

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Millburn School District 24

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
Feb. 6, 2012

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

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

Carla Blanchard	Kristen Bethancourt
Michael White	Cindy Brugioni
Howard Crouse	Jennifer Glickley
Kristie Haylock	Randee Hudson
Steven Loos	Debbie Bartolomeo
Tammy Harris	Charles Adkins
Dennis Prieto	Rachel Nichols
S. Boyle	Bill Boyle
Kim Ball	Greg Ball
Jimichael Slaby	Lorie Cipolla
Connie Kramer	Nomita Umarwadia
Carol McGill	Dezerine Bernales
Julie Buchanan	Bill Buchanan
Kevin Stone	Alex Kalous
Elizabeth Hennessey	

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 7:03 p.m. by President Robert Reding. Roll call was taken with the following Board Members in attendance: Diane Campbell, Jane Gattone, Scott Miller, Joseph Pineau, Robert Reding and Lisa Scanio. Chris Stream was absent.

Due to the absence of Board Secretary Chris Stream, a motion was made by Lisa Scanio and seconded by Joseph Pineau to appoint Jane Gattone as Secretary Pro Tem. On a voice vote, all Board Members voted Aye. Nays: none. Absent: Chris Stream. The motion passed.

President Robert Reding invited any candidates for office in the audience to introduce themselves. Michael White said he is running for the State Senate from the 31st District.

PUBLIC COMMENT – There was none.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

LEGO LEAGUE – Carla Blanchard spoke to the Board about the Lego League, a group of 9-14-year-old students who have been meeting after school with the purpose of learning how to problem-solve as a team. The children use a software program provided by the Lego company to program a robot to perform missions that assist in the students' research. The Millburn Lego League team recently competed in a regional tournament and won the Rookie Award.

BOND REFINANCING – Elizabeth Hennessey of William Blair & Co. spoke to the Board about a bond refinancing opportunity. She presented a market overview and current data on the district's outstanding debt service. She recommended steps the Board could take to allow optimal market timing for the refunding procedure.

PMA FINANCIAL PRESENTATION – Howard Crouse of PMA Financial Network gave a presentation on the district's finances, comparing past figures to current information, and reviewing future projections. He discussed the effects of switching the Annual Financial Reports from a cash basis to an accrual basis. He discussed the fact that the FY12 expenditure budget for salaries and benefits is about \$850,000 higher than projected, although the actual reductions in staff were made. He said the overall assumptions for the next five years are austere and additional reductions may be required.

The Board discussed the presentation and many facets of the district's finances. Discussion topics included:

- Determining a confidence level in the projections
- Sustaining the current budget
- State funding propositions and projections
- Pension reform possibilities
- Staff reductions planned for next year
- Balanced budget policy
- Educational impact of budget cuts
- Limits on borrowing
- Options for meeting financial and educational responsibilities
- Prospects for a referendum
- Cost of borrowing money
- District's mission to educate children
- Timeline for making staff reductions
- Impact of cutting non-mandated programs
- Impact of larger class sizes
- Finding a solution in the middle of differing philosophies
- Variations in scheduling
- Raising registration and activity fees

The Board directed Supt. Lind to prepare recommendations for incremental budget reductions, and options for meeting both the financial and educational goals of the district.

MILLBURN BEFORE AND AFTERSCHOOL CARE PROGRAM – The Board reached a general consensus that the district should continue to operate its Before and Afterschool Care Program.

KINDERGARTEN ENRICHMENT PROGRAM – The Board discussed continuing to rent classroom space during the school day for a privately-operated kindergarten enrichment program. Issues involved include current Board policy; the district's perceived association with such a program; site licensing; the procedure for deciding which group is allowed to rent space; the approval criteria; and the timeline for making a decision. The Board agreed it will make a decision when an Application for Facilities Use is submitted.

SUMMER HELP APPLICATION PROCESS – Supt. Lind reviewed the process and criteria for hiring summer custodial help. He said this year he hopes to increase the summer-help positions from three to six because of need to move furniture and materials. He said he will post openings in the virtual backpacks on the district's website, and rely on interviews and personal recommendations for hiring.

STRATEGIC PLAN – Supt. Lind explained that the Strategic Plan goals are posted online. The Board is scheduled to vote on the complete Strategic Plan at the next Regular Meeting.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Supt. Lind discussed the status of two future agenda items: the Bus Lease Bid and an Audit Proposal from Milburn Cain & Company. Both issues will be scheduled for action at future meetings.

BOARD REPORTS

Lisa Scanio reported on her recent Board Visit to Millburn Central. She complimented the staff for their dedication in facing the challenges of large class sizes, special needs students, PBIS and reconfiguration. She plans to visit Millburn West later this week.

Board Members discussed upcoming articulation meetings, Board training requirements, Open Meetings Act training, and a SEDOL visit.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Supt. Jason Lind announced that Millburn West received the 2011 Academic Excellence in Education Award.

BUSINESS OFFICE REPORT

In answer to a question from the last Board Meeting, Dr. Stephen Johns reported that one month of interest for a TAW in the amount of \$500,000 is about \$1,667. *By not needing to*

add another TAW in January, the Board was able to save that amount in interest. Dr. John's report also included information on equipment repairs and the Bus Lease Bid timeline

It was noted that Marybeth DeLaMar, Stephen Johns, Jake Jorgenson, Elizabeth Keefe, Cheryl Kucera and Joanne Rathunde exited the meeting at 9:55 p.m.

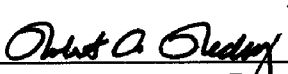
EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Lisa Scanio and seconded by Jane Gattone to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to Board Self-Evaluation and to the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a public body to determine its validity. On a roll call vote, the following Board Members voted Aye: Joseph Pineau, Lisa Scanio, Scott Miller, Robert Reding, Diane Campbell and Jane Gattone. Nays: none. Absent: Chris Stream. The motion passed. The Executive Session began at 10:15 p.m.

A motion was made by Lisa Scanio and seconded by Scott Miller to exit Executive Session at 10:45 p.m. On a voice vote, all Board Members voted Aye. Nays: none. Absent: Jane Gattone and Chris Stream. The motion passed.

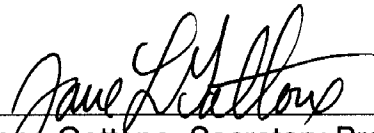
REGULAR MEETING RESUMES

There being no further business, a motion was made by Joseph Pineau and seconded by Diane Campbell to adjourn. On a voice vote, all Board Members voted Aye. Nays: none. Absent: Jane Gattone and Chris Stream. The Regular Meeting adjourned at 10:46 p.m.



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

ATTEST:



Jane Gattone, Secretary Pro Tem
Board of Education
Millburn School District 24

2/22/12

Date