

ISSUES & TRENDS THAT ARE IMPACTING OUR SCHOOL DISTRICT'S FUTURE

Top issues and trends bold and highlighted

Table #1	
Issues	Trends
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● state funding ● attitude of students-wanting to learn ● drug use in the family ● socio-economic status of families ● students with disabilities ● mental health-families and students ● declining enrollment ● family makeup ● mobility ● lack of community growth ● decreasing property values ● counting on the passing of operational referendums ● diverse expectations from families ● testing versus teaching ● technology usage/purpose ● Expectations for the 'outcomes'-student's needs-providing post secondary experiences for students in high school-Technical College, 4 year, and apprenticeship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● technology integration ● change in future careers ● delivery of instruction in different modes ● changes to the school calendar ● globalization ● more entitlement (less internal motivation) ● more teaching to tests

Table #2	
Issues	Trends
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Arts in schools ● Budget-Funding ● Safety ● Bullying ● Student Investment ● Family Support ● Growth mindset vs. Fixed mindset ● Sports ● Extra Curricular ● Government Mandates-Testing ● Student Soft Skills ● Open Enrollment ● Community Involvement ● More college courses ● Student Work ethic ● Division in society ● Religion - Faith ● Technology ● Poverty ● School lunches ● Mental-physical health ● Educator Respect ● Strong families in community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Not teaching kids reality of life ● Socialization - interaction F2F ● Less \$ for education ● Openness of media - negativity ● Social media not used for learning ● Loss of faith in the public sphere ● Family make-up changed to more single parent families ● Lack of respect for authority; Blame of others or. looking at self (lack of taking responsibility) ● Decline in nutrition - fast food and processed foods ● Decrease of the arts in schools - funding/ mandates ● Era of instant gratification - increase desire for real time information ● Lunch portions are getting smaller and less filling ● Increased violence in schools and society ● Students do less work outside of school ● Control of school is moving away from local control to federal control ● Lack of community growth ● More going on to college or tech school

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<p>Table #2 Continued...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Scheduling - School Year Calendar ● Mobility - too many rentals in community ● Academic Honesty ● High Expectations ● Focus on Learning vs. the grade ● Decrease incentives ● Overcommitted Kids 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Poverty increasing in our community ● Increased focus on technology vs. education
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Table #3	
Issues	Trends
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Poverty ● Student & Parent Issues: Behavior & Mental Health Concerns-Respect-Motivation-Involvement ● Parent apathy ● Religious Freedom ● Lack of student motivation ● Declining Enrollment ● Family Mobility ● Decreasing involvement in extra-curricula ● School calendar ● Budget-Finances-Funding ● Increased student mental health concerns ● Lack of staff/faculty respect ● Lack of community growth - mobility and decreasing enrollment ● Student testing ● Keeping current with technology ● Time for professional development ● Positive attitude ● Positive image of student body 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lack of respect for staff/students/families ● Funding ● Lack of community growth ● Poverty ● Increase in technology ● Student motivation ● Change in communication ● Decrease in social skills: increase in technology & a decrease in social skills ● Negative image with press/media vs. need for highlighting more positive news ● Devaluing of teachers

Table #4	
Issues	Trends
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● school funding formula/lack of funding ● declining enrollment ● negative public perception of education/teachers ● politicizing of education ● common core ● advances in technology ● voucher/charter schools ● ability to attract top talent ● pre-K readiness & parental support ● mobility/lack of stability ● continued need for local support ● non-thriving community ● school early-release days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● declining enrollment ● lack of student responsibility ● transient population ● privatizing education ● need for extra security ● proliferation of drugs in community ● “de-volving” english language ● changing job market Top 3: 1. Declining enrollment 2. Lack of student responsibility 3. Proliferation of drugs in the community.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • focus on the english language/literacy • restructure way we do things in the schools <p>Table #4 Continued...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • year-round schooling <p>Top 3:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continued need for local support because of funding issues. Schools need to show fiscal responsibility. 2. Moving to year-round school calendar. 3. Initial and continued family support is essential for pre-k readiness and overall student success. 	
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Table #5	
Issues	Trends
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping qualified teachers/Fear to speak up within district (5) • incentives to keep and draw people to Portage/ Stable community/Small towns losing brain trust (4) • PCSD keeping current with course offerings (4) • Cost for continuing education (0) • Skill sets that relate to career/Competing in a global society (2) • Post secondary readiness/career paths (0) • Decreased state funding (3) • PCSD keeping current with course offerings (3) • High poverty rate (3) • Community/teacher/teacher partnerships (3) • Incentives to keep people to Portage (0) • Too much emphasis on testing/not enough soft skills (3) • Teacher target as blame (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased funding (4) • High stakes testing (3/3) • Failure to understand and accept differences (3/3/2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased vouchers (1) • Loss of daily accountability (2) • Helicopter parents (2) • Teacher as target (2) • Cultural isolation (2) • Lack of discussion skills/different point of view (3) • Distrust of experts (2) • Fear of failure/losing (3) • Lack of global view (2) • loss of community pride (3)

Table #6, top six (tie)	
Issues	Trends
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • declining enrollment • neglection of student input • bring science back into the curriculum • increased class sizes • 60/40 rent to ownership • lack of student ability to work independently/ problem solve • number rising of low income homes • repression of progressive learning • more use of volunteers • difficulty retaining high quality teachers • Act 10 (most votes) 	<p style="text-align: center;">top three</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • collaboration vs lecture (not always good) • (more) lower income issues • increased lack of respect • school lunches in decline (amount, quality) • lack of support for struggling students • less use of volunteers • increased use of technology takes away from personal contact (most votes) • common core • less resources for the community at large • structured education/emphasis of academics at an early age (lack of socialization)

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • self motivation by students to become involved • decrease in staff reduction (support staff as well) <p>Table #6 Continued...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • poor specialization planning ("tracking", development of your emphasis: college vs vocational) • outreach to other countries/global community • lack of a winning football team (school spirit) • having school choice • allowing students to pick a topic within the offered agenda and completing the assignment within the timeline • more respect between the administration and staff (morale) • single parent families • more kids need out of classroom time • we have a top heavy administration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • anti bullying, tolerance of others • increased safety training within the district • lack of communication between the school and the community
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Table #7	
Issues	Trends
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • funding 5 • declining enrollment 1 • transportation • Act 10 1 • vouchers, open enrollment • tech advancements 2 • security 2 • competition 1 • community growth 3 • family units 3 • people who work her don't live here • State and National political climate • student behaviors • erosion of society • Transiant community • people that work here don't live here • special needs 3 • student behaviors • articulation with 2/4 year college • college and career readiness 1 • alternative education 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • student/parent apathy 4 • negative societal shift towards educators • increasing poverty • consolidation of buildings 1 • less respect for authority 1 • keeping up with other Districts • more direct measures of student growth 1 • diagnosis of special needs • increasing expectations for professional staff development • use of technology 5 • incr. transparent communication 1 • District involvement in more contact with court system 1 • non school issues become issues due to social media 4 • decreasing funding 4 • declining enrollment • more students accessing higher ed •

Table #8	
Issues	Trends
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • decreased funding-property taxes funding (1111111) • increased priorities, mandates and workload 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget cuts across schools, businesses-decreased ability to have more offerings and retain teachers

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● (11111) ● changes in demographics, mobility and increased F&R lunch, housing-apartments vs houses (111) ● RESPECT for education, staff, teachers, and students (111) <p>Table #8 Continued...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● big class sizes (11) ● continual cuts to programs (111) ● increase in social challenges and mental health issues (11111) ● keeping up with latest technology-flipped classrooms (1) ● accountability-where is the money going-bad decisions being made-who hired the athletic director for \$80,000, paying \$20,000 for this process-teacher pay (11) ● Teacher burnout retention and pay (1111) ● Assessment driving what teaching (1111) ● political climate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Too much-increase in state control over Curriculum ● More accountability and assessment ● deteriorating family structure Schools expected to do more to meet needs to students Increase in F&R lunch population ● Increased social media and technology ● bullying ● less elective opportunities ● Decreased enrollment
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Table #9	
Issues	Trends
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Funding (6) ● Property Tax Availability ● Vouchers ● School Choice ● Declining Enrollment (1) ● Socioeconomic (5) ● Developmental Readiness ● School Readiness (2) ● Lack of Parental Involvement (2) ● Lack of communication-school to home and vice versa (4) ● School Pride ● Collaboration (1) ● Programming (3) ● Apprenticeship/School to Career Programs ● Budget Driving Curriculum ● Required State Testing (1) ● Health and Wellness Knowledge (2) ● Athletic lack of success and lack of commitment (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Accountability (2) ● Mental Health (3) ● Funding (6) ● Lack of Commitment/Success to Athletics (2) ● Loss of Local Control (4) ● Socioeconomic (6) ● Family Structure (4) ● Technology (2) ● Inclusion (1)

Table #10	
Issues	Trends
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mental Health ● Early Intervention ● Declining enrollment ● Decline of family 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Testing accountability and frequency for students and staff increasing ● Lack of funding ● Doing more with less

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Teacher pool declining ● taxes unknown ● student behavior and language ● dress code ● length of the school day ● recess time/free time <p>Table #10 Continued...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● community ● respect ● funding/state funding formula ● common sense parenting ● competition with private voucher charter schools for funding ● building community support ● rebuilding confidence of employees in the school system 	
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Table #11	
Issues	Trends
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Funding/resources/economically diverse population ● Communication/greater need for parental involvement ● Maintaining enrollment to keep schools open/ movement of public education to private/ school choice/mobility ● Government mandates (testing, potential loss of the arts, and lack of multiple ways to demonstrate achievement) ● Security ● Technology ● Behaviors/mental health and support for families ● Lack of new single family housing development to attract and keep families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● More families receiving free/reduced lunch ● Decrease in enrollment ● Increase mobility ● Decrease in funding for all public entities

Table #13	
Issues	Trends
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Retaining good teachers ● Funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ retaining enrollment by attracting students ○ Programs such as gifted and talented being reduced or cut ○ offer college credit courses ● Fiscal responsibility ● Student Performance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In Class ○ Testing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Open Enrollment/School Choice ● Increased Legislation re education ● Teaching to the test ● Negative perception of education in the community ● Disengaged and/or apathetic parents and students ● Family social and economic situations are stressful and dysfunctional at times

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Life Skills/People Skills ○ Career Skills ● Community Partnership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ attracting families with affordable single family housing ● Teacher Effectiveness ● Teachers not having a voice that is heard ● Standardized testing 	
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Table #14	
Issues	Trends
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parental Involvement* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Family Structure ○ Behavior ○ Not welcoming ● Funding* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Declining Enrollment ● Socio-economics* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Declining Enrollment ○ Lack of new businesses in community ○ More single family housing ○ Declining property values ○ Lack of new businesses in community ● School Lunches ● Priorities* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lack of Strategic Plan ○ Communication ○ Testing (too much) ● Staff Development* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mental health training ○ Sub training ○ Common discipline procedures ○ Not welcoming ○ Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Integrating technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Decreased Funding ● Increased use/dependence on Technology ● Increase of online learning ● Increased drop out rate ● Rise in violence ● Disrespect of educational system ● Increased Mental Health Issues ● Decrease of Socio economic status ● Declining parental involvement ● Lack of social etiquette ● Increased required testing ●