

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Millburn C.C. School District 24

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
Dec. 7, 2009

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Robert Buehler
Diane Campbell
Kenneth Dewitt
Shawn Lahr
Robert Reding
Lisa Scanio
Chris Stream

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

Ellen Mauer, Superintendent
Elizabeth Keefe, Special Services Director

VISITORS

Kristana Hochstein
Carl Hochstein
Scott Vanderll

BUSINESS MANAGER

Mary Taylor

BOARD CLERK

Dorothy Pazanin

The Committee of the Whole of the Board of Education of Millburn C.C. School District 24, Lake County, Illinois, held at Millburn Central School, was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by President Shawn Lahr. Roll call was taken, with the following Board Members in attendance: Robert Buehler, Diane Campbell, Kenneth Dewitt, Shawn Lahr, Robert Reding, Lisa Scanio and Chris Stream.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Chris Stream and seconded by Robert Reding to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing confidential student information. On a roll call vote, the following Board Members voted Aye: Chris Stream, Shawn Lahr, Robert Buehler, Lisa Scanio, Diane Campbell, Robert Reding and Kenneth Dewitt. Nays: none. Absent: none. The motion passed. The Board entered Executive Session at 6:37 p.m.

A motion was made by Robert Buehler and seconded by Robert Reding to exit Executive Session at 7:12 p.m. On a voice vote, all Board members voted Aye. Nays: none. Absent: none. The motion passed.

COMMITTEE MEETING RESUMES

The Committee of the Whole Meeting resumed at 7:15 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT -- There was none.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

MIDWEST TRANSIT BUS PROPOSAL -- Dr. Mauer explained that the district will need to either purchase eight new buses next year or find another method in which to safely transport the students. She introduced Scott Vanderlee, sales manager for Midwest Transit Bus, who presented a proposal regarding a bus lease program.

The proposal involves trading the current buses and replacing them with one-year-old buses, which will have extended warranties. The proposal also includes the installation of new 2-way radios. Midwest Transit also is capable of doing on-site maintenance. The lease plan can be from 1-5 years, and involve all or just a portion of the district's buses. Mr. Vanderlee noted that leases include mileage limitations, and there is an additional cost if the limit is exceeded.

Dr. Mauer said she asked for legal advice as to whether the district would be required to seek bids before acting on this proposal. She was told that bids would not be required because it would be a lease and not a purchase. The Board asked Mary Taylor to prepare a list of pros and cons of the lease program, and a list of all expenses related to buses. Board Members also said they would like to seek bids for this type of lease program, and to get an estimate on purchasing eight buses.

PROGRAM COSTS -- In continuance of its periodic review of various program costs, the Board discussed the costs of Special Education and Technology.

It was noted that 300 students participate in Special Education programs at an average cost of \$6,431 per child. This represents 17 percent of the Education Fund and 11.7 percent of the total budget. Dr. Ellen Mauer pointed out that the figures do not include transportation costs, only expenses paid from the Education Fund.

All students participate in the Technology Program at a cost of \$358 per child. This represents 5.17 percent of the Education Fund and 3.5 percent of the total budget.

It was noted that Elizabeth Keefe exited the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

FIRST READING OF BOARD POLICIES -- Dr. Ellen Mauer presented the following Board Policies for First Reading:

School Board 2:120 Board Member Development
Operational Services 4:160 Environmental Quality of Building and Grounds
Operational Services 4:180 Pandemic Preparedness

In a related item, Dr. Ellen Mauer reported that a flu shot clinic for staff, students and their families is scheduled at Millburn Central on Dec. 14, 2009.

BOARD MEMBER REPORT -- Kenneth Dewitt reported on the SEDOL meeting he attended Dec. 2 at Sally Potter School in Lake Forest. SEDOL Governing Board Members were given a tour of the new facilities at Sally Potter. He also heard a presentation on legislation that creates unfunded mandates for school systems. Some special education students received awards and were recognized for their achievements.

PUBLIC COMMENT -- There was none.

A motion was made by Robert Reding and seconded by Kenneth Dewitt to adjourn the Committee Meeting. On a voice vote, all Board members voted Aye. Nays: none. Absent: none. The motion passed. The Committee Meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Shawn Lahr, President
Board of Education
Millburn C.C. School District 24

ATTEST:

Chris Stream, Secretary
Board of Education
Millburn C.C. School District 24

Date