need to be spending this kind of money on a program that doesn't benefit a larger population. 2. Consolidate Administrative services/ consider salary reductions 3. Reduce technology budget-don't need top of the line equipment that no one really uses	Nov 9, 2009 7:08 PM
180	Seminar classes at the high school level should be reduced.	Nov 9, 2009 7:08 PM
181	e squared IB	Nov 9, 2009 7:09 PM
182	Pay for sports, teacher contract, possible length of school day	Nov 9, 2009 7:19 PM
183	Assistants to executive assistants of the superintendent and assistant superintendent Superintendent perks (i.e. car/gas allowance) Eliminate some sports at the middle school level (i.e. wrestling) Eliminate swimming-close pools-	Nov 9, 2009 7:25 PM
184	1. Class size (restructured) 2. Transportation (eliminated) 3. MS & HS Guidance Offices (restructured). Can this be a central administration function? Why do we need so many in each of the buildings? Why are they tenured positions that teachers wait for vs. allowing the district to hire the most qualified individuals?	Nov 9, 2009 7:30 PM
185	Look at IB Outsource bussing	Nov 9, 2009 7:58 PM

Response Text		
186	E2 for elementary IB for secondary handwriting books for elementary	Nov 9, 2009 8:00 PM
187	1. reduce paperwork (i.e. in Friday folders, numerous redundant communications to home, etc). Eliminate use of all color copiers. 2. What is that PPS Food Truck that I always see driving all over Portage? Why does it sit at St. Michaels while the driver appears to nap? Why do we have this when elementary schools have yucky chartwell lunch? I think this could be looked at. 3. Look at Health insurance for teachers and retirees. No one has this great of health insurance any more. 4. Limit after school programs etc. offered at the Community Center if there is overhead costs there.	Nov 9, 2009 8:02 PM
188	wage reduction;	Nov 9, 2009 8:30 PM
189	athletics, transportation	Nov 9, 2009 8:31 PM
190	bus transportation options such as outsourcing or cutting back outsourcing all janitorial	Nov 9, 2009 8:31 PM
191	All sports Music Foreign language classes	Nov 9, 2009 8:32 PM
192	athletics-reduced, support staff restructured, high-school band costs reduced	Nov 9, 2009 8:32 PM
193	1. Institute pay-to-play for athletics, as it is for Band and other programs, but do not reduce the programs. 2. Given the reduction in funding, work with the teachers union to determine their consensus regarding cuts in salaries and benefits.	Nov 9, 2009 8:55 PM
194	Employee Benefits need to be reduced	Nov 9, 2009 8:57 PM
195	Athletics, transportation, technology	Nov 9, 2009 9:07 PM
196	Pay to play, with scholarships available.	Nov 9, 2009 9:23 PM
197	1. Reduce top heavy administration. 2. Cut teachers by going to "auditorium" classes of large numbers. 3. Moratorium on any new computer or tech purchases.	Nov 9, 2009 9:23 PM
198	Add some minutes to the school day and reduce the length of the school year. Eliminate the Freshman Focus (offered in High School)-only offer the Health portion. Restructure the start times for school, high schoolers should not be getting up the earliest (this has been researched and supported).	Nov 9, 2009 9:27 PM
199	ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF THAT WERE ADDED AFTER CENTRAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATORS RECEIVED SUBSTANTIAL PAY INCREASES DUE TO "added workload" WHEN THERE WERE ADMIN. RETIREMENTS A FEW YEARS AGO. QUALITY LEADERSHIP REQUIRES HONESTY AND "LEADING BY EXAMPLE", CONSIDER PAY CUTS FOR ADMINISTRATION & "TRIMMED ADMIN / TECH." STAFF.	Nov 9, 2009 9:34 PM
200	building operation costs	Nov 9, 2009 9:47 PM
201	Health Care Benefits are excessive Eliminate the free hour for teachers and use as classroom time/reduce classroom size increases Outdoor, evening sports could be on Saturday afternoon, reducing energy consumption Reuse uniforms as much as possible	Nov 9, 2009 9:51 PM
202	busing pay to participate extracurriculars	Nov 9, 2009 9:55 PM
203	E-2, classes that are not really necessary	Nov 9, 2009 9:57 PM
204	musicals/plays, E2, needless administration jobs	Nov 9, 2009 10:05 PM

Response Text		
205	Look for more revenue from facilities. Use longer school days to shorten the year calendar. Go to larger class formats to reduce # of teachers. Eliminate unpopular classes. Small class groups.	Nov 9, 2009 10:06 PM
206	Restructure day doe Highschol and middle school starts later... better for tyhier learning. (works with natural body need for more sleep in teen years. Pop /candy machines... Less food choices at lunch. Maybe insist on bringing lunch. School fundraisers can be eliminated!	Nov 9, 2009 10:06 PM
207	Bussing; support staff (elem. caf. supervisors, recess supervisors, etc.); administration benefits and salaries	Nov 9, 2009 10:35 PM
208	senior teachers possibly early retirement	Nov 9, 2009 10:40 PM
209	1. decrease high school athletic budget by creating pay to play for sports OR find sponsors 2. decrease budgets for marching band, unless this happens to be self-funded already 3. decrease budget for extravagant drama performances...(more self funding if possible)	Nov 9, 2009 10:41 PM
210	IB Program, E2 program transportation	Nov 9, 2009 10:46 PM
211	Administration Costs, Administration Costs, Administration Costs.	Nov 9, 2009 11:03 PM
212	I.B. E2 Superintendent decrease in salary	Nov 9, 2009 11:04 PM
213	Computers - use existing laptops more effectively and reduce # of desktops; Manage utility usage more effectively; Reduce admin./support staff.	Nov 9, 2009 11:11 PM
214	too many high paid administrative positions, get rid of cars for administrators, make sports pay to play	Nov 9, 2009 11:50 PM
215	field trips, elimtate some long distance sports trips, a 5% cut across the board for all, get over the two High Schools against each other	Nov 9, 2009 11:51 PM
216	Consider outsourcing more jobs. Consider temporary pay cuts or a wage freeze.	Nov 9, 2009 11:55 PM
217	part time employees should not have health care benefits. some employees do not have any health care benefits and some secretaries who only work 30 hours a week have health benefits. Paraprofessionals work more hours a week than some secretaries and do not have healthcare benefits.	Nov 9, 2009 11:56 PM
218	Benefit reductions	Nov 9, 2009 11:59 PM
219	meal choices reduced	Nov 10, 2009 12:03 AM
220	1.Work on wage and benefit reductions for administration. 2.IB replaced with AP 3.Lengthen day and only go four days during winter.	Nov 10, 2009 12:05 AM
221	Athletics, after school activities and honors/IB program. Perhaps outsourcing principals, secretaries, counselors	Nov 10, 2009 12:06 AM

Response Text		
222	<p>Look at sending students who are ready to KVCC or WMU in their junior and senior years for some or all classes. One option could be lecture classes over the internet with problem sessions at the high schools.</p> <p>Joint classes with Northern makes sense where numbers are typically low for each high school.</p> <p>People who are going to vocational training programs are other candidates for classes over the internet, examples include English and History requirements for graduation.</p> <p>I suspect these types of reforms will take some time. In the interim period, anything extra curricular like sports will have to be eliminated if the money is not there to support it. Activity fees will need to cover the costs. Private clubs funded by sponsors will spring up to support these programs as is the case with soccer.</p> <p>Gym classes are not essential and could be replaced by supervised activity periods for the elementary and middle school kids to relieve pent up energy. At the high school level physical activity at school is not essential. Kids not involved in sports are active through programs in the Portage community. Kids who aren't active don't suddenly become active because they took a gym class. Perhaps the European model of town club teams needs to be considered.</p> <p>Set up a parent cooperative to assist with school duties or after school reading and tutoring programs. The incentive would have to be from the state in the form of college tuition money. I can't think of an incentive the district itself could afford. Another reform that won't happen overnight, but something to bring up to those at the state level. I will do the same through our local representatives.</p>	Nov 10, 2009 12:14 AM
223	<p>Eliminate the AD positions at the 2 high schools. The ADs are non-teaching positions.</p> <p>Cut some of the staff in the Professional Development office. There are too many people there.</p> <p>Cut out middle school councilors and school psychologists. Keep 1 councilor in each high school for critical behavior counseling.</p>	Nov 10, 2009 12:15 AM
224	<p>Gifted and Talented for elementary, transportation (walk area for middle & high), IB costs versus number of students involved.</p>	Nov 10, 2009 12:34 AM
225	<p>Eliminate all field trips during the school day</p>	Nov 10, 2009 12:34 AM
226	<p>1. Eliminate all flyers and newsletters in the Friday folders. Should all be interactive through the website.</p> <p>2. Change the district contract to reflect hours per year instead of days per year. Extra minutes per day to eliminate full and half days off. Smaller districts do this to eliminate up to 2 weeks per year. (2 hour delay once a month for teacher training etc.)</p> <p>3. Continue to have text books on line.</p>	Nov 10, 2009 12:40 AM
227	<p>retire old teachers or high paid staff like my company did.</p>	Nov 10, 2009 12:55 AM
228	<p>library, assistants in classes, extra classes</p>	Nov 10, 2009 1:06 AM
229	<p>administration, class day times,</p>	Nov 10, 2009 1:15 AM
230	<p>The Perk you get, like the cars and fuel we pay for you and clothing allowance. Why do we need so many Principals in both High school. Cut from the top down!! like in the Administration</p>	Nov 10, 2009 1:21 AM
231	<p>Curriculum changes and professional dev. frozen</p> <p>eliminate orchestra - make this a paid to play outside the school day</p> <p>consider AP costs compared to IB</p> <p>special teachers should have same minutes of instruction as classroom teachers</p> <p>If necessary, make high schools and middle schools 6 period days.</p>	Nov 10, 2009 1:24 AM

Response Text		
232	1) Seminar 2) IB program 3) Technology turnover	Nov 10, 2009 1:35 AM
233	Extra Curricula activities, transportation	Nov 10, 2009 1:43 AM
234	1. Eliminate some of the central office staff - especially those who are ineffectual. 2. Completely restructure fund raisers/vending machines/school stores. 3. Eliminate IB. It's not worth it. AP would work just as well, and more cost effectively. 4. If you want to reduce transportation costs, consider not busing students cross-district.	Nov 10, 2009 1:46 AM
235	what about an across the board administrative reduction in wages along with staff wage reductions, reconstruction the amount of classes middle and high school teachers currently have	Nov 10, 2009 1:50 AM
236	Transportation Number of people in the guidance office	Nov 10, 2009 1:52 AM
237	School system administration (office costs including salary). Centralization of purchasing costs if we have not already done so. Individual school administrative costs. Perhaps athletic directors for both high schools could be combined.	Nov 10, 2009 1:58 AM
238	E-Squared program Technology program and hardware waste-equipment not being used or underused.	Nov 10, 2009 2:00 AM
239	Eliminate the IB program. Seems like a huge waste of money with a small group of kids in it. Go to AP courses instead. Go to pay to play sports in the MS and HS. Get rid of foreign language in the MS.	Nov 10, 2009 2:00 AM
240	Admin, benefits, non-educational cost	Nov 10, 2009 2:10 AM
241	Students should pay all of the IB testing fees not just \$92 of it. Reduce the number of field trips.	Nov 10, 2009 2:17 AM
242	The admin., teachers, etc... could keep their same benefits as long as they were willing to increase thier share of what they pay for these benefits. Sports could be a pay to play per sport or semester. LAX is an example of a sport that is already is paid for by the parents. Other sports could be too.	Nov 10, 2009 2:30 AM
243	1. Tech support positions, and the district's progression in technology that affects the necessity to have many, many tech support positions. Quality teachers can teach well without the use of the latest technological advances.	Nov 10, 2009 3:00 AM
244	Sports (reduced; pay-to-play) Transportation at the high school level Consolidation of class offerings at NMS, CMS, WMS, PNHS, and PCHS so that class sizes are optimized at the highest level. This could involve busing to different sites.	Nov 10, 2009 3:00 AM
245	We should spend less money on LD kids, or restructure the educational experience.	Nov 10, 2009 3:12 AM
246	Restructure staff/personnel benefits to be more inline with the 'real world' - rising healthcare costs are a reality for everyone, like it or not Reduce extra activities and field trips that do not provide real educational value (and don't ask parents to provide funding for them, either) Leave current redistricting plan in place and *don't* move any elementary students unless there are plans for another redistricting. It doesn't make any sense to move more kids next academic year when the redistricting has already taken place.	Nov 10, 2009 3:22 AM

Response Text		
247	Employee health plans, including retiree benefits. Athletics can be made pay to play. Adult and continuing education, including community services.	Nov 10, 2009 3:22 AM
248	Athletics, bus/transportation services (out-sourcing and consolidating, reducing EFA/EFE service), administration	Nov 10, 2009 3:24 AM
249	At the high school level there are programs that only a small percentage of students participate in that students should be paying for. A registration fee per student should be considered at all levels. Transportation to school is not required by law from what I understand. Consider a fee for bus service.	Nov 10, 2009 3:29 AM
250	1-2.Car and cell phone expenses for principals and superintendent	Nov 10, 2009 4:20 AM
251	Teachers should realize that this is a time to be thankful for a job and not take or put into new contract a pay raise for one year. No pay raised for administration for one year.	Nov 10, 2009 4:45 AM
252	1.Extra Curriculars (Pay to Play options) 2.Transportation 3.Length of School Day (i.e. 4 day week, longer days but fewer days in the year, with perhaps longer winter breaks to reduce energy costs)	Nov 10, 2009 4:54 AM
253	1) eliminate/reduce middle school athletics, 2) eliminate some non-essential H.S. course offerings which do not meet a certain minimum number of students, 3) reduce & consolidate elementary counseling & media specialist, 4) eliminate most professional development	Nov 10, 2009 5:03 AM
254	athletics, class size, classroom aides	Nov 10, 2009 10:47 AM
255	Pay freeze for teachers next year "Extra jobs" such as student council Extra hours in high school	Nov 10, 2009 11:11 AM
256	Small pockets of elementary students that are bussed long distances, example students on 12th area street that are bussed clear to Amberly. old Waylee students bussed to Amberly. Redraw elementary borders to neighborhoods.	Nov 10, 2009 11:16 AM
257	athletics IB program Central Admin	Nov 10, 2009 11:23 AM
258	Administration	Nov 10, 2009 11:49 AM
259	Administration, Athletics, Energy Waste	Nov 10, 2009 12:12 PM
260	Office, Administration, Transportation	Nov 10, 2009 12:36 PM
261	Eliminate a Central Office position	Nov 10, 2009 12:37 PM
262	My husband was required to take a week off unpaid each quarter and I think many companies are doing this as well. The unions should be open to this idea to save jobs and cut costs. If the District provides monetary support for clubs, perhaps that could be eliminated and members of the clubs could do fundraising to support their cause.	Nov 10, 2009 1:03 PM
263	food service, transportation, tenure and pensions for teachers. Doctors, lawyers and professionals don't get tenure, teachers should not either.	Nov 10, 2009 1:10 PM
264	administrative secretaries and non-critical personnel (like Sarah Baker and why does the curriculum director have two assistants?), elective courses not part of the core curriculum (astronomy, computer business classes, creative writing, journalism); athletic transportation	Nov 10, 2009 1:19 PM
265	Upper administration.	Nov 10, 2009 1:32 PM
266	1. Teacher education days out of the classroom for continuing education. 2. Just offer core subjects for college prep and business prep and technical areas for jobs, (includes music arts and sports) Eliminate classes that can be taken in college (special interest classes). 3.Food Service & Field trips.	Nov 10, 2009 1:33 PM

Response Text		
267	transportation, administration, counseling	Nov 10, 2009 1:38 PM
268	Elementary Enhancement Program (extremely limited in the select kids who "benefit" from it), increase elementary class size, perhaps increase middle school class size	Nov 10, 2009 1:39 PM
269	Elem. counselors, librarians- replaced w/ paraprofessionals or parent volunteers, excess administration.	Nov 10, 2009 1:41 PM
270	transportation for sports/trips and other sports related expenses	Nov 10, 2009 1:43 PM
271	1. Administration (too many assistants to the administrators) 2. Do not need as many Administrators (Asst. Superintendents, Principals @ HS level, AD directors etc). Could cut back for the size PPS is now. 3. Look @ what classes students want - could cut out ones that are not being attended well (from Elementary to HS levels)	Nov 10, 2009 1:48 PM
272	Wages and benefits of staff, decrease use of buying paper products throughout classrooms, update schools by modifying them not to completely redo everything with the best of the best products, also look at having teachers take turns at recess/lunchroom duties instead of hiring staff-tends to work well in private schools.	Nov 10, 2009 1:50 PM
273	Administrative Salaries/Benefits Reduce Principals Assistant Principals Replace McCamley Field with Turf to Reduce the Maintenance	Nov 10, 2009 1:53 PM
274	extracurricular activities employee benefits package non-core classes	Nov 10, 2009 1:53 PM
275	EXTRAVAGANT NEW BUILDINGS, BIG SCREEN TV'S IN ALL ROOMS, JANITORIAL SERVICES & KITCHEN HELP SHOULD ALL BE OUTSOURCED.	Nov 10, 2009 1:53 PM
276	My child is in elementary school in Portage schools, and honestly, it's hard to see what could be eliminated. Things seem pretty bare bones - The teachers are requesting items for use in class, the teachers have parents in several days a week helping out, apparently the PTO pays for assemblies...It seems things are pretty minimal already. At the elementary level, I'm not entirely sure a separate computer lab teacher is needed - The skills should be basic enough that they can be done with the regular classroom teacher.	Nov 10, 2009 1:56 PM
277	Central Office and building administrative positions...reduce certain positions to part-time, eliminate positions that can be covered by remaining administrators, take the remaining and truly important positions necessary to keep a district running...leftover job tasks can be dispersed appropriately amongst remaining central office administration/assistants. Smaller school districts have their administration doing double duty. Example, a principal might also be the curriculum director. Example, a principal might also be the only one in that building without the extra 2-3 assistant principals. How many highly-paid people are truly needed at central office?	Nov 10, 2009 1:56 PM
278	Any extra curricular activities should be looked at - including sports, band, drama, etc (anything that is not part of the core EDUCATION of our children). Pay to play (sports, band, drama, etc) should be implemented - people will find the money and those that can't should have scholarships available.	Nov 10, 2009 1:57 PM
279	Restructure the administration and management, not faculty and staff. Work on wage and benefit reductions in the administration and management of the school system, not the faculty and staff.	Nov 10, 2009 2:00 PM
280	union jobs administrative jobs merging with another school district	Nov 10, 2009 2:03 PM
281	Football program scaled back to level of other sports. Apply a minimal fee to take field trips or sport trips on buses. Cut back on copies printed and handed out at open houses that most parents just throw away.	Nov 10, 2009 2:03 PM

Response Text		
282	MESSA is outrageously expensive vs. other plans - consider high deductible health plan with HRA to fund gap. Huge savings available.	Nov 10, 2009 2:11 PM
283	Non-academic programs such as: Music, Sports. Include them as the pay-to-participate program.	Nov 10, 2009 2:15 PM
284	Transportation	Nov 10, 2009 2:16 PM
285	In a pinch--1)technology budget 2) upper end leadership may have to take a cut, as leaders they should set the example of the need 3) Unfortunately upper level high school classes	Nov 10, 2009 2:18 PM
286	Administration car leases. Administration pay cuts. Administration perks.	Nov 10, 2009 2:21 PM
287	counselors, librarians, administration, number of secretaries	Nov 10, 2009 2:28 PM
288	Reduce number of buses(in Colony Woods there could be consolidation), restructure (not eliminate) specials	Nov 10, 2009 2:31 PM
289	Elementary counselors Media specialists administrators	Nov 10, 2009 2:31 PM
290	co & extra-curricular areas	Nov 10, 2009 2:34 PM
291	none, all of our school district employees are valuable. However administrative "perks" should be eliminated first before any more jobs are eliminated or privatized.	Nov 10, 2009 2:36 PM
292	middle school sports reduced	Nov 10, 2009 2:37 PM
293	Equipment upgrades	Nov 10, 2009 2:47 PM
294	Special instruction like art and media center and music 1 day a week instead of 2.	Nov 10, 2009 2:49 PM
295	Lunch, trans[double runs, add], reduce Adm[cover 2 elem. w/one adm.,	Nov 10, 2009 2:50 PM
296	MESSA insurance massage excess spanish teachers? We need variety! Reduce-Phys-Ed teachers; both of my children had to take their gym credit elsewhere because of taking music and foreign language in their schedule.	Nov 10, 2009 2:55 PM
297	Employee benefits. Make bus routs more efficient (fill buses up). More competitive bids on outsourced services (union contractors are not necessarily the most qualified contractors). administrative costs.	Nov 10, 2009 2:58 PM
298	There are too many esoteric choices for classes in the high school. Who really NEEDS jewelry making? Some of these artsy classes could be cut. If classes were larger teaching positions could be eliminated. Do we really need 2 band directors for PCHS plus all their interns/section instructors etc? When I was in high school we had 1 director for a band that was bigger than PCHS. I imagine the same could be said for PNHS.	Nov 10, 2009 3:00 PM
299	Consider combining IB classes at one high school. Restructure administrative positions to eliminate redundancy, in light of lower enrollment, are two supervisors needed in special ed? Are assistant principals necessary at some schools? Evaluate cost effectiveness of out-sourcing. Consider staff cuts that don't impact student learning first. Reduce Administrator pay/benefit packages.	Nov 10, 2009 3:03 PM
300	E2, PCEC, and middle school sports Extra jobs like safeties and student council	Nov 10, 2009 3:03 PM
301	Teachers health benefits, transportation	Nov 10, 2009 3:06 PM

Response Text		
302	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluate monies spent on extra-curricular (athletic)activities -- ensure primary focus on academics - Look for opportunities to lease out space within schools to the community - Look for opportunities to save monies through energy conservation rather than cut programs 	Nov 10, 2009 3:07 PM
303	Stop allowing bus drivers to use buses for personal transportation. I see empty buses going to stores and restaurants. Reduce energy use by turning off unnecessary lights and turning down the heat at night and on weekends. Reduce staff where possible. Out-sourcing janitorial, mail-room, central-stores, etc.	Nov 10, 2009 3:08 PM
304	Administration reduced, restructured, or eliminated. You should be ashamed of your wastefull spending.	Nov 10, 2009 3:09 PM
305	<p>1. Since we contract Chartwells for our foodservice, why can't they also provide the employees. I'm assuming most of the current employees would be retained. They would now be Chartwell employees and not PPS employees. What are the cost savings? A previous district contracted their foodservice and the employees were also employed by the contract foodservice company. Get the union out of foodservice.</p> <p>2. Contracting bus service and possible combine efforts with other districts. I know the school just built a new bus depot but if we contracted a service they could use the depot. I'm tired of asking questions about why we do stuff the way we do at PPS and the answer is often the transportation dept. Who is running the school ?</p> <p>3. Change start times of schools. The elementary kids should start first with older kids later. This is the first time we lived in a district with this set up. Don't tell me we can not do this because of our transportation dept.</p>	Nov 10, 2009 3:10 PM
306	The educational department should take a pay freeze as several other companies have, not to mention paying for their benefits. And why would you need so many Principles and Assistant Principles when I went to school we had only 1. This seems like a huge cost increase considering. Not to mention the several secretaries, and an attendance officer hmm with computers that should be eliminated. Also get rid of ten year teachers should be kept on their teaching ability not because they have been there forever. Charge for all sports for spectators, not just football, soccer, vball.....what about swimming, baseball, track, cross county	Nov 10, 2009 3:15 PM
307	use all of the snow days, cut from the adminsitration before teachers, turn off the air	Nov 10, 2009 3:17 PM
308	administraters to many asst. to the asst.	Nov 10, 2009 3:18 PM
309	Is it possible to restructure our transportation schedules?	Nov 10, 2009 3:19 PM
310	Sports and extr-curricular activities, custodians and support staff, wage and benefit reductions in administration level.	Nov 10, 2009 3:21 PM
311	E2 (elementary gifted children) could be restructured or eliminated - I don't think in its current form it provides a significant benefit to these children, it lacks educational objectives. Perhaps teacher benefits can be restructured, not reduced, to provide a more cost-effective benefit program.	Nov 10, 2009 3:22 PM
312	Maybe the pep program and some of the special programs like IB. Maybe the possibility of longer days so school is either out earlier at the end of the school year or there is no school on Fridays. This could save on gas, electricity, heat, wear and tear on school buses etc. I understand there are some people with a car allowance. Maybe that could be eliminated. I don't know if the school sponsors any trips for student groups...but if this is the case maybe they could be eliminated until such a time that the school district is in a better financial place.	Nov 10, 2009 3:23 PM
313	IB Program	Nov 10, 2009 3:24 PM

Response Text		
314	Teacher Benefits!!! If teachers want to save other teachers jobs they should look at a salary decrease as a whole! 6% or whatever it takes to save teacher jobs. Get rid of Messa bcbcs ins! It is way too expensive! There are many other insurance companies that offer competitive rates along with good coverage. Combine Principal, social work, gym, art, music and Psych jobs with other elementary buildings. Our Elementary school only has around 300 kids. We do not need all the fat of administration in each building!	Nov 10, 2009 3:30 PM
315	Extra curricular activities in general (as needed)	Nov 10, 2009 3:30 PM
316	1. Make the adult ed pay for their schooling like college. Most of them probably qualify for financial aid anyway, and I've always heard that more aid is available then asked for. Most of them want to be adults sooner than they are anyway. 2. Textbooks should be given out ONLY on CD. Stop paying for printing costs.	Nov 10, 2009 3:33 PM
317	Turn down the heat...my kids have to wear t-shirts all winter because it is so hot in the building. Lower the mandatory increase per year. Portage employees get paid more that most school districts in the area.	Nov 10, 2009 3:47 PM
318	1. new technology, seems like the laptops, computers and flat screens are replaced at an alarmingly often rate! 2. media staff--many kids are very adept with this area, maybe they could get credit for being the assistant for the hour of class. 3. salary/benefits	Nov 10, 2009 3:48 PM
319	School year longer days by 5-10 minutes each day to cut down on transportation. Out from Memorial Day to Labor Day	Nov 10, 2009 3:49 PM
320	labor renegotiated, extracurricular eliminated, pay to play.....	Nov 10, 2009 3:52 PM
321	Eliminate one of the assistant superintendent positions. Eliminate perks for administrators. We are suppose to be balancing a budget. How can you justify paid cars, insurance, gas, bonuses, etc. then ask the support staff to make concessions?	Nov 10, 2009 4:09 PM
322	Band and choir requirements. Wood shop, home economics class.	Nov 10, 2009 4:13 PM
323	administrative costs,	Nov 10, 2009 4:13 PM
324	Top end administration. End IB.	Nov 10, 2009 4:16 PM
325	Administration should be restructured to allow for more duties per position so that some administrative personnel can be eliminated. (See free press Story on eastside schools from this past weekend) Transportation should make more students walk to school. Strict enforcement of materials being used within the classroom	Nov 10, 2009 4:18 PM
326	Discontinue the IB program and reinstate more AP classes. Staff and administration all take a 5-10% pay cut and decrease the amount of money spent on professional development. Implement a 4 day school week instead of the current 5 by extending the current school day.	Nov 10, 2009 4:26 PM
327	employee staffing (administrative, teaching, and support staff) extra curriculars consolidation of school programs	Nov 10, 2009 4:30 PM
328	administration, secretarial	Nov 10, 2009 4:31 PM
329	Employee Benefits - Health Insurance - Competitively Bid Administration - Reduce Head Count Extra-Curricular Programs - Restructured	Nov 10, 2009 4:35 PM
330	maybe 12st elementary should of been made a little smaller-could of saved some money there!	Nov 10, 2009 4:41 PM
331	transportation, sports, class size	Nov 10, 2009 4:48 PM

Response Text		
332	Administration- i.e one principal for both high schools and one assistant at each. no need for all of these assistant principals	Nov 10, 2009 4:48 PM
333	Current third party fund raisers should be eliminated. They are inefficient and a waste of time and money, they should be replaced with more efficient direct donation fund raisers. Such as the elementary school walks, donation driven school performances, even bake sales, etc Look at "speciality" program sharing with other districts in the county, i.e. Comstock students coming to Portage schools for specific academic areas and Portage students going to Comstock for other academic areas. The elementary school layout. Could there be a cost savings to moving to an "upper elementary"/"lower elementary" system such as Mattawan uses?	Nov 10, 2009 4:50 PM
334	transportation should be restructured, extra-curricular activities should be fee-based with sliding scale for free/reduced lunch students	Nov 10, 2009 4:51 PM
335	staff pay and benefits. is it possible to contract out the bussing. what about leasing option w/ technology such as computers and software	Nov 10, 2009 4:54 PM
336	MESSA insurance should be eliminated and be replaced with a more reasonable insurance carrier. sports	Nov 10, 2009 4:55 PM
337	Look at administration positions: HR, Finance, IT, and support staff. Athletic Directors could be eliminated. Look at any large contracts and do bid-outs for price comparisons. Reduce training cost in budget. Go electronic versus hard paper as much as possible, especially in elementary schools.	Nov 10, 2009 4:55 PM
338	The teachers should have to pay a fair price for their health insurance like everyone else in the real world.	Nov 10, 2009 5:10 PM
339	Extra-curricular activities Teacher compensation Get rid of no child left behind	Nov 10, 2009 5:15 PM
340	Restructure benefits plan for employees. Cut or freeze pay for upper level positions such as Superintendent, Principals, etc...	Nov 10, 2009 5:17 PM
341	Teacher/staff wages, Michigan graduation requirements (specifically the Algebra II requirement), getting new computers every year or two.	Nov 10, 2009 5:19 PM
342	Superintendent salary...principal's salaries, and restructure retirement benefit to allow older teachers to retire sooner and new teachers to come into the schools.	Nov 10, 2009 5:21 PM
343	Big screen televisions and other electronics in every classroom. Stop knocking down perfectly good buildings. Tax run school programs including athletics.	Nov 10, 2009 5:22 PM
344	It is not necessary to provide in service (PD) with box lunches. Parent participation with tutoring could be beneficial. Cost of bringing in outside groups. Make do.	Nov 10, 2009 5:23 PM
345	Pension and health care costs	Nov 10, 2009 5:24 PM
346	Administrative salary reductions along with reduced expense accounts. Reduce expense accounts for school board members. Consider a 4-day school week.	Nov 10, 2009 5:25 PM
347	Sports Programs at high school Health care cost(REDUCE GREATLY) Retirement Cost(completely restructure)	Nov 10, 2009 5:31 PM
348	Counselors Athletic Directors Curriculum Director	Nov 10, 2009 5:34 PM
349	Spending allowances	Nov 10, 2009 5:43 PM
350	IB	Nov 10, 2009 5:45 PM

Response Text		
351	Use less school supplies (ie:paper,pencils etc.) Small nominal fee for extra-curricular programs. What about for high schoolers pay to park. Longer hours but less days.	Nov 10, 2009 5:46 PM
352	Pay to play is a good start, though my son plays non-supported sports anyway. LME can go back to teaching how to really cook instead of cooking with premade products, which is more expensive. Make more assignments and their resources available online -- this will save they wear and tear on the books, minimize handouts, increase communication with parents, and lower back strain from heavy backpacks.	Nov 10, 2009 5:49 PM
353	administrative wages outsourcing of non educational services	Nov 10, 2009 6:00 PM
354	1. Consider eliminating some "speciality classes" at the middle/high school levels - for example German as a language, but keeping Spanish and French. 2. Instead of eliminating any sports, reduce the number of games in the schedule, and consider reducing or eliminating pre-season scrimmages to cut down on transportation/rental costs. 3. Consider changes to the length of school day/overall school year length to reduce costs associated with energy use, food service, and cleaning/administrative staffing.	Nov 10, 2009 6:00 PM
355	transportation, 3 year freeze on new textbooks, food service	Nov 10, 2009 6:09 PM
356	New Unnecessary buildings! Big-screen TVs in every classroom! TAXES!	Nov 10, 2009 6:13 PM
357	Cafeteria & custodian duties Physical Education Transportation for sporting events	Nov 10, 2009 6:15 PM
358	football, lacrosse, and football	Nov 10, 2009 6:26 PM
359	bussing, sports, extra activities	Nov 10, 2009 6:33 PM
360	Bus transportation---not an elimination, but a reduction or re-organization to be even more efficient. Administration building---eliminate ancillary benefits such as car allowances, anything not specifically tied to health and retirement benefits. In other words, get rid of all the other "perks" or "nice to haves".	Nov 10, 2009 6:38 PM
361	transportation, maybe a 4 day school week	Nov 10, 2009 6:41 PM
362	increase walking zone for elementary schools reduce school hours decrease school supplies, paid by school	Nov 10, 2009 6:41 PM
363	Arts programs, Sports programs, Non essential personell. Any pogram not directly tied to education of the students should have it's own sustainability.	Nov 10, 2009 6:48 PM
364	Administration Transportation ??	Nov 10, 2009 6:50 PM
365	IB courses, IB Diploma Program	Nov 10, 2009 6:54 PM
366	Teachers reduced, Medical benefits restructured - most corporate medical benefits employee contribution rate is 20% or more, New building construction was a waste when the schools are not full	Nov 10, 2009 6:57 PM
367	1) Extra Curricular activities could become more fee-based. 2) Reductions in Band/Music - Great programs but resource intensive.	Nov 10, 2009 6:57 PM

Response Text		
368	Why just three? You are always so controlling-you should listen to every idea-you cannot afford not to. First replace the entire school board EXCEPT Melanie Kurdys. Eliminate all transportation for EFE. Eliminate bus runs that are not at least three quarters full. Recycle recycle reuse! I have had donations of crayons, paper, markers, games and books left over rejected by the elementaries. Look to other sources. PAIR DOWN ADMINISTRATION (unnecessary \$\$) before cutting instructional staff positions. Have administrators wear two and three hats. We never had grade principals, just one principal-and we all made it just fine!	Nov 10, 2009 7:06 PM
369	I know transportation is a hot topic, but I would rather see a reduction in busing than in our teachers. A lot of other companies are taking a pay cut, I think that is something that should be considered -- this should be all across the board. Eliminate the extras like milage, over night travel expenses...people can write it off on their taxes.	Nov 10, 2009 7:25 PM
370	office staff, library staff, coaching stipens, transportation for sporting events or from games to dances etc.	Nov 10, 2009 7:27 PM
371	1. Athletics. It is ridiculous what the schools pay for some of these sports. If the parents want their kids to play, let them pay some or all of it. 2. Trim cafeteria costs. 3. Wasteful spending. There is so much of this. There is inefficient use of staff time, resources, and materials.	Nov 10, 2009 7:27 PM
372	ATYP	Nov 10, 2009 7:28 PM
373	Teachers total compensation (salary, pension, incentives etc.) should be reevaluated vs. other districts and in light of current economy, Perhaps busing could become pay to ride for those who don't qualify for scholarships, PTO organizations could assume fiscal responsibility for assemblies	Nov 10, 2009 7:33 PM
374	Busing to extra curricular events. Have parents take over. (sports, KAMSC, etc.). Extra curricular activities go to a pay to play. This should not just athletics. Musicals, band, too. Some of the perks in the contracts (bus drivers, etc.) are too good for this economy. I would be ok for elementary classes to go to 26/per class. Not more than that.	Nov 10, 2009 7:34 PM
375	Privitize transportation, change insurance in order to save dollars, pay reductions across the board	Nov 10, 2009 7:37 PM
376	1. Teacher benefits - you are going to have to go after them eventually. 2. Turn sports teams into clubs - parent/fundraiser supported 3. Transportation - review costs and services at all levels with community input; have a transportation fee.	Nov 10, 2009 7:45 PM
377	cars leased by the administration administrative retreats records days sports, band, etc pay to play	Nov 10, 2009 7:47 PM
378	Without seeing an itemized list of what is in the budget, it's hard to give an educated answer. It would be helpful, and maybe it's out there, to see a list that was absent of figures, but maybe contain a list of what is spent and percentage of the budget each item takes up. That would give me a more educated opinion on the issue.	Nov 10, 2009 7:49 PM
379	Administration building adjunct staff Outsource tech staff Pay to play for all sports	Nov 10, 2009 7:50 PM
380	-Remodeling of schools-you want to get rid of teachers during budget short fall, but decide that the buildings are more important to remodel. -Study classes (seminars)-extra teachers are needed for these -what schools provide for students. Have students bring their own paper, pencils, etc. instead of just providing them.	Nov 10, 2009 7:52 PM

Response Text		
381	Sporting event transportation, # of school secretaries, before school meal programs. Forced retirement of tenured teachers, hiring younger, less costly teachers.	Nov 10, 2009 7:53 PM
382	Offer teacher RETIREMENTS to those willing to retire early, freeing up more money for salaries to save twice what a new teacher would earn should there be layoffs. Work on restructuring school counselors and psychologists to even up the work load at all areas and between buildings (perhaps eliminating some counseling positions) Professional development - administrative reimbursements for clothing, cars, education are atypically high compared to that of other staff reduce or eliminate those; also includes no special guest speakers that CHARGE the district	Nov 10, 2009 8:05 PM
383	2 middle schools not 3, to reduce administrators.	Nov 10, 2009 8:07 PM
384	1. Restructure Administration and reduce the number of administrators. 2. Reduce or eliminate athletic program and extra curricular activity funding. 3. Reduce the amount of funds spent on teacher salaries through early retirement.	Nov 10, 2009 8:10 PM
385	Administration at the Superintendent level. Too many assistants. Behavioral Specialists at the Elementary level.	Nov 10, 2009 8:10 PM
386	administration, two many assistants IB program	Nov 10, 2009 8:13 PM
387	eliminate E2 and IB programs, privatization of transportation,	Nov 10, 2009 8:15 PM
388	hall monitors at the high schools; secretarial staff (front offices and libraries); teachers not teaching full loads because they are AD one hour or School Improvement (teach full loads	Nov 10, 2009 8:25 PM
389	New School Budget Sports Administration	Nov 10, 2009 8:36 PM
390	Administrative salaries should be reviewed, reduced Out of district programs/ classes - could possibly be taken online @ home for credit? Reduce or eliminate one and two pupil transports	Nov 10, 2009 8:38 PM
391	Administration!!! This school district is top heavy with management which does not improve the classroom performance of students.	Nov 10, 2009 8:42 PM
392	Athletics, Transportation, Food Service	Nov 10, 2009 8:58 PM
393	Administrative cuts	Nov 10, 2009 9:04 PM
394	International Baccalaureate (IB)	Nov 10, 2009 9:05 PM
395	administrative, administrative, administrative	Nov 10, 2009 9:05 PM
396	Sports and extra curricular activities.	Nov 10, 2009 9:06 PM
397	1. Parents pay for all bus transportation. 2. 4/day/weeks from Thanksgiving to Easter(saving on heat, transportation etc. 3.E2 eliminated	Nov 10, 2009 9:07 PM
398	eliminate E2, restructure school academic calendar from quarters to trimesters, Outsource psychologists and counselors	Nov 10, 2009 9:13 PM
399	Athletics, especially those which travel a great distance. Not a good time for real estate, but is there school property that could be sold for profit?	Nov 10, 2009 9:14 PM
400	Transportation District administrative personnel suggestion- early retirement incentives	Nov 10, 2009 9:20 PM
401	Work with administration's wage and benefit reductions to eliminate layoffs. Turn the heat down a few degrees.	Nov 10, 2009 9:22 PM
402	How much waste is there in the hot lunch program?	Nov 10, 2009 9:23 PM

Response Text		
403	KAMSC subsidies, close North Middle School, IB testing subsidies	Nov 10, 2009 9:44 PM
404	Administration Scheduling/School Day Early Retirement Incentive	Nov 10, 2009 9:51 PM
405	Administration, central office personel, transportation	Nov 10, 2009 9:57 PM
406	Medical Insurance that is more in line with the what most people pay. Look at combining administrative service to get better discounts on busing, supplies, and/or food services. Look at not allowing teachers to get pensions after only 5 years of service. Maybe look at moving to 10 years or disbanding. Most jobs no longer provide pension plans.	Nov 10, 2009 10:00 PM
407	adminstrator pay, and benifits, dir of transportation postion should be eliminated.	Nov 10, 2009 10:07 PM
408	Sports Media Center Building tech support	Nov 10, 2009 10:08 PM
409	School year calendar (year round option) Decrease thermostats during cooler months	Nov 10, 2009 10:17 PM
410	E-2 for elementary IB for high school there should be pay to play	Nov 10, 2009 10:17 PM
411	administration Accelerated programs - High school and elem. Miblis administrator	Nov 10, 2009 10:21 PM
412	1. Excessive secretarial/administrative costs (those added over the last few years) 2. IB Program 3. No new initiatives	Nov 10, 2009 10:22 PM
413	Transportation, Administration jobs, Support staff	Nov 10, 2009 10:23 PM
414	Early retirement incentive improved. Keep more teachers employed. There is enough unemployment now.	Nov 10, 2009 10:23 PM
415	1. Look at the calendar- lengthen the day cut the number of days in session. 2. Are there administrators out there with lease cars, clothing budgets? Cut that expense if it is still there. 3.	Nov 10, 2009 10:24 PM
416	Sports, music, art and busing	Nov 10, 2009 10:28 PM
417	Fewer administrators, eliminate IB program	Nov 10, 2009 10:30 PM
418	Administration Athletic spending operating cost	Nov 10, 2009 10:48 PM
419	Transportation for students within a mile or so. Have students/families help with cost of sports. Field trips, if there are any. Sports should take their share of cuts.	Nov 10, 2009 10:52 PM
420	Administration Extra Curricular Program Funding Energy Costs	Nov 10, 2009 10:59 PM
421	Currently many elementary classrooms provide supplies for students - students could bring their own crayons and markers and save classroom dollars for curriculum materials, elective courses could be restructured or eliminated,	Nov 10, 2009 11:03 PM
422	I.B program G/T program eliminate dept. heads Reading Recovery	Nov 10, 2009 11:04 PM
423	field trip if not educational, advisory,	Nov 10, 2009 11:13 PM

Response Text		
424	E2 IB programs 1 AD director instead of two.	Nov 10, 2009 11:14 PM
425	1. Restructure the school day or reduce the number of school days. 2. Families should pay for their kids to attend KAMSC or ATYP. 3. Transportation to and from athletic events.	Nov 10, 2009 11:19 PM
426	Reduce benefits or increase employee % payment of benefits; consider pay to play extra curricular activities; consider combining district wide athletic facilities to take best advantage of existing facilities and district owned properties (tennis would have been good example); reduce teacher salaries	Nov 10, 2009 11:32 PM
427	restructure secondary scheduling	Nov 10, 2009 11:32 PM
428	KAMSC	Nov 10, 2009 11:34 PM
429	there is no room for this; we must find resources/revenue, even if it means going into debt	Nov 10, 2009 11:35 PM
430	1)IB Program 2)Reduce number of offerings - cannot continue to offer classes that do not have a large number of students interested in. 3)	Nov 10, 2009 11:43 PM
431	athletics	Nov 10, 2009 11:44 PM
432	Eliminate all extracurricular activities and sports before core academic programs are cut or they should be funded by fees. I understand this may not be a popular option, but the schools main purpose is to educate our children. I would be very upset if academic classes suffered at the cost of maintaining the athletic department.	Nov 10, 2009 11:45 PM
433	administrators, administrator vehicles, pay teachers and principals based on performance. Listen to the public that is paying the taxes, therefore the salaries. Have parents drive players to games and events. Eliminate buses for this and do for all sports including football, basketball, soccer, etc.	Nov 10, 2009 11:55 PM
434	transportation, athletics, food service	Nov 11, 2009 12:01 AM
435	teachers benefits (insurance etc) transportation for half day kindergarten	Nov 11, 2009 12:05 AM
436	Lengthen the school day and decrease the school year. You could eliminate daily operations for 1 to 2 weeks.	Nov 11, 2009 12:08 AM
437	Transportation - cars dropping off students is ridiculous. Who needs busses???	Nov 11, 2009 12:12 AM
438	Move the two high school to an "upper" and "lower small school model while eliminating the other planning periods to the teachers day at both. This could both maximize and I would argue improve our current model and perhaps minimizing the number of layoffs. For example one high school would house the ninth and tenth graders and the other would host the eleventh and twelfth graders. Models like this are working well in Detroit area suburbs schools and offer magnet opportunities with many of those same buildings for the arts, music and sciences. Sport programs could be offered at 9/10 on an inter mural basis. All varsity sports would reside at the other high school housing grades eleven and twelve. Although this would be a radical change to our more conventional approach these budget cuts could provide our students with an even smaller class size than what we have heard currently being looked at at the S03 meetings discussions. You would not need to change the structure of the school day so as to minimize any disruption to our families work and family schedules.	Nov 11, 2009 12:12 AM
439	all non educational staff, heating and cooling cost go green, change vacation schedules to increase heating savings in winter	Nov 11, 2009 12:21 AM
440	School paid uniforms and non learning related equipment, Health-care premiums for employees, equal reduction in pay and hours to keep ALL teachers working.	Nov 11, 2009 12:31 AM
441	Bus routes via consolidations if possible.	Nov 11, 2009 12:44 AM
442	WHAT IS LEFT???? TOO MANY CUTS ALREADY.	Nov 11, 2009 12:51 AM

Response Text		
443	Perks to top people in school system--like car allowances, etc. Start at top for wage reductions Some of the positions at Ad Building--Do we really need?	Nov 11, 2009 12:51 AM
444	Adminstration, Librarians, counselors	Nov 11, 2009 12:54 AM
445	administration wage and benefit reductions transportation to or from sport activities using school vehicles and fuel for administrators.	Nov 11, 2009 12:56 AM
446	Administrative costs Transportation costs Athletic costs	Nov 11, 2009 1:15 AM
447	eliminate car/gas allotment for employees	Nov 11, 2009 1:22 AM
448	Are two middle schools possible?	Nov 11, 2009 1:30 AM
449	1. sports, 2. sports, 3. sports	Nov 11, 2009 1:34 AM
450	Why do you spend so much money in new schools, then want to lay off teachers. Let the fat cats in government hand over some of their money rather than take it from the children.	Nov 11, 2009 1:34 AM
451	Increase the size of walk zones All labor groups renegotiate insurance issues Eliminate second planning period in middle schools	Nov 11, 2009 1:38 AM
452	lunch laptops drug dogs	Nov 11, 2009 1:39 AM
453	Miss Well's wardrobe budget! Start with trimming all the frills and extras at the Admin. level. Fridays could be eliminated by have longer school days this would save on transportation costs.	Nov 11, 2009 1:47 AM
454	Analyze exactly what it is costing for teacher benefits. Everyone should pay their fair share. I pay for dental and optical, why shouldn't they. My taxes are increased for this benefit. I cannot afford it anymore!	Nov 11, 2009 1:49 AM
455	At the high school level, eliminate dances after football games (save on electricity and heating costs). Are the thermostats turned down in buildings on weekends?	Nov 11, 2009 2:11 AM
456	Athletics, extra-curricular activities, transportation	Nov 11, 2009 2:14 AM
457	Atheltics and transportation	Nov 11, 2009 2:14 AM
458	Athletics, IB program is ridiculous in this economic crisis, cut ties with KAMSC, cut positions like school improvement, IB coordinator, subsititute Assistant Principals that fill in for an hour each day, cut Freshman Focus, cut all extra-curriculars or make them all pay to participate. Cut back on what is spent on technology personnel. Cut back assistants for administrators. Use the fund balance for what it was intended. You can borrow from the state bank for .6% interest so stop saying that borrowing money would cost the district too much.	Nov 11, 2009 2:19 AM
459	cookie/magazines/and other things sale that children do should be eliminated	Nov 11, 2009 2:20 AM
460	sherman lake, high end administrative salaries, plasma screen TVs in schools.	Nov 11, 2009 2:22 AM
461	1. All district transportation(except for mandated spec. ed.) 2. Reduce central administration by 2-3 staff 3. NO MORE BRAND NEW TECHNOLOGY 4. Eliminate hot lunch program! Parents can purchase bread, fruit and pb and j for kids' lunches	Nov 11, 2009 2:29 AM
462	High School Languages 3 & 4, Any High school courses that could be taken at KVCC/WMU, administration position pay cuts as well	Nov 11, 2009 2:37 AM

Response Text		
463	play ground supervisors - use volunteers Field trips Music and art	Nov 11, 2009 2:39 AM
464	Transportation Sports IBO	Nov 11, 2009 2:44 AM
465	Specials - art & music Lunch monitors - use teachers or other staff New construction projects	Nov 11, 2009 2:46 AM
466	Eliminate some of the central office administrative personnel and support staff.	Nov 11, 2009 2:50 AM
467	Transportation Athletics Administrative overhead	Nov 11, 2009 2:54 AM
468	Over the years schools have allowed their administrative staffs to expand beyond reasonable levels. They need to be restructured.	Nov 11, 2009 2:58 AM
469	Benefits to unionized staff and teachers Transportation Extracurricular activity costs (make more parents pay)	Nov 11, 2009 3:09 AM
470	Administrative jobs at Central office should be reduced, outsourced, and rehired through VanBuren countys before any teacher jobs are lost.	Nov 11, 2009 3:26 AM
471	1. Please consider how teacher retirement incentives and pensions are relevant to the GLOBAL ENDS of the district. 2. Cease any curricular changes in the district that involves staff development and payroll through the summer months. 3. Purchase orders for more "stuff." Use the resources that are already present in the district.	Nov 11, 2009 3:31 AM
472	I think the Television Stations if not self sustained should be eliminated. This is a cost that should be covered by franchise fees. I think fewer bus-stops while transporting the same amount of kids would help with cost, Fuel if nothing else. Also using less busses at 12th street. The added area's could be done with 2 pushers. It may require staggered drop off's, but it would allow for less drivers.	Nov 11, 2009 3:36 AM
473	It is time to restructure teacher benefits. Health benefits should be scaled back or teachers should pay more for them. The current health benefits are more generous than any others I have ever encountered. New hires should not be given lifetime health benefits unless they retire with the District. Pensions should be changed to 401k with matching contributions from the District. 2. The Administrative staff should be restructured. Too much time is being spent on the new buildings even though a project manager was hired for this very reason. The Administrative staff should be focusing on student achievement and what goes on inside these buildings. 3. Review the IB program for its cost and effectiveness. The reality is that colleges look for AP classes and Portage students need these courses rather than IB classes. Many parents would like their children to attend college outside of Michigan and it would help to have a wide variety of AP classes offered to make them competitive with students from other other districts.	Nov 11, 2009 3:45 AM
474	Reduce the amount of remuneration to administration. I am told there are things like car and clothing allowances in existence. If this is true, then shame on whoever put this survey together.	Nov 11, 2009 3:47 AM
475	Transportation, Food Services, Administration Wages & Fringe Benefits	Nov 11, 2009 3:59 AM
476	Pay to play sports should be considered. Incentives for early retirements would save plenty of jobs. Portage should consider borrowing money at a very low interest rate or use their 5.5 million dollars that they have in savings(7%).	Nov 11, 2009 4:08 AM

Response Text		
477	The teachers are the highest paid in the area, and for what? To hear them complain how bad they have it. Let them leave if they do not like it here. Their pay should be cut to realistic levels.	Nov 11, 2009 4:19 AM
478	athletics, support services, administrative costs	Nov 11, 2009 4:23 AM
479	Change the birth date cut off to the first day of school and eliminatx young five program.	Nov 11, 2009 4:29 AM
480	administration	Nov 11, 2009 4:46 AM
481	Administration, Transportation, Administrative benefits.	Nov 11, 2009 10:22 AM
482	1. Highest paid employees in district should consider pay reductions. 2. No out of state travel to conferences, PD, or conventions for any employee 3. Personal cars for administrators	Nov 11, 2009 10:59 AM
483	salaries,	Nov 11, 2009 12:44 PM
484	Why this emphasis on reduction and elimination. Our children are the future - I'm willing to pay more to ensure quality schools.	Nov 11, 2009 12:49 PM
485	Teacher Benefits, School of choice, some bus transportation	Nov 11, 2009 12:56 PM
486	Administration Transportation Athletics	Nov 11, 2009 12:57 PM
487	Get the older teachers to retire and get some younger ones in and can pay them a lot less. Stop building all these new schools for now.	Nov 11, 2009 1:03 PM
488	Athletics, transportation, administration	Nov 11, 2009 1:04 PM
489	Fewer administrators!	Nov 11, 2009 1:05 PM
490	teacher benefits, teacher wages, transportation	Nov 11, 2009 1:11 PM
491	Administration, Busing/transportation, Grants/assistance programs	Nov 11, 2009 1:28 PM
492	Trim Administration and support staff, eliminate or privatize busing, trim electives (return to core classes)	Nov 11, 2009 1:32 PM
493	eliminate 1/2 days, pay to participate for all clubs/sports (but students should be able to fundraise for costs).	Nov 11, 2009 1:53 PM
494	Teacher benefits (healthcare and retirement), transportation, sports	Nov 11, 2009 1:54 PM
495	The district needs to offer a good retirement incentive to entice those teachers close to retirement to do it this year so we can save our younger teachers from layoff. We also need to look into a fee for students that elect to go to KAMSC. That program is the most expensive program per pupil to us and I think we need to offset that cost by charging a fee for those students that elect to go there.	Nov 11, 2009 2:10 PM
496	Eliminate Field Trips Restructure Sports - Make Pay to Play Reduce Busing for High Schools, reorganize bus routes	Nov 11, 2009 2:20 PM
497	middle school choir/band/electives high school freshman focus and seminar reduce labor group benefits to be more in line with rest of US	Nov 11, 2009 2:23 PM
498	1) Health insurance costs - increased 2) Transportation - reduced/restructured 3) Food group - reduced/restructured	Nov 11, 2009 2:24 PM
499	Staff wages (where else can you cut?) Staff benefits Staff retirement costs	Nov 11, 2009 2:25 PM
500	Athletics, Busing,	Nov 11, 2009 2:26 PM
501	Athletic Directors - only need one in District and one that makes everybody accountable Outsourcing exterior maintenance Offer early out for older teachers	Nov 11, 2009 2:29 PM

Response Text		
502	class scheduling can be restructured pay to play is option if need scholarships available teachers will need to take pay cut or positions will be lost	Nov 11, 2009 2:41 PM
503	Too many cuts have already taken place.	Nov 11, 2009 2:56 PM
504	1 librarian for all middle schools (assistants run individual libraries) 1 librarian for both high schools. (Assistants run individual libraries) 1 counselor for each middle school, two for each high school 6-7 schedule until Michigan's economy prospers	Nov 11, 2009 3:07 PM
505	Supplies Administrative Overhead	Nov 11, 2009 3:37 PM
506	all specialty classes (efe) e2 eliminate middle school sports keep our custodians and bus drivers	Nov 11, 2009 3:41 PM
507	transportation should be looked at for cost savings, I don't think elementary counselors are necessary-maybe one that could go between schools for special issues, can business functions be combined for the whole county?	Nov 11, 2009 3:43 PM
508	Transition out of IB and replace with AP. Charge for extra-curricular activities. Cut back teacher in-service to reduce substitute teacher costs.	Nov 11, 2009 3:44 PM
509	If we got rid of some things at elementary could we start the kids learning foreign language earlier? can we cut back on bus stops- have kids walk to central points a couple of blocks from their house. Sure has been a lot of complaining about the way you are doing it now. We needed help with something that the principal couldn't do. My wife called Mr. Perry and he got stuff DONE, don't cut back on people like that. Someone named Sarah helped get something straightened out when we moved neighborhoods- she was good.	Nov 11, 2009 4:00 PM
510	1.continue to look at reductions in busing - possibly changing school start times so all grades ride on one bus. Work with City of Portage to get more crossing guards, improved lighting, better riding, walking paths (a bike path on the shoulder of Romence road is not really a bike path!) - make it safer to walk/ride to school and continue with efforts here. 2.Not sure how cost effective Curious Kids and Community Programs are to school. Perhaps, PPS shouldn't be in the daycare business - can this be eliminated or contracted out to private organization 3.look at possibility of reducing administrators or a level of administrators at this time - until funding is better.	Nov 11, 2009 4:16 PM
511	Administrative salaries should be reduced and positions should be eliminated.	Nov 11, 2009 4:19 PM
512	1. Athletics funding (very much in favor of a "pay to play" policy)	Nov 11, 2009 4:21 PM
513	Walking zones should be the same for every school. Salary and benefits need to be examined and negotiated to save money.	Nov 11, 2009 4:27 PM
514	1. Teacher benefits. These days, there are no sacred cows, and my understanding is that teachers have cadillac-level benefits. (And with all the budget problems we're having, why did teachers get a raise recently?) 2. Media center staff and (especially) counselors. These functions have less direct interaction with the majority of students and families. 3. Physical education for middle and high school students (see comments below)	Nov 11, 2009 4:50 PM

Response Text		
515	I would like to see all non academic activities be cut from school funding before any academic cuts are made. If kids want to participate in musicals or sports or band, they should pay. My tax money should not be taken away from the academics my child needs to pay for football uniforms. If someone wants to play but can't pay, the community (businesses) should offer scholarships. Sports teams in the "real world" are sponsored; why not HS athletics. What it boils down to is that academics will get kids farther in life than sports or band or choir or whatever else. Are those things important for building character and teamwork? Sure. But not at the expense of my child's learning! Eliminate all busing for extra curricular activities or build it into the fee for playing/participating. Why should I pay to bus the football team to St. Joseph for a game? Ride with parents or add it to the cost to play.	Nov 11, 2009 5:05 PM
516	Food service Transportation	Nov 11, 2009 5:39 PM
517	Adminstration lay off, raise percentage paid for haelth care across the board to maybe 25, minimize lunch choices at middle and high school level to cut back on cafertia help.	Nov 11, 2009 6:15 PM
518	Reduce wages and benefits. Eliminate sports transportation. Restructure sports as a pay to play program.	Nov 11, 2009 6:17 PM
519	Get rid of the IB program. Could extend the classes by a few minutes each and reduce the total days in school.	Nov 11, 2009 6:28 PM
520	Reduce administration	Nov 11, 2009 6:43 PM
521	Difficult to provide this information when we don't know what the associated costs for programs are. Its easy to say one thing or the other yet we don't know what the real numbers are and what difference this would make if any.	Nov 11, 2009 7:01 PM
522	Administration and principals Administrative perks (car allowances, etc.) Outsource secretarial positions	Nov 11, 2009 7:03 PM
523	1) Reduce number of elective courses offered to maintain the quality and size of core requirement classes. 2) Reduce or restructure the school lunch programs at the high schools. 3)	Nov 11, 2009 7:05 PM
524	1)The big wigs don't need cars and credit cards for gas and clothes.(2)Force the high paid employees to retire and bring in cheaper staff if neccasary.(3)Combine alot of the bus routes that are running around town with a half a load of kids, which would get rid of about 20 bus drivers, instead of all of them!!	Nov 11, 2009 7:12 PM
525	IBO, Admistrator's salaries and Perks (Westnedge Admin.) Transoprtation - sell Advertismment space on busses to generate money.	Nov 11, 2009 7:12 PM
526	during these economic times I think anyone would be willing to take a pay cut versus loosing there job. I know I would. Outside travel or trips funded by the school could be eliminated..for children and/or staff.	Nov 11, 2009 7:20 PM
527	transportation, some extracurricular (or change to pay to play), one support staff (secretary) per building	Nov 11, 2009 7:26 PM
528	Eliminate IB program, which is costly; focus on AP classes instead. Strengthen math and JV science in these AP classes. Institute cuts for all JV sports programs, to avoid huge teams like the JV girls tennis team.	Nov 11, 2009 7:27 PM

Response Text		
529	<p>Be a leader and open the union contracts to reduce benefit costs (Healthcare averaging \$11,000 per person compared to private industry of \$6500) and other "special benefits such as step pay increases.</p> <p>Continue to reduce the administration employees by using consolidating responsibilities between districts and ISD's</p> <p>Contract for services such as food and transportation</p> <p>Get back to basics</p>	Nov 11, 2009 7:36 PM
530	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shrink extra-curricular offerings to mainstream sport areas. 2. Revise bus routes to create wider walking zones. 3. Reduce number of central office administrators and other personnel whose jobs are not directly connected to classroom instruction. 	Nov 11, 2009 7:44 PM
531	<p>The busing service could require students to gather in local spots to help reduce the number of buses running in a neighborhood and possibly offer alternative transportation for buses that have less than a certain amount of students on it.</p> <p>The students could help or volunteer to clean the schools. For example, every day the students could be responsible for cleaning their own rooms. I really think this could help them out in the long run.</p> <p>Eliminate young fives and simply require an age for attending schools. If parents do not feel they are ready they could pay for the extra year of school or homeschool for that year.</p>	Nov 11, 2009 7:55 PM
532	<p>Maybe Marcia Wells would like to give up her car that the schools pay for. We the people have to buy our own so can she.</p>	Nov 11, 2009 7:58 PM
533	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve energy usage at all facilities by turning down the thermostats a degree or two through the winter months and up a degree or two in summer. 2. Teachers should have to pay a premium for their medical insurance. Right now I am paying theirs and mine. 3. Stop providing pencils, paper, notebooks, etc for students. 4. Outsource cafeteria staffing 	Nov 11, 2009 8:06 PM
534	<p>Extra curricular activities, foreign language, social studies</p>	Nov 11, 2009 8:11 PM
535	<p>Look at energy costs / savings</p>	Nov 11, 2009 8:27 PM
536	<p>I like the idea of pay to participate fees for athletics, and extra curricular programs. I think it would be OK to increase class size in those classrooms that are currently below the average but, we should try to not to increase the class size of those that are already at or above the average.</p> <p>Would it help to increase the cost of hot lunch?</p> <p>I like the idea of asking employees to take a temporary pay cut (like 5% or 10%) in lieu of lay offs. This would keep people employed and help keep services and class sizes the same. We should do our best to make this temporary though....teachers aren't paid enough to begin with....but, I think it's likely better than losing jobs all together.</p>	Nov 11, 2009 8:35 PM
537	<p>Sports Extra Curricular Activities</p>	Nov 11, 2009 8:41 PM
538	<p>PPS should add a few minutes to the school day to get out a week earlier in the summer. This would save an enormous amount of money in transportation costs, and wages as well. Stop being a slave to the 180 days of school, it is hours not days. Other local schools are doing it. Bangor gets out the Friday after Memorial day. It would be very interesting to see how much money would be saved by getting out 5 to 7 days earlier.</p>	Nov 11, 2009 8:53 PM

Response Text		
539	IBO and PEP car allowances new books/curriculum work	Nov 11, 2009 9:09 PM
540	athletics should have some pay to play, so should plays and other extras. Employees should pay more for health insurance. teacher work pay should adjust to days worked	Nov 11, 2009 9:34 PM
541	For high school, transportation to sporting events should be evaluated to determine if it can be eliminated. High school events are generally in the evening and parents can generally provide transportation or students can car pool with other students. For middle school, transportation from the sporting events should be eliminated. Very few students ride the bus back to the school after a sporting event. Should consider looking at the increasing contributions teachers make to their health care premium. Consider which services/administrative positions can be shared with other school districts or can be provided by KRESA.	Nov 11, 2009 9:34 PM
542	Reduce athletic supplies, uniforms, equipment purchases. Reduce trainer fees Reduce fees for game help	Nov 11, 2009 9:40 PM
543	Gifted and talented eliminated in the elementary along with the IB program in the high school Counseling in the elementary	Nov 11, 2009 9:57 PM
544	restructure the sports program, look at eliminating the young 5's program, re-evaluate bus routes.	Nov 11, 2009 10:03 PM
545	1. Consider changes to IB program, possibly replacing it with AP courses. 2. Pay-to-play sports and other extras would be very appropriate for middle and high school. Students who qualify for free/reduced lunch could get scholarships. 3. Restructure pension for retired teachers - or change it going forward to save in the future.	Nov 11, 2009 10:19 PM
546	1. The wardrobe allowances that are in place for some administrative personnel are absolutely ridiculous! 2. Middle school and high school sporting programs are necessary. Restructuring to a pay to play format with a sliding scale based on income is a more reasonable solution than total elimination. 3. Giving out pay raises while the threat of losing teaching positions does not make sense. Those should be restructured.	Nov 11, 2009 10:22 PM
547	salaries, wages and benefits of all employees should be brought into line with other states and reflect the relatively low cost of living in Michigan.	Nov 11, 2009 10:42 PM
548	Administration	Nov 11, 2009 11:38 PM
549	Gym classes and requirements, ATYP middle school gifted program, freshman focus requirement	Nov 11, 2009 11:54 PM
550	Medical benefits of administration should match those of the teaching staff The time frame of the day; you could extend the school day, therefore shortening the school year and saving money in numerous ways (operating costs/transportation/custodial work, etc.) Look at eliminating programs like E squared and I-B.	Nov 12, 2009 12:11 AM
551	Number of teachers, teacher salaries, teacher benefits.	Nov 12, 2009 12:13 AM
552	The IB program should be eliminated. I had two nieces that graduated with iB diplomas but when you way the cost of the program and the number of students the graduate with the IB Diploma each year avg, 15-20 per high school that is a lot of money that could be used for AP classes instead. My son has taken IB classes last year and this year and has taken the tests at my cost but when I get the test results and even go on the website I am confused as to if he actually received college credit or not. Where is the communication?	Nov 12, 2009 12:16 AM
553	Play for pay sprots, increase the walking distance for students (and STICK BY your decision by not caving in to some soccor moms), outsource administrators.	Nov 12, 2009 12:29 AM

Response Text		
554	Advanced placement programs -Example IB and E2 Staff administration differently restructure small classes (such as orchestra) that throw off class size averages	Nov 12, 2009 12:40 AM
555	Sports, districting (a lot of time wasted for outdated strategy) Administration.	Nov 12, 2009 12:41 AM
556	1. Eliminate/condense some bus stops. From my childrens stop I can see 3 other stops all within a 1 minute walk of each other. Some stops on main roads are 2-3 houses apart and the kids(hs/ms age) do not cross the street. Expand the walking distance. 2. Office/non instructional positions. 3. Medical benefits-my copays, contributions, etc go up while my wage is staying the same. Teachers shouldn't be exempt from the economic troubles that everyone else is experiencing.	Nov 12, 2009 12:42 AM
557	\$5.5 million dollar surplus/7% fund balance transportation at all grade levels adminstration salaries/health care	Nov 12, 2009 12:49 AM
558	High school transportation, high school class size, extra curricular programs (willing to pay for these)	Nov 12, 2009 12:51 AM
559	High school transportation could be restructured. Elimination is not an option because some students live too far to walk and do not have their own transportation. The new schools are being build with too many extras. For example, the new elementary school playgrounds are amazing, but far too excessive.	Nov 12, 2009 12:57 AM
560	Special education,	Nov 12, 2009 1:06 AM
561	Pay to participate in school activities; offer "scholarships" to those who "qualify" (would need to be defined) Support classroom academics before supporting encore classes Wage reductions only if it helps to maintain jobs. In this economy, some income is better than none.	Nov 12, 2009 1:11 AM
562	Bus Transportation, Heat turned down in buildings,	Nov 12, 2009 1:18 AM
563	benefits, transportation, utilities	Nov 12, 2009 1:27 AM
564	Administrator car / clothing allowances Energy costs at old administration building	Nov 12, 2009 1:29 AM
565	1- Teachers need to be team players, union aside. There has to be willingness of their part to shoulder some of the burden by negotiating for a less expensive insurance carrier and salary freezes. This has nothing to do with whether or not they deserve the best insurance. This is about being part of a team and doing what they can to ensure the district stays afloat. There are many positions in the district that are just as important as teachers, if not more so... these folks show a willingness to bend. Why NOT the teachers? 2 - All sports can be supported by parents and PTO groups. There can be scholarships for hardship cases, but parent support should be a must. 3- Transportation for all students should be evaluated. There are many districts around the country who do not provide transportation. As a middle ground, perhaps transportation is provided in the a.m., but not the p.m.	Nov 12, 2009 1:56 AM
566	IB, E2, excess in the secretarial staff, aides and parapros	Nov 12, 2009 1:57 AM
567	school day - discuss adding minutes to school day to shorten school year reduction in staffing - administrators, teaching, support staff eliminate transportation for k-12 and sports	Nov 12, 2009 2:14 AM
568	Sports programs School Busing Number of elementary, middle and high schools	Nov 12, 2009 2:28 AM

Response Text		
569	<p>1. Walking zones should be equal for all schools. 12th st is a palace compared to aging Woodland. We bought our house where our kids can walk. Fundraise for a solution, but the public option is not the way to go.</p> <p>2. Restructure to get more Y5's classes. I know parents whose kids weren't ready, but are in Kind. due to lack of space. More students = more dollars.</p> <p>3. Analyze use of technology to become more efficient & cost-effective. e.g. phone, internet, data</p>	Nov 12, 2009 2:36 AM
570	No Cafeteria, Reduction Wages/Benefits just like all the other companies, No Transportation (for example, some private schools do not have a cafeteria or transportation)	Nov 12, 2009 2:59 AM
571	Administration positions Human Resources positions IB Program--Costs too much	Nov 12, 2009 3:00 AM
572	Teacher salary should be reduced/restructured Teacher benefits should be reduced/restructured Class schedule could be restructured	Nov 12, 2009 3:04 AM
573	Consolidation of schools - middle schools 3 to 2 elementary schools of 8 to 6 or fewer even if we need to use trailers and reduced teacher numbers assisted by more aids, additional reduction in administrator numbers.	Nov 12, 2009 3:24 AM
574	Eliminate IB over next 4 years and switch to AP, outsource administrative accounting/financial functions, pay for extracurricular activities	Nov 12, 2009 4:29 AM
575	Administration wage increases and health benefits. Restructure lunch programs.	Nov 12, 2009 5:13 AM
576	<p>1. special programs that cater to few students (EFE, EFA, KAMSC, ATYP)</p> <p>2. Sports programs .. not eliminated, but pay to play</p> <p>3. restructure middle school and high school days to make them more cost effective</p>	Nov 12, 2009 1:13 PM
577	<p>1) Renegotiate teachers' contracts to take a paycut to avoid positions being eliminated. Make the paycut temporary until things improve with the budget.</p> <p>2) Restructure when classes are offered in the middle school & high school where there is a small class size. Maybe offer the classes every other year.</p>	Nov 12, 2009 1:32 PM
578	<p>1) Cafeteria food offerings could be eliminated especially in high schools. Let kids bring their lunch. The low income kids that get free breakfast can still have it distributed. Most of this food is pre-packaged and easy to hand out.</p> <p>2) Increase athletic event prices. \$5 for a football game is still a great value. I would pay more to attend.</p> <p>3) I am not an expert but I have heard that there are full time PAID hall monitor adults at the schools. That this is actually a career blows my minds. IF that is true that certainly could be eliminated.</p> <p>4) Is all the latest and greatest technology that everyone wants really needed? I have a kid that attends UM and he says it is amazing that Portage Central has better electronics and equipment than he sees in the classrooms at UM. This is taking into consideration that with the last millage there were all these wants for leading edge technology. Heck a big university like UM doesn't even have all this.</p> <p>5) All of us working people in Portage pay a good share of our healthcare premiums. It is not an entitlement. The teachers can pay their part just like us.</p>	Nov 12, 2009 1:49 PM
579	School lunch, School breakfast, junior prom	Nov 12, 2009 1:50 PM
580	<p>1. REDUCE Central administration. It's too big. Put some of those dollars towards a smaller student/teacher ratio!</p> <p>2. RESTRUCTURE - Transportation is ESSENTIAL for some neighborhoods (ie - Milham Meadows)</p> <p>3. ELIMINATE - the notion that the "curb appeal" of new buildings and fancy technology makes this school system better! Here's an idea - check out the KAMSC model! It's in our own backyard!</p>	Nov 12, 2009 2:44 PM
581	Require teachers to pay a larger portion of their health care costs. Require more than 5 years of employment to earn retiree benefits.	Nov 12, 2009 2:44 PM

Response Text		
582	1-Administrative perks such as company cars, clothing/travel allowances and compensation for graduate degree programs. 2- Rather than cut transportation services, charge a nominal fee for service. 3- Stop paying for certification programs such as the IB classes that can still be taught without paying \$75,000 for a special certificate.	Nov 12, 2009 2:46 PM
583	Staff in the AD building should be restructured and reduced	Nov 12, 2009 2:53 PM
584	Athletics, extra curricular activities, transportation	Nov 12, 2009 2:55 PM
585	Administrators Pay and Benefits Sports Secretaries	Nov 12, 2009 3:43 PM
586	administration (reduced) extra curricular activities (reduced) busing (eliminated), IB program (eliminated)	Nov 12, 2009 3:45 PM
587	Question #6 really has two parts- wages and benefits. Should labor groups work to reduce insurance benefits costs- yes. Should labor groups work to reduce wages- NO (Unless perhaps a 1 year step freeze to weather the storm).	Nov 12, 2009 3:47 PM
588	administration pay-reduced early retirement options-restructured	Nov 12, 2009 3:55 PM
589	I think the order of areas to address that the district outlined are the best idea-- first, extra-curricular programs, then co-curricular programs and then finally curricular programs.	Nov 12, 2009 3:55 PM
590	Salaries.. Teachers, Staff and Administration	Nov 12, 2009 3:58 PM
591	Wage freezes just like everyone else in the business world.	Nov 12, 2009 4:07 PM
592	Pay for Performance Board Paid Annuity Cell phone for those who do not leave their building Administrator vehicles & mileage allowance	Nov 12, 2009 4:21 PM
593	Enrichment program	Nov 12, 2009 4:24 PM
594	Administration Transportation/Operations Special Services (e.g., enrichment) (a list or breakdown of the areas would have been helpful)	Nov 12, 2009 4:40 PM
595	elementary E2 program, upper administration salary/ perks	Nov 12, 2009 4:41 PM
596	E-squared for the elementary students is a very expensive program that benefits a few students. My second daughter went through the program and for the amount of money it is costing the district, I don't see the obvious benefits of this program. I think this program can be eliminated.	Nov 12, 2009 4:51 PM
597	Transportation, athletics, music	Nov 12, 2009 5:00 PM
598	Administration Elementary counseling International baccalaureate	Nov 12, 2009 5:01 PM
599	IB Programs at the high schools, AP programs at the high schools and E2 in the elementary schools. These students will excel &/or survive no matter what is offered.	Nov 12, 2009 5:18 PM
600	Food service should not be school employees Contract bussing	Nov 12, 2009 5:33 PM
601	Increase length of day making number of days to attend shorter. Library staff Cafeteria people	Nov 12, 2009 6:16 PM
602	Employee health benefits - restructured x 3!!!!	Nov 12, 2009 6:33 PM

Response Text		
603	IB program - reduce or eliminate Why no hiring freeze?? At least 2 new admin positions added. Why? Wage and benefit concessions should be discussed but only if pertains to ALL pps employees	Nov 12, 2009 6:36 PM
604	1. Atop using school buses for personal shopping. 2. Pay to play sports, learning is more important 3. Cut back on the employment of those right under the supt. 4. talk about lowering the cost of health insurance of where the teachers go for it like the school of Mendon did.	Nov 12, 2009 6:49 PM
605	busing; kindergarten scheduling - go to 2 full days and one half day - save on busing; teachers go to one hour of planning not 2 in the secondary schools; teachers pay more for insurance;	Nov 12, 2009 7:22 PM
606	Administrative wages and benenefits Extra cirricular activites Co-corricular activites	Nov 12, 2009 7:41 PM
607	Employee Pensions Employee Benefits Sporting event Transportation	Nov 12, 2009 7:43 PM
608	Extra Cirricular activites. I want my children to receive an education - i think it is nice that they can participate in Choir or Forensics but that is not going to help them when they are an adult and out in the work force (believe my, i am a product of PPS and I was in choir-debate-forensics- song leaders and this did not enhance my skills as an adult and in the work force). IB Programs- i know that this program does not have that many students participate and the same advantages ca n be given to the students through KAMSC or by partner with KVCC and WMU for college courses that those that are able to can start their continued education early and have that go towards high school credit. Looking at ways for ALL employees to either have pay stay at the current level or decrease costs associated with unions (retirement and health costs for examples).	Nov 12, 2009 7:47 PM
609	Teacher benefits should be brought more inline with other businesses. For too long MESSA has gone far above what is offered to many of us, for example weekly phychotherapy and massage therapy and low prescription co-pays. Benefits have been too good for too long and have put schools in this mess. Many of have had a substantial increase in premium contributions and also pay a high drug co-pay and deductible. Roll pensions into 401K's like many company's have done. Not too many people are getting "pensions" these days.	Nov 12, 2009 7:51 PM
610	reduce everyone salary	Nov 12, 2009 7:53 PM
611	"specials" classes, extra curricular activities. (Gym should still be provided at a minimum though.) Cuts to administration? Office staff?	Nov 12, 2009 8:13 PM
612	sports transportation administrative costs retirement incentives	Nov 12, 2009 8:24 PM
613	Administrative staff cuts (reduction in number of staff) should be made rather than always cutting the support staff. Remaining administrative staff should be willing to forego raises and/or take a pay cut.	Nov 12, 2009 8:28 PM
614	Eliminate cable from classrooms	Nov 12, 2009 8:39 PM
615	Get rid of IB, reduce teacher professional development when it requires substitute teachers, look at outsourcing some administrative functions	Nov 12, 2009 8:42 PM
616	sports music art classes	Nov 12, 2009 8:47 PM
617	Athletics, extracurricular such as DECA, debate, forensics (with respect to transportation, cost of additional staff),	Nov 12, 2009 8:59 PM

Response Text		
618	Consider consolidating from 3 to 2 middle schools.	Nov 12, 2009 9:00 PM
619	MESSA insurance - there has to be a better way Privatizing noninstructional positions Holding the line on salaries for all employees	Nov 12, 2009 9:12 PM
620	Teachers' and administrators' salaries should be reduced. Teachers' and administrators' benefits should be reduced. Extra curricular activities, i.e. sports, etc. should be reduced.	Nov 12, 2009 9:18 PM
621	Administration - reduce number of deputies or assistants" Transportation - expand "walk" areas for middle/high Suspend I.B.O.-- serves limited student numbers	Nov 12, 2009 10:15 PM
622	Bus transportation, particularly for the middle and high school students could be done only on "major" streets. These students should be able to walk to their closest "major" street.	Nov 12, 2009 10:18 PM
623	Teacher salaries. Teacher benefits. Number of teachers.	Nov 12, 2009 10:47 PM
624	1. Retired teachers & working teachers should both pay more of the cost of their medical benefits. 2. Reduce teacher salaries. 3. There shouldn't be any more schools built or any major updating of present schools.	Nov 12, 2009 10:54 PM
625	Administration, IB program, building operation costs	Nov 12, 2009 11:33 PM
626	1. Outsourcing and competitive bidding facility maintenance and janitorial services. 2. Outsourcing and competitive bidding grounds maintenance. 3. Counseling services can be leveraged between schools.	Nov 13, 2009 12:02 AM
627	1. Follow the Holland Christian/Holland Public School model and explore teacher sharing in non-core subjects to save jobs and possibly allow Portage to get add'l state funding for part-time students. 2. Research cooperative procurements as a possible cost saving measure on the bus fleet as well as garage and maintenance equipment for the fleet. 3. Save on utility and building maintenance by slightly lengthening each school day and ending the year earlier.	Nov 13, 2009 12:05 AM
628	I think you should offer a buy-out incentive for teachers with 30 or more years experience. I am not in favor of laying off young staff members who have great new ideas and energy. Eliminate the H.S. IB program and E2 program for a couple years Reduce elementary counselors, school psychologists, and librarians Reduce the number of computer techs and	Nov 13, 2009 12:05 AM
629	Administrative wages, benefits, and perks such as cars and clothing allowances (Marsha Wells). Across the board wage decrease for all PPS employees. PPS employees to pay more out-of-pocket insurance expenses.	Nov 13, 2009 12:06 AM
630	1. Look at the number of students taking world languages and eliminate those classes that have less than 20 students. 2. Look at Forensics. What is the cost and how much do the students pay towards it. 3. IB program as compared to AP a cost benefit analysis should be done.	Nov 13, 2009 12:26 AM
631	Look into lower cost health care or ask the teachers to share more of the cost. Look at reducing some of the perks that are given to administration. Look into combining some of the functions in the technology group	Nov 13, 2009 12:34 AM

Response Text		
632	administration wasted spending administrator positions all schools and administration go green	Nov 13, 2009 12:56 AM
633	Prep Program should be eliminated, The Young 5 program should be eliminated, E2 should be eliminated.	Nov 13, 2009 1:04 AM
634	eliminate clothing and transportation allowance for administration eliminate excessive administration personnel eliminate special needs transportation waste remove inept administrative personnel and do not replace at this point - they serve no current value There is absolutely no need for so much in school administration OR district administration Eliminate much of the counselling staff - I've yet to see ONE do ANYTHING!	Nov 13, 2009 1:20 AM
635	Eliminate Curriculum director. Eliminate at least one special education administrator. Also transition coordinator and behavioral consultants, social workers. Privatize all administrative staff.	Nov 13, 2009 1:27 AM
636	1. Close an elementary school building. 2. Reduction of expenses related to extracurricular activities. 3. Eliminate or greatly reduce school transportation.	Nov 13, 2009 1:45 AM
637	ADMINISTRATION NO VEHICLES NO CLOTHING ALLOWANCE	Nov 13, 2009 1:59 AM
638	Teacher pay Teacher benefits Number of teachers	Nov 13, 2009 2:09 AM
639	Eliminate IB Diploma and replace IB courses with AP courses, eliminate competitive cheer to reduce insurance costs, and reduce teacher training during the school year.	Nov 13, 2009 2:09 AM
640	1. \$\$\$\$ Eliminate MESSA insurance for a less costly option. Have presentations, actually calculate the savings, equate the savings to positions saved. Take the bull by the horns. Others have done this change and it has worked. 2. \$\$ Compare pay for technology staff and other ancillary folks to other districts throughout the state. It appears to be high. MSBO will do an analysis of positions/responsibilities/pay for you in many areas, ie. maintenance, tech, food service for free, I believe. 3. \$\$ Reduce the number of electives at the high school. Use data to make these decisions - how many kids enrolled over time - then increase the core offerings. This may result in lost positions, saving money. REALLY evaluate IB - is it worth the cost for the number of kids that actually receive the diploma? Is it really more beneficial than AP? Is it really implemented as it was intended...or is it just a "prestigious label" that is unnecessary...like North Central Accreditation (how much are we paying for that?) There is no truth to the rumor that colleges give "extra points" upon entrance to high schools that are NCA Accredited. It's more about the curriculum, commitment over time to an extracurricular activity and the leadership opportunities (ie. those sports we're thinking of making folks pay for - how will we equalize across SES doing that?) 4. \$\$\$ Offer a buy out for high end teachers..I hate buy outs, but this may help reduce personnel costs. I suspect we have many teachers with many years. Hire them part time as contracted staff to work with new teachers, this way you build capacity, mentor new staff, meet state requirements and still save money.	Nov 13, 2009 2:35 AM
641	administration free benefits retirements	Nov 13, 2009 2:42 AM
642	transportation - restructured Sports transportation - reduced lunch options - reduced	Nov 13, 2009 2:58 AM

Response Text		
643	I think a 4 day school week would save big \$\$\$. Is this possible? Then we wouldn't have to cut the quality of education. There would be a decrease in wages, building operation, transportation savings or toss out transportation altogether and have neighborhoods carpool. What if we pay a bus fare and have metro transit service the schools? Sell all the buses. Maybe keep school buses for younger children?	Nov 13, 2009 3:29 AM
644	curriculum committees, administrative costs that could be covered with county services	Nov 13, 2009 3:32 AM
645	extracurricular activities transportation aides, para-pros, assistant coaches.etc.	Nov 13, 2009 3:40 AM
646	Wages of higher administrative officials	Nov 13, 2009 6:18 AM
647	Eliminate field trips, young 4s preschool program, free and reduced breakfast/lunch program, self-esteem programs; IB program and E-2 classes. Get the "fluff" out of the system. Strong academics, balanced with a strong fine arts/athletic system is important.	Nov 13, 2009 11:32 AM
648	HS Buses,	Nov 13, 2009 11:36 AM
649	number of bus stops, maybe all day kindergarten to eliminate transportation,	Nov 13, 2009 12:02 PM
650	Change in medical benefits for labor groups Outsource no-educational services Consolidate administration	Nov 13, 2009 1:01 PM
651	I trust the school officials and board to make the right decisions	Nov 13, 2009 1:11 PM
652	1. Athletic Directors Position - eliminated - coaches could form a committee to perform this position 2. Restructure the athletic budget in regards to expense for new equipment, uniforms and personnel pay. 3. Eliminate 1 assistant principle position	Nov 13, 2009 1:56 PM
653	Varsity sports	Nov 13, 2009 2:05 PM
654	Internet access is not needed in every classroom.	Nov 13, 2009 2:46 PM
655	Examine what you do against your core mission and those areas the furthest away from the core should take the brunt of the cuts. Let the Portage Community step forward with Middle School sports (ie expand Little League, AYSO, Rocket Football, etc.)	Nov 13, 2009 2:46 PM
656	Administrative cuts especially at the top. Am aware of many positions in which quantity vs. quality could be an issue.	Nov 13, 2009 2:48 PM
657	Restructured - Athletics Restructured - Transportation Restructured - Start times at schools to eliminate need for separate bus runs	Nov 13, 2009 2:50 PM
658	Busing for athletic teams,	Nov 13, 2009 2:51 PM
659	sports, any extra cirricular that cost the district money and takes away from EDUCATION	Nov 13, 2009 3:20 PM
660	administration transportation	Nov 13, 2009 3:30 PM
661	IB - suspend until more funding, sports completely self supporting - not abcurrriculum, cut all service areas equally, not just teachers (administrators, secretaries...), busing not for high school (they could come in on an elementary bus and start school second hour), offer a severance package to teachers so younger teachers can keep their jobs	Nov 13, 2009 3:34 PM

Response Text		
662	I would support discontinuation of transportation to certain areas of the community where income levels support many students having their own vehicles. I would not support discontinuation of transportation to areas of the community that lack the economic means to have reliable transportation to work let alone school. I would support pay-to-participate fees for athletic and other extra-curricular activities as long as there are scholarships available for families that cannot afford these fees, and required physical fitness activities at all levels of school to help fend off the obesity/diabetes crisis in children.	Nov 13, 2009 3:54 PM
663	Cable access	Nov 13, 2009 3:54 PM
664	don't know	Nov 13, 2009 3:56 PM
665	1) High School busing 2) Union benefits must be re-negotiated 3) Combine purchasing power with surrounding districts.	Nov 13, 2009 3:58 PM
666	elective classes/ Sports (not eliminated or reduces, just restructured: pay to play, parents transport etc... use of school buildings by others Salaries and benefits of employees	Nov 13, 2009 4:07 PM
667	Consider restructuring teacher benefits so they are comparable to those others have	Nov 13, 2009 4:08 PM
668	OUTDOOR MAINTENANCE COULD BE OUTSOURCED SUCH AS MOWING AND PLOWING . THERE IS OVERHEAD FOR PERSONAL THEIR.	Nov 13, 2009 4:11 PM
669	All areas of infrastructure should be examined from heating/cooling, office supplies, lighting, etc. and transportation logistics and benefit packages / retirement matching contributions should be examined for areas that could be streamlined or reduced.	Nov 13, 2009 4:17 PM
670	Sports After school activities Administrative personnel - far too many	Nov 13, 2009 4:20 PM
671	Eliminate funding for high school clubs including paid staff time. Charge Students and Staff for Parking. Reduce food service - students can bring a lunch from home. Increase walk zones at each school. Move football games to Saturday afternoon - save on electricity. Close two of the three swimming pools. More combined athletic teams for the High Schools. Implement Fees for Art and Shop Classes. Implement Fees for Text Books.	Nov 13, 2009 4:22 PM
672	Classes with less than 20 students, IB Program, and any other activity/program with low student participation	Nov 13, 2009 4:40 PM
673	Put teachers healthcare up for bid	Nov 13, 2009 4:55 PM
674	administration!!!!	Nov 13, 2009 4:56 PM
675	Administrative salaries, Length of school year, athletics	Nov 13, 2009 4:58 PM
676	Administrative Costs, bus routes may have to be adjusted to allow for maximum utilization, seek millage increase through cooperation with the ISD and surrounding districts.	Nov 13, 2009 5:01 PM
677	Middle school and Freshman athletics for sports that have competing clubs such as basketball, football aand soccer. Pay to play for all JV and Varsity sports. Athletic transportation. High School transportation. Eliminate paper like many companies do. Require lessons, homework, and papers to be done on inexpensive memory sticks(supplied by the student) and email.	Nov 13, 2009 5:04 PM
678	Administration, lower supply costs, pay to play is perfectly ok as it is EXTRACURRICULAR!	Nov 13, 2009 5:05 PM
679	administration, athletics	Nov 13, 2009 5:07 PM

Response Text		
680	Administration, lawyers, and beancounters and all other activities such as conferences that the district might be paying for. Any auto leases, and hidden compensation like deferred comp.	Nov 13, 2009 5:08 PM
681	ADMINISTRATION, ISD, Secretaries at that level.	Nov 13, 2009 5:08 PM
682	PAPER COSTS- REDUCE-If I saved all the mailings that I get from the school I could probably fill my garbage bin. With technology everything that can be emailed should be! If the parents have email of course. I think if you evaluated what is being ordered and what is being used and is it REALLY effective you would save thousands. If the parent doesn't respond or the child continues behavior's or what have you- why keep mailing! DAILY/YEARLY JOURNALS/ORGANIZER/ASSIGNMENT NOTEBOOK (I've heard it called all different things)- Eliminate- ALL kids are different and have their own way of getting organized- in some cases (ecspecially with boys) they are used to drawn in and are a distraction. ELIMINATE AT ALL SCHOOLS	Nov 13, 2009 5:09 PM
683	Administration numbers, Administration Pay, all extra programs paid by participants, not school district.	Nov 13, 2009 5:14 PM
684	Administration salaries, Administrative positions, Administrative benefits	Nov 13, 2009 5:14 PM
685	administrators insurance restructured	Nov 13, 2009 5:16 PM
686	administration slaaries transportation cut an administrator	Nov 13, 2009 5:31 PM
687	administrave wages/benifits/and waste in the current administration	Nov 13, 2009 5:33 PM
688	athletics, administration, extra-curricular	Nov 13, 2009 5:35 PM
689	athletics	Nov 13, 2009 5:39 PM
690	Administrators salaries should be reduced. Fund equity should be reduced	Nov 13, 2009 5:43 PM
691	Administration should be reduced in numbers and salary. The workhorses are th teachers. Class sizes must not be increased and salaries and benefits for teachers must not be reduced.	Nov 13, 2009 5:46 PM
692	administration at the highest level	Nov 13, 2009 5:51 PM
693	Health Care Benefits - just like the rest of the business world. Pay Reductions - 85% of total budget Eliminate some Vice Principle and counselor positions,especially at Middle & Elementary levels	Nov 13, 2009 5:51 PM
694	technology funds, additional stipends on top of teacher/administrative salaries, number of administrators	Nov 13, 2009 5:59 PM
695	IB should be phased out, pay for extracurricular activities, less teacher in-services during school year	Nov 13, 2009 6:00 PM
696	administration positions like ast. supers,	Nov 13, 2009 6:01 PM
697	E2 programming - G/T in Elementary Elementary Counseling Reduce specials staff - 30 minutes per week. Day time custodians Privatize transportation - lease busses and facility	Nov 13, 2009 6:10 PM
698	Administration salaries and benefits. There should be a pay to play policy in place for student's whose family can afford to support their children's extracurricular activies, and some sort of exemption for economically challenged families.	Nov 13, 2009 6:16 PM
699	Administrative salaries and benefits	Nov 13, 2009 6:16 PM
700	Administrative costs Money transferred to athletics	Nov 13, 2009 6:24 PM

Response Text		
701	administration-curriculum directors, custodial services, and away game bus transportation for the return trip.	Nov 13, 2009 6:26 PM
702	pay benefits overhead	Nov 13, 2009 6:33 PM
703	Cell phones for administrators at all levels District owned cars for administrator use Pay to play sports	Nov 13, 2009 6:40 PM
704	Administration, and use an acceptable ratio of student to teacher overall.	Nov 13, 2009 6:41 PM
705	free lunches alternative high school mainstreaming problem children in regular classrooms	Nov 13, 2009 6:44 PM
706	Administrative salary and staff.	Nov 13, 2009 6:45 PM
707	administration, athletics,	Nov 13, 2009 6:47 PM
708	After school sports, bussing, music, arts, band	Nov 13, 2009 7:00 PM
709	1. Benefits should be restructured- tenure should be eliminated-no one else outside of the teaching world gets such generous tenure benefits 2. Work with sports' boosters to help offset athletic expenses combined with pay to play. Can we have more tourneys to raise funds. Pay to play fees should be based on whether a sport can be 100% self sufficient. If it can , then there should not be any fees (self sufficient determined by booster income and other sports' income). Any student eligible for free or reduced lunch should not pay to play or should have reduced fees. 3. Evaluate each extracurricular program to determine self sufficiency possibilities. Engage parents to directly donate versus fundraising when possible.	Nov 13, 2009 7:06 PM
710	Parking lot redesign. Building of unnecessary schools that are also unnecessarily expensive.	Nov 13, 2009 7:07 PM
711	Reduce building use after school by community members, stop bussing sports teams, reduce all budgets by 3%.	Nov 13, 2009 7:11 PM
712	building renovations transportation/organized carpools hot lunch program	Nov 13, 2009 7:15 PM
713	Aids, Specials at elementary levels, and transportation	Nov 13, 2009 7:19 PM
714	Administration Custodial Secretarial	Nov 13, 2009 7:21 PM
715	Administration - Are there too many principals in each building? Pay freezes for ALL employess of PPS for one year. Reduce the amount of paper annouements going home with multiple siblings	Nov 13, 2009 7:24 PM
716	1.)elementary counseling 2.)the high school IB courses, or whatever they are called 3.) elementary gifted and talented program 4.) cars provided by PPS to 3 central administrators - an unnecessary perk - nice when we could afford it, obscene when considering layoffs of teachers 3.)	Nov 13, 2009 7:27 PM
717	bussing, athletics, and class size increase	Nov 13, 2009 7:29 PM
718	Admin. Staff Transportation for the football team to games (when they are home)	Nov 13, 2009 7:31 PM
719	Bussing, four day week, Athletics altered	Nov 13, 2009 7:31 PM
720	administrators	Nov 13, 2009 7:35 PM
721	Freshman level sports, cocurricular funds, and classroom sizes	Nov 13, 2009 7:36 PM

Response Text		
722	Non-essential budget line items:conferences, snacks... Administrative personnel District level, non-federally funded, enrichments for the impoverished, mentally handicapped...	Nov 13, 2009 7:38 PM
723	Administration, reduce personnel and or determine if salaries are above county average, class size 24 pre-k/1, 26 2-3, 30 4-6 Jr. High 30	Nov 13, 2009 7:40 PM
724	anything that has nothing to do with classroom activity	Nov 13, 2009 7:40 PM
725	Inter-mural athletics, administration-primarily the people that have screwed the curriculum up with the half year science courses that no universities like, and cut out the competitions for everything.	Nov 13, 2009 7:48 PM
726	superintendent's clothing allowance superintendent's car superintendents mileage allowance	Nov 13, 2009 7:48 PM
727	extra curricular should go to pay to play for all MS and HS activites (band, choir, sports, etc) Shortening the school day- adding minutes so year is shorter, or reducing the time off during the year and transferring it to the summer break. OR Shorten the school week, especially in the winter months so utilities are less, bussing is less.	Nov 13, 2009 8:01 PM
728	charge gate fees for all sports possible minimal pay to play - 1 fee for all sports reduce paid coaches assistants to 1 per sport- utilize volunteers	Nov 13, 2009 8:38 PM
729	transportation - not eliminated but reduced athletics - not eliminated but reduced (as long as their are intermurals in the community) teachers benefits - maybe reduced depending on what they get now	Nov 13, 2009 8:41 PM
730	athletics busing at the high school administration	Nov 13, 2009 8:46 PM
731	Transportation, athletics, and classroom size.	Nov 13, 2009 8:46 PM
732	Any area that doesn't directly impact students, such as central office staff.	Nov 13, 2009 8:49 PM
733	Administration cost Administration wage and benefits	Nov 13, 2009 9:03 PM
734	I think that as an avenue to savings it is acceptable to explore increasing class sizes. I grew up the the Phoenix area and all our classes were 30 kids from grade school to High School.	Nov 13, 2009 9:11 PM
735	sports busing half the aides	Nov 13, 2009 9:12 PM
736	Unions, admin, the extras such as new buildings. Two huge new school were built with multiple playgrounds yet we want to cut school programs and teachers that actually help and teach children. I think that is a fairly screwed up priority.	Nov 13, 2009 9:16 PM
737	sports,	Nov 13, 2009 9:25 PM
738	pay to play ANY extra curricular activity (ie, band) longer school day to reduce/save on energy costs by being closed extra day per week or longe holiday breaks.	Nov 13, 2009 9:26 PM
739	Considering financial crisis, we need to tie togher whatever dicision is made by specialists in the near future....	Nov 13, 2009 9:28 PM
740	Eliminate busing for sports, check into the value of the IB program costs and perhaps charge for IB classes? Charge for daily busing to and from school	Nov 13, 2009 9:31 PM

Response Text		
741	All of the new massive schools are not necessary. I have noticed all of the remodeling and this is the beginning of all of these budget issues. Priorities are not where they should be.	Nov 13, 2009 9:42 PM
742	1. Possibly a pay freeze for several contractual years 2. Pay freeze for administration. 3. Adoption of new curriculum materials every 10 years.	Nov 13, 2009 9:44 PM
743	Healthcare costs must be reduced! Labor costs must be reduced! Education districts should be run like a business, if people want to keep their jobs they need to take a few hits in order to benefit the whole. The union needs to support this idea rather than fight it. The kids need to come first and increasing class sizes, reducing education options, etc. do not put the kids first. The IB program needs to be evaluated for effectiveness.	Nov 13, 2009 10:07 PM
744	IBO program	Nov 13, 2009 10:14 PM
745	Technology Administration	Nov 13, 2009 10:38 PM
746	I would support cutting back on athletics (and pay to participate in a sport).	Nov 13, 2009 10:44 PM
747	competitive athletics; before and after school child care; politically correct, time wasting projects and programs; provision of computers to students.	Nov 13, 2009 10:50 PM
748	Administration sports extra curricular	Nov 13, 2009 10:58 PM
749	reduce, restructure or eliminate anything that is not funded (sports, transportation, etc.) by the state formula.	Nov 13, 2009 11:03 PM
750	take a few days off in Jan/Feb. to cut heat costs; add more minutes to the day to make up for the days off in Jan/Feb; offer a retirement incentive that might be attractive to staff at the top; no longer run buses for the high school and expand the walking area for middle school	Nov 13, 2009 11:04 PM
751	1. Teacher benefits 2.	Nov 13, 2009 11:12 PM
752	Administration Central Office Anything not related to educating kids	Nov 13, 2009 11:21 PM
753	Extra curricular activities	Nov 13, 2009 11:31 PM
754	Transportation- I would absolutely be in favor of great reductions to transportation, and neighborhoods forming car pools. Teacher salaries- Michigan teachers are some of the highest paid in the nation, and the Michigan economy is one of the worst in the nation. I appreciate all the work teachers do, but I also believe they should have to do the same belt tightening that everyone else has had to. An average of \$5000 cut per teacher (lower in the lower range- \$36000 down to \$34000 and higher in the higher- \$82000 down to \$75000 [or something like that]) would save the district around \$3 million a year without eliminating any positions. Also, I would be in favor of evaluating the costs of MESSA - considering that there is such a budget crisis and that there are many full-time PPS staff who don't currently have any benefits package, if there is a less costly option than MESSA for teachers' insurance coverage, I think the district should pursue it (especially if it means that support staff compensation can be improved). Athletics- I absolutely support pay to participate athletics. Fine arts are already more or less self supporting through student fees, donors, fundraising, and ticket revenue. Athletics should be the same.	Nov 13, 2009 11:37 PM
755	Extracurricular activities School lunches	Nov 13, 2009 11:37 PM
756	Administration numbers, Administration pay scale, Administration perks especially retirement perks	Nov 13, 2009 11:59 PM
757	Not sure	Nov 14, 2009 12:05 AM

Response Text		
758	Pay-to-Play Administration car & clothing expenses Increase the parking for HS students	Nov 14, 2009 12:08 AM
759	IBO E2 Extra curricular sports	Nov 14, 2009 12:15 AM
760	administration pay cuts administration lay offs eliminate days of school by adding hours on each	Nov 14, 2009 12:25 AM
761	Gifted and talented elementary pull-outs--too expensive per pupil. retirement incentives for eligible teacher should be considered	Nov 14, 2009 12:28 AM
762	Anything not related to the high school graduation requirements (and those courses in elementary/middle school that support those required classes) should be considered for reduction, restructuring, or elimination. Transportation, athletics, secondary electives that are not part of the MMC.	Nov 14, 2009 12:38 AM
763	Eliminate 1/2 days of school. It's a waste in electricity/heat/ and fuel for buses. Go all day or don't go at all. Restructure transportation to sporting events. Schedule boys and girls events at other schools together so they can be transported at the same time.	Nov 14, 2009 12:46 AM
764	Gifted and talented programs that are outside of the regular school/classroom setting can be eliminated. There should be enough opportunities for enrichment in other ways. If international baccalaureate program is costly to run, you need to weigh the benefits of that with the percentage of students involved in the program. Does it impact enough students to justify the cost? Are there administrator benefits (i.e. car allowance, annuity contributions, etc.) that are excessive? If so, these should be eliminated.	Nov 14, 2009 1:09 AM
765	1. Teachers wage and benefits: Look at the private and Catholic schools pay structure for guidance. 2. Restructure or eliminate food services all together. My children bring there lunch to school every day. We would be willing to donate money to help feed the WIC children. 3. Eliminate school transportation. We drive our children to school every day. My wife took public transportation to school as a child in Detroit.	Nov 14, 2009 1:16 AM
766	Give older teachers an incentive to retire.	Nov 14, 2009 1:22 AM
767	administration, energy conservation, and personnel not directly impacting student learning	Nov 14, 2009 1:32 AM
768	Cut administrator salaries!!!!	Nov 14, 2009 1:34 AM
769	Administrative redundancies eliminated, administrative office salaries reduced, busing children within a 1 mile distance needs to be eliminated.	Nov 14, 2009 1:35 AM
770	1. Administration-reduced/elimination of positions 2. Athletics-reduced and restructured, costs eliminated from general fund 3. School employees who do not work directly with students and who do not have a direct impact on student achievement 3. Not filling positions that are vacated through attrition and/or retirement and restructuring to fill those positions with current staff	Nov 14, 2009 1:35 AM
771	Reading interventions, paraprofessional use for problem children, maybe part time librarians	Nov 14, 2009 1:38 AM
772	Eliminate lifetime health benefits, few if any private companies offer such. Consolidate various non-teaching functions with other schools or districts Reduce the number of course offerings or restructure by combining like offerings	Nov 14, 2009 1:39 AM
773	restructure or consider combining some of the middle and high school activities/ extra curric. Reconsider how far we are traveling for our high school sports teams (coldwater, st.joe)	Nov 14, 2009 1:46 AM

Response Text		
774	# of Board of education members. The Superintendents salary Construction of the schools	Nov 14, 2009 1:47 AM
775	too many secretaries	Nov 14, 2009 1:53 AM
776	administration costs athletics special education some curriculum offerings	Nov 14, 2009 1:53 AM
777	administration wages, administration jobs	Nov 14, 2009 2:00 AM
778	reconstruct class size, eliminate all the extra sports/stick w/ the basic sports	Nov 14, 2009 2:08 AM
779	school calendar, services that can be obtained through KRESA or community organizations	Nov 14, 2009 2:27 AM
780	Cafe. food, pay for bus transportation, bigger walking radius.	Nov 14, 2009 2:30 AM
781	administration wages	Nov 14, 2009 2:32 AM
782	administrative facilitators outsource HR, payroll and accounts payable high school assistant principals IBO	Nov 14, 2009 2:48 AM
783	administration should be reduced	Nov 14, 2009 2:52 AM
784	Budget surplies ie rainy day fund Administration Sports	Nov 14, 2009 2:55 AM
785	Reduce the number of administrators.	Nov 14, 2009 3:05 AM
786	administration duties IB classes	Nov 14, 2009 3:11 AM
787	Administrative costs/pay, transportation, ISD's	Nov 14, 2009 3:15 AM
788	Cash on hand, fund equity, and then look at administration to pupil amounts.	Nov 14, 2009 3:50 AM
789	1) Drop and go transportation to sporting events. Most of the students get a ride home from their parents. This would eliminate the need to pay bus drivers to wait at sporting events. Just drop the students off at their event and they will have to find a ride home. 2) The same transportation plan should be followed for extra-curriculars that require bus transportation (band events, etc) 3) Lets ask state legislators, senators, representatives to take a mandatory wage/benefit reduction to help out our schools in Michigan! Most of them are overpaid as it is. 4) Look at the number of administrators, are they all necessary?	Nov 14, 2009 4:20 AM
790	athletics should be split 50/50 i think families should pay 1/2 of the cost of football adn etc	Nov 14, 2009 5:35 AM
791	administration	Nov 14, 2009 12:37 PM
792	Administration Textbooks Food service	Nov 14, 2009 12:50 PM
793	administration athletics	Nov 14, 2009 1:19 PM
794	What about considering high school sports and activities with Pay to Play? Why do we never see the amount that high school sports cost?	Nov 14, 2009 1:34 PM
795	eliminate E2 program, offer incentive for retirements, outsource school psychologists-use only when needed	Nov 14, 2009 1:35 PM

Response Text		
796	<p>The E squared program for 4th and 5th graders. Why during these difficult times are we spending dollars that benefit very few students.</p> <p>The International Baccalaureate program is another program that is very expensive and only benefits a few students. It needs to be eliminated.</p> <p>I have multiple buses that pass my house. I live in a subdivision. Maybe we should look and see if we are really being as cost effective as we can when it comes to transportation.</p>	Nov 14, 2009 1:36 PM
797	<p>1. Administration should be looked at. Can it be reduced or restructured? Is your district top heavy?</p> <p>2. Magnet schools if you have any(I am from K-zoo and they cost us alot of money in transportation). Do they do what they are supposed to? I support kids walking who live a certain distance away perhaps 1 and 1/2 miles? I am not sure what you do now.</p> <p>3. Again look at administration. Can they give something in their insurance possible to help or their salaries? I know in K-zoo they have premium insurance and salaries. They could give a bit. The teachers sure have.</p> <p>4. Pay to play. If you don't already have it. I am a P. E. teacher. I understand the importance of sports. On the other hand it's extracurricular. And something right now has to give.</p>	Nov 14, 2009 1:38 PM
798	1. Restructure school bus transportation to make sure buses are relatively full, realizing more time may be required to get some students to school.	Nov 14, 2009 1:39 PM
799	LOOK AT PROGRAMS THAT DO NOT HELP WITH GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.	Nov 14, 2009 1:40 PM
800	Health Care and Pension Costs Alternative Education Free Lunch Programs	Nov 14, 2009 1:41 PM
801	renegotiate healthcare and wages to employees and retirees, reconfigure busing routes so that more children are grouped or combine middle school and high school busing, require more monetary contribution for sports and extracurriculars	Nov 14, 2009 1:53 PM
802	administrative costs including consolidating administrative personnel positions	Nov 14, 2009 2:10 PM
803	<p>1) Look at the detail behind the expenses....you would be surprised how much money is spent on little things....they all add up.</p> <p>2) Look at reducing the temperature set on the thermostats....you could reduce the temperature a few degrees and save money and natural resources.</p> <p>3) Do not discount the District's funds...look at what can be used on the building (not for operating costs) that can help reduce the operating cost...i.e. window caulking, insulation.</p> <p>4) Bonus idea....Outside landscaping.</p>	Nov 14, 2009 2:11 PM
804	Administration-reduced	Nov 14, 2009 2:12 PM
805	music/band art all sports/extra curricular activities/coaches/athletic directors	Nov 14, 2009 2:25 PM
806	administrative wages-reduced some administrative positions-eliminated class size - reduced	Nov 14, 2009 2:33 PM
807	all busing except to and from school like busing to dances, busing sport teams home, busing during the day to different locations-	Nov 14, 2009 2:36 PM
808	Administrative Overhead,	Nov 14, 2009 2:39 PM
809	Labor is the first place that should be looked at. People thru-out this state have taken wage reductions, either voluntary or forced. It is a fact of life and the Education Union knows it, no matter what retoric they present in the press. Two other areas are support staff in the high school (what do all those non-teaching people do?) and transportation.	Nov 14, 2009 2:46 PM

Response Text		
810	Administration raises and perks Media specialists and assistants Offer buy out to reduce more expensive teachers	Nov 14, 2009 2:53 PM
811	cut library share administrative positions county wide-such as payroll and curriculum director	Nov 14, 2009 2:54 PM
812	teachers and staff should pay for more of health insurance coverage like the rest of the population	Nov 14, 2009 2:55 PM
813	Reduce administrative costs - hold on to classroom instruction.	Nov 14, 2009 3:03 PM
814	1. Elementary school consolidation 2. Transportation zones 3. Administrative overhead and/or salaries & benefits	Nov 14, 2009 3:13 PM
815	Busing Sports & other extracurricular programs Restructure academically talented classes/programs to have same student/teacher ratio as "regular" classes - many such classes often have a much smaller teacher/student ratio.	Nov 14, 2009 3:19 PM
816	IB, E2, sports	Nov 14, 2009 3:23 PM
817	1. personnel costs! 2. athletics(increase in the pay to play fee) 3. transportation - further trimming of bus service for athletics(or inclusion as part of pay to play), trim daily transportation further, and outsourcing of transportation workers	Nov 14, 2009 3:26 PM
818	I believe all facets of the education system should be required to pay for a portion of their benefits - health care, retirement, etc. I know some of this has been discussed and implemented, but more should be considered. There are very few private/public corporations that pay for the entire benefit package.	Nov 14, 2009 3:53 PM
819	outsource janitorial services outsource busing services reduce library budget due to increased internet usage	Nov 14, 2009 3:56 PM
820	Cut Administration staff and pay (will not affect the students directly Outsource all administrative tasks at central office to outside company/school (shown to be effective in other school districts and saves a tremendous amount in wages and benefits)	Nov 14, 2009 4:07 PM
821	Auxiliary staff positions - newsletters and such are nice but not necessary. Eliminate sports and go to intramural	Nov 14, 2009 4:24 PM
822	administrative wages - not principals, busing, sports, and janitorial services	Nov 14, 2009 5:04 PM
823	Comment: I strongly support families paying for any sports or extracurricular activities and programs. Private schools do this all the time. Another suggestion is to have families pay fees for books.	Nov 14, 2009 5:04 PM
824	Athletics Reduce administration positions eliminate specialty programs like PEP	Nov 14, 2009 5:43 PM
825	1. IB 2. Schedule 3. Administration	Nov 14, 2009 6:09 PM
826	Consider a fee for high school transportation. Reduce administrative costs before cuts that directly impact students. Offer early retirement incentives to keep younger teachers on staff.	Nov 14, 2009 6:17 PM
827	see #8 and #9	Nov 14, 2009 6:24 PM
828	E2/IBO Car allowances for Administration	Nov 14, 2009 7:10 PM
829	Avoid as much as possible direct cuts to classrooms.	Nov 14, 2009 7:39 PM

Response Text		
830	1.Paid transportation for field trips or excursions. 2.fee on extracurricular activities. 3.No need for free snack at any parent meeting.	Nov 14, 2009 8:40 PM
831	Wage and benefit reduction across all labor groups.	Nov 14, 2009 9:02 PM
832	administrative positions	Nov 14, 2009 9:07 PM
833	athletics, extra-curricular activities	Nov 14, 2009 9:13 PM
834	-Administration pay, not teacher pay -Increase in administrations out-of-pocket/premiums expenses for health care	Nov 14, 2009 9:40 PM
835	Anything not having to do with instruction should be looked at as being possible to reduce.	Nov 14, 2009 9:44 PM
836	choir, computers, debate	Nov 14, 2009 9:54 PM
837	Reduce the number of central office and curriculum administrators, including combining job duties and titles. Find energy efficiencies and other material cost savings. Reduce course offerings that have enrollment less than class size average at secondary.	Nov 14, 2009 10:06 PM
838	Football, football and football.	Nov 14, 2009 10:26 PM
839	busing, food, school day lengthened/year shortened	Nov 14, 2009 10:30 PM
840	Any administrator with "vice" in their title should be examined and removed. Administrators pay and benefits reduced along with teachers pay. Critical examination of extracurricular activities before approval; can these dollars be spent wisely in other areas?	Nov 14, 2009 11:00 PM
841	Wage and benefits for staff Transportation for extracurricular activities Special Education Programs and Transportation	Nov 14, 2009 11:30 PM
842	1.Initiate an early retirement incentive. As a cost saving measure, this has been too long overlooked. 2. Cease administrative "perks" such as car and clothing allowances. 3. Decrease the number of counselors in the middle schools to one.	Nov 15, 2009 12:03 AM
843	It is difficult and unfair to make a comment without knowing the costs of current programs.	Nov 15, 2009 12:09 AM
844	Bus transportation should be restructured Review maintenance in all areas Review free lunch area	Nov 15, 2009 12:17 AM
845	Extracurricular activities; enrichment programs; administrative positions and salaries	Nov 15, 2009 12:23 AM
846	Pay rates.	Nov 15, 2009 12:46 AM
847	reduce administrator positions, eliminate board expense, eliminate HS sports	Nov 15, 2009 1:18 AM
848	Sport, Grounds and maintenance and ?	Nov 15, 2009 1:25 AM
849	Work on taking jobs from the higher up first. Do we need a lot of paraprofessionals?	Nov 15, 2009 1:32 AM
850	Adm,data processing,hrdept	Nov 15, 2009 1:36 AM
851	We don't need to cut the administration. The top paying people.	Nov 15, 2009 1:48 AM
852	restructured - extra curricular activities REDUCE TRANSPORTATION	Nov 15, 2009 1:56 AM
853	These difficult times force us to eliminate some of the "extra" programs such as E2, IB, and paying for sports.	Nov 15, 2009 2:45 AM
854	Administration costs should be reduced. Start at the top, not in the schools.	Nov 15, 2009 2:55 AM

Response Text		
855	high tech audio-video subsidized student meals standardized testing	Nov 15, 2009 3:26 AM
856	Administration	Nov 15, 2009 4:12 AM
857	Eliminate "raises" for teachers who already get step increases. Eliminate Reading Recovery and E-squared	Nov 15, 2009 4:40 AM
858	None. Education is very important. Students should be entitled to a good education with all the support that they need.	Nov 15, 2009 5:45 AM
859	IB, pay for play, lowering the temperature in each building by 2 degrees and lowering to 60 degrees at night	Nov 15, 2009 11:11 AM
860	Eliminate the last week of school in June. Nothing gets accomplished much academically then anyway.	Nov 15, 2009 12:27 PM
861	IB, use more energy saving techniques in buildings (reduce temp by 2 degrees during the day and decrease evening temp to 60 degrees)	Nov 15, 2009 12:55 PM
862	tenured teachers should be eliminated, no other job is safe after only working ten years. Tenure may have the tendency to leave us with a poor performing teacher without recourse. If they did not have tenure a younger teacher could be hired at a lesser rate.	Nov 15, 2009 1:32 PM
863	extra curricular activities transportation days in school - M-Th	Nov 15, 2009 2:00 PM
864	administration	Nov 15, 2009 2:02 PM
865	Sports and extra-curricular activity should be reduced or eliminated. Energy conservation for all district buildings should be reduced. Reduce and/or eliminated administration in the middle and high school and in the administration building.	Nov 15, 2009 2:14 PM
866	All bussing eliminated	Nov 15, 2009 2:42 PM
867	Administration Employees, Vehicles for Administrators, Clothing allowance for Supt.	Nov 15, 2009 2:51 PM
868	reduce school counselors	Nov 15, 2009 3:17 PM
869	Sports, above all. Band. Anything which is not the 3Rs plus technology.	Nov 15, 2009 3:28 PM
870	1. Portage should look at the effectiveness of their administrators at each school. Their currently is no "360" evaluation of administrators. Staff should have input on their administration. The whole focus is on staff reductions. Are schools truly being run effectively? I know we have a number of administrators that are not effective 2. Portage should be developing partnerships with other local districts to reduce costs through KRESA or other in place organizations. Each District continues to look at their own problems, without looking across the region for opportunities. 3. Offer retirement incentives. One way to reduce costs and to have more flexibility in staffing is to offer retirement incentives to the "mature" workforce. The District will save money, and be able to develop a more flexible work force.	Nov 15, 2009 3:32 PM
871	1. Eliminate middle and high school bus service. 2. Offer buyouts to teachers who are top-heavy in salary. 3. Reduce distances traveled for middle school and JV sports road games.	Nov 15, 2009 3:41 PM
872	Sports, transportation, support staff	Nov 15, 2009 3:44 PM
873	Reduce number of principals and administrators and supervisors.	Nov 15, 2009 4:10 PM
874	School breakfast/lunch; charging parents fees for transportation K-12; use volunteers to replace paid staff in library, custodial, snow removal, mowing, etc.	Nov 15, 2009 4:16 PM
875	reduce high school transportation, eliminate in town sports transportation, Northern Football being transported to Football Field. Utility cost.-Many nights the gym lights are left on.	Nov 15, 2009 4:59 PM

Response Text		
876	Administration reductions and wage cuts counselor reductions can consolidation be looked at?	Nov 15, 2009 5:48 PM
877	Transportation Sports KAMSC	Nov 15, 2009 6:30 PM
878	How about the Administration taking some cuts and lay offs?	Nov 15, 2009 7:19 PM
879	In the contract of Marsha Wells get paid 155,040.00 Plus a tax -sheltered in the amount of 12,000 .plus pay her dues to the AASA and the ASCD and Fringe Benefits should I go on. And lets cut some in Tom Noverr. Let"s do some cutting!!!!	Nov 15, 2009 7:34 PM
880	transportation, extra-curriculars, sports teams	Nov 15, 2009 7:47 PM
881	High School transportation - most students drive anyway	Nov 15, 2009 8:03 PM
882	recess supervisors, secretaries,	Nov 15, 2009 8:14 PM
883	Administration, Middle School sports.	Nov 15, 2009 8:49 PM
884	Employee benefit costs Middle School Sports Staff not essential to core priorities - outsource if cost effective	Nov 15, 2009 8:58 PM
885	1. Wages and benefit reductions should be a PRIORITY. It is the only way many other businesses, including auto workers (also with a union), are surviving. Like it or not, Wages and benefits HAVE to be REDUCED..Union or not!!! 2. There should be BOTH wage and benefit reductions AND lay offs!!! 3. Class size SHOULD be increased..ONLY 22-26 class size??? Was 36-40 when I was in school!	Nov 15, 2009 9:17 PM
886	restructure bus routes so that they are neighborhood based (1-2 stops per neighborhood) this will allow buses to cover more areas, more quickly and be fuller. 2. Restructure areas like library and computer classes to be run on a parent volunteer basis (ie. 10 parents agree to volunteer 2hrs a week in the library to cover library hours). Teachers and administrators need to work toward a pay resolution. This should be one area guaged, not the only area though.	Nov 15, 2009 9:29 PM
887	Administration Transportation Sports	Nov 15, 2009 9:44 PM
888	Eliminate IBO Cut administrators both in the central office and extra vice principals in the HS. Return AD to faculty position. All sports pay to play or eliminate. Eliminate extra curriculurs	Nov 15, 2009 9:51 PM
889	Sports, transportation, professional development	Nov 15, 2009 10:28 PM
890	the number of vice principles the amont of money for Marsha Wells, clothing, spending allotments and bonus do not need a person to go around and check how electricity is being used!	Nov 15, 2009 10:33 PM
891	Eliminate IB Diploma, Restructure Busing, Pay to play athletics	Nov 15, 2009 11:08 PM
892	Reduce Teacher Salary and benefits Eliminate IB program Reduce Administration	Nov 15, 2009 11:43 PM
893	Pay cuts in the adim,area,and some of the higher up should see what they can do along with pay...	Nov 15, 2009 11:45 PM
894	1)Reduce the number of administrator non essential benefits such as car allowances, clothing allowances, graduate class tuition. 2) Consolidate from 3 middle schools to 2. 3)cut all professional development and IB training expenses.	Nov 16, 2009 12:19 AM
895	eliminate IB -replace with AP Professional Development travel	Nov 16, 2009 1:01 AM

Response Text		
896	condense IB program to one building, consolidate down some central administration programs to be run through KRESA, cut transportation more (even though community fought the issue this Fall and you had to give back some routes and lost the \$60,000 savings you had planned), lower temperatures in buildings, and do other things to reduce the energy budgets.	Nov 16, 2009 1:10 AM
897	1. Employee benefits should be reduced 2. Janitorial services should be outsourced 3. Extracurricular activities should be paid by parents 4. More fund raisers	Nov 16, 2009 1:16 AM
898	Upper level administration - reduced & restructured.	Nov 16, 2009 1:27 AM
899	1) MiBlisi (sp) funding @ PNMS SHOULD BE ELIMINATED 2) No need for orientations / open houses 3) Paid high school coaches are unnecessary - could be volunteer 4) Eliminate awards and parent teacher conferences 5) Record days should be eliminated - when I went to school, teachers were able to generate report cards without a day off - and that was before computers	Nov 16, 2009 1:37 AM
900	* Out of school programs. there are some good programs out there (KAMSC, ATYP, EFA, etc...) but their cost is out of proportion. For example, both high schools offer comparable classes to KAMSC yet the KAMSC cost is significantly higher. * Is there a way to restructure el/ms/hs that would involve closing a building or two? * Athletics	Nov 16, 2009 1:57 AM
901	Restructure Kindergartens to half-day sports professional development days	Nov 16, 2009 2:25 AM
902	KAMSC, has the time gone? there are lots of on-line opportunities and the schools have the IB program	Nov 16, 2009 2:41 AM
903	after school transportation activities, pools, kindergarten, young 4's (prep), administration costs	Nov 16, 2009 2:53 AM
904	Energy Consumption Bussing School schedule	Nov 16, 2009 3:08 AM
905	1. Forced retirement (e.g., 30 and out) 2. Active employee and retiree benefits (higher employee contribution to health costs) 3. Smaller districts should be consolidated to reduce overhead costs.	Nov 16, 2009 3:18 AM
906	I would need to see a spread sheet of the expenses for Portage Public Schools before I could make a comment on this subject.	Nov 16, 2009 4:18 AM
907	Non Academic staff IE secretary, janitorial	Nov 16, 2009 4:24 AM
908	The school day could be extended and the year shortened.	Nov 16, 2009 4:32 AM
909	1 Consider restructure the busing. Many parents already drive their kids. 2. Restructure the school year, increase the day length and shorten the year. Consider a four day week, with longer days. 3. Restructure the funding. Consider pay to participate for extra curricular activities. (Don't eliminate those opportunities for our children.)	Nov 16, 2009 4:57 AM
910	PPS should investigate the feasibility of consolidating some specialized programs between schools, such as the IB program. While some class sizes could probably be increased without significant damage, such decisions must always be made with a recognition of the available facilities, equipment, and the nature of the subject matter being taught. While "pay for play" for extracurricular athletics, music, forensics, etc. can be considered, there should be provisions for participants with financial hardships.	Nov 16, 2009 5:44 AM
911	busing, all after school programs including athletics, ??	Nov 16, 2009 6:27 AM

Response Text		
912	Eliminate IB programs, reduce admin and wage/insurance expenses, limit/restructure sports and extracurriculars	Nov 16, 2009 12:25 PM
913	administration athletics extra- curricular	Nov 16, 2009 12:25 PM
914	Eliminate the IB program Eliminate the elementary gifted and talented program.	Nov 16, 2009 12:58 PM
915	None. Run the budget until the money is gone. Only this will get the attention of State legislators.	Nov 16, 2009 12:59 PM
916	- Heating. The elementary schools could reduce the thermostat. - Reduce the Secretarial Staff	Nov 16, 2009 1:00 PM
917	Districts should consolidate and save on administrative, transportation and personnel expenses that are repetitive.	Nov 16, 2009 1:18 PM
918	I think we should first look at restructuring activities-athletics, clubs, etc. The pay-to-participate option sounds good. I know that parents like myself do not want to do away with these wonderful programs/activities that our children are in and we would accept the fee, and also we can provide transportation to our children and other children in the program. Families that are on the free or reduced lunch can waive the fee. Eliminating high school transportation also sounds like a viable option, although not sure how much money this would save since the busses are shared with the middle schools right next to the high schools.	Nov 16, 2009 1:49 PM
919	Administrator's salary Field Trips extracurricular activities which cost the district money ie sports	Nov 16, 2009 1:55 PM
920	athletics, music and transportation	Nov 16, 2009 2:06 PM
921	Secretarial staff at administrative level. Out of district high school electives Out of county inservice for administration	Nov 16, 2009 2:49 PM
922	Busing should be restructured - partner with Kalamazoo Metro for services - get a "student" rate for riders. Check with Battle Creek Schools - they used to do this for middle and high school, I don't know if they still do. Co-curricular activities could carry a partial payment from students that have the ability to pay - scholarships for those that can't. Extra-curricular should be pay-to-participate to cover costs. Partner with the Portage Public Library for library assistance.	Nov 16, 2009 2:54 PM
923	I think the pay to play is a last resort for sports- but I do think that it should be the same amount across the board for sports- any other extracurricular activities should also be "pay to play". Not right to make athletes pay, but not those into the arts.	Nov 16, 2009 2:58 PM
924	busing, pay to play,	Nov 16, 2009 2:58 PM
925	Restructuring seems to be the best solution to helping everyone. I don't know what or how, but straight elimination will not solve the problems. Too many gaps will be left and the students will be the big losers.	Nov 16, 2009 3:11 PM
926	Administration, Maintainance, Transportation	Nov 16, 2009 3:12 PM
927	I hope that the administration will figure out where the least invasive cuts can be made to affect the fewest number of students in the least important areas. I know that direct contact staff are very important but so are counselors and administrators.	Nov 16, 2009 3:19 PM
928	Administration is huge, maybe eliminate one vice principal at each high school, reduce benefits to administrators such as: car and clothing credit, health insurance costs. Teacher-student connections are the most important part of school, do all that you can to keep that relationship as it is.	Nov 16, 2009 3:21 PM
929	Administration.	Nov 16, 2009 3:28 PM

Response Text		
930	1. Car/clothing allowances/other perks for Marsha Wells and staff should be eliminated 2. Joining administration functions with Kalamazoo Public schools should be done. I would rather see a reduction in administration than in teaching staff. Combining administration should save a bunch of money. 3. I would rather see sports programs eliminated or reduced than cutting any more educational things.	Nov 16, 2009 3:28 PM
931	gt services for elementary administrative perks (cars, etc.) sports programs	Nov 16, 2009 3:29 PM
932	Admin, sports, specials	Nov 16, 2009 3:31 PM
933	the EXTRA benefits for the head of administration	Nov 16, 2009 3:42 PM
934	Young fives Number of field trips high school athletics	Nov 16, 2009 3:52 PM
935	1. I am in the private sector consulting business. I have taken two paycuts and a reduction in benefits. I believe we have excellent teachers, administrators, and staff. Having said that, I do believe that temporary reductions in salary and benefits are in order. Virtually all who earn their livings in the private sector have had to accept a reduction in their earnings. I stress that this should be a temporary solution that would be reversed once funding becomes available. 2. Eliminate KRESA or at least combine it with others to reduce this second (and in many ways redundant) layer. 3. Reduce or eliminate teacher in-service days on a temporary basis. 4. Reduce the number of band groups	Nov 16, 2009 4:09 PM
936	Privatize Transportation, Restructure the Food Service, and Increase Class Size	Nov 16, 2009 4:19 PM
937	The size of the football budget Transportation privatization	Nov 16, 2009 4:20 PM
938	1. Teacher comp/benefits 2. Nominal pay-to-play for extra-curriculars would help offset some expenses 3. Outsourcing of all janitorial, bus, etc. must be considered	Nov 16, 2009 4:22 PM
939	maintenance, 4 longer days per week to reduce transportation and utilities, ?	Nov 16, 2009 4:46 PM
940	athletics, transportation to sporting events to include band cheerleaders as well as athletes, any other expenses for extra curricular activities	Nov 16, 2009 4:50 PM
941	Three areas that should be reduced/restructured, or eliminated: bussing custodial	Nov 16, 2009 4:50 PM
942	admin through attrition (have buyouts been discussed for all groups) teachers through attrition support staff through attrition	Nov 16, 2009 4:50 PM
943	Benefits for teachers, ie: restructured health benefits. Coaches and Asst. Coaches salaries.	Nov 16, 2009 5:05 PM
944	Administration	Nov 16, 2009 5:31 PM
945	administrative salaries, teacher salaries extra curricular activities	Nov 16, 2009 6:00 PM
946	I believe that the schools have cut what they can afford. I think we need to create new sources of revenue (raise some taxes)	Nov 16, 2009 6:52 PM
947	Transportation, Counselors, Administration Positions	Nov 16, 2009 6:54 PM
948	Salaries of upper level administrators should be looked at. Expensive programs that are offered to a limited group -- for example the E Squared program Extra-curricular programs	Nov 16, 2009 6:57 PM
949	sports programs, pep programs, upper admin jobs	Nov 16, 2009 7:00 PM

Response Text		
950	Little things add up - minimize waste such as copies and	Nov 16, 2009 7:10 PM
951	Transportation go to a pay to ride with scholarship built into the fee and have less stops with farther walk for the middle and high school students to reduce length of routes, Family to pay for e2 and IB classes/program, Pay to participate in any extra curricular activity, ie-sports or clubs.	Nov 16, 2009 7:45 PM
952	Administration, IB, E2, Portage Community High	Nov 16, 2009 7:50 PM
953	It would be great if all salaried people would take a small decrease in pay across the board to eliminate any layoffs. Bussing needs to be reduced. Heat needs to be turned down in buildings.	Nov 16, 2009 7:51 PM
954	Special Education- Athletics Number of Administrative positions	Nov 16, 2009 7:53 PM
955	Administration, assistant administrators, business manager	Nov 16, 2009 8:13 PM
956	Administrative should be reduced prior to direct student staff. Next extra-curricular and athletics should be pay to play. Staff should share more in health care costs like other school district employees do.	Nov 16, 2009 8:31 PM
957	Would it be possible to lengthen the school day and be in school fewer days? Michigan school teachers are one of the higher paid in the nation. Given the current economy, I believe we should look at wage and benefit reductions. Should we also look at benefits the retirees receive?	Nov 16, 2009 9:01 PM
958	Football budget	Nov 16, 2009 9:19 PM
959	administration, E2/IB programs, bussing	Nov 16, 2009 9:23 PM
960	There should not be any instructional positions eliminated until there are administration positions eliminated first! Eliminate administration perks including district cars. Restructure transportation to make the routes more efficient.	Nov 16, 2009 9:39 PM
961	tenure salary benefits	Nov 16, 2009 9:58 PM
962	Wage reductions to be taken at the administration level. Offer a retirement package to the teachers that are willing and able to retire early.	Nov 16, 2009 10:26 PM
963	administrators night custodians are not doing a good job	Nov 16, 2009 10:35 PM
964	advanced placement classes, ADMINISTRATIVE positions, human resources	Nov 16, 2009 10:39 PM
965	Middle School sports programs eliminated Reduce # of Assistant Principals Eliminate staff training and travel	Nov 16, 2009 11:16 PM
966	I don't know enough about areas under consideration to comment.	Nov 16, 2009 11:28 PM
967	Administration Transportation Extra classes beyond core curriculum	Nov 16, 2009 11:37 PM
968	Administration is need of a close look	Nov 16, 2009 11:40 PM
969	after school sports - take away school administrator vehicles -all employees take a pay cut across the board	Nov 16, 2009 11:54 PM
970	Eliminate the Superintendent's clothing and car allowance. Look at getting rid of employees operating under "consultant" contracts. PEP or IB programs.	Nov 17, 2009 12:34 AM
971	Meetings during the school day that require substitutes, purchasing materials that go unused or are wasted, special services that only impact a few students	Nov 17, 2009 12:40 AM
972	Bus Routes School supplies Athletics	Nov 17, 2009 12:45 AM
973	Art, Sports, Teacher benefits	Nov 17, 2009 12:46 AM

Response Text		
974	Turn down heat in ALL buildings--including administrative offices; encourage turning off all lights as long as it doesn't affect safety and look at increasing school day and possibly eliminate 1-2 days per month until the end of the school year.	Nov 17, 2009 12:55 AM
975	IB program non self-supporting sports Elementary counselors/behavior specialists	Nov 17, 2009 1:18 AM
976	sports, administration	Nov 17, 2009 1:21 AM
977	No areas should be reduced. New revenues should be sought.	Nov 17, 2009 1:24 AM
978	Extracurricular clubs Athletics pay to participate Class size limits	Nov 17, 2009 1:26 AM
979	restructure teacher contracts, extra circular activities	Nov 17, 2009 1:27 AM
980	eliminate 1/2 sessions (combine multiple 1/2 days into full days); running buses on two 1/2 days instead of one full day seems wasteful. eliminate foreign languages in HS and MS eliminate counselor positions	Nov 17, 2009 1:29 AM
981	Principals could be shared amongst two or more schools, keeping a vice principal at each school.	Nov 17, 2009 1:29 AM
982	1. Eliminate new text book purchases. Replace text books with text sets (cheaper, more cost effective and more useful during inquiry-based study). Not every student needs a text book. 2.	Nov 17, 2009 1:34 AM
983	Across the board Salaries, health benefits, non-essential personnel	Nov 17, 2009 1:43 AM
984	Gifted and talented Administration(assistant principals, assistant superintendents, communication directors, elementary education supervisors,Where there is one administrator in the job, they might not get to also get an assistant anymore. Reading Specialists- hire paraprofessionals Library or Technology Teachers-hire paraprofessionals to be at the desk with one supervisor over many schools.	Nov 17, 2009 2:01 AM
985	sports, administrative costs, transportation	Nov 17, 2009 2:23 AM
986	sports/extra-curricular programs, facilities and physical resource usage, technology	Nov 17, 2009 2:29 AM
987	shortened school calendar year, lengthened school day, automobile clauses in admin contracts	Nov 17, 2009 3:16 AM
988	Band, teaching staff, pensions	Nov 17, 2009 3:53 AM
989	Make sure kids that are close to schools, walk. Buildings should be made energy efficient with systems automatically shutting down when not needed, and proper insulation throughout.	Nov 17, 2009 4:22 AM
990	Charge for books except for kids on reduced or free lunch program. Bus transportation to athletic events. Examine ways to charge parents for special needs children.	Nov 17, 2009 11:45 AM
991	administration music and art athletics, in particular distant travel & games	Nov 17, 2009 1:24 PM
992	High cost items should be eliminated if not essential to education--how much does the high school football team per person involved cost relative to other athletics? Eliminate/reduce transportation depending on the age of children, eliminate costly athletics, eliminate study halls or other empty time to increase teachable hours.	Nov 17, 2009 1:25 PM

Response Text		
993	Adminstrater pay & benefits EARLY RETIREMENT BUY OUTS (perhaps even offer first year pay scale for two years - would still be saving a lot per retiree) Earlier close of school (to reduce electricity & other costs)	Nov 17, 2009 1:30 PM
994	should not have put all that money into new buildings.	Nov 17, 2009 1:57 PM
995	transportation routes should be restructured to assure efficient use of buses ~ full busses, but not over full and unsafe buses. I think some teacher benefits could be reduced, or have them pay a bit more for insurance, etc., to help keep them in the classroom.	Nov 17, 2009 2:02 PM
996	Administration and our administrators, red tape,	Nov 17, 2009 2:02 PM
997	Fund shortages from current 7 million dollar (cash flow fund) for this emergency (After all, it is an emergency. Cut electricity costs by better monitoring of lights, usage of electricity within schools. Evaluate administration resp. that could be combined reducing administrators	Nov 17, 2009 2:09 PM
998	Change some full-time positions to half-time (ex. 1/2-time athletic directors at each high school), pay-to-participate for all extracurricular activites (debate, forensics, etc.),	Nov 17, 2009 2:39 PM
999	Extra curricular clubs and athletics can be community supported, not school funded. Reach out to the community for support with items such as general maintenance and landscaping (like adopt-a-highway for the schools). Potentially parent volunteers could fill administrative or basic librarian functions.	Nov 17, 2009 2:46 PM
1000	Administration, IB Program	Nov 17, 2009 2:46 PM
1001	Busing, sports and extracurriculars	Nov 17, 2009 2:47 PM
1002	sports, visual & audio and any other extra curricular activities	Nov 17, 2009 2:53 PM
1003	Pay to play, but it has to be across the board - sports and arts and any other extracurricular activities	Nov 17, 2009 3:07 PM
1004	Administration 'extra' budgets Bus transportation-eliminate it all and become a transport district Extra curricular activities (ex. yearbook and drama clubs)	Nov 17, 2009 3:11 PM
1005	?	Nov 17, 2009 3:17 PM
1006	Eliminate half of the administration staff, ask remaining to consolidate tasks and work. Ask remaining Administration to take a 5% pay cut like most residents have experienced. Pay to play sports, the entire community should be asked to pay for little Johnny or Jenny to play any sports or activities. Their parents should pay the expense.	Nov 17, 2009 3:50 PM
1007	Restructure staff pay and benefits, we are all facing skyrocketing benefits costs as employers and employees. COnsolidation of non-teaching services among school districts.	Nov 17, 2009 4:17 PM
1008	High schools sports, do kids go to school to become an athlete, or to bcome educated? Lunch IB, switch to AP	Nov 17, 2009 4:18 PM
1009	1. Elimination of PCEC 2. Restructure of Sports. (ie. Basketball, Football...) 3. Administrative Faculty Benefits	Nov 17, 2009 4:18 PM
1010	Administration----EVERYONE BUT TEACHERS, Extracurricular Activities, Transportation	Nov 17, 2009 4:26 PM

Response Text		
1011	administration, IT department, counseling, human resources department.	Nov 17, 2009 4:28 PM
1012	I think that the fundraising choices that we are using to supplant various programs need to be reevaluated for their effectiveness. There are plenty of Michigan companies and local businesses that could participate in fundraising activities. We need to look at partnering with WMU and KVCC to get more student interns into the classes, especially if class size is going to expand. Each teacher should have an intern.	Nov 17, 2009 4:33 PM
1013	reduce number of administrators, eliminate busing to athletic events, and eliminate dues to school board and administrator organizations.	Nov 17, 2009 4:36 PM
1014	Bus transportation to athletic events in middle school.	Nov 17, 2009 4:42 PM
1015	Food service, if there is a way to create any savings.	Nov 17, 2009 4:44 PM
1016	I read salaries were in top 5 in the nation, reduce to average of adjacent states. also pension and retirement cost out of whack with the private. . cost to add spouse is too cheap	Nov 17, 2009 4:49 PM
1017	the new after school janitor services should be restructured. We have to leave notes to get work done, like vacuuming. Toilet paper dispensers are often found empty. The previous staff provided better service.	Nov 17, 2009 4:51 PM
1018	Look at transportation. So many families already take their students to school. Perhaps it could be reduced somehow to save money.	Nov 17, 2009 4:55 PM
1019	Field trips can be reduced to only those that provide a direct educational element. Going to the symphony is a great experience, but should probably be cut during times like this.	Nov 17, 2009 5:11 PM
1020	technology in the classroom unless it is really utilized by that teacher the budget for the musicals	Nov 17, 2009 5:14 PM
1021	New technology should be put on hiatus. The use of tower units instead of laptops in computer labs. Requiring families to purchase books like college classes. Raise revenue by selling the books the district now owns to families as used books, just like college classes and private schools.	Nov 17, 2009 5:14 PM
1022	Teacher benefits Teacher pay Sports	Nov 17, 2009 5:33 PM
1023	Administrative staff should go or hire only temp workers, and counselors too, not sure what they do anyway.	Nov 17, 2009 5:33 PM
1024	teacher's wages and benefits, support personnel	Nov 17, 2009 5:41 PM
1025	Teacher pay Teacher benefits Retiree insurance	Nov 17, 2009 5:56 PM
1026	I know teachers are very hard working people, but they do have summers off, maybe they could take a small cut to help out, at least for a while???	Nov 17, 2009 5:58 PM
1027	1 -Remove IB program, 2 -Out source Administrative (payroll for example) & have admin layoffs 3 -Reduce Administrative pay prior to unions (and remove ALL fluff additional expenses - allowances for auto, clothing, etc....)	Nov 17, 2009 6:05 PM
1028	District provided vehicles Education reimbursement Athletic bussing	Nov 17, 2009 6:12 PM
1029	-Consolidate admin staff between schools -Better and consistent use by teachers of comm tools with parents (e.g., eBoards)...saves iterative emails between both teachers and parents -Football. Do we really need three football teams?	Nov 17, 2009 6:26 PM
1030	one bus run, possibly a 4 day work week,	Nov 17, 2009 6:30 PM
1031	Administration perks should go before anything else	Nov 17, 2009 6:48 PM
1032	consider freezing or reducing salaries at all levels, reduction in sports	Nov 17, 2009 7:11 PM

Response Text		
1033	eliminate 1/2 days of school	Nov 17, 2009 7:15 PM
1034	Bus transportation Superintendent's salary (previous superintendent turned down raises due to economic situation)	Nov 17, 2009 7:21 PM
1035	IB Program - Is cost of this label worth the benefits? Do a significant amount of students benefit from this program? Students can earn college credits through AP classes.	Nov 17, 2009 7:54 PM
1036	Teacher pay Allowances for transportation, supplies, clothing, etc. for management Printing of yearbooks, documents, etc. that could be better provided online	Nov 17, 2009 7:55 PM
1037	As long as you are eliminating sport teams, eliminate one Athletic Director. That leaves one to oversee fewer teams	Nov 17, 2009 7:58 PM
1038	Administration could be reduced or consolidated. Moving from two secretaries per elementary to one. Pushing for retirements. Portage Central Middle school has a large number of older teachers. We could save \$10,000 to \$20,000 per teacher if we had younger teachers vs older ones.	Nov 17, 2009 8:01 PM
1039	Phys ED sports administration	Nov 17, 2009 8:06 PM
1040	Lunch options could be changed to reduce cost. Changing schedules to bus elementary and high school kids together if space permits. Change walking student requirements for distance.	Nov 17, 2009 8:22 PM
1041	SCHOOL LUNCH FUNDING, ESL, NUMBER OF BUS STOPS FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL ROUTE	Nov 17, 2009 8:41 PM
1042	High school transportation Could they pay to ride. Many drive themselves. Add more 10-12 grade students per class. They have to prepare for college why not start early. What if Buses make less stops. Have kids walk further. Group up in neighborhoods.	Nov 17, 2009 9:04 PM
1043	Athletics, administration (higher level), custodial	Nov 17, 2009 9:27 PM
1044	Reduce the salaries of the upper level job tier(i.e. superintendant, assistant superintendant)	Nov 17, 2009 9:37 PM
1045	Administration should be restructured at the very least, or reduced.	Nov 17, 2009 9:43 PM
1046	administrative medical benefits senior teachers retire and work part time for the district set aside days for teacher training or meetings so subs are not also being paid	Nov 17, 2009 9:47 PM
1047	athletics (reduced) afternoon kindergarten bussing (eliminated) special education department (restructured)	Nov 17, 2009 9:51 PM
1048	Teacher Pension Administrative Personnel Add 10 minutes to each school day and shorten the school year to start after Labor Day and end right after Memorial Day. Research other districts who have implemented this calendar year and the associated savings attributed to this change.	Nov 17, 2009 9:57 PM
1049	I don't know, you figure it out, you're the ones with the big paychecks and fancy cars, right?	Nov 17, 2009 10:04 PM
1050	Restructure Benefits- includes "shopping for best value" out there. Restructure high school class size Restructure Union/District Relationship	Nov 17, 2009 10:27 PM
1051	professional development	Nov 17, 2009 10:34 PM
1052	sports programs self-funding; eliminate transportation to the H.S. Offer buy-outs to teachers at or near retirement age.	Nov 17, 2009 10:37 PM

Response Text		
1053	eliminate Psychologists, Elem. Counselors, and some speech people.	Nov 17, 2009 11:23 PM
1054	maybe have transportation for after school only, a small fee for sports or music would be okay if absolutely necessary	Nov 17, 2009 11:26 PM
1055	<p>1. Extra-curricular areas...they are just that...extra. Extra or beyond what? ...the essential academic program. The school and the students should not suffer academic cuts/losses in order to retain the extras. The extra curricular programs are important to the students but the academics are the reason the school exists in the first place. The academic programs should be the last one off the ship before it goes down. Pay to participate seems only fair.</p> <p>2. Non-instructional professional staff should be looked at closely. (librarians, counselors, secretaries, aides, tech. people...etc.) Reduction or restructuring could help but do not eliminate. Keep these services alive so there is still a plus there. Once they are gone it will be hard to bring them back.</p> <p>3. Purchase of new materials could be restructured...(new texts, computers, video equipment, etc) These all have a targeted life span but in this situation they might just have to get a longer life span for their usage.</p>	Nov 17, 2009 11:33 PM
1056	<p>Conferences with or without overnights except for the Superintendent and Asst. Superintendent of Finance</p> <p>More than 1 secretary at the elementary schools</p> <p>Hall monitors at the secondary schools; purchase surveillance cameras now that can be transferred to the High Schools when construction is completed</p> <p>Pay increases tied to student enrollment/school funding so more students=higher percentages and loss of students = little/no pay increases</p>	Nov 17, 2009 11:36 PM
1057	<p>Elimination of some administrative personnel.</p> <p>Professional development beyond the required State mandates.</p> <p>Elimination of fees for speakers, etc.</p>	Nov 17, 2009 11:40 PM
1058	How do you expect a reasonable answer to this question, when we do NOT have necessary information such as which personnel, how many classes, curriculum, etc are available? It would be impossible for anyone to give a reasonably intelligent answer not knowing these factors.	Nov 17, 2009 11:53 PM
1059	Seeing as it's highly unlikely the district will get through this without cutting some teachers, I would hope that the teachers that are cut are the less than good ones. Then just anything in the school day that's a bonus that costs money that we take for granted should be eliminated - like field trips.	Nov 18, 2009 12:00 AM
1060	sports and other extracurricular activities	Nov 18, 2009 12:07 AM
1061	Grounds work and janitorial could be done by middle school and high school children instead of going to detention. Teachers should have to pay a portion of their own healthcare. Perhaps there are some savings that could be gained by using less expensive products for the new buildings being built. Reduce the number of lunch choices.	Nov 18, 2009 12:12 AM
1062	<p>School employee's need to consider paying more for the benefits just as I have over the last 22yrs in the private sector. Extremely high benefits packages will not be sustainable as health costs increase at 6 to 8% inflation every year.</p> <p>Also put the community to a vote on using the recent Bond fund approved for building new schools, to move the saved money, that I read exists, for the school general budget.</p> <p>I believe teaching support employee's could be eliminated as I read in the K. Gazette tonight.</p>	Nov 18, 2009 12:26 AM
1063	<p>IB Program</p> <p>PeP Program--they only teach 4 days a week</p> <p>any elective programs that have impact on fewest students</p>	Nov 18, 2009 12:27 AM
1064	<p>benefits (health insurance)</p> <p>bus transportation</p> <p>sports & extra-curricular programs- pay to play</p>	Nov 18, 2009 12:32 AM

Response Text		
1065	1.Administration including priveleges like cars, clothing allowances, housing, and so on including free admission for anyone who works at the school and their families to attend functions 2. IB, E2, Atyp and young fives 3. Teacher pension and ten year, teachers should be evaluated by the parents and admin in order to receive raises or maintain their employment.	Nov 18, 2009 12:35 AM
1066	1. Across the board wage/salary/Benefit reductions - 5% 2. Administrative personnel cuts; fewer in class teacher cuts. 3. Travel and Expenses not DIRECTLY linked to classroom	Nov 18, 2009 12:55 AM
1067	Good Luck!	Nov 18, 2009 1:09 AM
1068	Transportation to and from sporting events/club competitions Elementary school transportation	Nov 18, 2009 1:10 AM
1069	Benefit reduction or increased employee contribution to maintain current level of benefits. Eliminate tenure, increase competition within the teaching profession. Lengthen number of hours per day, reduce total number of school year days.	Nov 18, 2009 1:14 AM
1070	It seems like there are some programs that, although very nice in giving the students exposure to many different things, may not be necessary - i.e. some of the gym programs are more than what I did as a kid (such as the orienteering, golf, archery, fishing...) Don't know how costly they are, but kids can still have fun with offering more 'basic' things.	Nov 18, 2009 1:28 AM
1071	Eliminate snacks at meetings, and reimbursement for snacks. Also eliminate lunch/dinner meetings that are charged to school credit cards. Eliminate professional development, unless required by the state. This would also eliminate a lot of mileage and meal reimbursements.	Nov 18, 2009 1:30 AM
1072	1. IB program eliminated 2. Middle School Librarian secretaries. 3. Middle School Athletic Directors.	Nov 18, 2009 1:41 AM
1073	cost for playing sports, school board salaries and benefits, look at school week being 4 days long	Nov 18, 2009 1:41 AM
1074	1. The high paid administrators. 2. Sports 3. Admin allowances...cars, etc!	Nov 18, 2009 1:59 AM
1075	offer retirement incentives to older teachers IB program, reduce art, music, drama, sports	Nov 18, 2009 2:02 AM
1076	What about electronic delivery of all school flyers, notices, PTA bulletins, report cards, etc. for any parent that opts for it? I get duplicates of everything for my elementary children and it's wasteful and inefficient.	Nov 18, 2009 2:08 AM
1077	1. Administration--I am a high school student, and in all of my years of education, I have never seen an administrator personally walking around the school, interacting with students. It is extremely disappointing to hear that our administrators are earning the most income, and they are ready to eliminate teachers, who are the most valuable resources to the students. 2. Gym teachers--since students at the high school can now waiver all credits, we have no ultimate need for PE teachers. 3. Administrator allowances--No administrator needs an allowance for clothing and cars! That is the most absurd thing I have ever heard in my life! Why are we cutting teachers, programs, and classes when our administrators are out buying new clothes with our money?	Nov 18, 2009 2:08 AM
1078	some of football coaching staff :)	Nov 18, 2009 2:28 AM
1079	Administration, board positions, new construction of eleborate new school buildings	Nov 18, 2009 2:34 AM

Response Text		
1080	Technology should be reduced. Open source software should be used. Non academic buildings need to be consolidated to one building and the rest need to be closed and winterized. Community HS students could be integrated into the other two High School buildings. Switch to AP from IB since there is no additional cost involved in teacher training and several of the courses are already IB/AP.	Nov 18, 2009 2:39 AM
1081	Pay for overseeing extra curricular activities such as student counsel/safeties administration/teachers paying more for insurance increases streamline delivery of services	Nov 18, 2009 2:50 AM
1082	1 School counselors. 2 Non academic teachers i.e woodwork, etc (reduced) 3 can not think of an area to cut any further than it is already.	Nov 18, 2009 3:18 AM
1083	The expensive sports such as football and basketball. Parents living within 2.0 miles from school (including elementary school) should take responsibility for getting students to school. Reduce the number of administrative positions, e.g. assistant principals.	Nov 18, 2009 3:20 AM
1084	1. Eliminate IB and utilize more AP class offerings - Advanced Placement courses do not have unique requirements that make them more costly to offer than other high school academic courses. The College Board does not require that AP courses have smaller class sizes or be taught by more experienced teachers or those with more advanced education credentials than teachers who instruct other academic courses. The College Board does not require schools to use specialized instructional materials for AP courses, and it does not impose any specific requirements related to professional development or continuing education programs for teachers. As a result, schools are not required to incur higher costs for teacher salaries, professional development, or instructional materials in order to offer AP courses. Schools have the flexibility to determine what AP courses they wish to offer based on student demands and may select faculty members and materials to teach these courses as appropriate. 2. Restructure HS 1/2 days for semester final exams. This is a burden on our transportation system, parents who work outside of the home and promotes trouble. Also, eliminate HS juniors taking the MME/ACT during school hours and the district paying their fee. This will save PPS at least \$21,000/annually by making their families pay the ACT fee and take the exam on a Saturday. The state of Michigan has eliminated the Michigan Promise and any incentive to pass the MME. 3. Make the MEA union work to shift the retirement expense burden from the district to MEA or have retirees pay more for their benefits. 4. Go online for textbooks and use the technologies available to our district.	Nov 18, 2009 3:57 AM
1085	administration coach pay reduced superintendent pay reduced	Nov 18, 2009 4:11 AM
1086	All sports unless they are self supporting. Administrative costs ; cars clothing allowances etc. all non academic areas	Nov 18, 2009 8:13 AM
1087	Favor: Pay to play sports or elimination. Favor: Pay to park - high school students. Consolidation of middle schools - Can West be consolidated into North and Central? Consolidation of elementary schools?	Nov 18, 2009 10:40 AM
1088	admin, sports programs	Nov 18, 2009 1:06 PM
1089	Administrative cuts Could we cut the school week to 4 days a week adding a few minutes a day to the rest of the week. Is it possible to consolidate the middle schools to 2.	Nov 18, 2009 1:13 PM
1090	employee wage/benefit cuts, 1/2 days of school, teacher in-service days	Nov 18, 2009 1:17 PM

Response Text		
1091	The first is clearly any Top heavy administrative positions. Most schools and PPS are no different have way too many positions of administration that are not needed. In this desperate time, Counselors, teachers and people DIRECTLY working with students EVERY day are the ones that need to be saved. 2. Look into non essential programs and determine which ones are MOST essential to keep and eliminate the ones that are not being utilized by most people.	Nov 18, 2009 1:24 PM
1092	administration; sports; some high school elective classes	Nov 18, 2009 1:34 PM
1093	perhaps we could reduce the amount of health insurance that is available to teachers.	Nov 18, 2009 1:45 PM
1094	Transportation-more walking areas Extracurricular-sports, clubs etc Some supplies but not books	Nov 18, 2009 1:58 PM
1095	IB Program-eliminate E2 enrichment-eliminate Sports -pay to play -all levels Add more time to the school day and shorten the school year to save money (Start elem. earlier than 8:35) (Mid. /HS extend in the afternoon)	Nov 18, 2009 2:32 PM
1096	At this time I would like more information about the situation before providing thoughtful responses.	Nov 18, 2009 2:38 PM
1097	Administration benefits, paycut?	Nov 18, 2009 2:40 PM
1098	Extracurricular activities including athletics, drama, forensics, etc. should be pay-to-participate; Eliminate E2, ATYP, KAMSC, IB or have participants pay fees; Administrative positions	Nov 18, 2009 2:53 PM
1099	administration, elementary & middle school librarians, elementary and middle school counselors	Nov 18, 2009 2:54 PM
1100	1. Administration including Marcia Wells car, clothing and home allowance. Health insurance premiums should be equal to the rest of the working people 3. Coaching should be kept inhouse, not outsourced to other individuals. Let teachers coach the sports. Also eliminate 1 AD the two schools do not need two	Nov 18, 2009 3:02 PM
1101	Eliminate the PEA. Offer fair wages and fair benefits but do it without the vitriolic presence of the teacher's union.	Nov 18, 2009 3:06 PM
1102	Restructure athletics, BUT DON'T ELIMINATE Can you outsource maintenance for cheaper?	Nov 18, 2009 3:13 PM
1103	IB, switch it to AP classes, New teachers benefits should be reduced.	Nov 18, 2009 3:38 PM
1104	counseling positions at high schools---hire a couple schedulers. adminst. positions in regards to tech/computers eliminate 1/2 days of school to lower bus trans. cost : also consider paying parents to transport special needs child if parent is willing and able. Provide HSers with own transportation an incentive to bring other HSers with them if willing and able.	Nov 18, 2009 4:12 PM
1105	Restructure the school year and have the kids go year around. Reduce field trips. (Teachers/parents can do fun/educational activities at school.)	Nov 18, 2009 4:30 PM
1106	aides, transportation, administration	Nov 18, 2009 4:37 PM
1107	Transportation (# Of stops on a street/neighborhood) mun	Nov 18, 2009 4:40 PM
1108	I think possilby the amount of Social Studies required in middle and high school should be reduced. Dealing with the past should be reduced. We should be helping our kids deal with things in their future also. Things they will have to do as they become adults.	Nov 18, 2009 5:03 PM
1109	redundancy of advanced classes offered at the High School -eliminate	Nov 18, 2009 5:26 PM
1110	Consolidate number of schools and school buildings to reduce overhead and expenses.	Nov 18, 2009 5:34 PM

Response Text		
1111	If you must, cut Reading Recovery and E-squared for elementary school students.	Nov 18, 2009 5:36 PM
1112	Extracurricular, sports and transportation are all "extras" that became a part of a school district's responsibility over time. Providing lunch (and breakfast) are also additional responsibilities. Though I know it makes it harder for families, perhaps these areas are the ones to be cut.	Nov 18, 2009 5:37 PM
1113	The highest paid employees, i.e. administrators, receiving extra benefits that they very well could afford on their own. Hire hard working individuals and get rid of inefficient employees no matter the position. Cafeteria is a waste - parents feed their kids all summer and on weekends - why not breakfast and lunch on school days. Free and reduced lunch kids should also qualify for food stamps and I know that Food Stamp money should easily cover a families food budget.	Nov 18, 2009 5:50 PM
1114	our schools are streamlined enough	Nov 18, 2009 5:54 PM
1115	Consistent with what many industries in the face of our nation's economic crises have had to do, please closely look at staff compensation and insurance benefits.	Nov 18, 2009 6:05 PM
1116	employee benefits, pay	Nov 18, 2009 6:06 PM
1117	1) Work with State and legislators to reduce compliance tracking, paperwork, etc. If this is reduced then administration can be cut. It is easy to say reduce administration, but the MANDATED work from the State makes this extremely hard. 2) Teachers contribute health care costs or reduce level of plan. Maybe start with all new employees. 3) Out of state travel and conferences	Nov 18, 2009 6:28 PM
1118	1. IB - It is expensive, and the rigor of IB is no where near the level of KAMSC. Take the money saved by eliminating IB and increase AP offerings. 2. Administrative costs are too high with too many administrative support positions. 3. Competitive bidding of health care, administration should have the courage to take on the union and MESSA. Based upon a lot of the comments already posted, you would have strong community support, what are you waiting for?	Nov 18, 2009 6:29 PM
1119	Stop mid-day busing. Most kids being bused home are going home to a parent that could pick them up. Less bus stops. In areas that are remote have those kids brought out to a central spot. TURN THE HEAT DOWN IN SCHOOL! The temperatures are kept so high the kids are wearing short sleeve shirts.....Get rid of young 5's! Kids should go to kindergarten when they are 5 and that is all there is too it. Do we REALLY need that big administration building? How many people are employed there....perhaps some reductions within there.	Nov 18, 2009 6:32 PM
1120	Salaries/benefits, perks of administrators, not just teaching staff Superintendent should refuse raise that is scheduled	Nov 18, 2009 6:55 PM
1121	Pay to play, classroom size, reduce number of coaching staff in all sports when possible, reduce number of counselors in middle and high schools.	Nov 18, 2009 7:01 PM
1122	None our children are our future, cut there education even by any percentage and your damaging our future more than it is being damaged by the current "ideas" put forth by certain Americans.	Nov 18, 2009 7:12 PM
1123	The elimination of building new schools or updating the older ones by tearing most of the building down. Reduce the pay of the administration all the way down to Assistant Principals	Nov 18, 2009 7:15 PM
1124	Length of school day/year Administrative/Support Staff Text Book Usage See #9 for explanations	Nov 18, 2009 7:47 PM

Response Text		
1125	In the high school - class choices should be reduced by eliminating low attendance classes. I believe that teachers need a planning period but not a planning and a seminar class. They should be able to there planning in a seminar class. For middle school - take away maditory choir and band.	Nov 18, 2009 7:51 PM
1126	teacher benefits and retirement packages	Nov 18, 2009 7:57 PM
1127	1. Combine school psyschologists, behavior specialists, and counselors and have them travel amongst the buildings on a rotated schedule or as needed. Also combine media specialists, resource room teachers, and or librarians. 2. Pay to play ANY sport should be considered. Extra curricular activities should not be funded through the budget if we are in need of eliminating teachers and increasing class sizes. 3. Eliminate "assistant titled" positions....do you really need an assistant superintendent, etc.?	Nov 18, 2009 8:00 PM
1128	Wage & benefit reductions should be ACTIVELY pursued for all employees	Nov 18, 2009 8:13 PM
1129	administration perks should be eliminated like cars, clothing allowances and any others. Do we need two principals in middle and high school?	Nov 18, 2009 8:52 PM
1130	transportation, field trips,	Nov 18, 2009 9:01 PM
1131	Look at eliminating young 5's program and backing up entrance date into kindergarten. Also eliminate mid-day busing for young 5's and kindergarten... Buses are running with minimal children. Also turn the heat down a few degrees... I wonder how much money could be saved if every school in the district turned down a few degrees	Nov 18, 2009 9:12 PM
1132	baksetballl, football, all athletics.	Nov 18, 2009 9:15 PM
1133	Sports, benefits for teachers, look for excess or ways to conserve small things add up	Nov 18, 2009 10:51 PM
1134	wage and benefits-many in michigan have had to make similar concessions and it's better than seeing your colleague laid-off or let go because you wouldn't conceed so that everyone can maintain a position. Eliminate the meal/lunch program-parents can provide meals for their children every day-much easier to provide than transportation for those parents who are working and can't ship kids to school. I would even be willing to pay a transportation fee to get my kids to school.	Nov 19, 2009 12:04 AM
1135	Central Office, class size, special area staff	Nov 19, 2009 12:05 AM
1136	Every staff member working for PPS should take a 1% or 2% pay cut. A simple pay cut could save jobs. Eliminate the IB program or make students pay to participate. Cut the top-level administation's perks.	Nov 19, 2009 12:05 AM
1137	reduce operation expenses, lighting, heating in off hours eliminate district owned vehicles outsource IT support	Nov 19, 2009 12:25 AM
1138	Eliminate Administrative perks -wardrobe and car allowances in particular. Reduce top heavy administration;excessive secretaries at Central office, restructure HS counseling services; rethink the IB program as it impacts such a small number of Portage students	Nov 19, 2009 1:03 AM
1139	Please see # 9	Nov 19, 2009 1:34 AM
1140	staff salaries Benefits for staff sports and transportation to sporting events	Nov 19, 2009 1:49 AM
1141	employees paying part of their insurance cost and/or obtaining a lower cost insurance plan	Nov 19, 2009 2:42 AM

Response Text		
1142	Use the fleet of vans for smaller groups of students transportation between schools. Use the Bus garage and mechanics to take care of the vans instead of paying a vendor to store and maintain them. Don't concentrate only on the Teachers and Bus Drivers wage and benefit reductions but also look at the Administration Staff and Administrators as well.	Nov 19, 2009 3:46 AM
1143	Eliminate noon-time kindergarten transportation (still us am and pm with rest of school). (This is done in Indiana.) Charge book rental fees (this is done in Indiana, ~\$200 per child). Those who can't afford are exempt. Consider temporary benefit reductions.	Nov 19, 2009 4:31 AM
1144	sports, teacher training, food/catering for meetings	Nov 19, 2009 4:43 AM
1145	Administrative personnel, benefit reductions for administrative personnel & administrative restructuring.	Nov 19, 2009 8:26 AM
1146	Administration perks (cars, retirement extras, clothing allowances) IB--high school (costs for staff education, administration) GT--Pull out--too expensive and teachers only teach 4 days a week, with 24 kids to 3-staff members--too costly, not enough benefit or strong enough program	Nov 19, 2009 10:57 AM
1147	Number of bus stops. Our bus stops on one corner, then goes half a block and stops on the next corner. 1 stop for each neighborhood--not at front doors of houses.	Nov 19, 2009 12:26 PM
1148	Administration wages and benefits such as free cars and clothing allowances. Administrative positions.	Nov 19, 2009 1:27 PM
1149	1. Elementary school counselors. Isn't there a way to use KRESA for this type of support on an as needed basis, instead of classroom presentations that may not impact academics? 2. Pull out enrichment at the elementary level. Teachers are capable of differentiating instruction. 3. No field trips, use technology and other resources to bring the world into the classrooms.	Nov 19, 2009 2:15 PM
1150	Consider reducing the number of class offerings at the high school. The current 80 page catalog of classes is greater than some small colleges. While I believe it is important to offer a large variety of classes the current offerings are to many. Eliminate one or two foreign language offerings. German and latin for sure could be eliminated and perhaps french. Spanish should be mandatory for every child in West Michigan. Reduce the number of hours per day to 6.	Nov 19, 2009 2:47 PM
1151	Administration - Privatize as much as possible Sports, transportation and other programs - pay-to-play / ride Employee benefits - get realistic about health insurance for teachers	Nov 19, 2009 4:02 PM
1152	personnel benefits, number of students allowed to drive to school, increase number of school days,	Nov 19, 2009 6:22 PM
1153	Administration cost	Nov 19, 2009 6:28 PM
1154	I think employees should pay a greater portion of their healthcare costs as the rest of us do with our employers	Nov 19, 2009 7:02 PM
1155	Mailings, All Athletics should be pay to play and extracurricular clubs should instate membership fees	Nov 19, 2009 7:03 PM

Response Text		
1156	<p>1. Limit teacher's PD to the five required PD days per year. If more PD is required (for new curriculum and such) hold it in the evenings or on weekends to save sub costs.</p> <p>2. Implement a pay-to-play program for all sports. They should be self-transport as well. Make it entirely self-supporting. Write for grants or utilize your school foundation to get scholarships for the economically disadvantaged so they have opportunities.</p> <p>3. Elementary teachers can be trained how to use the library and can lead their classes in sharing books, book selection...eliminating the need for librarians or media specialists.</p> <p>Likewise, teachers can do their own art projects, take children to the gym, supervise them at lunch, on the playground, etc.</p> <p>Most (non-school) employees who work 8-4 only get 1/2 hour lunch and work 12 months per year with only a couple weeks of vacation/sick-time. School personnel are paid well considering the time off they get. Planning can be done on their own time in the evenings or during the summer months (plan ahead) to some degree.</p> <p>The district would then need fewer support personnel to cover planning times, lunch times, specials, etc. Teachers will have to do a little more. Childcare programs already do this...children would not have to go without these experiences - they would just be taught by the classroom teacher instead of a "specials" teacher. They could still have a planned gym time each week, art time, etc. It will get harder at the secondary level but this works for elementary teachers.</p> <p>4. High school programming should provide more "lecture type" classes for students who can handle this type of learning. It prepares them for college and allows for a larger student/teacher ratio to save money. Like a college course, you might have to utilize an aide to help but it is cheaper than two full-time certified teachers.</p> <p>5. If some of the "perks" for the Supt. are true, maybe they do need to revisit her package. I don't think a leased car is necessary, clothing, etc. Those are luxuries that we just can no longer afford.</p> <p>6. Maybe you do need to consider a four-day work week but lengthen the time the other four days. (Cut staff salaries as appropriate.) This would help families with childare costs, allow parents to drop off and pick-up older children to save on transportation M-TH, save on transportation one day per week, allow boilers to be shut down for longer weekends, etc. All staff training could be done on Fridays and all sports practices could be held on this day. Could also then charge fees for facility use on Fridays and kids could pay for things like art, PE, music...</p> <p>7. Other states require their kids to sign up for school at the start of every year and pay a small fee like \$70-100 per child (waived for low income families who show proof of poverty) to offset things like paper costs, kleenex, toliet paper...</p> <p>8. Only offer as many MS & HS classes as necessary. If a class is not full - cancel it. There should never be a time when a teacher is only teaching 10-15 students. Should always be 25+.</p>	Nov 19, 2009 7:05 PM
1157	My children could survive without music and art if it meant keeping the class sizes down. School counselors, I think we could do with out.	Nov 19, 2009 8:07 PM
1158	Needs and compensation of PPS Administration officials; duplication of high school programs	Nov 19, 2009 8:56 PM
1159	extras for administrators eliminate overage of administrative assistants	Nov 19, 2009 9:40 PM

Response Text		
1160	(1) Administrative salaries, positions and costs (including automobile payments for school board members) (2) Retained legal counsel (I believe the last attorney was paid upwards of 300K per year) (3) The unequivocal, despicable and disgusting "teacher-bashing" by the administration and school board.	Nov 19, 2009 10:14 PM
1161	Teacher's health insurance. Length of school year. (add minutes to the day, shorten the school year, cut overhead) Elimination of unionized (tenure) protection of underperforming teachers. County-wide tax millage; rewritten so when Portage steps forward and gets it passed for the good of the County schools, Portage Schools retains 100% of the amount collected on their behalf.	Nov 19, 2009 10:28 PM
1162	4 day week during the winter months. Add time onto the length of day. Transportation Run the schools as is until there is no money-shut down.	Nov 19, 2009 10:28 PM
1163	Question # 6 is a "LEADING & MIS-LEADING" question. This is a "contractual / negotiated" item. The District needs to put dollar amounts to the options presented to the public and show how & how many jobs (especially classroom teachers) can be saved.	Nov 19, 2009 10:42 PM
1164	administrative salaries	Nov 19, 2009 10:50 PM
1165	Central Office Personnel should be reduced/replaced Lengthen the days to shorten the year to reduce number of bus runs & other associated costs. Eliminate IBO or make it a fee based program to eliminate cost to the district.	Nov 19, 2009 11:22 PM
1166	Change school time so all students go at same time to reduce the number of trips to 2 per day instead of 4	Nov 19, 2009 11:32 PM
1167	human resources, IT department, administration, counseling	Nov 20, 2009 12:53 AM
1168	Union health benefits - allow competitive bids like many other school systems. Reduce the number of assistant principal and full time office positions. Administrative pay reductions.	Nov 20, 2009 1:21 AM
1169	athletics, number of foreign languages	Nov 20, 2009 2:43 AM
1170	Busing could be reduced.	Nov 20, 2009 2:18 PM
1171	Eliminate - EFE prgrams - County should start a Vo-Tech Center Restructure - High School - Combine Northern and Central - this will reduce the number of administrators. Restructure - Community High with in the confines of one of the larger campuses. This will be Community Students with technology and other required curriculum	Nov 20, 2009 2:53 PM
1172	1. The food plan because we have so much extra that kids dont buy. 2. Drug Dogs because kids are still going to use them weather you catch them or not. 3. Technology because were constantly getting new computers and we really dont need NEW ones.	Nov 20, 2009 4:05 PM
1173	1. drug dogs because they are not needed. they arnt topping anything. 2. food back to the old plan because it was a better price for everyone 3. technology, we dont need all the updates on everything what we have is fine.	Nov 20, 2009 4:07 PM

Response Text		
1174	<p>1. IB program! Small amount of students utilizing it. High cost. Money better spent to support AP courses or pay for college classes if not available at HS. Is it proven to be of any benefit over other programs?</p> <p>2. Do not make band/orchestra/choir a requirement. You have to pay to rent an instrument and I rather have my child in another class, those who want to play will play, make it optional.</p> <p>3. 4 day school weeks, longer days. Reduce energy usage and bussing! Teacher salaries should be adjusted to the changed hours.</p>	Nov 20, 2009 4:34 PM
1175	Young fives program	Nov 20, 2009 4:35 PM
1176	Healthy content of Food Quality	Nov 20, 2009 5:06 PM
1177	administrators should not have company cars . pay them mileage or at least not the high end cars we've provided them with. and also let them take a salary cut for a change	Nov 20, 2009 6:31 PM
1178	<p>1. Restructure healthcare costs. I know that this is something that has to be worked out with the union, but a lot of money can be saved & benefits can be seen by both parties.</p> <p>2. restructure high school classes, so those that are more lecture-based have much larger class sizes while keeping labs smaller. This is done at the college level & works well. It will also prepare kids for larger college class sizes.</p> <p>3. Use more online tools rather than spending on new textbooks that are obsolete so quickly. It is relatively cheap to make copies.</p>	Nov 20, 2009 6:54 PM
1179	I.B., E Squared	Nov 20, 2009 8:46 PM
1180	<p>1)Having a Vice Principal most schools only have a principal.</p> <p>2)Administration</p> <p>3)Extracurricular Activities & bussing for away games</p>	Nov 20, 2009 8:52 PM
1181	Building of new schools, caps on teachers' salaries	Nov 20, 2009 9:03 PM
1182	<p>1. Administrative Reduction/Restructuring--top management positions</p> <p>2. Going Green--limit all the paper waste!</p> <p>3. Turn down the heat--it is HOT in the classrooms! Or at least invest in more efficient furnaces to keep energy costs down.</p>	Nov 20, 2009 9:42 PM
1183	<p>field trips</p> <p>extracurricular (team) sports could be pay to play, but core phys ed should not be reduced</p>	Nov 20, 2009 9:47 PM
1184	<p>Field trips could be reduced.</p> <p>It might also save money to implement an optional electronic-only means of distributing paperwork to parents.</p> <p>The heat could be turned down by a few degrees to save some money.</p>	Nov 20, 2009 10:23 PM
1185	Athletics programs	Nov 20, 2009 10:32 PM
1186	<p>change the benefit package for teachers and administration staff</p> <p>pay to play</p> <p>get rid of cars for administration staff</p>	Nov 21, 2009 12:14 AM
1187	<p>Administration--benefits, cars, and perks</p> <p>IB programs that only benefit a small number of students</p> <p>The Gifted/Talented Elementary Program ---high cost for a weak program that doesn't impact many students</p>	Nov 21, 2009 12:32 AM
1188	Consolidate administrative services with area districts, restructure school calendar (consider occasional four day weeks to save on operating costs, ancillary staff, transportation, etc), offer a buyout to senior staff with compensation tied to a fixed percentage (30 to 50) of the potential savings to the district (if a 30 year veteran costs 30,000 more to employ than a teacher with five years or less experience, offer a one-time payment of 10,000 to 15,000).	Nov 21, 2009 1:34 AM
1189	<p>Administration</p> <p>Administration</p> <p>Administration</p>	Nov 21, 2009 1:37 AM

Response Text		
1190	1. Personnel at the Admin Building...what do they do? Really! 2. Cars 3. Touch the teachers, they will take their children elsewhere!	Nov 21, 2009 2:21 AM
1191	Nothing. Already made too many cuts	Nov 21, 2009 2:30 AM
1192	Leased vehicles Clothing allowances Administrative pay cuts	Nov 21, 2009 3:17 AM
1193	Consolidate Principals Ask Voters for a referendum on the Bond proposal to use a portion of that money to allocated to this need so we don't completely disintegrate our school system functionality there are a lot of companies across the nation asking workers to take a pay cut even 1% - i would much rather have a 1% pay cut than not have a job	Nov 21, 2009 12:39 PM
1194	athletic programs enrichment programs	Nov 21, 2009 4:29 PM
1195	Training programs Enrichment programs All waste	Nov 21, 2009 4:33 PM
1196	Change health insurance coverage; institute pay-to-play for athletics; investigate ways to reduce energy use and costs	Nov 21, 2009 5:18 PM
1197	athletic funding art programing drama	Nov 21, 2009 5:31 PM
1198	Extracurricular activities, sports, music should be paid by parents.	Nov 21, 2009 6:37 PM
1199	sports, transportation for High School students, special education have it on a pay for basis.	Nov 21, 2009 6:51 PM
1200	all extra-curricular activities/programs should be evaluated for "pay-to-play" evaluate insurance coverage/premiums across the board look at increasing efficiency w/regards to energy;eliminate waste with supplies	Nov 21, 2009 8:42 PM
1201	Teachers Saleries Teachers Benefits Adminitrative Car Allowences	Nov 21, 2009 9:41 PM
1202	bussing school calendar/school hours high school media personnel	Nov 21, 2009 9:54 PM
1203	Administration wages	Nov 21, 2009 10:40 PM
1204	Building expansion and transfer of budget	Nov 21, 2009 10:56 PM
1205	Administration take a pay cut, reduce the food service, Kamse	Nov 21, 2009 11:21 PM
1206	athletics pay to play at HS, athletics to intermurals at MS transportation reduced--especially some of the special ed perhaps administration/and their support staff restructured teachers need to make some concessions	Nov 21, 2009 11:38 PM
1207	1) Eliminate hardcopy mailings to homes with e-mail addresses. Do not send newsletters, order forms (I just received one for year books -- seriously??), etc. It wastes paper and postage! 2) Eliminate teachers that have poor performance reviews first. If that is not enough, then work on wage and benefit reductions to reduce the number of lay offs.	Nov 22, 2009 12:31 AM

Response Text		
1208	<p>Make the unions pay a larger share of their medical benefits like the rest of us do. Raise their co-pays to the level that we regular folks are paying. Those Cadillac medical plans have got to go "now".</p> <p>Make the teachers take a pay cut like a lot of other workers have had to do.</p> <p>Cut out any perks in the Administration such as car allowances, clothing allowances, meal allowances. These perks can be reinstated down the road when the economy turns around.</p>	Nov 22, 2009 3:50 AM
1209	<p>1. Administration. 2. Administration. 3. Did I mention Administration?</p>	Nov 22, 2009 3:51 AM
1210	<p>The IB program at the high school should be eliminated No charter buses for athletics unless it proves to be more cost effective than paying over time for school drivers.</p>	Nov 22, 2009 2:06 PM
1211	<p>Teachers should consider the cost that they are paying to belong to a union. If Administration would make a commitment to work as a "COOPERATIVE TEAM" with Teachers; these funds could be put towards the deficit w/out effecting Teachers pay/lay offs. Second, top paying Administration must look at reduction in pay to again show a true commitment to the organization's Mission, Teachers, & Students. Third, parents should be asked to assist in covering a portion of the per student shortfall as possible. Many parents could choose to donate (tax deductible) \$300 to the school this year instead of other charitable organizations w/out hurting their family finances. If after these changes a reduction must still occur, then I would strongly advocate for independent contractor to provide HEALTHY food service since Portage Schools does not currently follow their Mission in creating HEALTHY students based on what is offered at their school lunches. This would be a positive change. If Portage would develop a usable Mission statement; it would guide Administration, Teachers, Parents, Students through all of these difficult decisions.</p>	Nov 22, 2009 2:14 PM
1212	<p>Look at using parent volunteers as often as possible. Perhaps they could replace some staff that assist in the library, computer labs, other areas. I think parent volunteers are under utilized in our current school.</p>	Nov 22, 2009 5:15 PM
1213	<p>I think the administration should be the first to reduce, restructure and eliminate. I feel that there are people that don't do much to earn their keep. I also think that the people who make more than six figures and receive benefits such as cars, gas, and living expenses. It's not only my opinion, but others that I've spoken to. Most people are able to pay for these things out of their paycheck. These benefits should NOT exist!!!!</p>	Nov 22, 2009 6:57 PM
1214	<p>Eliminate paid hall monitors. When I was in high school, the teachers took turns monitoring the hallway during their planning hour.</p>	Nov 22, 2009 7:37 PM
1215	<p>Show me the budget on line, and I will then tell you what to reduce, restructure or eliminate.</p>	Nov 22, 2009 7:44 PM
1216	<p>Michigan teachers are the highest paid in the country. My husband had to take an 8% pay cut this year. I guess they can, too.</p>	Nov 22, 2009 7:52 PM
1217	<p>Education for the Arts Media Center Secretaries Reduce the number of electives at the secondary level</p>	Nov 22, 2009 9:13 PM
1218	<p>administration, middle management, fund balance</p>	Nov 22, 2009 11:12 PM
1219	<p>restructure food service, reduce administration, restructure transportation</p>	Nov 23, 2009 12:04 AM
1220	<p>1-Across the board salary cut for administrators, teachers, support staff. 2- Extracurricular non-academic should be cut before academic activities (pay to play with scholarships for low-income students) 3 - Health care benefits should be restructured to be more in line with private sector coverage</p>	Nov 23, 2009 12:39 AM

Response Text		
1221	The I.B. program. Cuts should be made in the Admin Building. The endless construction.	Nov 23, 2009 2:22 AM
1222	1. maintance 2. paying for sports 3. administration	Nov 23, 2009 2:37 AM
1223	1. Reduced amount on the unimportant things 2. Lay off only people students think should be laid off 3. Don't waste money on certain after school activites, such as busing athletes	Nov 23, 2009 2:45 AM
1224	Hall monitors Non-revenue earning athletics Unnecessary adminstration benefits (cars, clothing, phones)	Nov 23, 2009 5:25 AM
1225	Impliment programs to reduce utility costs. Reduce transportation costs (ie, less routes) Reduce outside facility uses	Nov 23, 2009 6:16 AM
1226	Transportation, tech updates, cosmetic updates.	Nov 23, 2009 12:59 PM
1227	Take the two high school assistant principals that are much better chemistry teachers and put them back in the classrooms. Students at PC and PNHS need good teachers more than they need another administrator (especially since the two administrators are much more qualified in the classroom and less expensive then). Science labs need enough teachers because of safety. Ask the athletic directors to take on more of an assistant principal position during the school day. Offer the ready to retire teachers a good buy-out!!! In the long run paying these expensive (usually well deserved) teachers costs more than a buy out. Along those same lines -- decrease the administrators salaries. Stop cutting the indians and start with the chiefs!	Nov 23, 2009 1:07 PM
1228	Administration and office help, both at the school level and overall administration level. Do you really need all that help? Why can't some of those people go part time?	Nov 23, 2009 1:10 PM
1229	extra pencils extra paper throw-away trays and plasticware in the lunchroom	Nov 23, 2009 1:31 PM
1230	administration, extracurriculars, teacher healthcare benefits	Nov 23, 2009 1:50 PM
1231	Restructure School Year: Longer days...4 day school weeks...Labor Day to Memorial Day (Schools are open anyway due to after school programs)	Nov 23, 2009 1:55 PM
1232	team sports administration cuts before and after school programs	Nov 23, 2009 2:02 PM
1233	The state needs to cut areas other than education. Consider cutting all the free and reduced programs - such as after school care, community programs, etc.	Nov 23, 2009 2:10 PM
1234	1. I believe we need to look at consolidating school districts. If you look around B.C, there are several districts in such a small area (At least six that I can name and I'm not originally from this area so there may be more). Overhead cost to pay for a Superintendent and administrative staff is astronomical. It's my opionion that this should be restructed a.s.a.p. Los Angeles Unified schools pays for one superintendent. Here in MI, some areas are paying an astronomical amount of administration costs and from my experience, they are less efficient overall.	Nov 23, 2009 2:12 PM
1235	paper allocation for printing should be restructured	Nov 23, 2009 2:21 PM
1236	No suggestions.	Nov 23, 2009 2:56 PM
1237	curriculum coaching/support School district collaboration excessive adminstrative positions	Nov 23, 2009 3:03 PM
1238	Admisistrative positions	Nov 23, 2009 3:09 PM

Response Text		
1239	Adminstration. We are too heavy in the top and need to weed out the unnecessary in the top. . . they are paid the most and have least student contact.	Nov 23, 2009 4:19 PM
1240	I believe all the areas have great needs...I really don't have an answer for this question.	Nov 23, 2009 4:59 PM
1241	Reduce heating in buildings. Restructure the focus of grant writing to include funding of special projects such as after school activities, Saturday school, and field trips. Survey parent of school attending students at the start of the year to determine if bus routes are necessary and to decide if reductions in bus routes can be made because students aren't taking the bus. When busses are no longer working, replace with more fuel efficient models.	Nov 23, 2009 5:36 PM
1242	Administration, secretaries, counseling	Nov 23, 2009 6:28 PM
1243	Administration, transportation, athletics	Nov 23, 2009 7:52 PM
1244	Extra curricular has to be reduced or restructured	Nov 23, 2009 8:05 PM
1245	Administration pay including transportation administration Health care payments(not by the individuals having it) Athletic directors combined into one	Nov 23, 2009 10:36 PM
1246	1. Restructure HS transportation by working with existing Metro Transit routes & car pools 2. Reduce Administrative personnel and associated costs through retirement, reassignment to classroom duties and/or combining/eliminating duplicated central office functions performed in the schools 3. Eliminate elective classes that do not directly relate to the 16 required MI Merit HS requirements and implement pay to participate in elective offerings and extra-curriculars which includes and option for no fee or sliding scale costs based on need	Nov 23, 2009 10:43 PM
1247	ELIMINATE IB & DUAL ENROLLMENT! Both are a huge waste of money for only a handful of students, about 1.5%. If you are so concerned about being fiscally responsible, you would take the excessive amount of money spent on those programs and use it to benefit the 98.5% of the students who aren't getting an IB diploma or dual enrolling. Extend the school day in order to decrease the length of the school year. Use parent volunteers to supervise elementary lunch rooms instead paying people to be there, same for playground supervisors.	Nov 23, 2009 11:58 PM
1248	1. High school class sizes - increase the sizes - especially for those juniors and seniors. This will more closely reflect college classes/lectures. 2. Administrative cuts need to be the priority - we need to understand luxury vs. benefits. Eliminate phones and laptops for administrators, clothing allowances, car allowances, administrative (and teachers if they get it) tuition remittance. There are programs such as E squared and IB that should be evaluated to see if the need and dollar investment balances the outcomes.	Nov 24, 2009 1:04 AM
1249	Reduce money being spent on new technology such as 52" TV screens in every classroom. Use bond money to save school programs, keep class sizes reasonable, and save jobs.	Nov 24, 2009 1:10 AM
1250	Counselors IB Program Orchestra HS PE MS Drama	Nov 24, 2009 1:43 AM
1251	1. Sports - play to play for the select few who are always chosen to play. 2. Excessive fringe benefits at the administration level and too many positions of duplication at the administration building. 3. Media specialists, building tech support staff, have minimal counselors pre building, student assistant programs 4. Outside Programs that cost the district money that can be spent elsewhere 5. Workshops, conventions, etc. that take teachers & staff out of the building	Nov 24, 2009 11:37 AM

Response Text		
1252	I can see reducing days and increasing hours per day but I already think that the teaching and support staff are under paid. I do not believe out sourcing jobs is the way to go.	Nov 24, 2009 11:43 AM
1253	Literacy and math coaching could be eliminated; reduce the allowances the superintendent gets; consolidate school districts	Nov 24, 2009 12:54 PM
1254	perks for management such as car, clothes, etc.	Nov 24, 2009 1:26 PM
1255	1) Administration wage and benefit reductions and layoffs 2) Layoff whoever is black-balling and blocking good-faith negotiations with the teachers and staff who work with the kids	Nov 24, 2009 2:37 PM
1256	Those in Administrative positions making over \$95,000 per/year	Nov 24, 2009 4:21 PM
1257	E2, parapros or have them double as lunch and playground.	Nov 24, 2009 5:15 PM
1258	District Administration	Nov 24, 2009 6:07 PM
1259	1. Reduce number of busses, increase route length but do not eliminate bussing. 2. Teacher retirement health benefits - make comperable to corporate retirement benefits. 3. Extracurricular activities/sports should be restructured so that they are not a financial drain.	Nov 24, 2009 8:38 PM
1260	Administration, new building projects, and excess spending on outside resources should be reduced or set aside until the economy improves. Teachers get cut backs all the time, but we never see administration lowering their paychecks. WHY? Why are there people in administraion getting paid for full-time work when they work a half-time position? Why do we need four people to do one job?	Nov 25, 2009 2:04 AM
1261	Not as many field trips	Nov 25, 2009 2:18 PM
1262	administrative staff and counselor	Nov 25, 2009 6:44 PM
1263	Administration--outsource payroll, accounts payable and technology support. Sports--education is the core mission, not playing sports. Transportation--pay to ride Ms Wells does not appear able to work constructively with the board or the staff. Find a new superintendent who can. Use the savings of her salary to help maintain teaching positions.	Nov 25, 2009 9:45 PM
1264	Administration staff and expense accounts, transportation, extra curricular activities, language.	Nov 25, 2009 10:35 PM
1265	The technology department has 21 members, listed. Do we really need 21 members? Can some jobs be eliminated or outsourced? The 52 page Plan was way too much and incomprehensible in parts. What do the org charts look like for the entire school system? Is it true that there are perks for administrators like cars and dry cleaning? I think a temporary across the board pay reduction should be used to save teacher jobs instead of eliminating them. Have teachers and children clean the schools most of the days of the week (after themselves after all!) and janitors only on a limited basis.	Nov 26, 2009 2:38 AM
1266	IB- larger class size to equal "regular" class expectations Extra Curricular- Pay to Play must be implemented to be able to offer these under the current budget restraints. Thin out one additional Admin./quasi position at Admin. building.	Nov 26, 2009 7:23 AM
1267	Teacher salaries should be frozen or reduced. Benefits should be rationalized - MESSA insurance is a wonderful luxury that we can no longer afford as well as a great big slush fund for some well connected fat cats in Lansing. Go to a defined contribution pension, no one can afford to pay pension benefits in the private sector any longer so join the party. Yes I know this will be hard.	Nov 26, 2009 6:39 PM
1268	Thin greatly the administration and their high priced perks!!!!	Nov 26, 2009 10:23 PM

Response Text		
1269	Teacher's make way too much for what we get in return. Let them see what the real world is like for a change. They think that they have it so bad here. Let them strike, then replace them. They are in the Twilight Zone when it comes to wages and benefits. I am tired of it.	Nov 27, 2009 1:19 AM
1270	school counselors elementary school lunches are terrible transportation	Nov 27, 2009 2:14 AM
1271	I think it's important to keep lower numbers in early elementary, but a class size of 25-26 seems reasonable for upper elementary. A restructuring of the middle and high school schedules is also a reasonable idea as long as it doesn't limit options in class offerings for students	Nov 27, 2009 3:32 AM
1272	Request more employee participation in sharing of benefits costs because the rest of the working world has had to. Parent volunteers for playground and lunchroom duty, private schools do this.	Nov 27, 2009 5:56 PM
1273	athletics, energy use, waste	Nov 27, 2009 10:20 PM
1274	All elementary school librarians should be eliminated because K-5 students may be assisted by their classroom teacher and have similar services at the public library. All elementary counselor positions should be eliminated because the school social worker and psychologist are key in IEPs and 504s, not counselors. Athletes should pay to play and parents should provide all transportation.	Nov 28, 2009 1:32 PM
1275	eliminate IB eliminate elementary counselors and librarians eliminate Hwt workbooks, color copiers	Nov 28, 2009 6:32 PM
1276	Transportation at the high school level Textbook updates for next 2 years Pay for play sports	Nov 28, 2009 9:29 PM
1277	restructure busing, reduce the teacher study halls making few teacher available for more classroom time.	Nov 29, 2009 2:19 AM
1278	restructure teacher health care coverage to be in line with current business world restructure the number of our High school teachers are instructing students. Move from 5 to 6 hours per day.	Nov 29, 2009 2:23 AM
1279	administration, purchasing of new text books or sending administrators to conferences, thus including expense accounts	Nov 29, 2009 2:41 PM
1280	restructure transportation, reduce waste	Nov 29, 2009 5:17 PM
1281	1. The number of days that the students are in school (so increase the length of the school day). 2. Wages 3. Number of coaches on coaching staff, and the wages they are being payed	Nov 29, 2009 8:41 PM
1282	Eliminate the IB program. Restructure Bus routes to eliminate buses parking without children to pickup and still being paid. Eliminate administrations fully funded insurance includes paying the high deductibles.	Nov 29, 2009 9:52 PM
1283	Transportation, sports, extra curricular activities	Nov 29, 2009 10:13 PM
1284	Stop all discussions of IB below the high school level. Increase the walk zones for high school students esp. Stop busing from football games to dances. Targeted early retirement program. Make students pay for ACT and ACT Plan tests. Work for savings in facilities management. The Mayor has led considerable efforts at WMU that have been successful. I hope we've talked to him (and WMU).	Nov 29, 2009 11:50 PM
1285	Transportation to some events, such as sporting, choir, band etc.,	Nov 30, 2009 12:06 AM

Response Text		
1286	Transportation - high school Sports - pay to play	Nov 30, 2009 12:27 AM
1287	transportation - high school KAMSC - perhaps they should also look at ways to save school money - let's negotiate with them IB - only offer classes that have 30 students; consolidate PNHS and PCHS programs where necessary - provide transportation to students	Nov 30, 2009 1:09 AM
1288	<p>1)Not knowing the cost of IB classes to the district nor how many students actually receive college credit for IB classes and given that there seem to about 6 IB Diploma graduates per high school per year, the cost effectiveness of an IB class versus an honors class (as in 9th and 10th grade) and/or an Advanced class should definitely be explored. I doubt the money spent here is worth the expense of IB.</p> <p>2) eliminate pep rallies during school hours. They are not a wise use of academic time and money (and my student liked to skip them by sneaking out of the building)</p> <p>3)GYM classes - could go either way, with the short class times is there really much time for physical activity til a student changes clothes twice and goes to the playing field. Perhaps fewer gym credits should be required for graduation.</p> <p>4) Health and Freshman Focus and seminars - perhaps students could study at home which would give more teachers classroom time and thus maintain or reduce class size. My students avoided seminar like the plague and did fine with their homework loads and GPAs.</p> <p>5) If it is still in effect I would eliminate the integrated math program that was shoved down our throats with the beginning of the circa 1999/2000 school year and return to the basic classes of geography, algebra, pre-calc, etc. That was a HORRIBLE math program and should not be supported in any way shape or form.</p> <p>6) Drop German classes and offer only French or Spanish as the foreign languages. I have never needed to read or speak in German despite my travels in Africa, Europe and the US - though the ability to speak and read French and to work through figuring out Spanish has been quite useful.</p> <p>7) Administrative perks should be explored for cuts - this might include travel, company car privileges, various types of seminars</p>	Nov 30, 2009 3:15 AM
1289	Transportation- restructured More students from Western to help teachers with large class sizes(get with WMU to offer an elective to all their teaching students throughout their college days. This would be a big benefit for all!)	Nov 30, 2009 12:04 PM
1290	School bus transportation to athletic events. Should have additional funding/and or sponsors for transportation. Consider altering between full/half days of school. Ex. Mon, Wed, Fri would be full day. Tues and Thurs half a day. Maybe have students attend 4 days a week for 10hr and have Fri off.	Nov 30, 2009 2:04 PM
1291	ADMINISTRATIVE COST CLOTHING BUDGET FOR ADMINASTRATORS ADMINISTATIVE PERKS	Nov 30, 2009 2:41 PM

Response Text		
1292	<p>1. Extra-curricular activities should be restructured/consolidated. Teams and groups that are similar, or have low numbers of participants should be combined to maximize efficiency and effectiveness. Current examples are the men's water polo team and the gymnastics team. Groups at the high schools with similar or parallel purposes, i.e. Peace Jam and International Club, language clubs, etc could be consolidated eliminating duplication. Paying to participate in extra-curricular activities should be expected. With a current budget for athletics alone at 1.3M, we could reduce our deficit substantially with pay-to-play (must provide financing for those unable to pay.)</p> <p>2. Wages and benefits of employees of the district need to be considered. Freezes on salaries are warranted at times where there are severe reductions in revenues. Reducing the number of health insurance plan options and consolidating as many employees under one plan is most cost effective. Requiring shared costs for health care by employees is not out of the question. These measures could lead to less lay-offs.</p> <p>3. We need to seriously look into the total cost of our current IB program. Is it possible to get out of our contract with IB International? What is the cost difference for IB vs. AP classes? Does IB create a heirarchy within its own program? What are the effects of changing in regard to qualified teachers?</p>	Nov 30, 2009 3:08 PM
1293	pay to play sports and other special education such as math and science. less bus stops in neighbor hoods. perks in upper management	Nov 30, 2009 4:28 PM
1294	E2, Kamsc expenses. IB diploma students pay for testing. Admin. cars and expenses.	Nov 30, 2009 5:08 PM
1295	Administration (example secretary pay shouldnt be as high as it is, Marcia Wells should be paid as much as she is, Get rid of this and save the important people like the teachers. Perks for Administration(clothing allowance, car Allowance,) Cut down on the assistant principals, you really dont need that many 1 Middle school	Nov 30, 2009 5:44 PM
1296	Eliminate Middle School athletic programs. Restructure the use of para-pros. Reduce administrative positions.	Nov 30, 2009 5:48 PM
1297	Sports, administration	Nov 30, 2009 6:27 PM
1298	<p>1. Across the board pay cut. \$0-\$50,000 take a 3% pay cut, \$50,000-\$100,000 take a 5% pay cut, \$100,000 and plus (Marsha, Tom, and Ric) take at least 10%.</p> <p>2. Completely unnecessary positions. What school district needs a spokesperson? Have Marsha Wells talk to the press just like Michael Rice does.</p> <p>3. Consider a four day long school week. It could cut 20% of your transportation costs, and considerably reduce the amount spent on utilities.</p>	Nov 30, 2009 6:50 PM
1299	Eliminate the IB diploma program it is not needed, replace with AP courses. Cut administrator salaries. Eliminate the two high school model, go to an upper and lower high school (9-10 and 11-12).	Nov 30, 2009 7:15 PM
1300	IB	Nov 30, 2009 7:23 PM
1301	Extra curricular-Jazz band at the middle school Foreign Language at the Middle school Offer basic classes -core and then typical exploratory Single Bus Run Cut the amount of Administration-consolidate some of the job responsibilities	Nov 30, 2009 7:30 PM
1302	I don't want to see any reductions.	Nov 30, 2009 7:47 PM
1303	Administration (reduced) High School Course Selection (some advanced courses could be handled through KVCC) Adult Ed (Consolidate with other school districts)	Nov 30, 2009 8:13 PM
1304	Eliminate all professional development money. Eliminate all curriculum temporality. Eliminate media non-certified staff	Nov 30, 2009 8:29 PM

Response Text		
1305	<p>Bus routes should be reduced or eliminated for high school age students.</p> <p>Athletics can be cut back - eliminate some sports.</p> <p>Benefits to faculty, staff could be cut back and more employee contributions.</p> <p>Eliminate "fluff" courses - focus on the required courses for graduation.</p>	Nov 30, 2009 9:13 PM
1306	leaders should be reduced and restructured. sports eliminated.	Nov 30, 2009 9:47 PM
1307	Central administration personnel could be reduced, busing could be reduced as long as there are sidewalks for the students to walk on, alternative high school could be eliminated if students could attend Kalamazoo Alternative School.	Nov 30, 2009 11:10 PM
1308	<p>Athletics</p> <p>Administration</p> <p>Discretionary spending</p>	Nov 30, 2009 11:20 PM
1309	If push comes to shove, you have to save academic subjects and eliminate sports, music, drama	Dec 1, 2009 12:40 AM
1310	so much money given to sports	Dec 1, 2009 12:45 AM
1311	All facets of the budget that have the opportunity to generate income for the district should be evaluated. For example, lunch program, this program may be self sufficient but could a minor increase in the cost, for non low income families, be a revenue generator vs a break even. Transportation needs to be evaluated by a team of community volunteers, district employees as well as city planners. All teams need to evaluate the need for high school transportation and the legitimacy for elementary age students to walk 1.5 miles to school. Lastly, I propose a full review of all contracted services such as garbage removal..phone company...voicemail providers...etc.	Dec 1, 2009 1:11 AM
1312	<p>1) I.B. - Not sure the value is there for the cost</p> <p>2) Across the board 5% wage cut (teachers and admin)</p> <p>3) Out-source services starting with areas that are furthest from the classroom (i.e. transportation)</p>	Dec 1, 2009 1:35 AM
1313	<p>Transportation to high school students, including to off site programs (pay for these services)</p> <p>Pay to play fee structure for athletics.</p>	Dec 1, 2009 1:39 AM
1314	<p>Bussing for all grades should be reduced.</p> <p>Administration reduced.</p> <p>MS & HS schedule restructured-teachers teach more and/or have less planning time. Fewer counselors.</p>	Dec 1, 2009 1:55 AM
1315	Teacher pay, administrator pay, International Baccalaureate	Dec 1, 2009 2:01 AM
1316	<p>Restructure retirement incentives - make it worthwhile!</p> <p>Transportation to secondary students</p>	Dec 1, 2009 2:10 AM
1317	<p>Secondary transportation and busing to off campus programs</p> <p>Restructure retirement incentives to staff - make it worth their while to retire</p>	Dec 1, 2009 2:33 AM
1318	<p>1. color copying</p> <p>2. consumable curriculum materials should be ordered only when necessary, and then only to the minimum</p> <p>3. district-wide curriculum adoptions that preclude extensive curriculum development hours and costly materials, including teacher training hours during the summer: eliminate this from the district budget!</p> <p>4. trim administrative costs and keep the money where the students' education benefits most</p>	Dec 1, 2009 2:37 AM
1319	reduce all landscaping costs, assessment by parents of school bus service, more parent volunteers in class	Dec 1, 2009 3:42 AM
1320	Administrative staff, Early-on play groups, regular education ISD supports	Dec 1, 2009 12:37 PM
1321	benefit reduction. Like everyone else, teachers need to make a greater contribution to their own healthcare benefits.	Dec 1, 2009 2:43 PM

Response Text		
1322	1) All landscaping beyond maintenance (mowing, etc) should be eliminated until budget restrictions are reduced. 2) All extracurricular activities, at all levels, should be self supporting and not supported by the budget. 3) Budget funded field trips should be eliminated.	Dec 1, 2009 2:51 PM
1323	Administrator vehicles Travel expenses - conferences/conventions	Dec 1, 2009 4:43 PM
1324	LOOK AT HEALTH CARE COSTS(EXPLORE INCREASED CO-PAYS AND LOOK AT CONSOLIDATING PLANS ACROSS THE STATE OF MICHIGAN MORE PAY TO PARTICIPATE IN SCHOOL SPONSERED ACTIVITIES (SPORTS, ART, BAND ETC) TEACHER AND OTHER STAFF WAGE CONCESSIONS	Dec 1, 2009 5:39 PM
1325	1. Reduce administration salaries & perks - no cars, no extra allowances, no bonuses, etc. Every area needs cuts & too often the ones cut effect the kids. The largest cuts need to come from the top (Senior Administration) and work down. 2. restructure food service. Bring breakfast/lunch service back in-house. No outside contrators. This way the school system has the ability to negotiate with food vendors for the best possible price. 3. Every other area should beleft as is or improved.	Dec 1, 2009 6:05 PM
1326	arts sports	Dec 1, 2009 6:37 PM
1327	start at the top of the board new schools are nice, but didn't we go alittle extreme busing on half days for some schools, all should have half day if one school does	Dec 1, 2009 7:57 PM
1328	transportation, athletics	Dec 1, 2009 8:44 PM
1329	perks for administration from the top down eg, cars, club fees, pay cuts. I don't see leadership by example. Combine athletic teams for both high schools. stop construction at Northern and have one high school; your declining numbers do not support two school campuses. Pfizer will be gone in a decade and your tax base will dwindle! Eliminate reading recovery; it serves too few students fo the cost! Reduce administrators by 25% and require all to teach one class.	Dec 1, 2009 9:02 PM
1330	Class size could be raised across the board. I can remember when average class size in the elementary was 28 - not good but approaching that kind of number seems necessary now. Reduction of the athletic program seems a must now. Go back 30/40 years to see what we had to live with then program wise. We were still in our growing-in-popularity and size stage then. We were doing okay then. Maybe not as good as now but times are hard now and we may have to retrench.	Dec 1, 2009 10:52 PM
1331	Extracurriculars are just that... EXTRA! Extracurricular activities should be funded by fees and fund raising. Transportation costs can be reduced by increasing walk zones and reducing bus stops. Evaluate what positions can be cut or privatized that do not directly impact students in the classroom.	Dec 2, 2009 1:30 AM
1332	Reduction in Administrative personnel at the high paying levels for example Ric Perry and Denise Breson. All of us in the corporate world are having positions eliminated and thus having to do more with less. No pay raises in the Adminstration - that is how it is in the business world. Planning time should be reduced at the high school level so high school teachers could teach more classes and thus need less staff. No more expansion or physical improvments - in severe economic times we need to deal with NEEDS vs WANTS.	Dec 2, 2009 1:49 AM
1333	sports administration (assistant to, etc) advanced placement classes	Dec 2, 2009 1:49 AM

Response Text		
1334	Transportation (increase walk zones, reduce bus stops) Fees for extracurriculars. There is no justification for eliminating academic programs at the cost of saving expensive athletic programs. Let us remember what is the purpose of our schools. Professional development	Dec 2, 2009 1:57 AM
1335	Evaluate which positions can be eliminated that do not directly impact students (administrators) Institute pay to play -- sports and other extracurriculars should pay for themselves.	Dec 2, 2009 2:08 AM
1336	1)Transportation: more route combination along with Class combination, look at coordinating hours of Middle school and the HS. Keep elementary separate as is. 2) pay for play, this has been a long standing policy of the arts where parents fund most of the program. 3)	Dec 2, 2009 2:29 AM
1337	transportation athletics Restructure retirement incentives - offer more!	Dec 2, 2009 2:41 AM
1338	pay a fee for sports/extra activities	Dec 2, 2009 3:22 AM
1339	1) Administration, 2) extras that have become the norm -- overnight packages, color copies, etc. 3) create shared services with other school districts to increase volume and drive down costs; examine all purchases, help our suppliers reduce their costs, thus reducing our costs.	Dec 2, 2009 3:31 AM
1340	Three areas that I believe should be reduced, restructured or eliminated are more reductions at the administrative level(not principals), the supplies and insurance benefits for staff.	Dec 2, 2009 12:57 PM