

Millburn School District 24

HIGHLIGHTS

Board of Education's Committee of the Whole Meeting

Monday, December 8, 2014 – Millburn Elementary School.

Directions to agenda and supporting documents: www.millburn24.net → School Board → Meetings, Agendas, & Minutes → School Year 2014-15

Board Members in attendance: Joseph Pineau, Greg Ball, Casandra Slade, Nichol Mangino. Absent: Diane Campbell, Trak Patel, Jane Gattone.

Recognition

Mr. Lind recognized teachers Sandy Hessing, Dana Booker, and Rachel Hanson for their hard work and innovation in their classrooms.

Information/Discussion

Millburn Cain Audit Review

Larry Kreuscher from Millburn Cain & Co. presented a brief overview of the district's audit for FY14. One item that was in the overview was the 2014 Operating Expense Per Pupil. Based on an average daily attendance of 1,272 students, the amount spent per pupil is \$10,256. Last year the amount was \$9,545 based on an average daily attendance of 1,418 students. This results in an increase in the amount spent per student of \$711 with a decrease of 146 students. [The District improved fund balances by an overall of \\$803,510 from the previous year.](#) The entire audit will be posted on the website under District → From the Business Office. David Cain from Millburn Cain & Co. presented a page out of the audit report regarding the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund. This is a complicated issue so I am going to use Dr. Johns' explanation from his Business Office Report: * "IMRF Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL) - The majority of government units that participate in the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund have a UAAL. Those that don't opted to pay their UAAL upfront. This became an issue after the market crash of 2007-08. In order to reduce the impact on IMRF employers, a smoothing formula was implemented to reduce pay a funding adjustment charge that is designed to bring the district up to the recommended funding level over a period of years. However, this results in the district paying 7.5% interest on the UAAL."

*Dr. Johns' entire Business Office Report can be found on the agenda on the website.

Community-Based Instruction

Mrs. Hessing, Mrs. Booker, and Mrs. Hanson each teach special education students in the elementary school. Their presentation showed the Board how they implement community-based instruction by taking the students on monthly trips. So far this year, they have gone to the pumpkin farm, police/fire station, Mariano grocery store, and will take a Pace bus to Vernon Hills to go to McDonalds. Mrs. Hessing showed everyone the tools she uses to assist those students who are non-verbal. The Board thanked the teachers for their presentation and their service.

Bus Lease

The Board is looking at the best option for leasing buses. The district is at the end of 3-year bus lease. The purchase of leased or used buses is exempt from the bidding process; however, the Board can choose to bid. There is an option for a 4-year lease. Also, discussed is whether to equip the buses with cameras. The cost is approximately \$2,000 per bus. If all of the buses were to be outfitted with cameras, that would have to be bid since the cost is over \$25,000. We have 21 buses currently. Dr. Johns' is also looking into purchasing pre-heaters for the diesel buses through a grant. The heaters pre-warm the fluids in the engines so the buses will start more easily in cold temperatures.

Board Reports

Nichol Mangino reported that Vision 20/20 was launched at the Triple I* Conference that the Board members attended in November. Vision 20/20 is focusing on four things: Highly Effective Educators, 21st Century Learning, Shared Accountability – school report card, and Equitable and Adequate Funding.

*Illinois Association of School Boards/Illinois Association of School Administrators/Illinois Association of School Business Officials.

Business Office Report

SEDAC – highlighted in his report

IMRF - \$50,000 budget if BOE wants to do this voluntary payment

Future Agenda Items

Fee Discussion: Activity, Registration, Building Use (January Cow)

Next meeting: Regular Board Meeting – Monday, December 15, 2015 – Millburn Elementary – 7:00 p.m.