

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Millburn Public Schools

INFORMATION ITEM

March 8, 2011

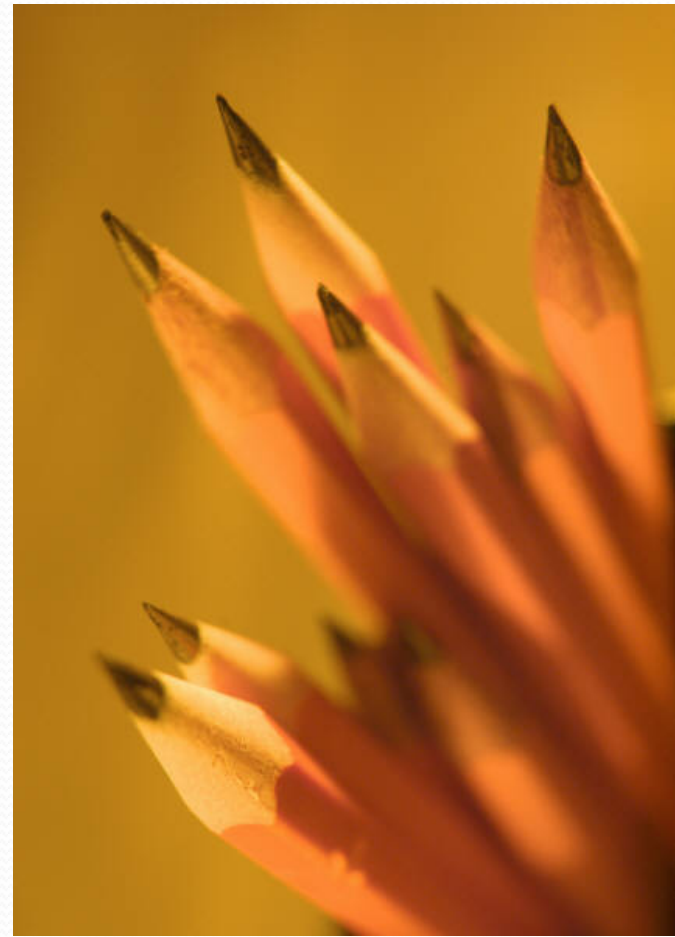
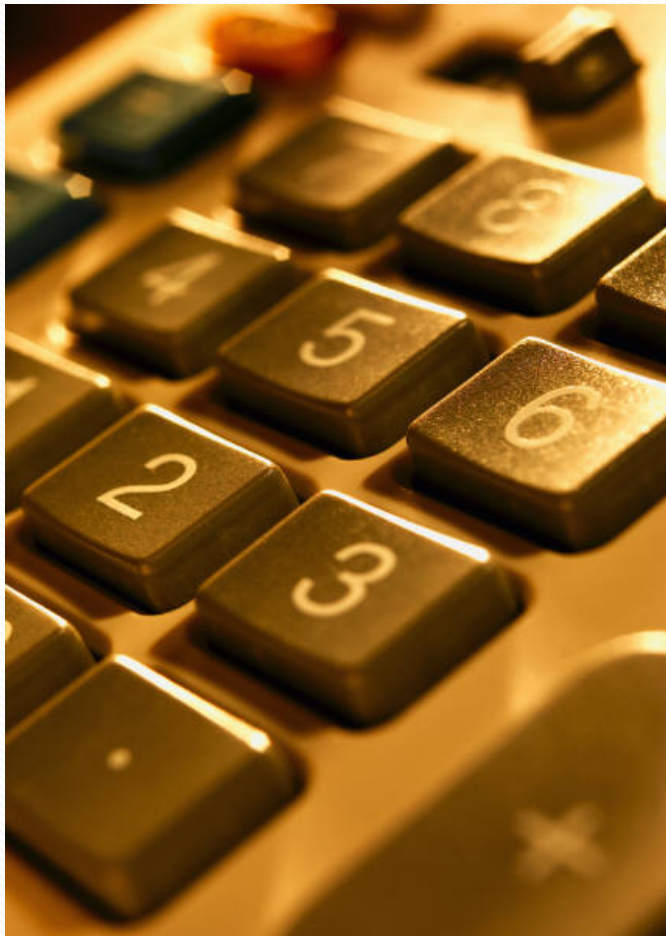
To: Board of Education Members

From: Ellen E. Mauer, PhD

Subject: Trimester Presentation

I am pleased to introduce Mrs. Nancy Reding and Mrs. Megan Konicki to give a brief presentation regarding the use of trimesters beginning next fall. This is a topic that was discussed prior to my arrival in the district and during my time here, the teachers in grades k-5 have researched this practice and discussed the use of trimesters vs. quarters with the administrative team. We, as a team, would like to move forward with this proposal. Attached is the powerpoint presentation for your review.

# Presentation to the School Board





# Table of Contents

- Schools using quarters
- Teacher Survey
- Data and information



# Schools Using Trimesters in Lake County

- Beach Park- district 3
- Emmons- district 33
- Antioch- district 24
- Grass Lake- district 36
- Lake Villa- district 41
- Grayslake- district 46
- Woodland- district 50
- Lake Bluff- district 65
- Lake Forest- district 67
- Oak Grove- district 68
- Libertyville- district 70
- Oak Grove- district 68
- Libertyville- district 70
- Rondout- district 72
- Hawthorn- district 73
- Mundelein- district 75
- Diamond Lake- district 76
- Fremont- district 79
- Kildeer- district 96
- Aptakisic- district 102
- Lincolnshire- district 103
- Bannockburn – district 106
- Deerfield- district 109



# Schools Using Quarters in Lake County

- Winthrop Harbor- district 1
- Zion- district 6
- Gavin- district 37
- Big Hollow- district 38
- Gurnee- district 56
- North Shore- district 112
- Fox Lake- district 114



# Schools Also Using Quarters

- All of these schools are in an unit district
  - Waukegan- district 60
  - Lake Zurich- district 95
  - Round Lake- district 116
  - Wauconda- district 118
  - North Chicago- district 187
  - Barrington- district 220



# Schools in Lake county

- 23 schools using trimesters
- 8 schools using quarters
  - An additional 6 schools using quarters due to their alignment with their high school

Total of 36 schools:

64% using trimesters

22% using quarters

36% using quarters- including the additional schools

# Survey Completed by K-5 Teachers at Millburn Central and West

- Trimesters

- 21 votes
- “This would allow for more accurate feedback for the first report card”
- “I have spoken to other teachers in other districts that love this format”.

- Quarters

- 2 votes
- No comments at this time





## Data and Information from Thomas Guskey

- “For assessments to become an integral part of the instructional process teachers need to change their approach in three important ways:”
  - 1. Use assessments as sources of information for both students and teachers
  - 2. Follow assessments with high-quality corrective instruction
  - 3. Give students second chances to demonstrate success.
- Thomas R. Guskey, *Ahead of the Curve* (Solution Tree, 2007)



# Switching to Trimesters

- Allows the ability to block time for classes
- Fewer classes for students
- Allows more time for the teachers to dive into to
- topics
- Explore more topics in depth
- Get to know your students better
- Data will directly correlate with report cards
- Scheduling- problems with breaks (Winter and Spring)
  - Only have to deal with a beginning and an end 3 not 4 times



# Switching to Trimesters

- The first report card would coincide with the first conference- the second conference would coincide with the second report card
- It will allow more time to demonstrate growth and to see if interventions are working.
- This will help us form “snapshots” for school wide improvement and growth
- We will acquire data three times a year
  - AimsWeb-
    - Fall, Winter and Spring
  - NWEA (Map Testing)
    - Fall and Spring



# Thank you!

- References:
- Thomas R. Guskey, *Ahead of the Curve*
- (Solution Tree, 2007)