

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Millburn Public Schools

INFORMATION ITEM

May 2, 2011

To: Board of Education Members

From: Ellen E. Mauer, PhD

Subject: Membership in Ed Red

Yearly, we consider membership in a number of organizations. One such organization is Ed Red. Ed Red is a local organization that was created to lobby at the state level for our suburban schools. They have quite a following in Lake, Cook, and DuPage counties. I have attached a page of information about the organization. You can check out their website at www.ed-red.org. Cost for this would be \$1620 per year.

We would ask you to put this on the consent agenda for the next meeting if you are interested in this organization.

ED-RED Organizational Information

Mission: A united voice advocating for the diverse needs of suburban schools.

Vision: To be a premier education policy resource for Illinois legislators and ED-RED membership

We Believe:

1. In a comprehensive education system supporting life-long learning.
2. It is the responsibility of public education to support all aspects of student learning.
3. A local school district must have the ability to make educational and fiscal decisions appropriate for its school community.
4. The State must provide adequate financial support for all public schools.
 - o Funding for public schools must be stable, reliable, and predictable.
 - o The state must fully fund the additional costs for programs that support special education and at-risk students.
 - o All state mandates should be fully funded.

Strategic Goals:

1. To research, develop, and initiate legislation advantageous to member districts
2. To actively advocate for or against legislation affecting member districts
3. To engage school board members and school administrators in the legislative process
4. To communicate proactively with member districts
5. To develop and nurture collaborative relationships with state agencies, advocacy groups, and other organizations to accomplish mutual objectives

History

Established in the fall of 1971 by seven north suburban high school districts whose superintendents and board presidents met periodically to discuss mutual interests and concerns, ED-RED's present membership has expanded to include 13 high school districts, 75 elementary school districts, 1 unit district, 3 Special Education Cooperatives and 3 Intermediate Service Centers in Cook, Lake, and DuPage Counties. Legislatively, ED-RED's area includes all or part of 18 of the present 59 Senate districts and 32 of the 118 House districts.

Meet the Staff

Erika Lindley joined the ED-RED team in 2004 and has served as Executive Director since 2006. Prior to this, Erika was the New Student Coordinator for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences at DePaul University. She holds a B.A. in Psychology and Political Science from DePaul, and is pursuing her M.S. in Public Service Management from DePaul's School of Public Service. In addition to her work in Springfield, Erika regularly presents at Administrator's Academies and guest lectures at DePaul and Loyola Universities. She serves as vice chair of the Illinois Education Roundtable. Contact Erika at [erika\(at\)ed-red.org](mailto:erika(at)ed-red.org).

ED-RED welcomed Assistant Director **Anne Hoffman** to the team in April 2009. Anne comes to us having spent 4 years as a Hawthorn District 73 school board member. Anne co-authored and implemented the largest volunteer program at Hawthorn for 5 years and served on the PTO board for 8 years. Anne's professional history includes Office

Management and Real Estate Property Management. Contact Anne at the ED-RED office at 847-692-8048 or [anne\(at\)ed-red.org](mailto:anne(at)ed-red.org)

**We are located at 1131 South Dee Road, Park Ridge IL 60068
(Maine South High School, Frost Administration Center)**

Tel: 847-692-8048

Fax: 847-692-8055