

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Millburn School District 24

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
June 9, 2014

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Greg Ball
Diane Campbell
Jane Gattone
Joseph Pineau

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

Jason Lind, Superintendent
Dr. Stephen Johns, Business Manager
Elizabeth Keefe, Special Services Director
Joanne Rathunde, Technology Director
Dr. Marybeth Whitney-DeLaMar, Principal

BOARD CLERK

Dorothy Pazanin

ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT

Bernadette Hanna

VISITORS

Judy Calhoun

A Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Board of Education of Millburn School District 24, Lake County, Illinois, held at Millburn Elementary School, was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President Joseph Pineau. Roll call was taken with the following Board Members in attendance: Greg Ball, Diane Campbell, Jane Gattone and Joseph Pineau. Nichol Mangino, Scott Miller and Trak Patel were absent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – There were none.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS – Supt. Jason Lind was asked for an update on a recent suggestion that Millburn share the services of a grant writer with Grayslake School District 46. Supt. Lind said he had not heard back from Grayslake in the past few weeks. He said one of the challenges is finding a qualified person willing to work on an hourly basis.

RECOGNITION – There was none.

INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

FACILITIES STUDY – Supt. Jason Lind said that he and Dr. Stephen Johns are meeting June 10 with representatives from Fanning Howey to discuss the scope and cost of a Master Facilities Study. The Board was given a handout describing some of the options. Supt. Lind emphasized that the district is not planning any new construction. This type of study will be used to help the district prioritize necessary maintenance. He said that he will present a recommendation to the Board when negotiations are complete.

STRATEGIC PLAN– Supt. Jason Lind explained that part of the Facilities Plan involves Community Engagement, which ties in with the district's current Strategic Plan. He said he was hoping to schedule a Strategic Plan community activity in the fall regarding a review of the district's mission statement. He said it may be time to evaluate the status of the current Strategic Plan, possibly closing it out in the spring of 2015. Then the district could start the process for a new Strategic Plan process in the fall of 2015. The current plan was adopted during the 2011-12 school year. The Board noted there have been many changes in the district since that time, including many new families that have moved in that were not part of the original process.

HEALTHY SNACK AND BIRTHDAY POLICY – Supt. Jason Lind distributed a proposal from the Wellness Committee regarding a Healthy Snack and Birthday Party Policy. The Board was generally in agreement with the Birthday Policy, which promotes celebrations that do not involve food. Suggestions for celebrating a

birthday include having the child or a family member read a book to the class; giving a small, non-edible gift such as a pencil or stickers; or giving a gift to the classroom, such as a board game or puzzle.

The Board discussed several aspects of the Healthy Snack proposal, which restricts snacks to fruits and vegetables. Topics discussed included:

- Determining what is healthy for an individual child
- The fact that snacks from home are not tied to government funding, like the cafeteria
- Considering that children may choose to go without a snack
- Enforcing the policy
- Other school activities that involve food
- Setting a precedent that some day might be expanded
- Differences between recommending and dictating
- Keeping a classroom free of allergens, including the furniture and supplies
- Limiting a teacher's ability to control what goes on in the classroom

It was agreed that more time was needed to review the Healthy Snack proposal and consider other options.

7th/8th GRADE MATH SECTION SIZES – Supt. Jason Lind explained that class sizes in the highest level of math for 7th and 8th grade next year are estimated at 34 and 39. He said he wanted the Board to be aware that this is similar to the class sizes the past several years. Supt. Lind said that he has asked Middle School Principal Jake Jorgenson and the math teachers if they have suggestions for alleviating the challenges presented by the class sizes. If so, he would bring those suggestions to the Board. Several options have already been considered, such as creating another section or hiring another math teacher to support the students during study hall, but none of these options has gained substantial support. To date, student performance does not appear to be affected. One result of the larger class sizes for the highest level of math, is that the other sections have smaller class sizes. Districtwide, on average, class sizes are declining. However, there are specific instances, such as the 7th/8th grade math sections, that have not yet seen a decline in size. Supt. Lind said that he and the staff will continue to consider options.

ANNUAL TRI-CONFERENCE – Board Members were reminded that registration is open for the Joint Annual Conference of IASB, IASA and IASBO that is set for Nov. 21-23, 2014. Those who plan on attending should contact Bernadette Hanna as soon as possible. Millburn will be presenting a session on passing a referendum to raise operating funds.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Future agenda items include:

- Architect of Record
- Treasurer's Surety Bond
- Semi-Annual Review of Closed Session Minutes
- Prevailing Age Resolution
- Appointments—Depository, Treasurer, Legal Counsel, Publisher
- Interest Transfer Resolution

BOARD REPORTS

There were none.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Supt. Jason Lind reported that he has been meeting with area school districts regarding enrolling students on a tuition basis in some of Millburn's special education programs, specifically the SLP (Structured Learning Program) classes. Millburn has been enrolling Early Childhood students from area districts on a tuition basis for several years.

Supt. Lind also reported that students and staff enjoyed the recent Elementary School Field Day, which was combined with the PBIS end-of-year celebration. There were events and games in the cafeteria, gyms and various classrooms, along with music provided by a deejay.

BUSINESS OFFICE REPORT

Dr. Stephen Johns reviewed the Business Office Report, including information about the district's history of borrowing with Tax Anticipation Warrants. He noted that action by the state regarding distribution of state aid will affect future borrowing. Dr. Johns also discussed major projects scheduled this summer to improve the buildings and grounds. He also has prepared a list of projects for future planning.

It was noted that Dr. Stephen Johns, Joanne Rathunde, Elizabeth Keefe, Dr. Marybeth Whitney-DeLaMar and Bernadette Hanna exited the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

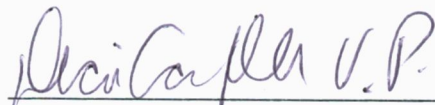
EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Jane Gattone and seconded by Joseph Pineau 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. On a roll call vote, the following Board Members voted Aye: Greg Ball, Joseph Pineau, Diane Campbell and Jane Gattone. Nays: none. Absent: Nichol Mangino, Scott Miller and Trak Patel. The motion passed. The Executive Session started at 8:41 p.m.

A motion was made by Greg Ball and seconded by Joseph Pineau to exit Executive Session. On a roll call vote, all Board Members voted Aye. Nays: none. Absent: Nichol Mangino, Scott Miller and Trak Patel. The motion passed. The Executive Session ended at 9:45 p.m.

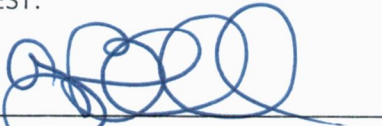
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING RESUMES

There being no further business, a motion was made by Diane Campbell and seconded by Joseph Pineau to adjourn the Committee of the Whole Meeting. On a voice vote, all Board Members voted Aye. Nays: none. Absent: none Nichol Mangino, Scott Miller and Trak Patel. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:46 p.m.

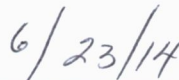


Joseph Pineau, President
Board of Education
Millburn School District 24

ATTEST:



Greg Ball, Secretary
Board of Education
Millburn School District 24



Date