

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Millburn School District 24

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
March 13, 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

Patty Weinberg	Nancy Stream
Danielle Gross	Jacqueline Gross
Brad Nystrom	Mary Nystrom
Daniel Nystrom	Anne Nystrom
Tejal Patel	Anne OBerto
Amit Dave	Viraj Dave
Rachel Nichols	Bernadette Hanna
Tricia Johnston	Barb Queen
Cheryl Drake	Michelle Costa
Alicia Keys	Kristi Metzger
Don Perusich	Carol McGill

A Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Board of Education of Millburn School District 24, Lake County, Illinois, held at Millburn West School, was called to order at 7:01 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, Lisa Scanio and Chris Stream.

PUBLIC COMMENT – There was none.

ADDITION OF NON-ACTION ITEMS – Lisa Scanio thanked the Millburn District 24 Education Foundation and all those responsible for hosting the recent March Madness Casino Night fundraiser. Other Board Members agreed that it was an enjoyable and worthwhile event.

Diane Campbell said she attended the SEDOL auction fundraiser on the same night. She said this also is a worthwhile event and she was proud to represent Millburn School District.

RECOGNITION – Supt. Jason Lind recognized the teachers and students in the Honors Geometry classes at Millburn Central and Millburn West, along with Curriculum Director Dr.

Cheryl Kucera and Principals Marybeth DeLaMar and Jake Jorgenson. The students will be completing a high school level Honors Geometry course by the end of 8th grade. They recently posted a higher average mid-term score than area high school students taking the same test.

The Honors Geometry students are: Jonathan Putman, Alexander Schmitt, Rahul Miriyala, Theonesse Cheon, Dallan Forbes, Danielle Gross, Matthew Gutterman, Max Kravitz, Brian Lee, Yash Miriyala, Daniel Nystrom, Corey OBerio, Rishi Patel, Zachary Schultz, Connor Sinclair, Morgan Timmerman, Lauren Twitty, Benjamin Weinberg, David Behnke, Teresa Cipolla, Alicia Coddington, Shyam Dave, Hunter Falls, Nathan Gundlach, Ellie Haviland, Ashley Horner, Anees Pardesi, Jada Pfeiffer, Elizabeth Summerson, Kevin Thacker and Christopher Wallenfang. The Honors Geometry teachers are Carol McGill and Don Perusich.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

FINANCIAL DISCUSSION – Supt. Jason Lind reported on recent financial news, including updates from the state regarding pension reform and transportation reimbursement. The Board reviewed various proposals that are being discussed at the state level, and the impact these proposals would have on Millburn District 24.

STAFFING LEVELS – Supt. Jason Lind presented a proposed staffing scenario for the 2012-13 school year that trims 10 staff members and is designed to stay within a balanced budget. He explained the proposed reductions and the impact they would have on students and staff. The Board discussed the proposal at length, including the following topics:

- Proposed reduction in K-5 PE classes from 90 minutes a week to 45 minutes
- Developing a more structured recess
- The impact and projected savings of other proposed cuts
- Quality of the programs after the staffing cuts
- Possibility of dismissing fewer teachers
- Possibility of adding teachers back if budget projections change
- Maintaining a balanced budget as required by Board policy
- Efficiencies gained by switching to grade-level centers
- Effect of block scheduling on team-level articulation
- Outlook for continuing non-mandated programs
- Charging a fee to participate in non-mandated programs
- Seeking public opinion regarding program offerings
- Addressing the needs of all students
- Maintenance of effort for students with IEPs as required by law
- Providing a well-rounded program
- Variations in financial data and projections
- Prospects for passing a referendum next year
- Community's role in supporting education
- Delegating duties after the Curriculum Director retires
- Leadership development opportunities for teachers

The proposed staffing plan will be included on the Consent Agenda for the Board's Regular Meeting next week.

FEES – Supt. Jason Lind presented proposals for setting fees for next year, for both Registration Fees and Fee-Based Programs.

The Board first discussed Registration Fees, comparing total revenue raised by the current fees, revenue raised with a proposed \$20 increase, and supply costs to the district. This would bring fees to \$175 for Gr. 1-5, and \$195 for Gr. 6-8. It was estimated that registration fees would have to be raised to an average of about \$237 per student to cover the supply costs. Discussion topics included:

- Determining appropriate fees for a public education
- Weighing the financial impact on school families
- Increased fees included in budget projections
- Effect of raising fees on chances of passing a referendum
- Considering what is fair and reasonable
- Distributing costs equitably to those who use the services
- Method and timing of collecting fees
- Rational expectations of the community

It was determined that the proposal to raise registration fees by \$20 per student would be included on the Consent Agenda at the next Regular Board Meeting.

Next the Board discussed Fee-Based Programs, which include sports and other extra-curricular clubs and activities. Supt. Lind presented several proposals, comparing estimated revenue raised by fees to the cost of running the programs. Current fees cover about 57 percent of program costs. The Board considered fee proposals that would cover 73 percent, 83 percent or 100 percent of the program costs. The Board discussed various issues surrounding the proposals, including:

- Dollar value of school programs compared to other community or private programs
- Effect of fees on participation and total revenue
- Visibility in the community
- Negotiating stipends
- Number of students impacted by fee-based programs
- Using increased fees to avoid some proposed cuts

The Board reached a general consensus to support the proposal that raises participation fees in the extracurricular programs to cover 100 percent of the cost of the programs.

Proposals for Registration Fees and Fee-Based Programs will be included on the Consent Agenda at the next Regular Board Meeting.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Supt. Jason Lind reviewed future agenda items: non-renewal of certified staff contracts; Board policy updates; program offerings; and possible referendum.

BOARD REPORTS

Diane Campbell reported on a recent tour of SEDOL facilities. Those attending the tour were Board Members Lisa Scanio, Robert Reding, Jane Gattone and Diane Campbell, along with Supt. Jason Lind and Special Services Director Elizabeth Keefe. They toured Laramont and Gages Lakes schools, which serve children in Early Childhood through age 22. Board Members were impressed by the students and the challenges they face, the high standard of education and personal care provided to students, and the modern facilities.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Supt. Jason Lind announced new start times for the 2012-13 school year. Millburn Central will be in session from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; Millburn West will be in session from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. He explained how the new school configuration will save the district some transportation expense.

He also announced that the district offices would be moving back to Millburn Central next school year.

BUSINESS OFFICE REPORT

Dr. Stephen Johns reported on information he has received regarding a state grant that could provide \$50,000 in matching funds toward a maintenance project that will provide a long-term impact. He will start researching possible projects to meet the grant application deadline of May 1.

Dr. Johns also discussed government changes in the school lunch program that allow vendors to increase charges to cover additional costs. Therefore, Millburn will be rebidding its food service contract in the next few months.

A draft budget calendar was part of the Business Report. Dr. Johns said the Tentative Budget is scheduled for adoption in July.

It was noted that Marybeth DeLaMar, Stephen Johns, Jake Jorgenson, Elizabeth Keefe, Cheryl Kucera and Joanne Rathunde exited the meeting at 10:10 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

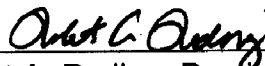
A motion was made by Scott Miller and seconded by Diane Campbell to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters pertaining to the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal

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: Chris Stream, Joseph Pineau, Diane Campbell, Lisa Scanio, Robert Reding, Scott Miller and Jane Gattone. Nays: none. Absent: none. The motion passed. The Executive Session began at 10:10 p.m.

A motion was made by Lisa Scanio and seconded by Jane Gattone to exit Executive Session at 10:15 p.m. On a voice vote, all Board Members voted Aye. Nays: none. Absent: none. The motion passed.

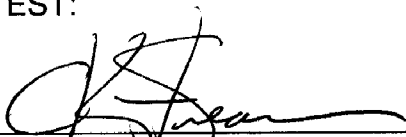
REGULAR MEETING RESUMES

There being no further business, a motion was made by Diane Campbell and seconded by Lisa Scanio to adjourn. On a voice vote, all Board Members voted Aye. Nays: none. Absent: none. The Committee of the Whole Meeting adjourned at 10:16 p.m.

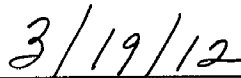


Robert A. Reding, President
Board of Education
Millburn School District 24

ATTEST:



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



Date