

City of Port Washington  
Citizen Advisory Committee  
December 12, 2006

Present at the meeting were: Roger Strohm, Angie Cope, Randy Tetzlaff, Joe Janson, Mike Erlich, Sue Orvis, and Rollie Kitt.

Special Guests present were: Gary Myrah, Director of Special Services. Mr. Myrah is responsible for the Ozaukee County Workforce 2010 Program and student job placements

Duane Woelfel, Principal of Port Washington High School

Dr. Michael Weber, Superintendent of Port Washington - Saukville School District

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

Our special guests were invited to explore how receptive the school district would be to forming some kind of joint partnership with area businesses to supply a workforce. The CAC Committee thought such a program might attract businesses to come to Port Washington.

Comments Made:

- Dr. Weber: The stability of area depends on quality of workforce.
- Port Washington high school is considered a comprehensive high school, one of the few in the state.
- Duane Woelfel: A comprehensive high school prepares students for whatever goals they set for themselves. The school prepares students for any type of opportunities, whether it is a four-year school, tech school, military, etc. instead of just focusing on four-year college as the student's goal.
- Biggest challenge is to secure employment—the school would like to be made aware of more job opportunities

Class of 2006 (227 students)

55.9% 4-year college

21.5% Vocational/technical School

0.8% specific job training

1.7% military

4.4% direct employment

1.3% trying to seek employment

5.7% undecided

3.9% no response

4.9% other (not in any category)

What is the High School doing now to facilitate job placement

- Talks with MATC, SEEK, and Manpower
- Direct talks with companies that approach the school- may set up a recruitment session
- Co-op programs available
  - Auto Tech, nursing and finance are largest placement areas
- Staff dedicated to helping students find job placement
- 'Think Tank' groups set up to help determine what jobs will be in demand for the future.
  - 21<sup>st</sup> Century is one such group

Goals to work towards/Suggestions

- Website/Placement center established to post available jobs/opportunities
- Stronger partnerships initiated by BOTH the school and business
  - The high school would be willing to work with a company to set up special programs to direct students to the company and become a productive member of their workforce.
- More supportive guidance counselors
- Need to plan for new high school. Dr. Weber foresees the need for a new high school perhaps within the next 10 to 15 years.
  - A high school needs 75 to 100 acres (50 acres for elementary school)
    - What do we do with the old high school??
      - Try to sell to private developer
      - Use it for a senior center

Roger Strohm mentioned that there will be a meeting with a couple of the larger businesses in Port Washington to talk about their receptiveness to a possible mentor program or partnership with the high school to directly train and recruit workers.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm. Next meeting date will have to be changed. Suggested dates were January 10<sup>th</sup> or 16<sup>th</sup>. We will be notified in the future.