

SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT OF LAKE COUNTY

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Thomas L. Moline, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Executive Board Meeting Summary

Thursday, February 23, 2017

Oath to New Board Member

President Joanne Osmond administered the oath of office to Mr. David Northern, Governing Board member from Community Consolidated District #46, who was appointed by Governing Board President Carey McHugh to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. Rob Roop. Mr. Northern will complete the two-year term expiring in June 2018.

Consent Agenda

Minutes and financial matters were approved along with the following personnel items:

- 👤 Requests for contracts for 10 educational support personnel (ESP)
- 👤 Resignations/retirements by 3 ESP and 1 licensed staff
- 👤 Request for leave by 1 licensed staff
- 👤 The following professional vacancy was reported: 1 Speech/Language Pathologist

Public Comment: Mrs. Elizabeth Olson, parent of a student who attends Laremont School, expressed her concerns about the possibility of her son's program being relocated to Gages Lake School next year and the severe impact that change will have on her son and many other students. President Osmond thanked Mrs. Olson for her comments.

Recognitions

Student Recognition: Jayden Williams, a student from Gurnee District #56, was selected to receive the STARS Award for February – Students Taking Academic Responsibility Seriously. Jayden is a 6th grade student in the Educational Life Skills class at Woodland Middle School.

Pictured with Jayden (l-r) are: Dr. John Hutton, Superintendent of Gurnee District #56; Margaret Frederick, Woodland #50 P.E. Teacher; Special Needs Nurse Ann Marie McKee; Jayden's mom and dad; Teacher Ronnie Carbonara; and Board President Joanne Osmond



Special Award – Recognition of Accomplishment:

Ann Marie McKee, Special Needs Nurse for Jayden, was recognized for the outstanding support and care she gives to Jayden. Ann Marie is employed by a private agency.

Pictured with Ann Marie and Jayden (l-r) are: Teacher Ronnie Carbonara, SEDOL Superintendent Tom Moline, and Dr. Peggy Lynch, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources



Employee of the Month: Nicole Richter, a LASSO-3 teacher at Laremont School, was recognized as February's Employee of the Month. (LASSO stands for Language and Social Skills Opportunities.)

Pictured (l-r) are Program Supervisor Tegan Dittmer; Paraprofessionals Megan Swirsley, Andrea LaMarre and Jennifer O'Day; Nicole Richter; Paraprofessional Michelle Horsfall; and Board President Joanne Osmond



Old Business

- A. Policy Revisions: The Board approved policy revisions presented for second reading.
- B. Superintendent Search Firm: The Board approved an agreement with School Exec Connect to conduct the superintendent search at a cost of \$18,500 plus expenses not to exceed \$3,500.

New Business

- A. Resolution to Set Hearing: The Board approved a resolution to schedule a hearing on the interfund transfers needed from the Education Fund to the Operations and Maintenance Fund (\$2.5 million) and from the Education Fund to the Transportation Fund (\$230,000). The hearing will be held from 9:15 to 9:30 a.m. on March 23 at the SEDOL district office.
- B. Resolution to Regulate Expense Reimbursement: In accordance with the Local Government Travel Expense Control Act, the Board adopted a resolution regulating the reimbursement of expenses for Board members and employees.

Committee Reports

- A. Personnel/Finance Committee Meeting: Dr. Lynch reminded Board members that a joint meeting of the Personnel and Finance Committees is scheduled for Monday, March 13, at 9:30 a.m. This is the annual meeting to review information regarding the proposed tentative budget, program take backs, contractual services and reduction-in-force.

Program/School Reports

- A. Announcements/Wins: The following items were reported at the February meeting of the Supervisory/ Administrative Team (SAT).
 - A lot of positive student movement from LASSO-2 classes to district or less restrictive special education setting.
 - John Powers Center hosted pancake events; PBIS point. Blueberry pancakes were served.
 - Two Laremont School staff members presented at disability awareness assembly.

Dr. Moline reminded Board members that the March 8 Governing Board meeting will be held at North Chicago High School. After learning that the IASB Lakes Division meeting is scheduled for the same evening, a decision was made to hold the Governing Board meeting at the same location rather than trying to reschedule. The meeting will be held in the SEDOL sector classroom from 5:45 to 6:15 p.m.

Dr. Moline extended deepest sympathies to Mr. Northern on the loss of his father in late December. He also extended deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Dr. Carole Brooks, a former employee who passed away on February 19. Carole was the administrator of the Resource Development Program from 2004 until her retirement in June 2015. Carole helped establish the SEDOL Backpack Program, which serves over 100 families. To honor Carole, the program has been renamed the Carole Brooks Backpack Program and donations can be made through the SEDOL Foundation.

Mr. Northern reported that on Tuesday, February 21, Lake County held a summit of local leaders at the College of Lake County. Over 200 people attended to promote tolerance and inclusiveness for everyone. He commended Dr. Moline and Mrs. Wood for being there. He noted that many of the students SEDOL serves may be subjected to discrimination, and it might be good for SEDOL to formally pledge its support of tolerance and inclusiveness.

President Osmond reported that she just returned from Springfield where a group of Lake County board members and administrators met with state legislators from Lake County including Sam Yingling, Sheri Jesiel and Barbara Wheeler. She said it was a good opportunity to talk about the issues school districts are facing, and the impact of the things legislators are planning. She encouraged the other Board members to attend the next time a trip is planned.

Closed Session: The Board entered into closed session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees, collective bargaining and pending litigation.

Other Business: The Board approved a recommendation to suspend a professional staff member for two days without pay.

Prior to adjournment, Mrs. Shivani Sweeney, parent of a student who attends Laremont School, expressed her concerns regarding the plan to move the SAB program to Gages Lake School next year. She explained the many opportunities the students would miss when the program is moved from Laremont including mobility trips, job training, prom and graduation. Mrs. Sweeney requested an opportunity for parents to give their input and be part of the decision-making process.

President Osmond thanked Mrs. Sweeney and Mrs. Olson for presenting their concerns to the Board. She explained that it's really not the Board's role to address programming; the Board's role is really to make policy. President Osmond said Dr. Moline and the building principal would handle these types of concerns.

Adjournment: With no other items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Executive Board Meeting Schedule *SEDOL Office Bay Room unless noted otherwise*
 Thursday, March 23, 2017 – 9:30 a.m.
 Thursday, April 13, 2017 – 9:30 a.m. ***Special Meeting to Review Tentative Budget***
 Thursday, April 27, 2017 – 9:30 a.m.
 Thursday, May 25, 2017 – 9:30 a.m.
 Thursday, June 22, 2017 – 9:30 a.m. ***SEDOL Office Boardroom***
 Thursday, July 27, 2017 – 9:30 a.m. ***SEDOL Office Boardroom***

Governing Board Meeting Schedule *Laremont School Gym unless noted otherwise*
 Wednesday, March 8, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. ***Location changed to North Chicago High School where the IASB Lake Division Dinner Meeting will be held***
 Wednesday, June 7, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.

:dm – 2/27/17