

SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT OF LAKE COUNTY

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Valerie M. Donnan, M.Ed.
Superintendent

SEDOL GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES

August 26, 2020

The Governing Board meeting was structured to allow public viewing and public comment via webinar. Registration was through an agenda link provided and up to the start of the webinar. The public was able to register for public comment until 6:00 p.m. on August 26, 2020.

Call to Order

At 7:00 p.m., a quorum being present, President McHugh called the meeting of the SEDOL Governing Board to order on Wednesday, August 26, 2020, at Gages Lake School in Gages Lake, Illinois. The following Executive Board members were in attendance: Mrs. Carey McHugh, Mrs. Joanne Osmond, Mrs. Odie Pahl, and Dr. Christy Sefcik.

ROLL CALL

Governing Board Members Present

Ms. Laurel Wilson, Dist. #1	Mr. Shawn Killackey, Dist. #79
Ms. Marcia White, Dist. #3	Mr. Scott Linn, Dist. #102
Ms. Marge Taylor, Dist. #6	Ms. Peg Larson, Dist. #116
Mr. Sean Coleman, Dist. #24	Ms. Ellen Ipsen, Dist. #117
Ms. Angie Baronello, Dist. #34	Ms. Carey McHugh, Dist. #118
Ms. Vivian Kueter, Dist. #38	Mr. Kathy Kusiak, Dist. #124
Ms. Joanne Osmond, Dist. #41	Ms. Patricia Stephen, Dist. #126
Dr. Stephen Mack, Dist. #46	Mr. Hal Sloan, Dist. #127
Ms. Cathie DeMoon, Dist. #68	Ms. Karin Lundstedt, Dist. #128
Ms. Amie Krummick, Dist. #70 <i>Tech Issues</i>	Ms. Dora King, Dist. #187
Mr. Jose Lozada, Dist. #76	

Governing Board Members Absent

Mr. Nathan Karasek, Dist. #33	Ms. Rita Benavides, Dist. #72
Ms. Denise Quezada, Dist. #36	Mr. Matt Jacobs, Dist. #73
Ms. Erika Cappert, Dist. #37	Ms. Alexandria Avila, Dist. #75
Ms. Jennifer Haack, Dist. #50	Ms. Sara Davalos, Dist. #120
Ms. Odie Pahl, Dist. #56	Mr. Tom Drake, Dist. #121

PUBLIC HEARING ON BUDGET

It should be noted that a public hearing on the proposed budget for the 2020-2021 school year was held prior to the Governing Board meeting. The hearing was called to order at 6:30 p.m. and closed at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President McHugh asked everyone to stand and join her in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Motion to Accept Agenda

Ms. Karin Lundstedt, District #128, moved the agenda be accepted as presented; seconded by Ms. Patricia Stephen, District #126.

Exceptional Services for Exceptional Students

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Districts #1, #3, #6, #24, #34, #38, #41, #46, #68, #76, #79, #102, #116, #117, #118, #124, #126, #127, #128, #187
Nays: None
Technology Issue: District #70
Absent: Districts #33, #36, #37, #50, #56, #72, #73, #75, #120, #121

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to Amended Approve Minutes

Ms. Ellen Ipsen, District #117, moved the amended minutes of June 3, 2020 be approved as presented; seconded by Dr. Stephen Mack, District #46.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: Districts #1, #3, #6, #24, #34, #38, #41, #46, #68, #76, #79, #102, #116, #117, #118, #124, #126, #127, #128, #187
Nays: None
Technology Issue: District #70
Absent: Districts #33, #36, #37, #50, #56, #72, #73, #75, #120, #121

MOTION CARRIED

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Board Members and Administration

President McHugh invited new Board members or administrators participating in the meeting to introduce themselves. There were no new Board members or administrators.

Employees of the Year

This year SEDOL honored two exceptional staff. Employees of the Year Michelle Dvorak, SEDOL Sector Occupational Therapist and Rob Stone, Cyd Lash Academy Office Interventionist were recognized for the outstanding service they provide to their students and staff.

PRESENTATION OF FINAL BUDGET

Ms. Watson presented a brief overview of the final budget and explained the minimal changes from tentative to final budget. It was noted that the audit has not been completed and expenditures may increase slightly when funds are finalized for the year. She also stated that the tuition rate only increased by 2%. The Board approved the FY21 final budget.

1. The final budget be based on the accrual basis, which includes Evidence-Based Funding and tuition revenues being calculated accordingly;
2. Due to the ISBE directive, the IDEA-B flow thru has not been included in this budget;
3. For final budget purposes, total expenditures in the Education Fund for FY21 be set at \$49,720,275. and that those expenditures be offset by tuition, district contractual and grant revenue, leaving a fund balance of \$10,105,926;
4. Total expenditures in the Operations and Maintenance Fund be set at \$6,949,780; in the Debt Service Fund at \$468,600; in the Transportation Fund at \$1,205,700; in the IMRF Fund at \$1,674,500; and in the Capital Projects Fund at \$77,153.

Motion to Approve Final Budget

Ms. Ellen Ipsen, District #117, moved approval of the FY21 final budget and related recommendations as presented; seconded by Mr. Shawn Killackey, District #79.

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u> Ayes:	Districts #1, #3, #6, #24, #34, #38, #41, #46, #68, #76, #79, #102, #116, #117, #118, #124, #126, #127, #128, #187
Nays:	None
Technology Issue:	District #70
Absent:	Districts #33, #36, #37, #50, #56, #72, #73, #75, #120, #121

MOTION CARRIED

SEDOL 2015B 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).

PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment was afforded to the general public via a web-conference registration link. There were no Public Comments.

PROGRAM REPORTS

Report on 2020 Extended School Year Program

Mrs. Wojcik spoke on the ESY program. A total of 269 students attended this summer compared to last summer's 479. The theme was "Around the World" and staff did a tremendous job creatively incorporating this summer's theme into the virtual classroom setting. The ESY survey highlighted both parent and staff feelings for the need to be back in the classroom. Results from the surveys were evaluated and applied to the Distance Learning Plan to help keep SEDOL adjusting to meeting students' educational goals.

District Update

Beginning of the School Year-

Mrs. Donnan discussed the current remote learning schedule and reviewed the three options parents were given with the Hybrid and Distance Learning Plan. 1. Hybrid; 2. Distance Learning; and 3. Distance Learning with specialized services. These three options will begin once the IDPH, LCHD, and the CDC allow the buildings to reopen and students are allowed to return. SEDOL has acquired all required PPE for this to occur and has staffing plans in place. The current remote learning plans operate on Google Classroom or Schoology providing 5.25 hours of learning per day with a minimum of 2.5 hours of synchronized learning. Technology has been made available to all students along with internet assistance through the SEDOL technology department and the SEDOL Foundation.

Lunch programming has also been initiated and is operating out in the community with the help of Ms. Watson and the business department.

HUMANeX-

Staff attended a webinar presented by Svetlana Popovic from HUMANeX. In the webinar she discussed the results from the climate & culture survey that 84% of the staff took in January. Staff were asked to complete the survey again after the webinar and results will be compared. Based off the results, individual group goals will be created. These results will be shared with the Board at the December meeting.

Equity-

Mrs. Donnan felt it was important to address equity with the current local and national events happening at this time. She informed the Board that SEDOL is very in tune to providing equity to staff and students. Administration is in the process of reviewing policies/procedures and forming committees to focus on change and awareness. Mr. Paul Gorski was one of the presenters at SEDOL's Opening Day. Mr. Gorski presented on equity and justice in education.

OPEN FORUM

District 79 addressed the Board and SEDOL administration with concerns on how students, district and SEDOL, are handling distance learning.

Mrs. Donnan replied that it has been a very difficult year. Parents have been extremely supportive and helpful. Staff are doing amazing things and are very creative in their approach to teaching virtually. Students with specialized needs have been a concern and progress is being made to get them the individual services they need on a regular schedule in creative ways. Overall, the idea of getting the students back into the classroom seems to be the goal.

District 76 followed up by asking the Board to share at the December meeting how their districts are tracking student progress.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn

At 7:55 p.m., Ms. Karin Lundstedt, District #128, moved the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Mr. Jose Lozada, District #76.

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u> Ayes:	Districts #1, #3, #6, #24, #34, #38, #41, #46, #68, #76, #79, #102, #116, #117, #118, #124, #126, #127, #128, #187
Nays:	None
Technology Issue:	District #70
Absent:	Districts #33, #36, #37, #50, #56, #72, #73, #75, #120, #121

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted by,

Sara Martinez
Recording Secretary

Approved by:

_____, President of the Board

_____, Secretary of the Board