

GLAD, SAD, AND MADS ABOUT OUR SCHOOLS AND OUR COMMUNITY

Board of Education		
Glads	Sads	Mads
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Portage Pride Community Group ● Quality School Board ● Small town atmosphere ● Splash Pad ● Successful Arts Culture ● Lots of technology ● Fiscally responsible ● Kids come first ● Portage Public Library ● Great Educators ● Safe community to raise families ● Student Achievement ● Leaders willing to step forward ● Community support for our schools ● Great facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lack of community center ● Lack of Portage Pride ● Declining property values ● Lack of quality jobs ● Low participation rates in co-curriculars ● Families struggling financially ● Teachers feeling overwhelmed ● Asking taxpayers for money ● Dedicated teachers unrecognized ● Declining enrollments ● Poor Promoters ● Teacher unease 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All the negative press that schools receive ● Community-Dying downtown ● Lack of state commitment to financially support schools ● Taking funding away from public schools ● Act 10 has created upheaval in teacher/admin/board relations & funding ● Lack of growth in community ● State funding cuts to education
Administration Table #1		
Glads	Sads	Mads
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Support of technology in schools Technology in schools (5) ● Portage Pride group ● Investment in technology ● New hospital ● Colleagues, 2 ● Public library, (5) ● Community support for education (5) ● High school band ● Inclusion of all students ● New pupil services department ● Strong leaders ● Well kept buildings ● Musicals ● Dedicated teaching staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Need better communication ● Closure of the rurals, 2 ● Students deaths, 2 ● Hungry students ● Lack of respect of all staff ● Empty stores downtown ● Mental Health needs-Mental health issues impacting student learning ● State mandated assessments taking away from teacher ● Lack of family involvement Families are too busy to spend time with kids Dysfunction in family life (5) ● State mandates dictating assessments and C&I ● Closure of local business ● Not a good coffee shop ● Lack of restaurant options ● Decrease in enrollment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lack of housing options ● Lack of parents who take responsibility with their kids ● When parents don't parent ● Businesses closing Kmart closed, Kristas closed ● Eye sore of houses on hwy. 33 ● Parents are too busy to be involved in kids schooling ● Not enough time in day to meet needs ● Lack of youth options after school for kids (YMCA, mentors) ● Budget freezes ● Lack of understanding of cultural relevancy - socioeconomic disparity-Growing divide between haves and have nots

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Administration Table #2		
Glads	Sads	Mads
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● community support ● diverse opportunities for students ● fiscally responsible ● good and committed educators ● excellent facilities ● 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● lack of growth-community and student numbers ● teaching profession de-valued ● mobility of families ● continually being asked to do more with less/reductions-lack of adequate funding ● we don't have the needed parental involvement ● lack of birth to school programming ● 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● private school vouchers-use of public funds and lack of accountability ● politicizing of everything especially education ● too much rental property/mobility ● lack of apprenticeship opportunities for students ● lack of respect--public schools are failing ● continual reductions due to lack of funding ● schools being blamed for non-school issues ● not enough high tech jobs to bring people to our community

Post HS Education/CESA 5		
Glads	Sads	Mads
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Access to good education ● Quality Educators who are committed and passionate ● Opportunities for fine arts ● We have a community who as a whole cares about the education of our kids ● Glad that the community is supportive ● Glad that the mascot changed ● Diversity ● Strong music program & foreign language program ● Fine arts program ● Fine arts programs ● Good teachers ● Committed educators & administrators ● passionate teachers ● Glad that people are willing to talk when issues are raised 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Loss of course offerings ● Excuses when sports teams aren't successful ● Loss of student soft skills ● That so many amazing, veteran teachers were forced out via Act 10 mandates/policies ● That this community supporter referendums but not its students & teachers ● Sports team so unsuccessful ● Negative attitude about some athletic programs (football) ● Students graduate not prepared for college/careers ● Students "soft skills" face to face ● Focus of school on mid-low little advanced ● Mental health social emotional issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Access to Internet ● State & Federal Funding ● Too much testing and teaching focus on testing ● Lack of respect for teachers and education ● Not addition Math A ● Mad at helicopter parents who may enable students bad behaviors or pressure teachers when their child fails ● Sports, complacency poor programs ● 7-class periods (prefer block scheduling) ● Loss of block schedule ● Amount of homework ● Mad about the way some teachers are allowed to treat students ● Communication nable to see lacking child's progress/issues

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> professional level ● Good education ● Opportunities for my kids school/community ● Glad all my children attend here ● Glad our students have access to a good education ● Good technology ● Inclusion with special education students ● Use of technology in school ● Inclusion ● Portage academy of achievement ● Community schools ● Madison college in our community ● Save schools ● Athletic facilities ● Clean well kept schools ● Nice buildings ● Glad to see more diversity among students ● Success in conference & state (baseball/softball/curling) ● Dances, sports, extra-curricular 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Schools having to parent ● Less family involvement ● Less family units ● Sad there is so little diversity among faculty & staff ● Loss/less gym, art, music (specials) ● Less course offerings ● Learning opportunities are decreasing due to budget issues ● That there's no school newspaper ● Increased class size ● Less money ● Loss of some community schools ● That schools have to make tough decisions about closing small, rural schools ● Sad that people are misinformed about what our schools are facing ● That the district's reliance on 1:1 computers/technology is such a focus and not on reading, writing process, & basic skills ● That we don't have a true community center in Portage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> that hurt his learning ● Respect for education schools teachers ● Mad at those who blame teachers when students don't succeed. (Teachers shouldn't be target) ● Some parents blame schools for the behavior of their students ● Teacher's assessment is based on testing ● Testing in general ● So much testing (Gov't regulations on testing) ● That more people aren't outraged at public money going to others ● Less money makes district choose tough cuts ● Budgets cuts to education at all levels ● Cost of college ● Amount of school needed for many jobs ● No guest wifi ● No open access for all ●
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Teachers Table #1		
Glads	Sads	Mads
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Community Support with referendums! ● Great Dedicated Teachers ● Extra curricular offerings in the district ● Daily 5/CAFE Framework ● PBIS ● Technology ● Sharing of ideas between teachers ● Love teaching! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● High stakes Testing ● Community make-up (Poverty) ● Mental Health Issues ● Loss of a co-worker ● Declining enrollment ● Politics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lack of teacher respect ● Closing Rurals ● Politics within education ● Testing Mandates ● State Funding ● Trying to be like other districts

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Teachers Table #2		
Glads	Sads	Mads
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● good facilities (sports/buildings/labs) ● community support ● good relationship between public and parochial schools ● diversity of educational opportunities ● inclusion of special ed students ● I (we) have a job ● technology availability ● nice kids in Portage ● rigorous course work/AP classes ● excellent staff/teachers who care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● children with parents who do not care about them ● student apathy ● drugs and alcohol ● some teachers are no longer here ● rising number of low income issues ● disrespect for authority ● negativity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● loss of quality staff ● loss of block scheduling ● negativity ● lack of funding ● disrespect towards teachers ● political climate/losing local control/Act 10 ● rising class sizes ● energy inefficient buildings ● parental abdication/teacher is parent/parents who blame schools

Other PCSD Staff		
Glads	Sads	Mads
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Quality health care and care for the elderly in Portage (nursing homes and assisted living) ● Opportunities for advancement by posting new jobs internally first ● Public Library ● Tuition credit reimbursement for continuing education ● Extracurriculars offered to students (clubs, activities) ● Clean and safe working conditions of all schools and office buildings ● Good rapport with workers and staff ● Glad that we have a great community support system for our schools ● Chromebooks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Not enough consequences for student actions ● No Windows OS ● Too much school competition- not enough Community school district ● Need more student participation = better grades ● Lack of parental involvement ● Lack of support of parents ● Lack of funding for education ● Cut hours for support staff ● Limited knowledge of technology ● Rurals closing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Government school lunches ● Negative coverage of school issues by the press- put in some good stuff ● Lack of student respect in general ● Lack of communication from above ● Too little focus on academic achievement and rewards for achievements in grade school ● Lack of parental support of rules and guidelines

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Students		
Glads	Sads	Mads
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extra-curriculars available • Advanced courses offered • Community support • School schedule • Good teachers • A la carte/off-campus lunch • School dances/homecoming • Supportive community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlying schools closing • Lack of school funding • Lack of student motivation/pride/support • Online gym classes • Support of School district by community/teachers by school district • Bullying • Breakfast/lunch programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of respect for authority • Lack of funding/unequal funding throughout departments/ extra-curriculars • Expensive lunch/bad food • negative political influence in schools • Schedule conflicts/class redundancies • Technology misuse • Lack of teacher participation in student lives • Secondary languages not required • Lack of student enthusiasm • Interesting/nonsensical • Not as many opportunities in outlying schools

Business/Government		
Glads	Sads	Mads
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • district has embraced technology advancements • district has built a relationship of trust w/ community • more discussion between city & district this event is a reality • facilities are above average • money support from community • variety of clubs & activities • dedicated caring staff • when I see or hear celebration of community school & business success • business & industry expansion • leaders not afraid to make decisions • tax payers understand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • loss of respect from kids & parents • politicizing of teaching • declining enrollment • canal not a project worthy of attention • volunteerism is a small group • high school ski team didn't continue • continual changes to curriculum • struggling football program • lack of recognition of success of students & faculty • it can't all be done as quickly as I would like • took a long time to develop partnerships • many band students drop out at Jr. High • closing of Caledonia & Fort 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • state intervention on home rule issues • that we must consider providing secure schools • drugs are such an issue • when I see or hear examples of negativity about schools/business • has to go to referendum to operate • lack of participation by citizens • so many years to see effort to attract business • political polarization threatens, among other things, our schools • kids in certain groups = SILOs • so much focus on testing • food options • early release days, big waste

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> expansion when explained lucky to live here varied interests attending this event baseball team's success safe school choices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal & state government shift responsibility w/o funding to local govts. students are cut from activities, mainly sports not enough relaxation time for kids today struggling football program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> of money loss of written spoken language threat of AP course deletion during referendum dialogue lack of potential for earnings of new staff fear of staff to make suggestions present state of the school environment for staff members
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Community Members		
Glads	Sads	Mads
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motivated teachers School facilities Quality teachers Public library Staff perseverance and creative energy Glad that I was involved in education The music we had today Great programs in our schools Successful referenda Number of people who are involved in improving the community Moving 6th graders to MS Community focus on increasing natural resources such as PATHS Improved student achievement Successful graduates who are positive contributors to our community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That my property taxes went down 12% when schools were closed and teachers were laid off Decrease of enrichment offerings in favor of testable offerings Treating those who learn differently as underachievers. Get the hands-on classes back. Lack of choices for those who have goals, not forcing them to fit the classes the school has to offer An overly linear approach taken to learners and learning Losing quality teachers Discontinuing classes and programs Class sizes How local funds are spent Loss of two rural schools Decline of the downtown area The factors that administrators and teachers have to contend with that are out of their control The dampening of creative and intellectual curiosity in 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of good teachers Top-down management Too many hoops for teachers De-professionalization of teaching Using lack of money as an excuse to not allow teacher creativity Able to find money for administrative projects and salaries and not give teachers a raise for 5 years. Loss of programs and staff due to funding reduction Dismantling of public ed in favor of for-profit schools Dlvisiveness created by Act 10 More isn't done for g/t Myriad of changes in curriculum, staffing and programming in the past few years State funding cuts Blame heaped on education community for all of society's problems

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	<p>students due to overemphasis on testing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pervasive climate of distrust for and in the teaching profession ● Not being able to challenge the school board to allow for out-of-school experiences related to long-term goals ● Discipline in classroom is so bad and is hard to change ● We haven't heard more from students ● Number of disaffected students 	
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Parent Table #1		
Glads	Sads	Mads
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● increased utilization of diverse instructional methods/courses ● great teachers/support staff ● technology in our schools ● good # of changes from 2006 to present ● openness of admin/board for public input sessions ● schools/teachers willingness to work with students/parents ● special needs are mainstreamed ● elementary art is 60 minutes (not shorter) ● all the students know everyone in the school and all teachers know all students ● attempts to bring in positive energy ● support of school from community ● community that supports school referendums to keep schools going 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● some administration show lack of respect for teachers and staff ● students no longer get time for socialization or learning ● community not responsive with career related help ● daughter can not play violin in band ● does community know what it has in our school district ● school district can not pool resources ● current moral state of families ● lack of parent support ● parents that cant handle own lives ● lack of geographical knowledge for students ● world history class didnt teach world history ● all sports aren't treated equally ● social/economic makeup of the community ● makeup of the family single parent household ● is there enough help being 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● too much testing ● college focused education track for all students ● there is not enough science in elementary ● volunteers are underutilized ● admin staff get more hours and benefits ● athletic director gets assistant and teachers are losing aides ● too much emphasis on sports that support only a handful of kids ● more help for teachers to reach beyond boundaries ● are we competitive enough in a global environment ● classes moving to online teaching vs teacher teaching ● support staff hours cut ● kids have to team teach in class and are told to ask each other questions vs. having a teacher teach the subject ● teaching staff assuming greater role in the direction of curriculum for the

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> provided for teachers ● increase of mental health in students ● loss of environmental based curriculum ● cutting of budgets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> communities children ● river crossing charter schools closed ● rural schools closed
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Parent Table #2		
Glads	Sads	Mads
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Community support of referendums ● Community support of schools ● Community support of library and splash pad ● Great community support ● Community built the auditorium ● Great teachers ● Teachers are committed to students ● Teachers have great ideas at getting kids involved ● Most teachers are very dedicated ● Really great teachers ● I know my children's teachers care and support them as individuals ● Teacher attitudes ● Our schools have some really nice technology ● Glad about the tech opportunities for students ● Lots of really great kids ● Friends my kids have ● Schools are still a relatively safe place ● Endeavor did not close 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lack of parent involvement ● Lack of parental involvement ● Student who don't care/families that don't care ● It is difficult to get more parental participation ● So many 1 parent families ● Continued bussing problems with inappropriate language/behavior ● We don't support more Christian formats ● Enrollment is down ● Opportunities do not always exist for gifted students ● Students care more about their GPA than what they are learning ● Increase in behavioral/mental health situation but lack of consistent/concise knowledge of how to manage ● Students are more involved with each other on social media sites than face to face ● Athletics have such a high priority in HS ● Standardized testing is driving curriculum and teaching ● American pride has been removed – deference to multiculturalism ● Not much respect towards teachers from students ● Too many disrespectful students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parents do not review curriculum before it is taught ● Witchcraft and foul language/situations in required HS reading material ● Parental conflict with other parents ● It is difficult to get athletic coaching that doesn't include parents ● The arts take a back seat ● Religious expression has been expunged from public education ● More people should care that Christian counseling is not available there for the children who need it ● No Christian clubs (that I'm aware of) but many "diversity" clubs. ● Appears like a lack of consequences for actions ● Fear of retaliation for speaking up about problems in school ● Lack of respect for teachers ● Inclusion (behavioral issues) ● My children are respectful and quiet in the classroom and they get overlooked for the kids behaving inappropriately ● Lack of academics for my kids because teachers are using their time managing kids with behavior problems

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kids and adults lacking respect and responsibility• Lack of motivation• More students don't get involved in more school activities• More values and discipline is not shown by students• Money takes the foreground in so many education discussions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teachers can't expect respect from students• More parents should be concerned about school funding problems.
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