

SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT OF LAKE COUNTY

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Valerie M. Donnan, M.Ed.

Superintendent

Governing Board Meeting Summary Wednesday, March 13, 2019

Executive Board Meeting Summary Thursday, March 21, 2019

March 13 Governing Board Meeting

The Governing Board meeting was held in the library at Wauconda High School. The meeting was held the same evening and at the same location as the IASB Lake Division meeting in hopes of assuring a quorum.

Pledge, Agenda and Minutes: Following the call to order and pledge, the Board accepted the agenda and approved the minutes of August 29, 2018 and the record of the unofficial meeting of November 28, 2018.

Nominating Committee for Governing Board Officers: Information was presented regarding the need to appoint three Governing Board members to a nominating committee to develop recommendations for the offices of Governing Board President and Secretary. The committee should make its recommendations known to Governing Board members 30 days prior to the June meeting. Governing Board members interested in serving on the nominating committee were asked to call Recording Secretary Doris Marcinkus or Superintendent Val Donnan.

Nominating Committee for Executive Board Members: Information was presented regarding the need to establish a nominating committee to recommend appointments to the Executive Board. The committee is composed of one Governing Board member, two Executive Board members and the Regional Superintendent of Schools. The committee should make its recommendations known to Governing Board members 30 days prior to the June meeting. Governing Board members interested in serving on the nominating committee were asked to call Ms. Marcinkus or Mrs. Donnan.

STU Collective Bargaining Agreement: The Board approved a three-year agreement with the SEDOL Teachers' Union (STU). Dr. Peggy Lynch, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, presented an overview of the agreement.

Update/Request for Extension on IDEA Procedural Changes: Superintendent Val Donnan updated the Board on the work of the large planning group of member district superintendents, business managers and special education directors to develop new procedures for the distribution of IDEA funds. In addition, subcommittees were formed to look at Infinitec services, housing credits issued to member districts hosting a SEDOL class, how to pay for audiology services and the O&M assessment fee. The planning group and subcommittees felt more information was needed, so a survey requesting information on these issues was sent to all member districts. Survey results will be sent out once all districts have returned the survey.

Mrs. Donnan explained that SEDOL would need to apply for an extension on the implementation of procedural changes for distribution of IDEA funds, which requires authorization by the Governing Board. The change in funding will not take effect until July 1, 2020. The additional year is needed to develop procedures and conduct trainings with member districts. Time is also needed to amend the Articles of Joint Agreement. The Governing Board authorized Administration to apply for the extension.

Post Issuance Tax Compliance Report for the Series 2015-B Bonds and Filing Financial Information with EMMA: Ms. Watson explained that reports must be made in March of each year in order to remain in compliance with reporting requirements for the Series 2015 Bonds.

Revamping Member District Housing Credits: Mrs. Donnan covered the proposed changes in housing credits earlier in the meeting.

Open Forum: Governing Board members were encouraged to suggest agenda items for the June 5 meeting and to make whatever comments they felt appropriate. No comments were made.

Public Comment: Mrs. Kim McAuliffe, a resident of Vernon Hills whose child attends John Powers Center, 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 continue to occupy classrooms on the first floor. She was 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.

Prior to adjournment, Mr. Alan Rubenstein, Governing Board member from Aptakisic-Tripp District #102, said this was his last meeting after eight years on the Governing Board, as his term was up and he was not seeking re-election. Mr. Rubenstein said belonging to a cooperative is a lot more than a dollar and cents equation. The cooperative was formed to serve the greater good of all its members, and it only works if the districts live by the commitment they made when they joined the cooperative.

March 21 Executive Board Meeting

Prior to the regular meeting, a public hearing was held to receive comments regarding an interfund transfer from the Education Fund to the Transportation Fund. No commentary was received.

Consent Agenda

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

- ### Requests for contracts for 7 educational support personnel (ESP) and 2 licensed staff
- ### Resignations/retirements by 8 ESPs and 9 licensed staff
- ### Request for reduction in time by 1 licensed staff
- ### See last page of summary for list of professional vacancies

Recognitions

Student Recognition – Students Taking Academic Responsibility Seriously (STARS)

George Rateike, a student from Grant High School District #124, was selected as the STARS student for March. George attends Transition Center South. *Pictured in front row (l-r) are: Superintendent Val Donnan, George, and his grandparents. Pictured in the back row are: Dr. Christy Sefcik, Executive Board member and Superintendent of Grant High School #124; Supervisor Pam Evans; George's dad; Teacher Eileen Shaughnessy; Teacher Deb Settles; and Paraprofessional Amber Swiderek. The lady just behind George's grandparents is another relative.*



Hector Juarez, a 10th grade student in the ELS Program at North Chicago High School, was selected as the STARS student for February. Hector was not able to attend the February meeting or the March meeting due to transportation problems. Administration is making arrangements to recognize Hector in his classroom sometime in April.

Employee of the Month: Speech Pathologist Janet Ognibene was recognized as March's employee of the month. Pictured with Janet (l-r) are: Superintendent Val Donnan, Coordinator Ann Gear, ELS Teacher Ronnie Carbonara, Speech Liaison Lyn Edwards, and Janet's husband.



Old Business:

- A. IDEA, Housing and O&M Assessment: Mrs. Donnan reported that Administration is currently working on a summary of the member district survey results. Approximately 77% of the districts have responded, and the districts that did not respond will be contacted. There were some themes observed in the responses, so Administration is developing proposals to bring back to the planning group in late April or early May.

Administration will apply for the extension on the implementation of the IDEA funding changes since the Governing Board did give that authorization at its meeting on March 13. This will give SEDOL an additional year to amend the Articles of Joint Agreement and work with member districts on the new procedures.

New Business

- A. Resolution on Interfund Transfer: The Board adopted a resolution authorizing an interfund transfer of \$450,000 from the Education Fund to the Transportation Fund.
- B. Camera Systems at TCS and JPC: The Board approved agreements with All Information Services, Inc., for camera systems at Transition Center South (TCS) and John Powers Center (JPC). The total cost for equipment and installation at TCS is \$22,765.76 and JPC is \$22,570.76.

- C. New Floor at TCS: The Board approved the bid by Libertyville Tile and Carpet in the amount of \$44,000 for the purchase and installation of new flooring at Transition Center South.
- D. School Calendar 2019-20 / Public Hearing Scheduled: The Board reviewed a draft of the calendar for the 2019-20 school year. A public hearing has been scheduled for 9:15 a.m. on April 11 as Administration is recommending that Veterans' Day be removed as a school holiday and that Casimir Pulaski Day be designated as a possible emergency make-up day.

Public Comment: No comments were made.

Executive Board Member Comment: Dr. Lemon commended the Board negotiating team and the STU team on the Governing Board approval of the new collective bargaining agreement.

Committee Reports

- A. Personnel Committee Meeting: Dr. Lynch reported on the items discussed at the March 14 meeting, which included: projected enrollment for 2019-20, member district requests for contractual services, staff retirements and reduction in force dismissals.

Program/School Reports

A. Announcements/Wins

- Week of Kindness at Gages Lake School; Spirit Days; Activity Day – 9 stations of kindness activities (e.g. thank-you notes, hugs, sensory bottles for Laremont)
- Tribute to Black History Month at Gages Lake School – decorated doors and fun facts
- Behavioral Specialist Team – Round Lake SRO training on autism awareness in collaboration with legal counsel
- MeMoves interactive professional development for SEDOL staff
- Laremont School celebration of Dr. Seuss's birthday for Read Across America – students read to each other using switches
- Deaf Ninja activities was hosted in Libertyville for DHH Programs within member districts and Powers Center. Over 80 students and 30 staff members participated in the two-hour event.
- Cyd Lash Academy received a grant of \$410 from the Holocaust Museum.
- Referrals decreased over 50% at the middle school level in the Alternate BD Program.

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

Other Business

- A. FY20 Personnel Reductions in Force and Dismissals: The Board adopted three resolutions regarding the dismissal of teachers and educational support personnel.

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

2018-19 Executive Board Meeting Schedule *SEDOL Office Bay Room*

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, June 5, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.

Professional Vacancies

- 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)