

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Millburn School District 24

REGULAR MEETING  
Dec. 14, 2010

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Robert Buehler  
Diane Campbell  
Kenneth Dewitt  
Shawn Lahr  
Lisa Scanio  
Chris Stream

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

Dr. Ellen Mauer, Superintendent  
Elizabeth Keefe, Special Education Director  
Dr. Cheryl Kucera, Curriculum Director  
Joanne Rathunde, Technology Director  
Jake Jorgenson, Principal  
Jason Lind, Principal

BUSINESS MANAGER

Mary Taylor

TREASURER

Roger Manderscheid

BOARD CLERK

Dorothy Pazanin

VISITORS

Brian Rossman  
Carla Blanchard  
Bridget Sieracke  
Kevin McKeever  
Alicia Keys  
Joe Pineau  
Glenn Sturt  
Joan Green  
Jollene Jones  
Scott Zellman  
Kathryn Thoman  
Jenn Kiddle  
Jane Gattone

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Millburn School District 24, Lake County, Illinois, held at Millburn Central School, was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by President Shawn Lahr. Roll call was taken with the following Board Members in attendance: Robert Buehler, Diane Campbell, Kenneth Dewitt, Shawn Lahr, Lisa Scanio and Chris Stream. Robert Reding was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Joan Green spoke regarding a previous Board discussion on Activity Fees for next year. She said that a suggestion to raise the Band fee to \$200 is reasonable. She said she has heard parents say they are willing to pay more for school activities rather than see the activities cut. Mrs. Green suggested that a scholarship program could be created for students whose parents could not afford the fees.

Bridget Sieracke said a number of parents are concerned about two main issues: the financial condition of the district, and rumors about changes in administration. She asked the Board to be more forthcoming with information. Shawn Lahr explained that the Board could not comment on specific personnel issues at this time.

Carla Blanchard said she agreed with the comments made by the previous two speakers. She also expressed dissatisfaction with an agenda item in the Personnel Report concerning a hiring recommendation. She also commented that it is fiscally irresponsible to consider purchasing new computers and iPads at a time when teachers will be losing their jobs.

## ACTION ITEMS

TAX LEVY – A motion was made by Kenneth Dewitt and seconded by Lisa Scanio to approve the proposed Tax Levy for School Year 2010-11. On a roll call vote, the following Board Members voted Aye: Diane Campbell, Robert Buehler, Shawn Lahr, Chris Stream, Kenneth Dewitt and Lisa Scanio. Nays: none. Absent: Robert Reding. The motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA – Shawn Lahr asked that approval of the Partial List of Activity Fees be considered as a separate item, and not be included in the Consent Agenda. A motion was made by Lisa Scanio and seconded by Chris Stream to approve the Consent Agenda, as amended, and including the following:

1. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Regular Meeting of Nov. 15, 2010
  - b. Special Meeting and Closed Session of Nov. 22, 2010
  - c. Special Meeting of Dec. 6, 2010
2. Treasurer's Report and Approval
3. Bill Approval and Payment Authorization
4. Approval of Activity Funds of Millburn Central and Millburn West
5. Personnel Report
  - a. Hire **James Menzer** as a Wrestling Coach
  - b. Hire **Jacob Dietmeyer** as a Wrestling Coach
  - c. Extend Leave to Feb. 17, 2011 for **Teresa Roberts**
  - d. Accept FMLA for **Randee Hudson**
6. Second Reading and Approval of Board Policy
  - a. Professional Development – 5:200 Terms and Conditions of Employment and Dismissal
  - b. Professional Development – 5:210 Resignations and Retirement
  - c. Professional Development – 5:230 Maintaining Student Discipline
  - d. Professional Development – 5:240 Suspension
  - e. Community Relations – 8:20 Community Use of School Facilities
7. Approve Superintendent Goals
8. Approve Registration Fees for the 2011-12 School Year
9. Approve Overnight Field Trip for Central Band – St. Louis, May 5-7, 2011

On a roll call vote, the following Board Members voted Aye: Robert Buehler, Shawn Lahr, Chris Stream, Kenneth Dewitt, Lisa Scanio and Diane Campbell. Nays: none. Absent: Robert Reding. The motion passed.

It was noted that Roger Manderscheid exited the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

**EXPENDITURES**

<b>EDUCATION</b>		<b>BUILDING</b>	
BILLS PAYABLE	\$243,506.01	BILLS PAYABLE	\$49,924.64
PAYROLL	\$993,942.03	PAYROLL	\$62,681.15
voids	-\$957.03		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,236,491.01</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$112,605.79</b>
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>		<b>IMRF</b>	
BILLS PAYABLE	\$15,201.50	BILLS PAYABLE	\$0.00
PAYROLL	\$66,641.67	PAYROLL	\$53,263.04
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$81,843.17</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$53,263.04</b>
<b>SITE &amp; CONSTRUCTION</b>		<b>BONDS&amp;INTEREST</b>	
BILLS PAYABLE	\$0.00	BILLS PAYABLE	\$140,500.00
		<b>TORT</b>	
		PAYROLL	\$11,676.70
		BILLS PAYABLE	\$0.00
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,676.70</b>
		<b>FUNDS TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,636,379.71</b>

PARTIAL LIST OF ACTIVITY FEES – Dr. Ellen Mauer reviewed the proposed Partial List of Activity Fees for the 2011-12 School Year. Shawn Lahr pointed out that Choir is a year-round activity, similar to Band. He said he would like to further discuss the Choir fee. The Board decided to add the Choir fee to the list of Activity Fees that will be discussed at the January Committee Meeting.

**INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

TECHNOLOGY UPDATE – Joanne Rathunde gave a presentation on the district's use of technology with students, including a description of the computer equipment currently in use. She emphasized that many of the new instructional programs need updated computer equipment to be used effectively. Ms. Rathunde discussed three proposals for replacing and extending the computer equipment. She said that if the district does not allocate any money for new hardware, there will then be a need for repairs, increased computer memory and upgraded operating systems. Mary Taylor explained that a \$65,000 line item has been in the budget for several years in order to maintain the current lease, which will expire at the end of this year. Proposal 1 in the presentation would maintain this line item amount. Proposal 2 or 3 would require larger amounts. The Board asked for further information about where revenue could be reallocated to fund any increased spending.

EXPLORE SCORES – Dr. Cheryl Kucera reported on how Millburn's current eighth graders who will attend Lakes High School scored on the Explore tests. These tests are used by the high school to determine a student's college readiness and for placement in high school classes. In English, Math and Reading categories, the average Millburn student scored

above the national average and above the college-readiness range. In Science, Millburn students were above the national average but about a point below the college readiness level. The test results also show data on students' educational plans, career interests, need for assistance, time spent on homework, learning styles and areas of strengths and weaknesses.

ADMISSION FEES – Dr. Ellen Mauer said she surveyed area schools about charging admission to their sporting events. She said she focused on the Lakeside Athletic Conference, which is the conference that Millburn Central is in. This also will be the only conference Millburn will compete in next year when the teams are district-wide. Dr. Mauer said the accepted conference guideline is not to charge admission to regular season games. However, there are set fees for admission to tournaments and regional competition. Dr. Mauer recommended that the district maintain its practice of not charging admission to regular season events. The Board was in agreement.

RENTAL FEES – Dr. Ellen Mauer reported on her findings concerning building rental fees. The Board was in general agreement that rental fees for non-profit organizations should be doubled whenever two or more rooms are being used. The rental fee charged to for-profit groups will be 15 percent of the gross revenue. This proposal will be included on the Consent Agenda at the next regular Board Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Brigid Sieracke suggested that a technology fee be added to the annual registration fees to help fund those costs.

Carla Blanchard said she does not believe computers are a luxury, but she thinks that new equipment and Macintosh computers are a luxury. She said the public needs more information to understand why decisions are being made. She said the charts included in tonight's presentations are good indicators of Millburn's academic success.

Kevin McKeever said he is an advocate of technology. However, he said the iPad is relatively new and is already being updated. He asked if there was a statistic to show the number of computers per student. He also asked for an estimate of a lease payment with laptops but not iPads. Mr. McKeever inquired about a previous idea to share a lease agreement with another district. Ms. Rathunde said this was explored but was not an option because of varying financial situations. Mr. McKeever also asked the Board if the concept of grade level centers will continue to be considered, and will the previous data on this topic be updated for the public. Board Members answered that the concept will continue to be explored, especially during the Strategic Plan process, which is set to begin soon.

## ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

SPECIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Elizabeth Keefe said the last of the ARRA funds from the Federal Stimulus package was spent on technology hardware, curriculum and materials that would provide a long-term effect for students and staff.

PRINCIPALS' REPORTS – Jason Lind and Jake Jorgenson reported on various school activities and sporting events taking place in December. They also discussed district-wide activities including a staff inservice on higher order thinking skills, and two informational nights for parents on the subject of AIMSweb testing.

It was noted that Jake Jorgenson, Jason Lind, Elizabeth Keefe, Dr. Cheryl Kucera, Joanne Rathunde and Mary Taylor exited the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Lisa Scanio and seconded by Chris Stream to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing residency issues and personnel. On a roll call vote, the following Board Members voted Aye: Shawn Lahr, Chris Stream, Kenneth Dewitt, Lisa Scanio, Diane Campbell and Robert Buehler. Nays: none. Absent: Robert Reding. The motion passed. The Board entered Executive Session at 8:50 p.m.

A motion was made by Kenneth Dewitt and seconded by Chris Stream to exit Executive Session at 10:15 p.m. On a voice vote, all Board Members voted Aye. Nays: none. Absent: Robert Reding. The motion passed.

REGULAR MEETING RESUMES

RESIDENCY ISSUE -- A motion was made by Diane Campbell and seconded by Kenneth Dewitt to uphold the administration’s decision regarding the residency of Family 2010-A. On a roll call vote, the following Board Members voted Aye: Chris Stream, Kenneth Dewitt, Lisa Scanio, Diane Campbell, Robert Buehler and Shawn Lahr. Nays: none. Absent: Robert Reding. The motion passed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:17 p.m.

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Shawn Lahr, President  
Board of Education  
Millburn School District 24

ATTEST:

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Chris Stream, Secretary  
Board of Education  
Millburn School District 24

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Date