

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Millburn School District 24

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
April 2, 2012

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Diane Campbell
Jane Gattone
Scott Miller
Joseph Pineau
Robert Reding
Lisa Scanio
Chris Stream

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

Jason Lind, Superintendent
Dr. Stephen Johns, Business Manager
Elizabeth Keefe, Special Services Director
Dr. Cheryl Kucera, Curriculum Director
Joanne Rathunde, Technology Director
Marybeth DeLaMar, Principal
Jake Jorgenson, Principal

BOARD CLERK

Dorothy Pazanin

VISITORS

Neil Holland	Elizabeth Holland
Laura Klier	Bernadette Hanna
Kim Dodd	

A Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Board of Education of Millburn School District 24, Lake County, Illinois, held at Millburn Central School, was called to order at 7 p.m. by President Robert Reding. Roll call was taken with the following Board Members in attendance: Diane Campbell, Jane Gattone, Scott Miller, Robert Reding, Lisa Scanio and Chris Stream. It was noted that Joseph Pineau entered the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT – There was none.

ADDITION OF NON-ACTION ITEMS – Supt. Jason Lind said he would like to add a referendum discussion as a non-action item to the agenda. He introduced Neil and Elizabeth Holland. Mr. Lind explained that he had invited the Hollands to accompany him to a recent referendum seminar and had asked them to begin researching a possible referendum for Millburn. The Hollands presented the results of their research. Some topics that were discussed included:

- Keys to a successful referendum campaign
- Role of a consultant
- Determining actual financial need of the district
- Assembling core team to head a referendum committee
- Positive approach of trust and transparency
- Voter turnout and timing of referendum
- Types of referendum questions
- Debt ceiling limitations
- Data comparisons from area districts during past elections
- Phone survey to assess viability of message
- Cost of a referendum campaign
- Timeline for planning a referendum

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

BLOCK SCHEDULING PRESENTATION – Principal Marybeth DeLaMar explained the block schedule that will be used at Millburn Central next school year. The purpose of a block schedule is

to strengthen and support students and teachers during the planned instruction time. Benefits include: an increase in minutes of direct instruction in literacy and math; regularly scheduled RtI intervention times; common plan time for teachers within a grade level; and the same scheduled time each day for specials, which include art, music, computer, P.E. and library.

ILLINOIS YOUTH SURVEY – Elizabeth Keefe explained that the sixth and eighth graders soon will be participating in the Illinois Youth Survey. The survey, funded by the Illinois Department of Human Services, is designed to gather information about a variety of health and social issues. Students anonymously answer questions on topics such as drugs, violence, bullying, gambling, depression, nutrition and fitness. The results are used to help schools and communities measure risks, assess needs, plan interventions and track progress toward goals. Millburn will be taking advantage of the option to add its own questions concerning PBIS and school climate. Parents have been given information about the survey and are allowed to have their children opt out.

BOARD MEETING DATES – Supt. Jason Lind asked the Board Members to begin thinking about setting next year's schedule of Board Meetings, and whether they were interested in changing the meeting day. This topic will be added to an agenda in May for further discussion.

BOARD POLICIES – The Board reviewed the following policies during the official First Reading:

- Instruction – Curriculum – 6:50 – School Wellness
- Operational Services – 4:55 – Use of Credit and Procurement Cards
- Operational Services – 4:170 – Safety
- Students – 7:305 Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries
- School Board – 2:120 – School Board Development
- Professional Personnel – 5:220 – Substitute Teachers

The policies will be included on the next Regular Meeting agenda for a Second Reading and Approval.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Diane Campbell asked if the Board could hear more information about the various school programs. She said this could give Board Members a deeper understanding of what the programs entail and help them to make more informed decisions. Other Board Members agreed that more information would be valuable. Supt. Jason Lind said he would attempt to highlight programs one at a time during upcoming Board Meetings.

Mr. Lind said other future agenda items include the Second Reading and Approval of Board Policies and a \$50,000 Matching Grant Application for Capital Improvements.

BOARD REPORTS

Two Board Members reported that they completed the Open Meetings Act online training. The Board also discussed its progress toward meeting the requirements for School Board Governance Recognition.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Supt. Jason Lind explained that internet service has been inoperative at both schools since this afternoon due to a cut in an AT&T fiber line. Phone service at Millburn West also was disrupted. Mr. Lind will send an email and an automated phone message from home tonight to all school families and staff to explain the situation.

Mr. Lind also reported on recent action in the Illinois Legislature and explained how it could affect the district's financial situation.

BUSINESS OFFICE REPORT

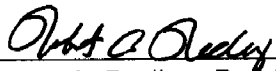
Dr. Stephen Johns updated the Board on the Bond Refunding issue. Standard & Poors recently downgraded the district's bond rating from A (Stable Outlook) to A- (Negative Outlook). Also, the district's attempt to purchase bond insurance was denied. As a result, the amount of savings to be gained in a Bond Refunding issue is less than was expected in February. On the positive side, there is still a significant savings opportunity for the district to pass onto the taxpayers, and the district is proceeding in its effort to market the bonds.

Other issues discussed in the Business Report included:

- A recent burglary at Millburn West and increased security measures
- Medicaid Fee-For-Service reimbursement that will be used to purchase computers for certified special education staff members
- Plans to install the new Millburn Central outdoor sign, purchased by the PTO
- Long-range maintenance and repair plans
- Roof inspections and areas of deterioration
- Future grant opportunities involving energy savings

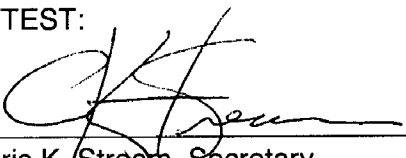
EXECUTIVE SESSION – There was no need for an Executive Session.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Lisa Scanio and seconded by Chris Stream to adjourn. On a voice vote, all Board Members voted Aye. Nays: none. Absent: none. The Committee of the Whole Meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.



 Robert A. Reding, President
 Board of Education
 Millburn School District 24

ATTEST:



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

Date 16 APRIL 2012