

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Millburn School District 24

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
Nov. 7, 2011

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

Randee Hudson	Gail Sinkus
Laura Brown	Tammy Harris
Carla Blanchard	Carol McGill
Cheryl Drake	Carole Machnics
Jenn Kiddle	Andrea Rouse
Greg Ball	Dan Jazo
Maureen Jepsen	

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 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.

RECOGNITION – Supt. Jason Lind expressed appreciation to the staff members who helped implement PBIS, Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports. He noted that the teachers had worked during the summer to prepare for staff inservice sessions at the beginning of the school year. Staff members recognized for their contributions were Jane Fredrick, Debra Kaisserlian, Andrea Rouse, Elizabeth Boron, Kathy Neville, Don Perusich, Denise Oswald, Maureen Slade, Nancy Reding and Cheryl Walsh.

Mr. Lind also recognized the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Volleyball Teams for their outstanding performance this season. Both teams placed first in the Lakeside Athletic Conference Tournament. The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls had a perfect 21-0 season, and did not lose a single game throughout the tournament. The 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls ended the season 19-2. Both losses were to eighth grade teams in a non-conference tournament. Seventh grade team members were Megan Olson, Maia Yonke, Ainsley Murray, Jacqueline Pettigrew, Carissa Popp, Karlie Rotunno, McKenna Lahr, Bella Pighini, Alex Pann, Bella Fuzer, Alyssa Fuller, Jennifer Reed, Natalie Iacopetti and Paige Bartlett. Eighth grade team members were Kalie

Anderson, Megan Behrendt, Madeline Demo, Allison Gustafson, Ellie Haviland, Megan Hopkins, Ashley Horner, Robin Jung, Kealy Mruk, Allyson Perdue, Erianne Thedorf and Lauren Twitty. The teams were coached by Dan Jazo and Kevin Yost.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Carla Blanchard commented on a bill in the Illinois Senate that would cut property taxes and cap the amount of revenue that school districts can collect. She also said she is hearing rumors about the grade configuration of the schools and the Curriculum Director's position.

ADDITIONAL NON-ACTION ITEMS – Lisa Scanio asked the Board Members if they thought the First Class software system is providing an effective method of communication. All agreed they would like to discontinue using First Class and return to their previous communication methods, as long as emails are archived properly.

A Legislative Update was added to the end of the Information/Discussion Items on the agenda.

### INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

LIBRARY PRESENTATION – Randee Hudson presented a report on the district's Progress Toward Meeting the Illinois School Library Media Program Guidelines. She focused on the Teaching for Learning goals, highlighting research and activities that integrate Learning Standards and the Common Core. The Illinois Per Capita Grant for 2011 was used to purchase materials for the Readers' Choice Awards. If the grant is received in 2012, the LRC plans to purchase e-books.

COMMON CORE PRESENTATION – Dr. Cheryl Kucera gave a presentation on the Common Core Standards, an initiative that is designed to better prepare Illinois students for success in college and the workforce. She said the theme is "Dig deep, not wide," emphasizing range, rigor, complexity, practices, mastery and critical thinking. Teaching practices will follow a new model, for which Millburn teachers are currently receiving training. Dr. Kucera discussed details about Common Core Standards in Language Arts and Math, and the timeline for implementation and assessments.

STRATEGIC PLAN – Supt. Jason Lind introduced co-chairs from the four focus areas of the Strategic Plan: Student Learning, Culture and Climate, Facilities and Finance, and Communications. He also recapped the progress of Strategic Plan meetings to date. A representative from each focus area read the goals that were determined by their committees. The next step will be to determine strategies for accomplishing the goals.

POWER WALKTHROUGHS – Supt. Jason Lind gave a presentation about Power Walkthroughs. In essence, a Power Walkthrough involves two or three administrators spending 3-5 minutes in a classroom, with the purpose of gathering data about instructional strategies. Mr. Lind described nine categories of research-based effective learning strategies. The goal of the Power Walkthroughs is to create a system of continuous improvement of instruction, professional development, and student achievement. Mr. Lind

said this will be a learning year, as Power Walkthroughs are implemented and the staff becomes comfortable with the process.

IASB RESOLUTIONS – Robert Reding reported that he had forwarded to all Board Members the resolutions that will be voted on by the Illinois Association of School Boards at its convention this month. As the delegate from the Millburn School Board, Mr. Reding asked the Board for feedback on the proposed resolutions. There was no opposition expressed to any of the resolutions.

SEDOL VISIT – The Board discussed possible dates to schedule a visit to SEDOL sites. Board Members agreed to check their schedules and report to Mr. Lind. Elizabeth Keefe suggested the Board Members also consider visiting the special education classes housed at Millburn Central and Millburn West.

SCHOOL CONFIGURATION UPDATE – Supt. Jason Lind explained that under the Strategic Plan, the Facilities and Finance Committee has been charged with researching the grade configuration of the two schools: K-8 or Grade Level Centers. There have been two community forums and a district-wide staff meeting to discuss the topic. Also, school staff members have been gathering information on many areas that will be impacted, including finances, scheduling, class size, classroom instruction and busing. Mr. Lind reported that he estimates the district could save about \$125,000 if it moved to grade-level centers.

GRIEVANCE POLICY – Supt. Jason Lind reviewed updates that are necessary for Board Policy 2:260 Uniform Grievance Procedure. This was the First Reading of the policy. A Second Reading and Approval will be on the next Board Meeting agenda.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – Supt. Jason Lind explained that he and some Board Members met recently with local state legislators to discuss matters of importance to education, including General State Aid, unfunded mandates, lack of funding for the Regional Office of Education, and charter schools. Robert Reding said he has been researching House Bill 3793, and the impact it will have on Millburn School District. Mr. Reding said that although the bill would provide some property tax relief for homeowners, it would have a strong negative effect on the district. Mr. Lind and Mr. Reding plan to travel to Springfield tomorrow to lobby legislators to oppose the bill.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – Mr. Lind listed future agenda items, including a Truth in Taxation Public Hearing and Tax Levy for FY12; the School Improvement Plan; Fees—Registration, Activity and Rental; and the Auditor Report.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Supt. Jason Lind reported that Cecilia Nam, a third grader at Millburn Central, came in third place in her age category in a Lake Villa Library book mark decorating contest. Sean McCarter, another third grade student at Millburn Central, came in first place at the recent Chess Wizards Scholastic Tournament. He competed against 68 children in his age group from the Chicagoland area.

BUSINESS OFFICE REPORT – Dr. Stephen Johns gave a Business Office update including information on a snow emergency reimbursement, an insurance reimbursement, the utility

cooperative, the health insurance cooperative, a buildings and contents appraisal, the potential impact of House Bill 3793, the health/safety annual inspection, the annual property tax levy, the school bus lease, and the IMRF authorized agent recommendation.

It was noted that Elizabeth Keefe, Dr. Cheryl Kucera, Joanne Rathunde, Dr. Stephen Johns, Jake Jorgenson and Marybeth DeLaMar exited the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Lisa Scanio and seconded by Diane Campbell to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing 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 complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity. On a roll call vote, the following Board Members voted Aye: Diane Campbell, Jane Gattone, Scott Miller, Joseph Pineau, Robert Reding and Lisa Scanio. Nays: none. Absent: Chris Stream. The motion passed. The Executive Session began at 9:10 p.m.

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

COMMITTEE MEETING RESUMES

There being no further business, a motion was made by Lisa Scanio and seconded by Jane Gattone to adjourn. On a voice vote, all Board Members voted Aye. Nays: none. Absent: Chris Stream. The Committee of the Whole Meeting adjourned at 10:11 p.m.

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

ATTEST:

Lisa Scanio  
Lisa Scanio, Vice President  
Board of Education  
Millburn School District 24

11/21/11  
Date