

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Millburn C.C. School District #24

PUBLIC HEARING
Sept. 15, 2008

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Robert Buehler
Kenneth Dewitt
Stacy Freeman
Thomas Heinrich
Shawn Lahr
Therese Schmidt
Chris Stream

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

James Menzer, Superintendent
Elizabeth Keefe, Special Services Director
Cheryl Kucera, Curriculum Director
Joanne Rathunde, Technology Director
Jake Jorgenson, Principal
Jason Lind, Principal

ACCOUNTANT

Gary White

VISITORS

Kim Dodd
Megan Shewan
Kari King Duffy
Cheryl DeVries

BOARD CLERK

Dorothy Pazanin

A Public Hearing by the Board of Education of Millburn C.C. School District 24, Lake County, Illinois, held at Millburn West School, was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by President Kenneth Dewitt.

Mr. Dewitt stated that the purpose of the hearing was to allow public comment regarding the district's proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2009.

There was no public comment on the budget. Mr. Dewitt asked Dr. Cheryl Kucera to discuss the district's annual State Report Card, while the Public Hearing remained open. It was explained that the ISAT tests taken in the spring, which are the basis for the Report Card, were re-scored throughout the state because of concerns expressed by several districts. Dr. Kucera said her major concerns were with the 8th grade reading results. In that area, the re-scoring lowered the number of Millburn students exceeding standards by 50 percent. Districts across the state have since reported issues with the re-scoring. The state has asked districts to report anomalies that they find in the scores. Dr. Kucera said the validity of the scores statewide has been questioned, but she doubts the state will make any further changes. The district must release the scores in the State Report Card by Oct. 31.

At 7:16 p.m., Kenneth Dewitt asked again for any public comment on the proposed Budget. There was none, and the Public Hearing was adjourned.

Kenneth Dewitt, President
Board of Education
Millburn C.C. School District 24

ATTEST:

Chris Stream, Secretary
Board of Education
Millburn C.C. School District 24

Date

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Millburn C.C. School District 24

REGULAR MEETING
Sept. 15, 2008

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Stacy Freeman
Thomas Heinrich
Shawn Lahr
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Chris Stream

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

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BOARD CLERK

Dorothy Pazanin

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Millburn C.C. School District 24, Lake County, Illinois, held at Millburn West School, was called to order at 7:17 p.m. by President Kenneth Dewitt. Roll call was dispensed with because it had been taken prior to the start of the meeting with the following Board Members in attendance: Robert Buehler, Kenneth Dewitt, Stacy Freeman, Thomas Heinrich, Shawn Lahr, Therese Schmidt and Chris Stream.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES -- A motion was made by Shawn Lahr and seconded by Stacy Freeman to approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of Aug. 18, 2008. On a voice vote, all Board Members voted Aye. Nays: none. Absent: none. The motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT -- Gary White reported that during August about \$470,000 was transferred out of Certificates of Deposit, which left a balance of about \$3.9 million invested at the end of the month. Since then, more than \$3 million in property tax revenue has been received, and another \$1 million is expected this week. It is still anticipated that the district will need to borrow about \$3.7 million during this fiscal year. A motion was made by Stacy Freeman and seconded by Shawn Lahr to approve the Treasurer's Report. On a roll call vote, the following Board Members voted Aye: Therese Schmidt, Thomas Heinrich, Robert Buehler, Kenneth Dewitt, Chris Stream, Shawn Lahr and Stacy Freeman. Nays: none. Absent: none. The motion passed.

AUGUST BILLS -- A motion was made by Robert Buehler and seconded by Therese Schmidt to approve payment of the August bills. On a roll call vote, the following Board Members voted Aye: Thomas Heinrich, Robert Buehler, Kenneth Dewitt, Chris Stream, Shawn Lahr, Stacy Freeman and Therese Schmidt. Nays: none. Absent: none. The motion passed.

EXPENDITURES

09/30/2008

EDUCATION

BILLS PAYABLE	\$277,687.02
PAYROLL	\$680,003.92
MICS	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$957,690.94

TRANSPORTATION

BILLS PAYABLE	\$25,372.44
PAYROLL	\$63,512.01
TOTAL	\$88,884.45

SITE & CONSTRUCTION

BILLS PAYABLE	\$179,564.00
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BUILDING

BILLS PAYABLE	\$75,684.60
PAYROLL	\$42,632.88
TOTAL	\$118,317.48

IMRF

BILLS PAYABLE	\$0.00
PAYROLL	\$40,111.46
TOTAL	\$40,111.46

BONDS&INTEREST

BILLS PAYABLE	\$0.00
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TORT

PAYROLL	\$4,154.10
BILLS PAYABLE	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$4,154.10

FUNDS TOTAL	\$1,388,722.43
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ACTIVITY FUNDS -- Jason Lind explained that no checks were written in August from the Millburn Central Activity Fund. Funds were received from the PTO to reimburse for previous expenditures. Also, funds collected for the sports physicals were deposited. Jake Jorgenson said August also was a slow month in the Millburn West Activity Fund. No checks were written; \$14.70 in interest was deposited. A motion was made by Therese Schmidt and seconded by Thomas Heinrich to approve the Activity Funds for Millburn Central and Millburn West. On a roll call vote, the following Board Members voted Aye: Robert Buehler, Kenneth Dewitt, Chris Stream, Shawn Lahr, Stacy Freeman, Therese Schmidt and Thomas Heinrich. Nays: none. Absent: none. The motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT -- Kim Dodd said that she is hearing a lot of discussion in the community concerning the resignation of secretary Lori Dewitt from Millburn West. Mrs. Dodd said she trying to separate facts from rumors. Kenneth Dewitt said that personnel issues cannot be discussed in open session. However, the minutes of board meetings, posted on the district website are an accurate reflection of what happened concerning this situation. He explained that although Mrs. Dewitt's resignation was tabled, she is no longer employed by the school district.

EXECUTIVE SESSION --There was none.

NEW BUSINESS

BUDGET FOR FY09 -- Dr. James Menzer explained that the proposed Budget for Fiscal year 2009 totals \$24 million. The main highlight is that includes \$3.7 million in Tax Anticipation Warrants that will be needed to meet anticipated expenses. A motion was made by Therese Schmidt and seconded by Stacy Freeman to approve the Budget for FY09. On a roll call vote, the following Board Members voted Aye: Kenneth Dewitt, Chris Stream, Shawn Lahr, Stacy Freeman, Therese Schmidt, Thomas Heinrich and Robert Buehler. Nays: none. Absent: none. The motion passed.

It was noted that Gary White exited the meeting at 8 p.m.

APPLICATION FOR RECOGNITION OF SCHOOLS -- A motion was made by Therese Schmidt and seconded by Chris Stream to approve the 2008-09 Application for Recognition of Schools. On a voice vote, all Board Members voted Aye. Nays: none. Absent: none. The motion passed.

ILLINOIS SCHOOL REPORT CARD -- The Report Card must be approved by Oct. 30. The Board decided to table approval until the October board meeting in case any further changes were made by the state.

APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT -- A motion was made by Therese Schmidt and seconded by Chris Stream to approve the employment of **Julie O'Connor** for the 0.5 FTE RTI Position at a contract salary of \$20,701. On a roll call vote, the following Board Members voted Aye: Chris Stream, Shawn Lahr, Stacy Freeman, Therese Schmidt, Thomas Heinrich, Robert Buehler and Kenneth Dewitt. Nays: none. Absent: none. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Chris Stream and seconded by Thomas Heinrich to approve the employment of **Cheryl DeVries** as a full-time Grade 2 Teacher at a contract salary of \$39,658. On a roll call vote, the following Board Members voted Aye: Shawn Lahr, Stacy Freeman, Therese Schmidt, Thomas Heinrich, Robert Buehler, Kenneth Dewitt and Chris Stream. Nays: none. Absent: none. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Thomas Heinrich and seconded by Shawn Lahr to approve the employment of **Randee Harger** as a full-time Grade 2 Teacher at a contract salary of \$42,206. On a roll call vote, the following Board Members voted Aye: Stacy Freeman, Therese Schmidt, Thomas Heinrich, Robert Buehler, Kenneth Dewitt, Chris Stream and Shawn Lahr. Nays: none. Absent: none. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Therese Schmidt and seconded by Shawn Lahr to approve the employment of **Megan Shewan** as a 0.5 FTE Kindergarten Teacher at a contract salary of \$17,503. On a roll call vote, the following Board Members voted Aye: Therese Schmidt, Thomas Heinrich, Robert Buehler, Kenneth Dewitt, Chris Stream, Shawn Lahr and Stacy Freeman. Nays: none. Absent: none. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Thomas Heinrich and seconded by Shawn Lahr to approve the employment of **Laurie Pighini** as an Earobics Coordinator at a rate of \$8.81 an hour, as a Substitute Teacher, and as a Substitute Special Services Assistant. On a roll call vote, the following Board Members voted Aye: Thomas Heinrich, Robert Buehler, Kenneth Dewitt, Chris Stream, Shawn Lahr, Stacy Freeman and Therese Schmidt. Nays: none. Absent: none. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Chris Stream and seconded by Thomas Heinrich to approve the employment of **Cara Anderson** as a full-time Special Services Assistant at a rate of \$8.81 an hour. On a roll call vote, the following Board Members voted Aye: Robert Buehler, Kenneth Dewitt, Chris Stream, Shawn Lahr, Stacy Freeman, Therese Schmidt and Thomas Heinrich. Nays: none. Absent: none. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Therese Schmidt and seconded by Stacy Freeman to approve the employment of **Michelle Michalski** as a Bus Driver. On a roll call vote, the following Board Members voted Aye: Kenneth Dewitt, Chris Stream, Shawn Lahr, Stacy Freeman, Therese Schmidt, Thomas Heinrich and Robert Buehler. Nays: none. Absent: none. The motion passed.

FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE -- A motion was made by Stacy Freeman and seconded by Chris Stream to approve requests for Family Medical Leave from: **Elizabeth Ekstrom**, Grade 3 Teacher; **Christine Nichols**, ELL Teacher; **Catherine Sprague**, Special Services Assistant; and **Debra Kaiserlian**, Social Worker. On a voice vote, all Board Members voted Aye. Nays: none. Absent: none. The motion passed.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS -- A motion was made by Therese Schmidt and seconded by Chris Stream to approve Lorna Feldman, Robert Sertic, Stacy Janda and Wendy Wieggers as Substitute Teachers. On a voice vote, all Board Members voted Aye. Nays: none. Absent: none. The motion passed.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT -- Dr. James Menzer reminded the Board that the Millburn Fall Festival is set for Sept. 20 at Central. He said he has invited Warren High School to send a representative to be available to answer questions regarding that district's upcoming referendum. Dr. Menzer noted that during Millburn's curriculum nights about nine people registered to vote.

CURRICULUM DIRECTOR'S REPORT -- Dr. Cheryl Kucera reported that today was the first day of MAP testing, and it will continue for the next two weeks. The results will be one of the topics at an upcoming Teacher's Institute Day. Teachers also have attended training sessions on the new Grades 1-5 reading program and on one of the pilot reading programs.

TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR'S REPORT -- Joanne Rathunde said she is investigating new communications programs for items such as calendars and e-mail. Also, the district was approved for e-rate funding for this year, which covers about 40 percent of communication bills.

SPECIAL SERVICES DIRECTOR'S REPORT -- Elizabeth Keefe reported that the AIMS-web benchmark testing is complete and all scores have been entered. This data will be used to identify students that are struggling and in need of intervention. She is continuing to work on the RTI plan, which is due to the state on Jan. 1, 2009.

PRINCIPALS' REPORT -- Jake Jorgenson said he took an informal survey at the last Millburn West PTO meeting concerning curriculum nights. He said parents gave positive feedback and approved of the format. The fall sports season is underway, including volleyball, soccer and cross-country.

Jason Lind reported that Central's athletes are now competing in a new athletic conference, and the students have met with early success. The Bully Prevention program will be introduced at an upcoming assembly. There has already been a lot of discussion regarding this topic with students, staff and parents. Also, fifth grade students now have an opportunity to be recess supervisors for the first graders. Many fifth graders have volunteered and signed pledges to fulfill the responsibilities of a recess supervisor.

There being no further business, the Regular Board Meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Kenneth Dewitt, President
Board of Education
Millburn C.C. School District 24

ATTEST:

Chris Stream, Secretary
Board of Education
Millburn C.C. School District 24

Date