PORTAGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS' BOARD OF EDUCATION
POLICY GOVERNANCE RETREAT
CONFERENCE RM #1, PORTAGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS' ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, 8107 MUSTANG DRIVE, PORTAGE, MI 49002
OCTOBER 26, 2026, 4:00 PM
AGENDA

VISION STATEMENT
We are inspired to be an exceptional community grounded in fostering strengths, growth, and lifelong learning. Every student. Every future.
MISSION STATEMENT
Portage Public Schools will educate all students to achieve their potential.

I. **CALL TO ORDER**
II. **REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA** **2**
III. **COMMENTS OR COMMUNICATIONS** **3**
1. BY CITIZENS
IV. **DISCUSSION ITEMS**
1. PG BOOTCAMP LEARNING & REMINDERS 4
2. ENDS 1.0 5
3. MONITORING REPORT EVALUATION FORM 8
4. EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS 2.5 11
5. BYLAW 0144.2 13
V. **ADJOURN**

This meeting is a meeting of the Board in public for the purpose of conducting the District's business and is not to be considered a public community meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated on the Agenda.

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II. Revisions/Approval of Agenda

Recommended Motion:

Motion offered by _____, seconded by _____, that the Board of Education approve the Agenda as printed (or as amended).

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III. Comments or Communications

1. By Citizens

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IV. Discussion Items

1. PG Bootcamp Learning & Reminders

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IV. Discussion Items

2. Ends 1.0

POLICY TYPE: ENDS

1.0 POLICY TITLE: *GLOBAL ENDS*

Mission: Portage Public Schools will educate all students to achieve their potential.

Vision: We are inspired to be an exceptional community grounded in fostering strengths, growth, and lifelong learning. Every student. Every future.

Global Ends Statement: Portage Public Schools will educate all students to achieve their potential, at a level such that the results justify the costs.

Ends: The following ends statements establish long-range aspirational and visionary outcomes for the District that reflect community values and support the vision for the District. All of the ends statements contribute to a successful graduate of Portage Public Schools and reinforce the commitment of the Board to continuous improvement and high expectations for all students. Success is based on improvement of results over time and favorable comparisons to similar schools, and the "State of Michigan averages."

1.1 ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Students demonstrate progress toward mastery of core curriculum standards evidenced by annual academic growth within grade level cohorts, growth of low achieving students, and by achieving academic proficiency.

Internal report provided annually in Nov. (HS, MS), Dec. (Elem) and Jan. (overall).

1.2 LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP SKILLS

Students have 21st Century Learning Skills including:

- critical thinking,
- creativity,
- communication, and
- collaboration skills to equip them to learn and to lead with confidence.

Internal report provided annually in March.

1.3 RESILIENCE IN LIFE

Students will exhibit behaviors that are mentally and physically beneficial to themselves and others.

Internal report provided annually in April.

1.4 POST-GRADUATION SUCCESS

Students have the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed at post-secondary institutions without remediation and have the employability skills necessary to obtain meaningful employment.

Internal report provided annually in May.

1.5 RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS

Students demonstrate good citizenship through ethical behavior and respect for individual differences and cultures other than their own.

Internal report provided annually in February.

Adopted: 9/22/08
Revised: 2/9/09, 8/18/14, 1/9/17, 5/22/17, 10/22/18, 3/9/20, 12/14/20, 6/28/21, 10/25/21, 6/19/23, 6/24/24, 11/4/24, 6/30/25, 4/13/26

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IV. Discussion Items

3. Monitoring Report Evaluation Form

Portage Public Schools
Board of Education

Monitoring Report Evaluation Form

Policy: _____

Is the Superintendent's interpretation reasonable? Yes □ No □

Comments:

Is evidence of compliance reasonable? Yes □ No □

Comments:

For Ends Policies:

Comments about long-term achievement of Ends Policy:

Comments Regarding Further Policy Development

1. Do you have a concern that is not addressed in this policy?

2. What policy language would address your concern?

Evaluation submitted to Board President By: _____

Adopted: 9/22/08
Revised: 5/25/09, 3/22/10, 2/26/18, 11/20/23

DRAFT

Portage Public Schools
Board of Education

Monitoring Report Evaluation Form

Policy: _____

Is the Superintendent's interpretation reasonable? Yes □ No □
Comments:

For Ends Policies (results inherently long-term):
Is evidence of achievement reasonable, or where appropriate, is evidence of progress toward achievement reasonable? Yes □ No □
Comments:

For Executive Limitation Policies (boundaries within which the Superintendent must operate):
Is evidence of compliance reasonable? Yes □ No □
Comments:

Comments Regarding Further Policy Development

1. Do you have a concern that is not addressed in this policy?

2. What policy language would address your concern?

Evaluation submitted to Board President By: _____

Adopted: 9/22/08
Revised: 5/25/09, 3/22/10, 2/26/18, 11/20/23

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4. Executive Limitations 2.5

POLICY TYPE: EXECUTIVE LIMITATIONS

2.5 POLICY TITLE: *FINANCIAL CONDITION AND ACTIVITIES*

With respect to the actual, ongoing financial condition and activities, the Superintendent shall not cause or allow the development of fiscal jeopardy or a material deviation of actual expenditures from board priorities established in Ends policies.

Further, without limiting the scope of the foregoing by this enumeration, he or she shall not:

1. Expend more funds than have been received in the fiscal year to date unless the fund balance limitation in 2.5.3 is met.
2. Indebt the organization in an amount greater than can be repaid by certain, otherwise unencumbered revenues.
3. Allow annual unassigned fund balances to fall below 7%. (The Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to establish any standards and procedures, which may be necessary for its implementation.)
4. Conduct inter-fund shifting in amounts greater than can be restored to a condition of discrete fund balances.
5. Allow payroll obligations to be unsettled or untimely.
6. Allow tax payments or other government ordered payments or filings to be overdue or inaccurately filed.
7. Make any contractual commitment for equipment, goods, or services in excess of $100,000. Splitting orders to avoid these limits is not acceptable.
8. Acquire, encumber or dispose of real property.
9. Allow receivables to go uncollected beyond a reasonable period of time without aggressively pursuing their collection.
10. Commit expenditures from a flexible fund to cover expenses in a more restricted fund.
11. Make any adjustment to the salary or length of any administrator contract, or the addition of new or additional benefit programs, without prior approval by the Board of Education of these parameters for the administrative group in total.
12. Operate without a continuous budget cycle and provide a minimum of two budget revisions during the fiscal year, as needed, to accurately reflect the financial condition of the district for the board and the community.

Adopted: 9/22/08 / Revised: 10/23/08, 5/18/09, 3/22/10, 6/20/11, 1/30/12, 12/8/14, 3/28/16, 6/8/2020
External report provided annually in November. Internal report provided annually in December.

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5. Bylaw 0144.2

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Enclosure IV.5.
October 26, 2026

BOARD MEMBER ETHICS

po0144.2 **ADOPTED** September 14, 2015 **REVISED** April 15, 2024

0144.2 - **BOARD MEMBER ETHICS**

As members of the Board of Education, Board members will strive individually and collectively to follow best behaviors and practices to advocate for Portage Public Schools and to improve public education, and to that end, we will:

A. Devote sufficient time, thought, and study to the performance of the duties and responsibilities of a member of the Board and consider resignation from the Board for any extended absence from the District (six [6] months or more);

B. attend all regularly scheduled board meetings and become informed concerning the issues to be considered at those meetings;

C. inform themselves about current educational issues by individual study and through participation in programs providing needed information, such as sponsored by local, state, and national school board associations;

D. recognize that they should endeavor to make policy decisions only after full discussion at publicly held board meetings;

E. encourage the free expression of opinions by all board members, and seek systematic communications between the board and students, staff, and all elements of the community;

F. work with other board members in a spirit of harmony and cooperation to build trusting relationships, in spite of differences of opinion, which may arise during the discussion and resolution of issues at board meetings;

G. communicate in a professional manner with and about fellow board members;

H. honor all opinions with respect and understanding, even when there are disagreements or differing views;

I. render all decisions based on the available facts, independent judgment, and alignment with Board governance policies and bylaws, and refuse to surrender that judgment to individuals or special interest groups;

J. Make decisions that are best for all students: all means all;

K. express opinions before votes are cast, but after the board vote, abide by and support all majority decisions of the board;

L. work with the other board members to establish effective board policies and to delegate authority for the administration of the district to the superintendent;

M. communicate to other board members and the superintendent expressions of public reaction to board policies and programs;

N. support the employment of those persons best qualified to serve as school staff, and insist on a regular and impartial evaluation of all staff;

O. take no private actions, act on behalf of the board, or make promises as individuals that will compromise the board or administration, and respect the confidentiality of information that is privileged;

P. avoid being placed in a position of conflict of interest, and refrain from using their board positions for personal partisan gain;

Q. recognize the only link that board members have to labor negotiations is through the Superintendent or with the board's bargaining team during a closed session to discuss collective bargaining strategy;

R. during public comment, always listen actively with respect, refrain from making judgments until all the facts are in, and distinguish between policy matters and operational issues that belong to administration;

S. to make an informed decision, ask the Superintendent or the board president for additional information if you are unsure about supporting a matter before the board, to avoid surprises.

Revised 3/27/17
Revised 10/22/18

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Source: Board of Directors, National School Boards Association.