SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT OF LAKE COUNTY
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Valerie M. Donnan, M.Ed.
Superintendent

Governing Board Meeting Summary
Wednesday, December 4, 2019

Executive Board Meeting Summary
Thursday, December 19, 2019

DECEMBER 4TH GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

PLEDGE, AGENDA AND MINUTES
Following the call to order and pledge, the Board accepted the agenda and approved the minutes of August 28, 2019.

CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT
The Governing Board confirmed appointment of Mr. Bob Gold, Superintendent, Big Hollow District #38, to the Executive Board.

RECOGNITION
Dr. Lynch explained that the 2018-19 Employee of the Year, Sarah Hilton, was not able to attend the meeting and will be recognized at the March 4, 2020 meeting.

SECOND READING OF POLICY REVISIONS
The Board approved policy revisions presented for second reading.

PUBLIC COMMENT
Seventeen people total (15 staff and 2 parent/other) addressed the Governing Board expressing their concerns regarding working conditions and safety issues at Gages Lake School. In addition to those issues, concerns in other Sedol programs and administration were also presented.

CLOSED SESSION
By request of Dr. Sefcik, #124, the Board entered into closed session to discuss the appointment, employment, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees; school building safety and security; and matters relating to individual students.

While in Closed Session, the Board prepared the following statement to address the concerns from Public Comment:

Governing Board Statements

On behalf of the Governing Board, I want to express my respect and admiration for our SEDOL educators. The work that you do every day is vitally important, very difficult, and greatly appreciated. We take very seriously the concerns raised here today and in our prior meetings, and we want you to know that we did hear you tonight.

This Board hired Mrs. Donnan as Superintendent almost 18 months ago, specifically to help us make the changes needed to address many of those same concerns raised by our union. And after a thorough review with our Superintendent tonight, we continue to support the actions and leadership of the Superintendent and administrative team.

For the benefit of the students and families we serve, I strongly encourage our union leadership and members to work in partnership with this board through our Superintendent, Mrs. Donnan, as we seek to grow and improve SEDOL, to ensure our compliance with the new ISBE guidelines, and to support the needs of students and families.

We also want to assure you that we are going to take action in response to your concerns. Moving forward, we are asking for a more robust task force. This task force would continue to focus on Gages Lake School for the next quarter, at least. We are calling on the unions to appoint additional members to the task force, including, if possible both STU co-presidents.

We are asking the task force to meet at least one to two times per month with our Superintendent and administrative team and to provide us copies of the agenda, the jointly determined objectives, the timelines for completion, and the minutes from each meeting. Lastly, we are asking that the joint task force present an update to the Governing Board at our next meeting.

Superintendent Donnan's Statement

I want to let you know that I am committed to you and our students. I have heard your concerns and continue to be committed to serve you and the SEDOL community.

PROGRAM REPORTS
These will be rescheduled for the March 4, 2020 meeting.

OPEN FORUM
President McHugh encouraged Governing Board members to suggest agenda items for the March 4th meeting.

ADJOURNMENT
With no other items to discuss, the Board acted to adjourn the meeting.

DECEMBER 19TH EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

CONSENT AGENDA
Minutes, financial & policy matters were approved along with the following personnel items:

- Request for Contracts for 11 educational support personnel (ESP) and 3 licensed staff
- Resignations/retirements by 11 ESP and 2 licensed staff
- A summary of professional vacancies is included at the end of this document.

RECOGNITION



STARS Student
The Board recognized a student from Ms. Boornazian's classroom at John Powers Center, as the STARS Student for December. Ms. Boornazion spoke of his hard work, leadership skills, and overall positive presence in her classroom.



Employee of the Month
The Board recognized Patricia Steffens, 1:1 Paraprofessional at Laremont School, as December's employee of the month. Tegan Dittmer, Acting Principal, spoke of Patricia as a positive role model, dedicated and a very hard worker and how much it shows.

OLD BUSINESS

Maintain Sub Pay
The Board approved maintaining a daily rate of sub pay by $30.00 per day in addition to the base rate through January 2020.

Current SEDOL Staffing
The Board approved maintaining the enrollment cap for the ED Program at Gages Lake School and maintaining the enrollment cap for the SAB Program at Gages Lake School. Gages Lake is currently staffed at 88% and the SAB Program at 89%. Administration recommended continuing the cap until each program is staffed at 90%.

Midco Phone System
The Board approved the Midco proposal which entails installing the Mitel phone system.

Lamp, Inc. Contract
The Board approved the contract with Lamp, Inc. Lamp, Inc. will be Construction Manager of the Fairhaven School Project.

Articles of Joint Agreement Draft Copy
Mrs. Donnan and Ms. Watson reviewed changes to the Articles of Joint Agreement. A final copy will be presented in January for Executive Board approval and presented in March to the Governing Board for review. Meetings are scheduled for early January to outline for member district administration the detailed changes that were collectively agreed upon.

NEW BUSINESS

Laremont Parent Staff Organization
The Board approved the recognition of the parent and staff organization as the *Laremont Parent Staff Organization. Ms.* Stacie Chakiris, President, spoke of upcoming events and shared their website. LaremontPSO.org

Unit Ventilator Purchase
The Board approved the agreement with Temperature Equipment Corporation (TEC) for the purchase of unit ventilators for the Fairhaven School Project in the amount of $432,450.00 and the assignment of the agreement to Lamp Incorporated.

Raptor Technologies Agreement
The Board approved the agreement with Raptor Technologies for a Sedol-wide visitor's management system in the amount of $9,600.00. The system will be in place within the next couple of months.

AIS (All Information Services, Inc.) Agreement
The Board approved the agreement with AIS in the amount of $65,552.74 for an indoor/outdoor security/ surveillance camera system at Fairhaven School.

AIS (All Information Services, Inc. Agreement)
The Board approved the agreement with AIS in the amount of $37,865.90 for network rewiring and relocation of the MDF Room at Fairhaven School.

Garda World Contract
The Board approved the contract with Garda World for four security personnel for the regular school year and three security personnel for the extended school year. These services will be provided at Gages Lake School and South School.

Food Allergy Pro, LLC Contract
The Board approved the agreement with Food Allergy Pros, LLC. They will provide a review and possibly an update to SEDOL's protocol and policies addressing the needs of staff/students with know life threatening food allergies.

SEDOL Task Force
Ms. Rebecca Slye and Mrs. Donnan spoke to Board regarding the Gages Lake Task Force meeting held Friday, December 13th in which twenty-eight teachers, support staff and administrators were in attendance. The group agreed to meet twice a month; Jan. 7 & 29; Feb. 11 & 24; and March 3.

As part of their process they highlighted three areas of ongoing concern:

1. The need to create a shared vision and professional development to increase student engagement and positive interventions.
2. Ongoing planning for consistency and teaming of dysregulated students including written procedures to support staff and students.
3. Developing a mindset for change and self-care supports for staff.

Also highlighted were positives that have been seen this school year:

1. A safer environment due to staff to student ratios.
2. The staff bonding as a more cohesive team.
3. Staff and students supporting each other when in crisis.

The groups next steps will include making measurable goals in each of the three areas of concern for all programs at GLS, ED-Alt, LASSO 3, and SAB.

The Task Force will provide the Executive Board monthly updates and update the Governing Board at the March 4, 2020 meeting.

FOIA REQUEST

Dr. Lynch reported on three requests from:

- Joe Hart, Illinois Education Association- NEA
- Jennifer Smith Richards, Chicago Tribune & Jodi S. Cohen, ProPublica Illinois (2)

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were two present for Public Comment:

1. Ms. Kim McAuliffe, JPC parent, read a prepared statement regarding the concern of safety for the staff/students at Sedol. She also addressed the concern of a possible State investigation and the outcome for SEDOL.
2. Ms. Rebecca Slye, President of the SEDOL Teachers' Union, read a prepared statement stating that staff felt a connection with the Governing Board and that their concerns were being taken seriously. She expressed the positive feedback from the task force and asked that administration keep the STU in the loop on related discussions and that they are open to Board questions and offered them classroom tours.

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.
- Collective bargaining matters, collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees.
- The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students.

OTHER BUSINESS

Settlement Agreement

The Board approved the settlement agreement between SEDOL and Thom Morley.

Termination

The Board approved the termination request for Israel Suaste.

PROGRAM/SCHOOL REPORTS

Announcements / Wins

1. CLA Student run Stand For The Silent Group raised $120 in a donut sale fundraiser. Money will be used to promote positivity among kids including a scholarship.
2. Gurnee Rotary's Operation Warm raised over $6,000 for jackets for our students.
3. Laremont School hosted Fun with Santa and Parent's Day Out.
4. Cyd Lash Academy social worker, Amy Lazzaretti was awarded a $500 grant for sensory items.
5. DHH program received books from the CHOICES for Parents program.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENT
The Board recognized the contributions of Dr. Stephen Mack after his resignation on December 2, 2019 from the SEDOL Executive Board. He will maintain his seat on the Governing Board as Secretary.

COMMITTEE REPORTS
None

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

:sm 12/20/19

2019-20 Executive Board Meeting Schedule *SEDOL Office Bay Room*
Thursday, January 23, 2020 – 9:30 a.m.
Thursday, February 20, 2020 – 9:30 a.m.
Thursday, March 19, 2020 – 9:30 a.m.
Thursday, April 9, 2020 – 9:30 a.m. ***Special Meeting to Review Tentative Budget***
Thursday, April 23, 2020 – 9:30 a.m.
Thursday, May 28, 2020 – 9:30 p.m.
Thursday, June 25, 2020 – 9:30 a.m.
Thursday, July 23, 2020 – 9:30 a.m.

Governing Board Meeting Schedule *Gages Lake School Community Room unless noted otherwise*
Wednesday, March 4, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, June 3, 2020 – 7:00 p.m.

Professional Vacancies for 2019-20

1 School Psychologist (SEDOL)
1 School Social Worker (Gages Lake School)
1 Certified School Nurse (TBD)
1 Substitute RN (SEDOL)
1 Shaping Appropriate Behaviors (SAB) Teacher HS (Gages Lake School)
1 LASSO III Teacher EC (Gages Lake School)
1 LASSO II EC Teacher (Sector)