

**PORTAGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS' BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR MEETING  
CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL RM #1136, 8135 S. WESTNEDGE, PORTAGE, MI 49002  
JANUARY 26, 2026, 6:30 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.

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| <b>I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE</b>                                    |          |
| <b>II. REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA</b>   | <b>2</b> |
| <b>III. REPORTS</b>   |          |
| 1. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT  | 3        |
| a. BOARD RECOGNITION  |          |
| b. BOND PROJECT UPDATE  |          |
| c. FINANCIAL REPORT   | 4        |
| <b>IV. BOARD EDUCATION</b>  | <b>6</b> |
| 1. PRESENTATION OF MONITORING REPORT 1.1 (OVERALL)                                  |          |
| <b>V. COMMENTS OR COMMUNICATIONS</b>  | <b>7</b> |
| 1. BY CITIZENS  |          |
| 2. BY BOARD TRUSTEES  |          |
| 3. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS  |          |
| <b>VI. CONSENT AGENDA</b>   | <b>8</b> |
| 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES  |          |
| a. JANUARY 12, 2026 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING / COMMITTEE OF THE<br>WHOLE WORK SESSION | 9        |
| 2. E-RATE DISTRICT-WIDE FIBER REPLACEMENT (OP 6320)                                 | 13       |
| 3. E-RATE CHS & NHS ATHLETIC COMPLEX FIBER INSTALLATION (OP 6320)                   | 24       |
| 4. APPROVE PROGRAM OF STUDIES (OP 2210)   | 34       |
| <b>VII. ASSURANCE OF DISTRICT PERFORMANCE</b>                                       |          |
| 1. MONITORING REPORT 1.1 (OVERALL) (GP 4.4)   | 35       |
| <b>VIII. REQUIRED ACTION ITEMS - None</b>   |          |
| <b>IX. ACTION ITEMS</b>   |          |
| 1. APPROVE BANK DEPOSITORIES - REVISED (MCL 380.1221)                               | 49       |
| 2. DESIGNATE SAFETY DEPOSIT BOXES <i>(ITEM ADDED AT THE MEETING)</i>                | 52       |
| <b>X. DISCUSSION ITEMS</b>  |          |
| 1. GENERATOR PURCHASE (OP 6320)   | 53       |
| <b>XI. ADJOURN</b>  |          |

**PORTAGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION – REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
PORTAGE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL, ROOM #1136  
JANUARY 26, 2026, 6:30 P.M.**

**Note Page**

**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).**

**PORTAGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION – REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
PORTAGE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL, ROOM #1136  
JANUARY 26, 2026, 6:30 P.M.**

**Note Page**

**III. Reports**

1. Superintendent's Report
  - a. Board Recognition
  
  - b. Bond Project Update
  
  - c. Financial Report

**Portage Public Schools  
General Fund Budget Progress Report by Function  
2025-2026 Fiscal Year**

|   | Six months ended December 31, 2025 |             |                       |             | Six months ended December 31, 2024 |             |                       |             |
|---|------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|
|   | Preliminary Budget 2025-2026       | % of total  | Year-to-date activity | % of budget | Preliminary Budget 2024-2025       | % of total  | Year-to-date activity | % of budget |
| <b>Revenue:</b>                                   |                                    |             |                       |             |                                    |             |                       |             |
| Local   | 19,978,649                         | 16%         | 18,138,795            | 91%         | 19,002,147                         | 15%         | 18,167,160            | 96%         |
| State   | 89,415,376                         | 73%         | 29,494,946            | 33%         | 91,538,661                         | 74%         | 28,152,054            | 31%         |
| Federal   | 1,203,264                          | 1%          | 14,838                | 1%          | 1,901,369                          | 2%          | 829,094               | 44%         |
| Local payments-other districts                    | 12,127,368                         | 10%         | 3,289,497             | 27%         | 11,437,997                         | 9%          | 2,847,498             | 25%         |
| Other/Transfers in                                | 130,000                            | 0%          | -                     | 0%          | 120,000                            | 0%          | -                     | 0%          |
| <b>Total Revenue</b>                              | <b>122,854,657</b>                 | <b>100%</b> | <b>50,938,075</b>     | <b>41%</b>  | <b>124,000,174</b>                 | <b>100%</b> | <b>49,995,807</b>     | <b>40%</b>  |
| <b>Expenditures:</b>                              |                                    |             |                       |             |                                    |             |                       |             |
| <b>Instruction</b>                                |                                    |             |                       |             |                                    |             |                       |             |
| Basic Programs                                    | 62,290,929                         | 49%         | 22,450,667            | 36%         | 62,518,724                         | 49%         | 22,952,864            | 37%         |
| Added Needs                                       | 12,339,549                         | 10%         | 4,279,427             | 35%         | 12,103,721                         | 10%         | 4,017,980             | 33%         |
| <b>Total Instruction</b>                          | <b>74,630,478</b>                  | <b>59%</b>  | <b>26,730,094</b>     | <b>36%</b>  | <b>74,622,445</b>                  | <b>59%</b>  | <b>26,970,844</b>     | <b>36%</b>  |
| <b>Supporting Services</b>                        |                                    |             |                       |             |                                    |             |                       |             |
| Pupil Support                                     | 11,461,290                         | 9%          | 4,106,240             | 36%         | 11,194,306                         | 9%          | 4,033,025             | 36%         |
| Instructional Staff                               | 8,457,575                          | 7%          | 3,499,440             | 41%         | 8,530,940                          | 7%          | 3,561,713             | 42%         |
| General Administration                            | 873,106                            | 1%          | 462,512               | 53%         | 846,509                            | 1%          | 481,310               | 57%         |
| School Administration                             | 6,601,287                          | 5%          | 2,740,224             | 42%         | 6,387,409                          | 5%          | 2,684,826             | 42%         |
| Business  | 1,309,382                          | 1%          | 640,083               | 49%         | 1,268,317                          | 1%          | 635,884               | 50%         |
| Operations and Maintenance                        | 11,051,081                         | 9%          | 5,992,383             | 54%         | 11,996,894                         | 9%          | 5,414,410             | 45%         |
| Transportation                                    | 5,707,490                          | 5%          | 1,945,842             | 34%         | 5,102,480                          | 4%          | 1,931,649             | 38%         |
| Central Support Services                          | 3,531,171                          | 3%          | 2,282,152             | 65%         | 3,202,032                          | 3%          | 2,031,623             | 63%         |
| Other Support Services                            | 1,942,324                          | 2%          | 1,136,649             | 59%         | 1,837,507                          | 1%          | 1,078,311             | 59%         |
| Community Services                                | 23,468                             | 0%          | 13,968                | 60%         | 173,243                            | 0%          | 38,181                | 22%         |
| Childcare Services                                | 270,287                            | 0%          | 163,055               | 60%         | 1,129,446                          | 1%          | 512,973               | 45%         |
| <b>Total Supporting Services</b>                  | <b>51,228,461</b>                  | <b>41%</b>  | <b>22,982,547</b>     | <b>45%</b>  | <b>51,669,083</b>                  | <b>41%</b>  | <b>22,403,904</b>     | <b>43%</b>  |
| Other Financing Uses/Capital Outlay               | 142,928                            | 0%          | -                     | 0%          | 21,000                             | 0%          | -                     | 0%          |
| <b>Total Expenditures</b>                         | <b>126,001,867</b>                 | <b>100%</b> | <b>49,712,641</b>     | <b>39%</b>  | <b>126,312,528</b>                 | <b>100%</b> | <b>49,374,748</b>     | <b>39%</b>  |
| Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures | (3,147,210)                        |             | 1,225,434             |             | (2,312,354)                        |             | 621,059               |             |

**Portage Public Schools  
General Fund Budget Progress Report by Object  
2025-2026 Fiscal Year**

|                             | Six months ended December 31, 2025 |               |                          |                | Six months ended December 31, 2024 |               |                          |                |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|----------------|
|                             | Preliminary<br>Budget<br>2025-2026 | % of<br>total | Year-to-date<br>activity | % of<br>budget | Preliminary<br>Budget<br>2024-2025 | % of<br>total | Year-to-date<br>activity | % of<br>budget |
| Salaries                    | 61,276,322                         | 49%           | 22,992,010               | 38%            | 59,014,191                         | 47%           | 21,445,242               | 36%            |
| Benefits                    | <u>44,529,686</u>                  | 35%           | <u>15,655,619</u>        | 35%            | <u>45,351,879</u>                  | 36%           | <u>16,604,051</u>        | 37%            |
| Total Salaries and Benefits | 105,806,008                        | 84%           | 38,647,629               | 37%            | 104,366,070                        | 83%           | 38,049,293               | 36%            |
| Purchased Services          | 13,999,493                         | 11%           | 7,071,619                | 51%            | 12,227,500                         | 10%           | 6,391,981                | 52%            |
| Supplies                    | 5,957,628                          | 5%            | 3,161,675                | 53%            | 6,443,777                          | 5%            | 3,611,092                | 56%            |
| Capital outlay/Other        | <u>238,738</u>                     | 0%            | <u>831,719</u>           | 348%           | <u>3,275,181</u>                   | 3%            | <u>1,322,382</u>         | 40%            |
| Total Expenditures          | 126,001,867                        | 100%          | 49,712,641               | 39%            | 126,312,528                        | 100%          | 49,374,748               | 39%            |

**PORTAGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION – REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
PORTAGE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL, ROOM #1136  
JANUARY 26, 2026, 6:30 P.M.**

**Note Page**

**IV. Board Education**

1. Presentation of Monitoring Report 1.1 (Overall)



**PORTAGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION – REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
PORTAGE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL, ROOM #1136  
JANUARY 26, 2026, 6:30 P.M.**

**Note Page**

**VI. Consent Agenda**

1. Approval of Minutes
  - a. January 12, 2026 Organizational Meeting/Committee of the Whole Work Session
  
2. E-Rate District-Wide Fiber Replacement

**Approve, as presented, the awarded contract with Verita Telecommunications Corporation for the purpose of replacing and burying fiber optic cabling that connects all Portage Public School buildings for a total project cost of \$433,654.52, the funds for which will come from the 2025 Bond Fund (the third series from the 2021 vote).**
  
3. E-Rate CHS & NHS Athletic Complex Fiber Installation

**Approve, as presented, the awarded contract with Fiber Link Inc. for the purpose of installing supplemental fiber optic cabling at the Portage Central High and Northern High outdoor athletic facilities for a total project cost of \$26,547.86, the funds for which will come from the 2025 Bond Fund (the third series from the 2021 vote).**
  
4. Approve Program of Studies

**Approve the 2026-2027 Programs of Study for our elementary, middle and high schools, as presented.**

**PORTAGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING / COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE WORK SESSION  
JANUARY 12, 2026**

The Organizational Meeting / Committee of the Whole Work Session of the Board of Education of Portage Public Schools held on Monday, January 12, 2026, was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Van Antwerp. The meeting was held in Room #1136 of Portage Central High School. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Trustees Present: Emily Crawford, Kimberly Larson, Terri Novaria, Mary Lou Rohwer, Bo Snyder, Mark Stevenson, Randy Van Antwerp

Board Trustees Absent: None

**REVISIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion offered by Ms. Larson, seconded by Dr. Stevenson, that the Board of Education approve the Agenda as printed.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Mr. Van Antwerp reviewed the election process.

Mr. Van Antwerp asked for a nomination for the office of President; Member Snyder nominated Member Van Antwerp. Mr. Van Antwerp asked for second and third nominations; there were none. As the only nomination for President, Mr. Van Antwerp declared himself elected as President by acclamation.

President Van Antwerp asked for a nomination for the office of Vice President; Member Novaria nominated Member Snyder. There were no second or third nominations. President Van Antwerp declared Bo Snyder Vice President by acclamation.

Mr. Van Antwerp asked for a nomination for the office of Secretary; Member Rohwer nominated Member Novaria. There were no second or third nominations. President Van Antwerp declared Terri Novaria Secretary by acclamation.

**REPORTS**

**Superintendent's Report**

**Bond Project Update**

Mr. Russ Gerbers, Assistant Superintendent of Operations, showed photos of construction progress at the Woodland Elementary site as well as photos taken at the recent Angling Road Elementary engagement sessions for students and staff.

Mr. Gerbers responded to Trustee questions.

### **Board Appreciation Video**

As part of Board Recognition Month, via video, students shared their perspective of the Board's role and expressed their appreciation to the Board.

The video was well received by the Board.

### **BOARD EDUCATION**

#### **Presentation on Monitoring Report 1.1 (Elem)**

Dr. Kelly Jensenius, Director of Elementary Education, presented on Monitoring Report 1.1 with a focus on elementary assessment data compared to similar schools and responded to Trustee questions.

### **COMMENTS OR COMMUNICATIONS**

President Van Antwerp opened the floor to public comments and hearing none, opened the floor to Trustee comments.

Mr. Snyder honored Mr. Van Antwerp in his role as Board President.

Mrs. Novaria and Mrs. Rohwer echoed Mr. Snyder's sentiments.

Mr. Van Antwerp was appreciative of the remarks and thanked his fellow board members for their work.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**President Van Antwerp presented the following Consent Agenda items for approval by the Board of Education:**

- 1. Organizational Items: (a) designate the following depositories for school funds: Comp One, Flagstar Bank, First National Bank, Horizon Bank, Huntington Bank, Michigan Class, JP Morgan Chase, Macatawa Bank, Mercantile Bank, Michigan Class, PFM Investment Management, and Southern Michigan Bank & Trust; (b) approve the 2025-26 and 2026-27 board meeting schedules as presented; (c) designate persons authorized to use the safety deposit box as the Superintendent Johnny Edwards, Assistant Superintendent of Operations Russ Gerbers, Director of Finance Paula Johnson, and Board Secretary Terri Novaria; (d) designate the Electronic Transfer Officer as Paula Johnson, Director of Finance; (e) appoint Barb Atkinson as Board Recording Secretary; (f) approve Thrun Law Firm, P.C. as the Board's and District's primary legal counsel; and (g) pre-approve 2026 board member attendance at board-related classes, conferences, workshops, etc. and approve reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred to attend said events, as per Bylaw 0175.1.**
- 2. Monthly Consent Agenda Items: Approve minutes from the December 8, 2025 Regular Business Meeting & Closed Session (corrected to reflect Emily Crawford was absent, not present, at the closed session); and approve Policies 1422, 1422.02, 1662, 2210, 2266, 2412,**

3122, 3122.02, 3362, 4122, 4122.02, 4162, 4362, 5120, 5460, 5517.01, 7540.02, 8300, and 8305, as amended.

The consent agenda was adopted as presented, with the following corrections: the December 8, 2025 closed session minutes amended to reflect that Emily Crawford was absent from the closed session, and the consent agenda motion was clarified to include Michigan Class as a designated depository.

#### **ASSURANCE OF DISTRICT PERFORMANCE**

##### **Monitoring Report 2.5, Financial Condition/Activities (Internal) (GP 4.4)**

Superintendent Edwards summarized key points from his report.

**Motion offered by Dr. Stevenson, seconded by Mrs. Crawford, that the Board of Education accept Monitoring Report 2.5, Financial Condition and Activities, as a reasonable interpretation and evidence of compliance with policy.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

##### **Monitoring Report 2.9, Emergency Superintendent Succession**

Superintendent Edwards reviewed highlights from his report.

**Motion offered by Mrs. Crawford, seconded by Ms. Larson, that the Board of Education accept as presented, the Monitoring Report on 2.9, Emergency Superintendent Succession, as a reasonable interpretation and evidence of compliance with policy.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

##### **Accept Single Audit Act Compliance Report**

Per Ms. Samantha Stevens, Business Manager, this report is typically provided/approved in November along with the financial audit; however, it was released late from the Office of Management and Budget due to the federal government shut down. There were no findings by the auditor. We received a clean audit opinion.

**Motion offered by Mrs. Novaria, seconded by Dr. Stevenson, that the Board of Education accept the 2024/25 Single Audit Act Compliance Report, as presented.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **E-Rate District-Wide Fiber Replacement**

Dr. Ryan Miller, Director of Information and Technology Systems, reviewed the recommendation to replace fiber optic cabling that connects all district buildings. Mr. Steven Van Dyke, Data Center Systems Specialist, shared the history of fiber cabling in the District.

### **E-Rate CHS & NHS Athletic Complex Fiber Installation**

Dr. Ryan Miller reviewed the recommendation to install supplemental fiber optic cable at the Central High and Northern High outdoor athletic facilities and address Trustee questions.

### **Approve Program of Studies**

Dr. Mackenzie Sheahan, Director of Curriculum K-8 and Dr. Tracy Speaker-Gerstheimer, Director of Curriculum 9-12 reviewed proposed changes to the program of studies and responded to questions from Trustees.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barb Atkinson  
Recording Secretary

To: Johnny Edwards, Superintendent  
 From: Ryan Miller, Director of Information and Technology  
 CC: Paula Johnson, Director of Finance  
 Date: January 12, 2026  
 Re: E-Rate District Wide Fiber Replacement

**RECOMMENDATION**

I recommend that the Board of Education approve the awarded contract with Verita Telecommunications Corporation for the purpose of replacing and burying the fiber optic cabling that connects all PPS buildings. The total cost for the project will be \$433,654.52 and the funds will come from the 2025 bond fund (the third series from the 2021 vote).

| <b>Project</b>                         | <b>Original Project Cost</b> | <b>E-Rate Reimbursement</b> | <b>Federal Discount &amp; State Matching Grant</b> | <b>Total Discounts</b> | <b>Final /Actual Cost to PPS</b> |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>District Wide Fiber Replacement</b> | \$1,445,515.07               | 50%                         | 20%  | \$1,011,860.55         | <b>\$433,654.52</b>              |

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

This recommendation is for the replacement of the fiber optic cabling installed in 1998 throughout the district. This fiber was run as aerial, affixed to utility poles throughout the city. The typical lifespan of fiber optic cables run in this method is approximately 25-30 years. Aerial fiber has increased risks of failure primarily due to severe weather and tree limbs breaking utility lines and animals chewing through the cable. Our fiber optic infrastructure supports critical district operations to our buildings, such as Internet access, telephones, security systems, and other key operations. A failure of fiber optic infrastructure is sudden and disruptive, with significant impacts to instruction and building site safety.

The proposed project replaces this fiber with modern buried fiber optic infrastructure, significantly improving the reliability and resiliency of critical district operations. This work represents a planned replacement of critical infrastructure. The expected lifespan of buried fiber optic cabling is 25-40+ years. Maintenance of this fiber will be bid out in future years, and will be an E-Rate eligible service.

The project cost for this replacement is \$1,445,515.07. The federal E-Rate program will reimburse the district for 50% of the project cost. In addition, fiber projects funded in the 2025 E-Rate cycle receive an additional 10% discount from the Federal Government, and a 10% special construction matching grant from the Michigan Department of Education, reducing the final cost to the district by over \$1 million to \$433,654.52.

## **BIDDING PROCESS**

The E-Rate program requires districts to issue a formal RFP and go through the competitive bidding process. Verita Telecommunications Corporation was the highest rated bidder based on the E-Rate weighted rating criteria, which includes pricing, project specifications, prior experience and other factors.

For your reference, a copy of the bid tabulation sheet, MDE conditional grant approval letter, and the E-Rate / USAC Funding Commitment Decision Letter are attached. I would be happy to answer any questions that the Board may have on this purchase.

Attachments

**E-Rate Bid Assessment Worksheet**

Funding Year **2025**

**Project or Service Description**

WAN access service option (e.g. self-provisioned, third party network, lit fiber, dark fiber, coax, fixed wireless, etc.)

**Vendor Scoring** (use additional worksheets if necessary)

**\$1,799,130 over 5 yrs**

ACD dark fiber \$1,319,130 one time & \$8000 per month

**\$1,446,315.07 one time**

Verita \$1,446,315.07

**\$1,564,530.81 one time**

Turnkey \$1,564,530.81 underground only

**\$1,624,961.53 one time**

Turnkey \$1,624,961.53 aerial and underground

**\$1,296,000 over 20 yrs**

Metronet \$5400 10Gb per month (leased lit circuit)

**\$2,880,000 over 20 years**

Metronet \$12,000 per month (Leased Dark Fiber)

**Vendor Selected:** Verita  
**Approved By:** Ryan Miller  
**Title:** Director of Technology

**Bid Assessment Comments, if needed:**  
 Metronet leased lit is not compatible with our network topology. ACD monthly maintenance fees are perceived as very high.

**Notes:**  
 \* Percentage weights must add up to 100%. **Price must be weighted the heaviest.**  
 \*\* Evaluated on a scale of 1 to 5: 1=worst, 5=best.  
 \*\*\* Weight x Raw Score



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

March 26, 2025

CONDITIONAL GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

Mark Bielang  
Portage Public Schools  
8107 MUSTANG DR  
PORTAGE, MI 49002-5577

Dear Mark Bielang,

Thank you for your application for the State of Michigan's E-Rate Enhancement Special Construction Matching Fund grant. Your application has been conditionally approved for grant funding.

The final grant amount, if awarded, will not exceed 10% of the approved one-time special construction costs related to an E-rate-approved project. Award of funds are contingent upon approval of your E-rate application by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) and the final approved costs associated your application's approval.

As a reminder, grant funds may be drawn only after proof of project completion and final USAC reimbursement.

Any questions on your grant award may be directed to Joe Polasek in the Office of Systems, Evaluation, and Technology (OSET) at MDE-EdTech@michigan.gov.

Sincerely,

Michael F. Rice, Ph.D.  
State Superintendent

Enclosure

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

PAMELA PUGH | PRESIDENT | ELLEN COGEN LIPTON / TIFFANY D. TILLEY | CO-VICE PRESIDENTS  
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608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET | P.O. BOX 30008 | LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909  
WWW.MICHIGAN.GOV/MDE | 833-633-5788

# Funding Commitment Decision Letter

## Funding Year 2025

### Contact Information:

Janelle Morgan  
PORTAGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
8107 MUSTANG DRIVE  
PORTAGE, MI 49002  
[jmorgan@elitefund.com](mailto:jmorgan@elitefund.com)

**FCC Form 471:** 251036278

**BEN:** 131279

**Wave:** 34

**Application Nickname:** Portage PS 2025 Solution  
471

## Totals

|                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Total Committed</b> | <b>\$920,404.81</b> |
|------------------------|---------------------|

## What is in this letter?

**Thank you for submitting your application for Funding Year 2025 Schools and Libraries Program (E-rate) funding.** Attached to this letter, you will find the funding statuses for the FCC Form(s) 471, Services Ordered and Certification Form, that you submitted and referenced above.

The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) is sending this information to both the associated applicant(s) and the service provider(s) so that you can work together to complete the funding process.

## Next Steps

1. Work with your service provider(s) to determine if your bills will be discounted or if you will request reimbursement from USAC after paying the full cost for the services you receive.
2. Review the [Children's Internet Protection Act \(CIPA\)](#) requirements and file the [FCC Form 486](#) (Service Confirmation and CIPA Certification Form). **The deadline to submit this form is 120 days from the date of this letter or from the service start date (whichever is later).**
3. Invoice USAC

- **If you (the applicant) are invoicing USAC:** You must pay your service provider(s) the full cost for the services you receive and file the [FCC Form 472](#), the Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement (BEAR) Form, to invoice USAC for reimbursement of the discounted amount.
- **If your service provider(s) is invoicing USAC:** The service provider(s) must provide services, bill the applicant for the non-discounted share, and file the [FCC Form 474](#), the Service Provider Invoice (SPI) form, to invoice USAC for reimbursement for the discounted portion of costs. Every funding year, service providers must file an [FCC Form 473](#), the Service Provider Annual Certification Form, to be able to submit invoices and to receive disbursements.
- **To receive an invoice deadline extension, the applicant or service provider** must request an extension on or before the last date to invoice. **If you anticipate, for any reason, that invoices cannot be filed on time**, USAC will grant a one-time, 120-day invoice deadline extension if timely requested.

## How to Appeal or Request a Waiver of a Decision

You can appeal or request a waiver of a decision in this letter **within 60 calendar days** of the date of this letter. Failure to meet this deadline will result in an automatic dismissal of your appeal or waiver request.

**Note:** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will not accept appeals of USAC decisions that have not first been appealed to USAC. However, if you are seeking a waiver of E-rate program rules, you must submit your request to the FCC and not to USAC. USAC is not able to waive the E-rate program rules.

- **To submit your appeal to USAC**, visit the Appeals section in the [E-rate Productivity Center \(EPC\)](#) and provide the required information. USAC will reply to your appeal submissions to confirm receipt. Visit USAC's [website](#) for additional information on submitting an appeal to USAC, including step-by-step instructions.
- **To request a waiver of the FCC's rules**, please submit it to the FCC in proceeding number CC Docket No. 02-6 using the [Electronic Comment Filing System \(ECFS\)](#). Include your contact information, a statement that your filing is a waiver request, identifying information, the FCC rule(s) for which you are seeking a waiver, a full description of the relevant facts that you believe support your waiver request and any related relief, and any supporting documentation.

For appeals to USAC or to the FCC, be sure to keep a copy of your entire appeal, including any correspondence and documentation, and provide a copy to the affected service provider(s).

## Obligation to Pay Non-Discount Portion

Applicants are required to pay the non-discount portion of the cost of the eligible products and/or services to their service providers. Service providers are required to bill applicants for the non-discount portion of costs for the eligible products and/or services. The FCC stated that requiring applicants to pay the non-discounted share of costs ensures efficiency and accountability in the program. If using the BEAR invoicing method, the applicant must pay the service provider in full (the non-discount plus discount portion) **before** seeking reimbursement from USAC. If using the SPI invoicing method, the service provider must first bill the applicant **before** invoicing USAC.

## Notice on Rules and Funds Availability

The applicants' receipt of funding commitments is contingent on their compliance with all statutory, regulatory, and procedural requirements of the Schools and Libraries Program and the FCC's rules. Applicants who have received funding commitments continue to be subject to audits and other reviews that USAC and/or the FCC may undertake to assure that committed funds are being used in accordance with such requirements. USAC may be required to reduce or cancel funding commitments that were not issued in accordance with such requirements, whether due to action or inaction of USAC, the applicant, or the service provider. USAC, and other appropriate authorities (including but not limited to the FCC), may pursue enforcement actions and other means of recourse to collect improperly disbursed funds.

# Funding Commitment Decision Overview

## Funding Year 2025

### Application Comments for FCC Form 471: #251036278

The applicant did not submit any RAL corrections.

### Funding Commitment Decision Overview

| Funding Request Number (FRN) | Service Provider Name                 | Amount Requested | Amount Committed | Status |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|--------|
| 2599051380                   | Verita Telecommunications Corporation | \$867,789.04     | \$867,309.04     | Funded |
| 2599051398                   | Fiber link Inc                        | \$53,095.77      | \$53,095.77      | Funded |

|                          |   |                         |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| <b>FRN</b><br>2599051380 | <b>Service Type</b><br>Data Transmission and/or Internet Access | <b>Status</b><br>Funded |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------------|

| <b>Dollars Committed</b>         |        |                                 |                |
|----------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Monthly Cost</b>              |        | <b>One-time Cost</b>            |                |
| Months of Service                | 12     |                                 |                |
| Total Eligible Recurring Charges | \$0.00 | Total Eligible One Time Charges | \$1,445,515.07 |
| Total Pre-discount Charges       |        | \$1,445,515.07                  |                |
| <b>Discount Rate</b>             |        | <b>60.00%</b>                   |                |
| <b>Committed Amount</b>          |        | <b>\$867,309.04</b>             |                |

| <b>Dates</b>                     |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Service Start Date</b>        | 7/1/2025  |
| <b>Contract Expiration Date</b>  | 6/30/2026 |
| Contract Award Date              | 3/24/2025 |
| Service Delivery Deadline        | 6/30/2026 |
| Expiration Date (All Extensions) |           |

| <b>Service Provider and Contract Information</b> |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Service Provider                                 | Verita Telecommunications Corporation |
| SPIN (498ID)                                     | 143054113                             |
| Contract Number                                  |                                       |
| Account Number                                   |                                       |
| Establishing FCC Form 470                        | 250022755                             |

| <b>Consultant Information</b> |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Consultant Name               |                |
| Consultant's Employer         | Elite Fund Inc |
| CRN                           | 16043589       |

**Funding Commitment Decision Comments**

MR1: Per FCC Order 14-189, to prevent warehousing of excess fiber capacity, applicants may only receive funding for special construction charges for a Self-provisioned network if it constructed and lit within the same funding year. If excess strands are being installed that will not be lit during the current FY and will remain dormant until lit for the

applicant's exclusive future use; the applicant must provide a cost allocation for the cost of the unlit strands. Per DA 20-455, excess strands may be installed to share with an ineligible entity that will pay its fair share of network costs, so long as the applicant submits written documentation with its funding request demonstrating the reasonableness of its allocation methods. The applicant provided the following cost allocation calculation \$800.00. During the Fiber Review, it was determined that the calculation should be \$800.00. Therefore, this FRN has been modified from \$1,446,315.07 to \$1,445,515.07 to account for the fiber strands that will not be lit during this FY or that will be used by an ineligible entity that will pay its fair share of network costs.

|                          |   |                         |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| <b>FRN</b><br>2599051398 | <b>Service Type</b><br>Data Transmission and/or Internet Access | <b>Status</b><br>Funded |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------------|

| <b>Dollars Committed</b>         |        |                                 |             |
|----------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Monthly Cost</b>              |        | <b>One-time Cost</b>            |             |
| Months of Service                | 12     |                                 |             |
| Total Eligible Recurring Charges | \$0.00 | Total Eligible One Time Charges | \$88,492.95 |
| Total Pre-discount Charges       |        | \$88,492.95                     |             |
| <b>Discount Rate</b>             |        | <b>60.00%</b>                   |             |
| <b>Committed Amount</b>          |        | <b>\$53,095.77</b>              |             |

| <b>Dates</b>                     |                  |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Service Start Date</b>        | <b>7/1/2025</b>  |
| <b>Contract Expiration Date</b>  | <b>6/30/2026</b> |
| Contract Award Date              | 3/24/2025        |
| Service Delivery Deadline        | 6/30/2026        |
| Expiration Date (All Extensions) |                  |

| <b>Service Provider and Contract Information</b> |                |
|--|----------------|
| Service Provider                                 | Fiber link Inc |
| SPIN (498ID)                                     | 143049070      |
| Contract Number                                  |                |
| Account Number                                   |                |
| Establishing FCC Form 470                        | 250023729      |

| <b>Consultant Information</b> |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Consultant Name               |                |
| Consultant's Employer         | Elite Fund Inc |
| CRN                           | 16043589       |

**Funding Commitment Decision Comments**

MR1: Approved as submitted.

To: Johnny Edwards, Superintendent

From: Ryan Miller, Director of Information and Technology

CC: Paula Johnson, Director of Finance

Date: January 12, 2026

Re: E-Rate CHS & NHS Athletics Complex Fiber Supplemental Installation

**RECOMMENDATION**

I recommend that the Board of Education approve the awarded contract with Fiber Link Inc for the purpose of installing supplemental fiber optic cabling at the CHS & NHS outdoor athletics facilities. The total cost for the project will be \$26,547.86 and the funds will come from the 2025 bond fund (the third series from the 2021 vote).

| <b>Project</b>                       | <b>Original Project Cost</b> | <b>E-Rate Reimbursement</b> | <b>Federal Discount &amp; State Matching Grant</b> | <b>Total Discounts</b> | <b>Final /Actual Cost to PPS</b> |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>CHS &amp; NHS Athletics Fiber</b> | \$88,492.95                  | 50%                         | 20%  | \$61,945.09            | <b>\$26,547.86</b>               |

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

This recommendation is for the installation of fiber optic cabling to the baseball and softball pressboxes and soccer concessions buildings at Central High School, along with the installation of fiber optic cabling to the baseball, softball, and soccer pressboxes at Northern High School. This is to support requests for automated sports camera systems designed to record, upload and live stream events for use for coaching and team analysis. The move to cashless payment systems is also driving this request for reliable wireless internet in these locations as well. The expected lifespan of this buried fiber is well over 30 years.

The project cost for this replacement is \$88,492.95. The federal E-Rate program will reimburse the district for 50% of the project cost. In addition, fiber projects funded in the 2025 E-Rate cycle receive an additional 10% discount from the Federal Government, and a 10% special construction matching grant from the Michigan Department of Education, reducing the final cost to the district by over \$60,000 to \$26,547.86.

**BIDDING PROCESS**

The E-Rate program requires districts to issue a formal RFP and go through the competitive bidding process. Fiber Link Inc was the highest rated bidder based on the E-Rate weighted rating criteria, which includes pricing, project specifications, prior experience and other factors.

For your reference, a copy of the bid tabulation sheet, MDE conditional grant approval letter, and the E-Rate / USAC Funding Commitment Decision Letter are attached. I would be happy to answer any questions that the Board may have on this purchase.

Attachments

**E-Rate Bid Assessment Worksheet**

Funding Year 2025

**Project or Service Description**

WAN access service option (e.g. self-provisioned, third party network, lit fiber, dark fiber, coax, fixed wireless, etc.)

**Vendor Scoring** (use additional worksheets if necessary)

**\$88,492.95 one time**

Fiber Link \$88,492.95 one time

**\$517,142.93 one time**

Verita \$517,142.93 one time

**\$134,250.49 one time**

Turnkey \$134,250.49 one time

**Vendor Selected:** Fiber Link  
**Approved By:** Ryan Miller  
**Title:** Director of Technology

**Bid Assessment Comments, if needed:**  
Chose most cost effective provider.

Notes:  
\* Percentage weights must add up to 100%. **Price must be weighted the heaviest.**  
\*\* Evaluated on a scale of 1 to 5: 1=worst, 5=best.  
\*\*\* Weight x Raw Score



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

March 26, 2025

CONDITIONAL GRANT AWARD NOTIFICATION

Mark Bielang  
Portage Public Schools  
8107 MUSTANG DR  
PORTAGE, MI 49002-5577

Dear Mark Bielang,

Thank you for your application for the State of Michigan's E-Rate Enhancement Special Construction Matching Fund grant. Your application has been conditionally approved for grant funding.

The final grant amount, if awarded, will not exceed 10% of the approved one-time special construction costs related to an E-rate-approved project. Award of funds are contingent upon approval of your E-rate application by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) and the final approved costs associated your application's approval.

As a reminder, grant funds may be drawn only after proof of project completion and final USAC reimbursement.

Any questions on your grant award may be directed to Joe Polasek in the Office of Systems, Evaluation, and Technology (OSET) at MDE-EdTech@michigan.gov.

Sincerely,

Michael F. Rice, Ph.D.  
State Superintendent

Enclosure

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

PAMELA PUGH | PRESIDENT | ELLEN COGEN LIPTON / TIFFANY D. TILLEY | CO-VICE PRESIDENTS  
JUDITH PRITCHETT | SECRETARY | MARSHALL BULLOCK II | TREASURER  
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608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET | P.O. BOX 30008 | LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909  
WWW.MICHIGAN.GOV/MDE | 833-633-5788

# Funding Commitment Decision Letter

## Funding Year 2025

**Contact Information:**

Janelle Morgan  
PORTAGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
8107 MUSTANG DRIVE  
PORTAGE, MI 49002  
[jmorgan@elitefund.com](mailto:jmorgan@elitefund.com)

**FCC Form 471:** 251036278**BEN:** 131279**Wave:** 34**Application Nickname:** Portage PS 2025 Solution  
471

## Totals

|                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Total Committed</b> | <b>\$920,404.81</b> |
|------------------------|---------------------|

## What is in this letter?

**Thank you for submitting your application for Funding Year 2025 Schools and Libraries Program (E-rate) funding.** Attached to this letter, you will find the funding statuses for the FCC Form(s) 471, Services Ordered and Certification Form, that you submitted and referenced above.

The Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) is sending this information to both the associated applicant(s) and the service provider(s) so that you can work together to complete the funding process.

## Next Steps

1. Work with your service provider(s) to determine if your bills will be discounted or if you will request reimbursement from USAC after paying the full cost for the services you receive.
2. Review the [Children's Internet Protection Act \(CIPA\)](#) requirements and file the [FCC Form 486](#) (Service Confirmation and CIPA Certification Form). **The deadline to submit this form is 120 days from the date of this letter or from the service start date (whichever is later).**
3. Invoice USAC

- **If you (the applicant) are invoicing USAC:** You must pay your service provider(s) the full cost for the services you receive and file the [FCC Form 472](#), the Billed Entity Applicant Reimbursement (BEAR) Form, to invoice USAC for reimbursement of the discounted amount.
- **If your service provider(s) is invoicing USAC:** The service provider(s) must provide services, bill the applicant for the non-discounted share, and file the [FCC Form 474](#), the Service Provider Invoice (SPI) form, to invoice USAC for reimbursement for the discounted portion of costs. Every funding year, service providers must file an [FCC Form 473](#), the Service Provider Annual Certification Form, to be able to submit invoices and to receive disbursements.
- **To receive an invoice deadline extension, the applicant or service provider must request an extension on or before the last date to invoice. If you anticipate, for any reason, that invoices cannot be filed on time,** USAC will grant a one-time, 120-day invoice deadline extension if timely requested.

## How to Appeal or Request a Waiver of a Decision

You can appeal or request a waiver of a decision in this letter **within 60 calendar days** of the date of this letter. Failure to meet this deadline will result in an automatic dismissal of your appeal or waiver request.

**Note:** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) will not accept appeals of USAC decisions that have not first been appealed to USAC. However, if you are seeking a waiver of E-rate program rules, you must submit your request to the FCC and not to USAC. USAC is not able to waive the E-rate program rules.

- **To submit your appeal to USAC,** visit the Appeals section in the [E-rate Productivity Center \(EPC\)](#) and provide the required information. USAC will reply to your appeal submissions to confirm receipt. Visit USAC's [website](#) for additional information on submitting an appeal to USAC, including step-by-step instructions.
- **To request a waiver of the FCC's rules,** please submit it to the FCC in proceeding number CC Docket No. 02-6 using the [Electronic Comment Filing System \(ECFS\)](#). Include your contact information, a statement that your filing is a waiver request, identifying information, the FCC rule(s) for which you are seeking a waiver, a full description of the relevant facts that you believe support your waiver request and any related relief, and any supporting documentation.

For appeals to USAC or to the FCC, be sure to keep a copy of your entire appeal, including any correspondence and documentation, and provide a copy to the affected service provider(s).

## Obligation to Pay Non-Discount Portion

Applicants are required to pay the non-discount portion of the cost of the eligible products and/or services to their service providers. Service providers are required to bill applicants for the non-discount portion of costs for the eligible products and/or services. The FCC stated that requiring applicants to pay the non-discounted share of costs ensures efficiency and accountability in the program. If using the BEAR invoicing method, the applicant must pay the service provider in full (the non-discount plus discount portion) **before** seeking reimbursement from USAC. If using the SPI invoicing method, the service provider must first bill the applicant **before** invoicing USAC.

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# Funding Commitment Decision Overview

## Funding Year 2025

### Application Comments for FCC Form 471: #251036278

The applicant did not submit any RAL corrections.

### Funding Commitment Decision Overview

| Funding Request Number (FRN) | Service Provider Name                 | Amount Requested | Amount Committed | Status |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|--------|
| 2599051380                   | Verita Telecommunications Corporation | \$867,789.04     | \$867,309.04     | Funded |
| 2599051398                   | Fiber link Inc                        | \$53,095.77      | \$53,095.77      | Funded |

|                          |   |                         |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| <b>FRN</b><br>2599051380 | <b>Service Type</b><br>Data Transmission and/or Internet Access | <b>Status</b><br>Funded |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------------|

| <b>Dollars Committed</b>         |        |                                 |                |
|----------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Monthly Cost</b>              |        | <b>One-time Cost</b>            |                |
| Months of Service                | 12     |                                 |                |
| Total Eligible Recurring Charges | \$0.00 | Total Eligible One Time Charges | \$1,445,515.07 |
| Total Pre-discount Charges       |        | \$1,445,515.07                  |                |
| <b>Discount Rate</b>             |        | <b>60.00%</b>                   |                |
| <b>Committed Amount</b>          |        | <b>\$867,309.04</b>             |                |

| <b>Dates</b>                     |           |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Service Start Date</b>        | 7/1/2025  |
| <b>Contract Expiration Date</b>  | 6/30/2026 |
| Contract Award Date              | 3/24/2025 |
| Service Delivery Deadline        | 6/30/2026 |
| Expiration Date (All Extensions) |           |

| <b>Service Provider and Contract Information</b> |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Service Provider                                 | Verita Telecommunications Corporation |
| SPIN (498ID)                                     | 143054113                             |
| Contract Number                                  |                                       |
| Account Number                                   |                                       |
| Establishing FCC Form 470                        | 250022755                             |

| <b>Consultant Information</b> |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Consultant Name               |                |
| Consultant's Employer         | Elite Fund Inc |
| CRN                           | 16043589       |

**Funding Commitment Decision Comments**

MR1: Per FCC Order 14-189, to prevent warehousing of excess fiber capacity, applicants may only receive funding for special construction charges for a Self-provisioned network if it constructed and lit within the same funding year. If excess strands are being installed that will not be lit during the current FY and will remain dormant until lit for the

applicant's exclusive future use; the applicant must provide a cost allocation for the cost of the unlit strands. Per DA 20-455, excess strands may be installed to share with an ineligible entity that will pay its fair share of network costs, so long as the applicant submits written documentation with its funding request demonstrating the reasonableness of its allocation methods. The applicant provided the following cost allocation calculation \$800.00. During the Fiber Review, it was determined that the calculation should be \$800.00. Therefore, this FRN has been modified from \$1,446,315.07 to \$1,445,515.07 to account for the fiber strands that will not be lit during this FY or that will be used by an ineligible entity that will pay its fair share of network costs.

|                          |   |                         |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| <b>FRN</b><br>2599051398 | <b>Service Type</b><br>Data Transmission and/or Internet Access | <b>Status</b><br>Funded |
|--------------------------|---|-------------------------|

| <b>Dollars Committed</b>         |        |                                 |             |
|----------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Monthly Cost</b>              |        | <b>One-time Cost</b>            |             |
| Months of Service                | 12     |                                 |             |
| Total Eligible Recurring Charges | \$0.00 | Total Eligible One Time Charges | \$88,492.95 |
| Total Pre-discount Charges       |        | \$88,492.95                     |             |
| <b>Discount Rate</b>             |        | <b>60.00%</b>                   |             |
| <b>Committed Amount</b>          |        | <b>\$53,095.77</b>              |             |

| <b>Dates</b>                     |                  |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Service Start Date</b>        | <b>7/1/2025</b>  |
| <b>Contract Expiration Date</b>  | <b>6/30/2026</b> |
| Contract Award Date              | 3/24/2025        |
| Service Delivery Deadline        | 6/30/2026        |
| Expiration Date (All Extensions) |                  |

| <b>Service Provider and Contract Information</b> |                |
|--|----------------|
| Service Provider                                 | Fiber link Inc |
| SPIN (498ID)                                     | 143049070      |
| Contract Number                                  |                |
| Account Number                                   |                |
| Establishing FCC Form 470                        | 250023729      |

| <b>Consultant Information</b> |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Consultant Name               |                |
| Consultant's Employer         | Elite Fund Inc |
| CRN                           | 16043589       |

**Funding Commitment Decision Comments**

MR1: Approved as submitted.

To: Johnny Edward, Superintendent, and the Board of Education

From: Dr. Tracy Speaker-Gerstheimer, Director of Systems and 9-12 Curriculum  
Dr. Mackenzie Sheahan, Director of Professional Learning and Y5-8 Curriculum

CC: Dr. Michael Pascoe, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction

Date: January 7, 2026

Re: 2026-2027 Programs of Study Recommendations

---

### **Recommendation**

We recommend that the Board of Education approve the 2026-2027 Programs of Study for our Elementary, Middle, and High Schools. The programs of study are linked in their entirety, and a synopsis of the changes is listed below. All changes have been reviewed by the department or grade-level team leader and the CIA office.

### **Elementary Program Changes**

General updates were made to names, dates, roles, and the table of contents.

### **Middle School Program Changes**

General updates were made to names, dates, roles, and the table of contents.

The following course was added: Introduction to World Language.

The following middle school course name was changed: Math Plus 8 to Algebra 1.

The following course was deactivated and removed due to the integration of the activity into the general PE courses: Water Sports.

### **High School Program Changes**

General updates were made to names, dates, roles, and the table of contents.

The following courses were deactivated: Desktop Publishing, Webpage Design, Debate, IB Theatre SL, Latin, Dance Fitness, Cardio Fitness, Engineering Principles, and IB Biology SL.

The following new courses were added: Accounting/Finance 3, Advanced Marketing 3, IB English 1 SL, Statistics in Our Community, Robotics, Athletics.

**PORTAGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION – REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
PORTAGE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL, ROOM #1136  
JANUARY 26, 2026, 6:30 P.M.**

**Note Page**

**VII. Assurance of District Performance**

1. Monitoring Report 1.1 (Overall) (GP 4.4)

**Recommended Motion:**

**Motion offered by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, that the Board of Education accept as presented, the Monitoring Report on 1.1 Global Ends, as a reasonable interpretation and evidence of compliance with policy.**

**Portage Public Schools  
Monitoring Report**

Policy Type: Ends  
Policy Title: (1.1) Global Ends

As requested by the Board during the 2016-2017 school year, the Monitoring Report on Ends Policy 1.1 continues to be divided into smaller segments to provide adequate time to present and discuss this key Ends Statement.

**1.1 Policy Language**

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.

The report is divided into two segments and has been reported on as follows:

- High / Middle School Measures – December
- Elementary School Measures – January

This is the overall summary report for 1.1.

**Certification**

I hereby present my Monitoring Report on Ends Policy 1.1 (overall) in accordance with the monitoring schedule established by the Board. I certify that the information provided in this report is true as of 01/21/2026.

January 21, 2026

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### **Summary Dashboards and Analysis**

In reviewing the data, the Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment (CIA) Department and Educational Supports and Intervention (ESI) Department carefully examine trends in District proficiency and student growth. These measures are critical indicators of our overall performance and directly align with our mission and vision. While the data represents a snapshot in time, we analyze trends over multiple school years to inform our continuous improvement efforts.

Annual District proficiency is evaluated using each PPS school's proficiency rates relative to similar schools, the state, and longitudinal trends within PPS. Evidence of improvement in results over time is interpreted by a PPS school's change in the percentage of students proficient compared to its three-year average relative to similar schools' change over their three-year average. "Meets Expectations" means the PPS school is ranked first, second, or third among its similar schools. "Below Expectations" means the PPS school is ranked fourth or below.

Evidence of annual Academic Growth is interpreted by the percent of PPS students who have a Student Growth Percentile (SGP) in the "Average Growth" range (30th to 69th percentile) or the "Above Average Growth" range (70th to 99th percentile), as defined by the MISchoolData Student Growth report. For academic growth, the statistical norm for the percent of students with "Average Growth" or "Above Average Growth" is 70%. Therefore, any PPS school with at least 70% of students in these ranges is considered to be "At Expectations." Any PPS school with less than 70% of students in these ranges is considered to be "Below Expectations."

For the purpose of this report, the following grades and assessments were used for rankings:

- Elementary Schools: 5th-grade M-STEP
- Middle Schools: 8th-grade PSAT 8
- High Schools: 11th-grade SAT

Monitoring Report

Page -3-

Policy Type: Ends

Policy Title: Ends Policy 1.1

State Percent Proficient Comparison:

Compared to Michigan's average results, PPS has outperformed the state average in ELA and math for the past four years. For the 2024-2025 school year, 5th-grade ELA and math proficiency rates were 11.1% and 7.8% greater than the state's average, respectively. 8th-grade ELA and math proficiency rates were 11.7% and 13.6% greater than the state's average, respectively. 11th-grade ELA and math were 20.0% and 18.8% greater than the state's average, respectively.

|      |      |       | <b>Overall PPS Percent Proficient Compared to the State</b> |           |           |           |
|------|------|-------|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|      |      |       | 2021-2022   | 2022-2023 | 2023-2024 | 2024-2025 |
| 5th  | ELA  | PPS   | 59.1%   | 55.0%     | 59.8%     | 56.5%     |
|      |      | State | 43.1%   | 43.9%     | 44.0%     | 44.4%     |
|      | Math | PPS   | 37.0%   | 37.5%     | 39.6%     | 40.7%     |
|      |      | State | 30.0%   | 31.5%     | 32.6%     | 32.9%     |
| 8th  | ELA  | PPS   | 79.30%  | 76.10%    | 78.50%    | 77.0%     |
|      |      | State | 59.70%  | 59.70%    | 64.50%    | 65.3%     |
|      | Math | PPS   | 56.30%  | 55.20%    | 51.50%    | 44.0%     |
|      |      | State | 36.20%  | 36.30%    | 32.60%    | 30.4%     |
| 11th | ELA  | PPS   | 73.00%  | 71.90%    | 73.40%    | 75.4%     |
|      |      | State | 51.60%  | 52.20%    | 51.30%    | 55.4%     |
|      | Math | PPS   | 45.80%  | 42.70%    | 42.30%    | 46.3%     |
|      |      | State | 30.00%  | 29.90%    | 26.30%    | 27.50%    |

Monitoring Report

Page -4-

Policy Type: Ends

Policy Title: Ends Policy 1.1

PPS Percent Proficient Comparison:

When comparing 2024-2025 state assessment results to the previous three years (2021-2022, 2022-2023, and 2023-2024), there is an increase in proficiency compared to the 3-year average in 5th-grade math (2.7%), 11th-grade ELA (2.6%), and 11th-grade math (2.7%). Proficiency decreased relative to the three-year average in 5th-grade ELA, 8th-grade ELA, and 8th-grade math.

|      |      | PPS 24-25 Compared to PPS 3 yr Previous Average |         |   |
|------|------|---|---------|---|
|      |      | Average of the previous 3 years                 | 2024-25 | 24-25 compared to the average of the previous 3 years |
| 5th  | ELA  | 58.0%   | 56.5%   | -1.5%   |
|      | Math | 38.0%   | 40.7%   | 2.7%  |
| 8th  | ELA  | 78.0%   | 77.0%   | -1.0%   |
|      | Math | 54.3%   | 44.0%   | -10.3%  |
| 11th | ELA  | 72.8%   | 75.4%   | 2.6%  |
|      | Math | 43.6%   | 46.3%   | 2.7%  |

Monitoring Report

Page -5-

Policy Type: Ends

Policy Title: Ends Policy 1.1

Percent Proficient Ranking Summary:

Each PPS school was ranked among its 10 Similar Schools in the percentage of students proficient on the Spring 2025 State Assessments.

| Rank | Status             |
|------|--------------------|
| 1-3  | Meets Expectations |
| 4-10 | Below Expectations |

|     | Rank among 10 Similar Schools |           |
|-----|-------------------------------|-----------|
|     | ELA Rank                      | Math Rank |
| AMB | 7                             | 10        |
| ANG | 7                             | 5         |
| CEL | 7                             | 4         |
| HAV | 7                             | 6         |
| LCE | 6                             | 9         |
| MBE | 8                             | 10        |
| TWL | 9                             | 5         |
| WOD | 5                             | 8         |
| CMS | 8                             | 7         |
| NMS | 5                             | 7         |
| WMS | 9                             | 7         |
| CHS | 2                             | 2         |
| NHS | 7                             | 6         |

Monitoring Report

Page -6-

Policy Type: Ends

Policy Title: Ends Policy 1.1

Percent Proficient Improvement Ranking Summary:

Each PPS school was ranked among its 10 Similar Schools based on the difference between its 2025 Percent Proficient and its three-year average of percent proficient for 2022, 2023, and 2024.

| Rank | Status             |
|------|--------------------|
| 1-3  | Meets Expectations |
| 4-10 | Below Expectations |

|     | Rank among 10 Similar Schools |           |
|-----|-------------------------------|-----------|
|     | ELA Rank                      | Math Rank |
| AMB | 2                             | 1         |
| ANG | 8                             | 8         |
| CEL | 2                             | 2         |
| HAV | 4                             | 4         |
| LCE | 6                             | 6         |
| MBE | 9                             | 10        |
| TWL | 8                             | 3         |
| WOD | 6                             | 5         |
| CMS | 9                             | 9         |
| NMS | 5                             | 7         |
| WMS | 10                            | 9         |
| CHS | 3                             | 2         |
| NHS | 10                            | 8         |

Monitoring Report

Page -7-

Policy Type: Ends

Policy Title: Ends Policy 1.1

Growth Summary:

The percent of students with Student Growth Percentiles (SGPs) of 30 or above on the Spring 2025 State Assessments was calculated for each school. MISchoolData defines Average Growth as SGPs from 30-69 and Above Average Growth as SGPs from 70-99.

| % of students with SGP's >30 | Status             |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 70-100%                      | At Expectations    |
| 0-69%                        | Below Expectations |

|     | ELA | Math |
|-----|-----|------|
| AMB | 73% | 63%  |
| ANG | 67% | 62%  |
| CEL | 76% | 74%  |
| HAV | 72% | 65%  |
| LCE | 76% | 74%  |
| MBE | 68% | 78%  |
| TWL | 63% | 80%  |
| WOD | 57% | 59%  |
| CMS | 79% | 71%  |
| NMS | 81% | 61%  |
| WMS | 74% | 87%  |
| CHS | 77% | 73%  |
| NHS | 70% | 68%  |

| Number of Schools At or Above Expectations for Growth |          |          |
|---|----------|----------|
|   | ELA      | Math     |
| 5th Grade (8 schools)                                 | 4        | 4        |
| 8th Grade (3 schools)                                 | 3        | 2        |
| 11th Grade (2 schools)                                | 2        | 1        |
| <b>Overall (13 schools)</b>                           | <b>9</b> | <b>7</b> |

Reviewing the performance on the “Growth Summary,” nine of 13 schools were “At or Above Expectations” in ELA, and seven of 13 schools were “At or Above Expectations” in math. The most favorable results were 11th-grade ELA (both high schools were “At or Above Expectations”) and 8th-grade ELA (all three middle schools were “At or Above Expectations”). 5th-grade ELA and 5th-grade math (four of eight elementary schools in both categories were “At or Above Expectations”) are areas of concern.

Monitoring Report

Page -8-

Policy Type: Ends

Policy Title: Ends Policy 1.1

Low-Achieving/Non-Proficient Average Growth Summary:

**Low-achieving students** are interpreted by PPS as those whose performance on prior MSTEP assessments indicates they are below the proficiency level. While proficiency serves as one data point, it does not always directly reflect students' day-to-day classroom performance, which is measured through multiple indicators, including, but not limited to, student grades.

The average growth percentile of students who were considered non-proficient on their Spring 2025 State Assessments. SGPs are determined by students' scores on the 2025 State Assessment compared to their last documented state test score.

MISchoolData defines Average Growth as SGPs from 30-69 and Above Average Growth as SGPs from 70-99.

| Average SGP | Status               |
|-------------|----------------------|
| 70-99%      | Above Average Growth |
| 30-69%      | Average Growth       |
| 0-29%       | Below Average Growth |

|     | Average SGP of Non-Proficient Students |      |
|-----|--|------|
|     | ELA                                    | Math |
| AMB | 42%                                    | 36%  |
| ANG | 37%                                    | 42%  |
| CEL | 50%                                    | 41%  |
| HAV | 36%                                    | 42%  |
| LCE | 40%                                    | 44%  |
| MBE | 36%                                    | 44%  |
| TWL | 39%                                    | 49%  |
| WOD | 38%                                    | 37%  |
| CMS | 36%                                    | 47%  |
| NMS | 35%                                    | 37%  |
| WMS | 30%                                    | 57%  |
| CHS | 40%                                    | 42%  |
| NHS | 37%                                    | 45%  |

Reviewing the performance on the “Non-Proficient/Low-Achieving Average Growth Summary,” all students had an average SGP in the "Average Growth" range across all PPS schools for ELA and Math.

### **Response**

The District recognizes the urgency of addressing the overall decline in mathematics proficiency while continuing to implement the ELA curriculum. At the same time, research from implementation science is clear: meaningful, sustainable improvement requires disciplined persistence over multiple years. Frequent shifts in direction before strategies reach full implementation undermine impact and dilute results. Research indicates that full implementation of a new curriculum and measurable, sustained improvement typically take 3 to 5 years.

The District's approach is intentionally designed to move beyond short-term fixes and toward long-term gains. Maintaining focus on curricular alignment, high-quality professional learning, and targeted instructional practices, the District is building the conditions necessary for achieving gains district-wide. The District remains committed to empowering our educators and administrators to help all students reach their full potential. This work follows a staged implementation model that establishes foundations, supports consistent use, and refines practice through feedback and data, so that outcome data reflects true instructional impact rather than early implementation variability.

The District's goal is to increase the trajectory of student performance in both ELA and Math, ensuring all students have the opportunity to achieve proficiency and beyond by:

1. Focusing on sustaining and deepening ELA and math proficiency through curriculum implementation with fidelity over time.
2. Providing high-quality curriculum-specific learning supported through ongoing training and coaching.
3. Building a shared understanding around curriculum, alignment, and instructional priorities with our building leaders.
4. Communicating clear expectations for all tiers of instruction.
5. Providing protected Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) time that is intentionally focused on instructional practice and student learning.

The District remains committed to empowering educators and administrators with the tools, clarity, and time necessary to translate these strategies into measurable, district-wide improvement. Our strategic actions in the 2025-2026 school year and into the 2026-2027 school year are as follows:

#### **English Language Arts (ELA):**

- **Curriculum Implementation and Readiness:**
  - The ELA curriculum is in full implementation across grades K–9, with Grade 10 serving as an early adopter during the 2025–2026 school year.
  - Implementation is supported through a staged approach that prioritizes consistent use, instructional coherence, and refinement over time.

- **Instructional Coherence and Consistency:**
  - All K–9 students participate daily in integrated reading, writing, speaking, and listening instruction, ensuring equitable access to rigorous, standards-aligned literacy experiences across the district.
  - Instruction emphasizes complex texts, knowledge-building, and intentional skill development across grade levels and classrooms.
- **Professional Learning and Instructional Coaching:**
  - Instructional coaching supports teachers in strengthening practice related to complex text engagement, disciplinary thinking, and intentional skill development.
  - All K–5 teachers and administrators are engaged in Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) professional learning to build a shared, research-based understanding of foundational literacy and to strengthen instructional coherence across classrooms and schools.
- **Data Use and Continuous Improvement**
  - Teachers are engaging in PLCs that focus on the consistent use of common assessments and target tasks, using collaborative protocols to analyze student learning, identify trends, and determine timely instructional adjustments.
  - Within these PLC structures, assessment data is used formatively to refine day-to-day instruction, calibrate expectations, and strengthen alignment across classrooms.
  - Assessment data is used formatively to refine instruction and guide professional learning rather than as a measure of short-term program effectiveness.

## Mathematics:

- **Curriculum Implementation and Readiness:**
  - Mathematics instructional practices are being refined through the Curriculum Review Cycle (CRC), ensuring clarity of expectations, accessibility, and alignment to grade-level standards before adoption.
  - Curriculum implementation follows a staged, multi-year piloting process aligned with implementation science to support long-term success.
    - Grades K-5 are piloting *Imagine IM* in Quarter 3 and will pilot *Amplify* in Fall 2026.
    - Grades 6-12 are piloting *Envision* in Quarter 3 and will pilot two other resources in the Fall of 2026 (*Amplify* and *Imagine IM*).
  - Gains in student performance are expected as implementation reaches consistency and fidelity over time.
- **Instructional Coherence and Consistency:**
  - Instructional practices emphasize reasoning, problem-solving, and conceptual understanding across grade levels.

- Classroom instruction prioritizes student discourse, multiple strategies, and connections between representations to ensure coherence in student learning experiences.
- **Professional Learning and Instructional Coaching:**
  - Within the CRC, professional learning was intentionally embedded and aligned with *Building Thinking Classrooms* by Peter Liljedahl, which emphasizes designing learning environments that promote deep student thinking, productive struggle, and meaningful mathematical discourse. Liljedahl’s work focuses on shifting classroom practices such as task selection, student grouping, use of vertical nonpermanent surfaces, and formative assessment to create conditions where all students are actively engaged in problem solving rather than passive completion. This work was implemented across K–12 as part of the CRC process and will be expanded next year to all teachers through dedicated professional development days and department meetings, supporting a shared instructional framework and greater coherence in instructional practice across grade levels and content areas.
  - K-5 Math Learning Labs support teachers in facilitating student discussions, collaborative problem-solving, and mathematical reasoning.
  - Teachers in grades 6-8 participate in cooperative learning professional development that integrates discourse-driven approaches and fosters deeper conceptual understanding.
  - Targeted professional learning builds administrators’ confidence and capacity to observe, evaluate, and support high-quality mathematics instruction. This work strengthens instructional leadership and alignment between curriculum, coaching, and evaluation systems.
- **Data Use and Continuous Improvement**
  - Learning Walks provide real-time data on instructional practices, including student engagement, questioning, and formative assessment.
  - Findings from Learning Walks inform targeted professional learning, coaching, and administrative support, reinforcing continuous improvement rather than compliance.
  - Teachers are engaging in PLCs that focus on the consistent use of common assessments and target tasks, using collaborative protocols to analyze student learning, identify trends, and determine timely instructional adjustments.

## 1.0 Policy Title Global Ends

**Ends:** The following ends statements establish long-term and visionary outcomes for the District that reflect community values and support the vision of the District. Success is based on improvement of results over time and favorable comparisons to similar schools, and the “State of Michigan Averages”.

### Results over time:

- The District’s proficiency scores continue to increase as students remain in our school district. The 8th-grade scores show an improvement in proficiency when compared to 5th- grade and the 11th-grade scores show an improvement when compared to 8th grade.

While 5th and 8th graders take the M-STEP, the 11th graders take the SAT, which is more rigorous when compared to the M-STEP. Therefore, students continue to improve over time and thus the results continue to improve over time.

- Proficiency is one metric. Growth is another area of strength. According to the Michigan Department of Education:
  - “Student Growth Percentiles (SGPs) represent one powerful way to quantify the learning of individual students over one or more years. Conceptually, SGPs communicate the degree to which a student has learned in a particular domain, compared to a group of academic peers who had a comparable score on the previous test (or multiple previous tests) in that subject. Like other percentile scores, SGPs range from 1-99, where a SGP of 50 indicates that the student demonstrated growth in the content area equal or greater to half of the students with comparable score histories on that subject-matter test.”
  - More than half of the schools were “At or Above Expectations” in percent proficient improvement when compared to similar schools.
  - My interpretation of growth in the District may evolve over time. The current results are promising, and I will explore alternate ways to measure and display growth.

**Favorable comparisons to similar schools:**

- Comparing 13 schools to over 111 different schools across the State of Michigan is quite complex. Less than half of schools were “At or Above Expectations” in proficiency ranking when compared to similar schools, but more than one half of schools were “At or Above Expectations” in percent proficient improvement when compared to similar schools.

**“State of Michigan averages”:**

- The school district outperformed the State of Michigan averages in all six categories for the 2024-2025 school year and consistently outperformed the State of Michigan’s averages the previous three years.
- The district’s scores proficiency when compared to the State of Michigan range from +7.8% to +20%.

**1.1 Academic Success**

- **academic growth within grade level cohorts**
  - More than one-half of all schools were “At Expectations” with 70% or more of the students having an SGP of 30% or more in ELA and math.
- **growth of low achieving students**
  - Growth of low achieving students has been defined.
  - Every student in this category in every school had average growth.

Monitoring Report

Page -13-

Policy Type: Ends

Policy Title: Ends Policy 1.1

- **academic proficiency**

- This continues to be the District's area of strength with opportunities for improvement.

This monitoring report outlines the school district's effort related progress towards 1.0 Global Ends and expectations for Monitoring Report 1.1 Academic Success. This report is solely based on one assessment administered one time per school and does not take into consideration the amount of accommodations, assessments, and interventions administered to 8600 students over the remaining 179 school days.

**Conclusion Statement:**

The organization met expectations.

**PORTAGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION – REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
PORTAGE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL, ROOM #1136  
JANUARY 26, 2026, 6:30 P.M.**

**Note Page**

**IX. Action Items**

1. Approve Bank Depositories – Revised (MCL 380.1221)

**Recommended Motion:**

**Motion offered by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, that the Board of Education designate the following depositories for school funds, as presented:**

- **Comp One**
- **Flagstar Bank**
- **First National Bank**
- **Horizon Bank**
- **Huntington Bank**
- **Independent Bank**
- **JP Morgan Chase**
- **Macatawa Bank**
- **Mercantile Bank**
- **Michigan Class**
- **PFM Investment Management**
- **Southern Bank & Trust**

Johnny Edwards  
*Superintendent*  
Phone: 269.323.5182  
jedwards@portageps.org

To: Board of Education

From: Johnny Edwards, Superintendent

Date: January 26, 2026

Re: Organizational Item – Designate Depositories for School Funds - **Revised**

**Recommended Motion**

I recommend that the Board of Education designate the following depositories for school funds:

- Comp One
- Flagstar Bank
- First National Bank
- Horizon Bank
- Huntington Bank
- Independent Bank
- JP Morgan Chase
- Macatawa Bank
- Mercantile Bank
- Michigan Class
- PFM Investment Management
- Southern Bank & Trust

**Background**

The Board's Bylaw 0154-Motions, Item A calls for the Board to designate depositories for school funds as required by Michigan law (MCL 380.1221).

The enclosed list shows which funds are held at each institution.

Enclosure

### Summary of Accounts

| Account Name                                | Fund         | Financial Institution |
|---|--------------|-----------------------|
| PPS General Fund – Public Funds Checking    | General      | Huntington Bank       |
| PPS General Fund - Money Market             | General      | Horizon Bank          |
| PPS Gen. Fund – Certificate of Deposit      | General      | JP Morgan Chase       |
| PPS General Fund - Savings                  | General      | Flagstar Bank         |
| PPS General Fund - Money Market             | General      | Macatawa Bank         |
| PPS General Fund - Money Market             | General      | Mercantile Bank       |
| PPS Payroll - Checking                      | General      | Huntington Bank       |
| PPS CHS Athletics - Checking                | General      | Huntington Bank       |
| PPS CHS Debate - Checking                   | General      | Huntington Bank       |
| PPS NHS Athletics - Checking                | General      | Huntington Bank       |
| PPS NHS Debate - Checking                   | General      | Huntington Bank       |
| PPS Edu Staff - Checking                    | General      | Huntington Bank       |
| PPS Workers Comp                            | General      | Comp One              |
| PPS General Fund – Certificate of Deposit   | General      | Southern Bank & Trust |
| PPS General Fund – Certificate of Deposit   | General      | Independent Bank      |
| PPS BSSF 2019 – Money Market                | 2019 BSSF    | Huntington Bank       |
| PPS BSSF 2024 – Money Market                | 2024 BSSF    | Huntington Bank       |
| PPS Common Debt – MM Savings                | Common Debt  | Huntington Bank       |
| PPS Lunch – Public Funds Checking           | Lunch Fund   | Huntington Bank       |
| PPS Lunch – Municipal Money Market          | Lunch Fund   | Flagstar Bank         |
| PPS General Fund – Certificate of Deposit   | General Fund | First National Bank   |
| PPS 2019 Construction Fund #1               | 2019 CF      | PFM Investment Mgt.   |
| PPS 2021 Construction Fund                  | 2021 CF      | PFM Investment Mgt.   |
| PPS 2025 Construction Fund                  | 2025 CF      | PFM Investment Mgt.   |
| PPS General Fund (Local Gov't Invest. Pool) | General      | Michigan Class        |
| PPS Debt Fund (Local Gov't Invest. Pool)    | Debt         | Michigan Class        |
| PPS 2024 BSSF (Local Gov't Invest. Pool)    | 2024 BSSF    | Michigan Class        |



Enclosure IX.2.  
January 26, 2026  
ITEM ADDED AT MEETING

Johnny Edwards  
*Superintendent*  
Phone: 269.323.5182  
jedwards@portageps.org

To: Board of Education

From: Johnny Edwards, Superintendent

Date: January 26, 2026

Re: Organizational Item – Designate Safety Deposit Boxes - **Revised**

### **Recommended Motion**

I recommend that the Board of Education designate Comerica Bank located at 7941 S. Westnedge, Portage MI 49002 to be our depository for safety deposit boxes. Furthermore, Superintendent Johnny Edwards, Assistant Superintendent of Operations Russell Gerbers, Director of Finance Paula Johnson Director of Finance and Secretary Terri Novaria are designated persons authorized to access the safety deposit boxes.

### **Background**

The Board's Bylaw 0154-Motions, Item A calls for the Board to designate depositories for school funds as required by Michigan law (MCL 380.1221). This item for approval is only for safety deposit boxes.

**PORTAGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION – REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING  
PORTAGE CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL, ROOM #1136  
JANUARY 26, 2026, 6:30 P.M.**

**Note Page**

**X. Discussion Items**

1. Generator Purchase (OP 6320)

Should the Board desire to move this discussion item to action, the following motions are offered.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION**

**Motion offered by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, to move the Generator Purchase discussion item to action.**

**RECOMMENDED MOTION**

**Motion offered by \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by \_\_\_\_\_, that Owen-Ames-Kimball Co. be authorized to issue a Notice of Pending Award in the amount indicated to the contractor/supplier listed below, pending confirmation that all requirements of the contract documents have been met. Furthermore, upon receipt by Owen-Ames-Kimball Co. of the appropriate documentation, a contract, in the amount of \$89,300.00 be awarded by Portage Public Schools to Hi-Tech Electric Company for the purchase of a generator and related equipment for West Middle School, the funds for which will come from the Lunch Fund Excess Fund Balance.**

To: Johnny Edwards, Superintendent  
From: Russ Gerbers, Assistant Superintendent of Operations  
CC: Paula Johnson, Director of Finance  
Date: January 26, 2026  
Re: West Middle School Generator

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

I recommend that Owen-Ames-Kimball Co. be authorized to issue a Notice of Pending Award in the amount indicated to the contractor/supplier(s) listed below, pending confirmation that all requirements of the Contract Documents have been met. Furthermore, upon receipt by Owen-Ames-Kimball Co. of the appropriate documentation, a contract, in the amount of \$89,300 be awarded by Portage Public Schools to Hi-Tech Electric Company for the purchase of a generator and related equipment for West Middle School. Funding to come from the Lunch Fund Excess Fund Balance.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

West Middle School serves as the central hub for elementary food service operations, making reliable backup power essential. A generator is necessary to ensure that power outages do not result in food spoilage or disruptions to meal service. In addition, the generator will provide power to critical life-safety systems during outages. These systems include, but are not limited to, emergency lighting, network connectivity, phones, and paging systems.

To ensure the generator is available within the required timeframe, the district separated the bid process into two components: the purchase of the generator and related equipment, and the installation of the generator. This recommendation is for the equipment purchase only. A separate recommendation for the installation will be brought forward at a later date.

This project is anticipated to be completed during the summer of 2026.

### **BIDDING PROCESS**

This project was competitively bid through the formal bidding process. In total, two responses were received. For reference, a copy of the bid tab has been included. Hi-Tech Electric was the lowest qualified bidder.

I am happy to answer any questions the Board may have on this purchase.

Enclosure

Portage Public Schools  
 West Middle School Generator  
 Owen-Ames-Kimball Co. - Construction Manager  
 January 14th, 2026 - 2:00 PM



| <b>Bid Category No. 01 - Electrical</b> |                 |                 |              |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| <b>Contractor</b>                       | <b>Bid Bond</b> | <b>Base Bid</b> | <b>Notes</b> |
| Hi-Tech Electric Company (Portage,MI)   | Y               | \$89,300        |              |
| Kleyn Electric (Grand Rapids, MI)       | Y               | \$89,900        |              |
|   |                 |                 |              |
|   |                 |                 |              |
|   |                 |                 |              |
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