



# Mill Levy Override Oversight Committee

## MEETING SUMMARY

June 18, 2024

Admin Building, Boardroom/Webex

6:06-7:27 p.m.

**Members present:** Nicole Uebel, Lyman Kaiser

**Members absent:** Jerry Carney, Chip Ecks, Velvet Stepanek, Rebecca Kluck, Mark Holthouse

**Guests:** Valerie Scates, Executive Director of Future Ready and  
Dawn Boden, Director of Counseling Services

**Ex-Officio members present:** Brandan Comfort, Nicole Ottmer, Kim Gilstrap,  
with Lauren Nelson (BOE Treasurer), and Julie Ott (BOE Director)

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### Preliminary Items:

- 1&2: The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. and Kim Gilstrap made the roll call.
- 3: The meeting agenda was approved by Nicole Uebel and Lyman Kaiser.
- 4: The meeting notes, from the April 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, could not be approved, due to absenteeism.

### Action:

There were no action items for the June meeting.

### Non-Action Items:

5: Guest, Executive Director Valerie Scates presents an update of her program, MLO 2017 PIP 1; “Comprehensive Support Model” to the committee. The 63.5 FTE that was budgeted for this program, as reflected on the FY2018-19 Phase-In plan, there were still approximately 6 vacancies last year, in the elementary schools, and currently only one vacancy in that pool. With improved district processes, those vacancies are starting to fill up. Now, a total of 49 school counselors are supporting our elementary students’ needs. Although, her department has experienced a good deal of change in the past couple of years, they have provided positive feedback, from a current and/or former employee of D11.

Valerie reports upward trends in student feedback and stated “And then also just with this additional staff that the MLO has provided, it's given us the ability to have counselors really support the efforts at future centers that are getting ready to launch at all high schools next year.”

In addition to the MLO funds, they are now receiving grants funds and have started a scholarship program as another method of obtaining and retaining school counselors, with their MIS (Mission Improvement Strategy), and widespread collaboration, Dawn Boden says District 11 can now boast of 10 recognized school counselors over the last 4 years.

6: Dr. Comfort noted that there were no big changes to the financial revenues and expenditures. He was able to explain, with good reasoning, the questions surrounding the Charter Schools’ funding, from last month. Some adjustments have been made to those PIPs and continue to fluctuate, somewhat.

The committee will have some upcoming discussion and recommendations for the incoming inflationary funds, as approved by the Board of Education, the past two years, consecutively. Dr. Comfort is working on an updated model to present the overall budget of both MLOs and will bring it to the committee in the fall.

7: The MLO Assessment is next year and the committee plans to review any outstanding recommendations from the last Assessment in 2021-22, in the fall. The assessment process should begin no later than January. Dr. Comfort encouraged the committee to start thinking of processes to review each PIP, for outdated language and directives. With the passing of 24 years since the 1<sup>st</sup> MLO, education and the methodology has vastly changed and continues to expand beyond the parameters of the outdated models that once served us so well.

The committee is encouraged to have a different mindset, moving forward, with making a plan and following through to completion, putting all ideas together. Dr. Comfort is prepared to approach the Board of Education with some committee concerns, if and when necessary. The committee Charge, Policy, Governance Plan, PIP language updates, and attracting more MLO committee members, just to name a few.

This committee is ready for some clarity to help them move forward in their purpose.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Next meeting: August 20, 2024