

SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT OF LAKE COUNTY

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Valerie M. Donnan, M.Ed.

Superintendent

Executive Board Meeting Summary

Thursday, February 28, 2019

Consent Agenda

Minutes, financial matters and minor policy changes were approved, along with the following personnel items:

- 👤👤👤 Requests for contracts for 7 educational support personnel (ESP)
- 👤👤👤 Resignations/retirements by 5 ESPs and 6 licensed staff
- 👤👤👤 Request by 1 licensed staff to increase contract time
- 👤👤👤 See last page of summary for list of professional vacancies

Recognitions

Student Recognition – Students Taking Academic Responsibility Seriously (STARS)

December's STARS student could not attend that meeting, so he was recognized at the January meeting. The Board planned to recognize the January and February students this month. Unfortunately, February's student, Hector Juarez, was not able to attend, so the Board will recognize him at the March meeting.

Rosa Salazar, a 9th grade student in the LASSO-3 Program, was selected as January's STARS student; Rosa is a resident of Zion-Benton High School District #126. *Pictured with Rosa in front row (l-r) are: Rosa's mom and sister and Superintendent Val Donnan. Back row (l-r) is Supervisor Tegan Dittmer, Teacher Crystal Reda and Paraprofessional Jennifer Salazar.*



Employee of the Month: Kim Carlson, a teacher at Gages Lake School, was recognized as February’s employee of the month. *Pictured in front row with students from Kim’s class are Paraprofessional Megan McGuire and Social Worker Katy Schuhrke. Pictured in second row are Assistant Principal Michele Barkley, Principal Kris Bacci, Kim with her husband and children, and Superintendent Val Donnan. (Note: The gentleman in the background on the left is a sign language interpreter.)*



Old Business

- A. IDEA, Housing and O&M Assessment: Mrs. Donnan provided an update on the work of the IDEA planning group and the two subcommittees reviewing how audiology services should be paid for and how housing credits will be issued to member districts. Another large group planning session was held on February 4, and many member districts were represented by superintendents, business managers and special education directors. The subcommittee reviewing member district housing credits was firmly in favor of updating the reimbursement and the integration formula to make it much more fiscally accurate as far as what it really costs districts to host a SEDOL class.

The question on how to pay for audiology services generated a good amount of discussion, but the subcommittee felt member districts should be surveyed on whether to use a shared-cost system or a fee-based system. The survey also asked member districts to indicate their position on the formula used to determine the O&M assessment fee member districts pay. Twenty of the 31 member districts have returned the survey. It will be open for another week, and Administration hopes the rest of the districts will take the survey before the results are summarized.

Mrs. Donnan reported that she was in Lisle on February 27, along with other administrators of special education cooperatives, to talk about the procedural changes with IDEA funding. SEDOL will be able to apply for the extension following Governing Board authorization at its meeting on March 13. Some things will be shifting out of the grant to the District Consolidated Plan. A workshop is planned for the spring to review all of the impending changes.

New Business

- A. Resolution to Set Hearing on Interfund Transfer: The Board approved a resolution to schedule a public hearing on the interfund transfer needed from the Education Fund to the Transportation Fund (\$450,000). The hearing will be held from 9:15 to 9:30 a.m. on March 21 at the SEDOL district office.

- B. Salary/Benefit Recommendations for Administrative and Non-Union Staff: The Board approved Administration's recommendations regarding salary/benefits for administrative and non-union staff for FY19 and FY20, which were reviewed at the joint meeting of the Personnel and Finance Committees on February 14. Mrs. Donnan reported that Administration followed up with Personnel Committee Chair Dr. Lonny Lemon and Board President Joanne Osmond to discuss Administration's plan to present a director's contract for approval next month and also to look at insurance benefits for district administrators.
- C. Request to Bid Replacement of Classroom Doors: The Board authorized Administration to seek bids on the replacement of classroom doors and hardware at Transition Center South in Mundelein.
- D. Lunch Program for Regional Safe School Program (RSSP): Bookkeeper Karen Jacobs explained the steps being taken for SEDOL to host the National School Lunch Program for the RSSP located in Zion. As SEDOL operates the RSSP on behalf of the ROE, it is easier to add the school under SEDOL's lunch program. Administration is working with Zion District #6 to provide the lunches and hopes to have everything in place for the program to begin in the fall.
- E. Articles of Joint Agreement / Monthly Executive Board Meetings: Mrs. Donnan explained that the Articles of Joint Agreement state the Executive Board will meet at least monthly. Since it is sometimes difficult to attain a quorum in July, Administration sought direction on whether to maintain the requirement of a monthly meeting, or to amend the language to allow the Executive Board the option of not meeting in July. Consensus was to amend the Articles to allow the Board the option to not meet. Mrs. Donnan said the proposed change would be presented to the Governing Board along with the other amendments that will be needed due to the changes in IDEA funding.

Public Comments: Five visitors expressed concerns about Administration's plan to locate a portion of the Transition Program to the second floor of John Powers Center while elementary students from the Deaf/Hard of Hearing (DHH) Program would occupy classrooms on the first floor. Visitors were also concerned that the job posting for the principal of Powers Center did not require applicants to be fluent in American Sign Language and to have more experience as a teacher and administrator of a DHH Program.

Executive Board Comments: Dr. Mack reported that February 28 was Rare Disease Day. This is an observance held on the last day of February to raise awareness of rare diseases and improve access to treatment and medical representation for individuals with rare diseases and their families. He asked everyone to share this on social media and for there to be a record of it in the minutes.

Mrs. Donnan noted that a group of SEDOL students made personal invitations that will be sent to Governing Board members, inviting them to attend the March 13 Governing Board meeting.

Committee Reports: Dr. Lynch and Ms. Watson gave a brief overview of the items discussed at the joint meeting of the Personnel and Finance committee meetings held on February 14, which included: salary/benefits for administrative and non-union staff; update on health insurance renewal; and several building upgrades at Powers Center and Transition Center South that will be included in the FY20 budget.

Program/School Reports

A. Announcements / Wins

Mrs. Donnan showed pictures as she talked about each of the following events/items:

- Gages Lake School's *100th Day of School – 100 Days Smarter*. "After 100 days of school, I learned ..."
- Feedback about the nursing staff regarding emergency phone calls at Laremont School. Crisis reactions are appreciated.
- Staff in the admin building held a hat and glove drive.
- A student in the TAB Program called the principal to share that he raised \$52 shoveling to donate hats and gloves to students in need.
- Gages Lake School students in Ms. Cotteleer and Ms. Arff's classes made blankets for Advocate Hospice. The student council also made blankets and wrote cards to the recipients. Six cozy, warm blankets were donated to help make patients more comfortable and feel loved.

Closed Session: There were no items for closed session discussion.

Other Business: There were no items to discuss under Other Business.

With no other business to be considered, the meeting was adjourned.

:dm – 3/6/19

Professional Vacancies for 2018-19

- 1 Principal (SEDOL South)
- 1 Principal (John Powers Center)
- 1 School Psychologist
- 1 School Psychologist Intern
- 1 School Social Worker (LASSO-3/Laremont School)
- 1 School Social Worker (Cyd Lash Academy/M.S.)
- 1 School Social Worker (Cyd Lash Academy)
- 1 School Social Worker Intern
- 1 Certified School Nurse (Gages Lake School)
- 1 DHH Itinerant Teacher
- 1 Substitute Registered Nurse (Various Locations)
- 1 Administrative Assistant (HR/Admin Building)

Executive Board Meeting Schedule *SEDOL Office Bay Room unless noted otherwise*

Thursday, March 21, 2019 – 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, April 11, 2019 – 9:30 a.m. *Special Meeting to Review Tentative Budget*

Thursday, April 25, 2019 – 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, May 23, 2019 – 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, June 27, 2019 – 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, July 25, 2019 – 9:30 a.m.

Governing Board Meeting Schedule *Laremont School Gym unless noted otherwise*

~~Wednesday, March 6, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.~~ *Rescheduled for March 13 – 5:30 pm at Wauconda High School*

Wednesday, June 5, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.