



**Valerie M. Donnan, M.Ed.**  
*Superintendent*

**Executive Board Meeting Summary**  
**Thursday, May 28, 2020**

The Executive Board meeting was structured to allow public viewing and public comment via webinar. Registration was through the link provided and up to the start of the webinar. The public was able to register for public comment until 8:30 a.m.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- ~ Request for Contracts for 11 educational support personnel (ESP) and 12 licensed staff
- ~ Resignations/retirements by 9 ESP and 14 licensed staff
- ~ Request for reduction in Contract for 1 licensed staff
- ~ Reinstatement of 1 ESP and 2 licensed staff
- ~ Employment Recommendations for 2020-21

**RECOGNITION**

A. May Employee of the Month

The Board recognized Amy Byrne, Social Worker at Cyd Lash Academy, as May's employee of the month.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Fairhaven School Project

Ms. Watson and Mr. Ken Frank, Signature Development, updated the Board on the Fairhaven School project stating that everything is moving along with a few delays due to the rain. They discussed four Change Orders that have been submitted for Board approval and are detailed further in the summary. Mr. Frank also discussed an underground tank that was found on the property that will need to be removed. It appears to have previously been closed up properly however, once removed, ground testing will need to be completed.

Rooftop Unit Replacement

Bid opening for the John Powers Center rooftop unit replacement was held on May 14, 2020 by Wold Architects and Engineers. Seven bids were received, two came in considerably lower than the others and it was determined that these were incomplete bids. The third lowest bid from Amber Mechanical Contractors, Inc. was recommended by Wold Architect and Engineers for Board Approval. The Board approved this bid in the amount of \$243,000.00.

Lakeside Contract

Ms. Watson presented an amended Lakeside Transportation contract to the Board. With schools having been closed since March, the contract was adjusted to reflect the closure. The contract will be paid at 80% through the end of April and 37% through the end of the school year. The Board approved the amended contract.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Bond Rating Update

Ms. Watson discussed the Moody bond rating change. SEDOL received a downgrade to Aa3 from Aa2. This reflects changes in the Public Sector Pool Programs and Financings Methodology that no longer allow ratings to pierce the weighted average of all pool participants (member districts at the time when the bond was issued).

### Change Orders for Fairhaven School

The Board approved the following four change orders received from Lamp, Inc.:

- Change Order #1 Interior Modifications in the amount of \$184,965.00  
Flooring, ceiling and lighting replacement due to added asbestos remediation
- Change Order #2 Soil Stabilization in the amount of \$64,167.00  
Cement stabilization to stiffen the soil and help with water absorption
- Change Order #3 Structural Sleeves in the amount of \$16,680.00  
Unit ventilator structural wall/ceiling air sleeves in 15 locations in lieu of steel lintels
- Change Order #4 (deduct) Site Work Modifications in the amount of (\$18,186.00)  
This is a deduct from the original contract

### Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Chief School Business Official Transition

Mrs. Donnan proposed a plan of transition for both positions. The CSBO position has already been posted. She discussed beginning the interviews and asked for volunteers from the Board to be in on the interview process since they are familiar with the complexity of this position. She requested this new person begin January 2021 allowing a six month transition.

Mrs. Donnan requested approval to post the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources position and begin interviews as well. The Board agreed with the requested plan and discussed interviews should be completed in person for the CSBO position.

### Return to School Discussion

Board members received a copy of a four scenario plan for returning to school. Scenario #1 All Student in Physical Buildings; Scenario #2 Some Students in Physical Buildings with Some Virtual; Scenario #3 All Students Virtual; and Scenario #4 Intermittent Virtual.

A follow-up to the four scenarios included discussion pertaining to information collected from return to school committees. These committees include staff from our school buildings, sector programs, administration, and parents. Discussion from these committees includes: open lines of communication, PPE special considerations (staff/students), and additional feedback from teachers, assistants, nurses, administration, and parents. Over 70 volunteers have participated in the committees. Mrs. Donnan expressed appreciation for their time and efforts.

On June 3, a parent only session will meet (registration already includes parents representing each SEDOL school building).

SEDOL currently does not have an e-Learning plan in place and is developing a plan to propose in the future.

### Survey Results Regarding Remote Learning

Mrs. Wojcik shared staff and parent feedback from a remote learning survey.

195 staff responded to the survey:

- 51% strongly agreed/agreed that remote learning was working well for their students
- 66% strongly agreed/agreed that remote learning was working well for them
- What went well: daily connection with staff/students/parents, communication, new technology, online resources, students more engaged, remote learning lesson plan format
- Challenges: some students not engaged, lack of family engagement, goals aligning to online learning, mixed messages from administrators, no student accountability, plans need to be by age level and program, gathering data difficult, parents overwhelmed, material modification for online access

56 parents responded to the survey:

- 66% strongly agreed/agreed that remote learning was working well for their child
- 55% strongly agreed/agreed that remote learning was working well for them as parents
- 80% strongly agreed/agreed that their situations and/or challenges would be taken into consideration
- Challenges: can't replace in person learning, online format difficult, working from home and online learning, too many passwords, tech issues, keeping up with everything, lack of social interaction, more 1:1 teacher time, behaviors- separating school from home, regression, lack of routine

### Request for Non-Member District Placements

The Board approved continued placement for 3 non-member district students for the 2020-21 school year. The districts will be billed based on the non-member district tuition schedule and will continue to be responsible for transportation costs and for the costs associated with any additional support needed as a result of the placement. Their placements do not impede enrollment from member districts.

### Policy Revisions for First Reading

Proposed revisions to policies 2:125 *Board Member Compensation; Expenses* and 2:160 *Board Attorney* were presented to the Board for first reading. The policies will be presented for second reading at the June meeting.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Public Comment was afforded to the general public via the web-conference registration link.

There were no Public Comments.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

The Board entered into closed session to discuss:

- The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.
- Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal.
- The placement of individual students in special education programs and to consider individual student matters – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1).

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

### **PROGRAM/SCHOOL REPORTS**

#### Announcements / Wins

1. SEDOL continues to increase its social media presence. Laremont Administration are posting morning announcements on Facebook and this has been assisting with their following growing.
2. ELP, LASSO 3, & SAB hosted a virtual prom on May 15th. Staff and students had fun dancing the afternoon away.
3. Amy Byrne from CLA secured a grant from Mother's Trust to support a family to assist during this difficult time.
4. CLA hosted a student prompted dance party on Friday! The students and staff enjoyed dancing and connecting together.
5. CLA had 5 students earn 6 scholarships to support their future. Students received scholarships from the SEDOL Foundation and Stand for the Silence.
6. SEDOL Foundation reviewed camp scholarships and are giving scholarships for students for late summer activities if they open up.
7. The SEDOL Foundation has set up a grant system for internet access for SEDOL students in need.
8. SEDOL hiring for the fall, 2020 is going well! We have been receiving great candidates and look forward to welcoming new staff.
9. Project Search celebrated a virtual graduation for their students on May 19, 2020.

#### In Memoriam

♥ Ms. Paige Hurt, a Paraprofessional at Gages Lake School, passed away on April 23, 2020, she was 37 years old. Paige was an excellent paraprofessional at Gages Lake School and has worked at SEDOL since August 2016. She had a Bachelor of Arts degree from Northeastern Illinois University and supported several teachers in a variety of grade levels. A donation has been made to the SEDOL Foundation in her memory.

- ♥ Samantha Keaskowski, a Laremont School student, passed away on May 16, 2020 at the age of 16. Sammie was a 10<sup>th</sup> grader in Karen Schreck’s classroom but had spent much of her educational years at Laremont. Sammie was known to us for her beautiful smile, her supportive family, and her love of big hair bows!
- ♥ Ms. Marleana Gongola, former SEDOL Paraprofessional, passed away on May 19, 2020. Marleana worked at SEDOL from October 10, 2010 through June 10, 2019.

Recognition of Retirees

SEDOL is planning a retirement ceremony on July 22, 2020 at 4:00 to recognize the retirees for their years of dedication and service. If a face-to-face ceremony cannot be held, a virtual retirement ceremony will be conducted on that day.

SEDOL recognizes the following retirees for their dedication and service:

Name	Position	Hire Date
Patti Borgula	Job Coach	1/5/1998
Patti Bozek	Teacher	8/20/1999
Linda Buettner	Schl Psych	8/31/1987
Cami Brydon	Teacher	8/23/1985
Marta Carcamo	Paraprofessional	11/28/2011
Sheila Conrad	Bookkeeper	10/1/1998
Mary Ellen Corbett	Teacher	8/28/1995
Kathleen Flaherty	Social Worker	12/02/1985
Tamara Hoeksema	Teacher	8/24/1992
Sharon Iwans	Teacher	8/25/1986
Diane Jakimauskas	Paraprofessional	1/3/1994
Debbie Kunkler	OT	8/24/1992
Doris Marcinkus	Admin Ass't	6/24/1976
Karen Martin	Teacher	10/19/1998
Carol McCarthy	Teacher	8/18/1997
Margaret OConnor	RN	8/20/2007
Sheila Pfeifer	Admin Ass't	11/23/1987
Jeanne Rutledge	RN	9/10/2001
Chris Sell	Paraprofessional	10/23/1989
Barbara Smith	School Nurse	8/23/2004
Kathy Steplyk	SLP	8/20/1999
Jodi Yeh-Shinbrood	Social Worker	8/22/2002

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENT**

Mrs. Donnan reiterated the importance of quorum at the June 3 Governing Board virtual meeting. Voting will take place on the Articles of Joint Agreement, STU retirement, tentative budget, and other important items. She asked that the Board ensure they have a School Board member representing their district.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

There were no committee reports.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

:sm 5/29/20

**2019-20 Executive Board Meeting Schedule** SEDOL Office Bay Room

Thursday, June 25, 2020 – 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, July 23, 2020 – 9:30 a.m.

**Governing Board Meeting Schedule**

\*Wednesday, June 3, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.

\*This will be a virtual meeting.

To register as a public participant, please use the following link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2091138482048808720>

**Professional Vacancies Anticipated for 2020-21**

- 1 Chief School Business Official 2021-22 (Administration)
- 1 Bookkeeper/Payroll Assistant (Administration)
- 1 Assistant Principal (Fairhaven School)
- 1 Anticipated Assistant Principal (Laremont School)
- 4 School Social Worker (Gages Lake School)
- 1 Building Administrative Assistant (Fairhaven School)
- 1 1:1 Registered Nurse (Laremont)
- 2 LASSO III Teacher (Fairhaven School)
- 1 School Psychologist Compliance Data (Various)
- 1 Art Therapist (Various)
- 1 Full-Time Speech Language Pathologist (Various)
- 1 Teacher of the Deaf (John Powers Center)
- 3 ELP Teacher (Laremont)
- 1 LASSO Autistic Itinerant Teacher (Various)
- 1 Behavior Specialist (Various)
- 1 Emotional/Behavioral Needs Teacher (Gages Lake School)
- 1 Office Intervention Teacher (South School)
- 6 Sign Language Interpreters (Various)
- 2 Occupational Therapist and One Part-Time (Various)
- 1 Physical Therapist Part-Time (Various)
- 1 Academic Specialists Tier 2 & 3 (Various)
- 1 Substitute Teachers (Various)