

SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT OF LAKE COUNTY

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Valerie M. Donnan, Ed.D.

Superintendent

Minutes

SEDOL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Thursday, February 15, 2024

Amended April 25, 2024 to add details to item #9 Closed Session.

Board Members Present: Ms. Odie Pahl, Dr. Jason Lind, Ms. Joanne Osmond, Ms. Carey McHugh, Dr. Scott Schwartz, and Dr. Donn Mendoza

Board Members Late:

Board Members Absent: Dr. Lynn Glickman and Dr. Michael Karner

Staff Members Present: Ms. Sara Martinez and Mr. Matthew Crowley

Staff Members Late:

Guest:

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1. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL (Dr. Lind)

The regular meeting of the SEDOL Executive Board was called to order by President Lind at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, February 15, 2024 at the SEDOL Administrative Office in Gages Lake, Illinois.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Dr. Lind)

3. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Lind)

Motion to Accept the Agenda - VOICE VOTE

Moved by: Ms. Carey McHugh

Seconded by: Ms. Joanne Osmond

Aye Ms. Odie Pahl, Dr. Jason Lind, Ms. Joanne Osmond, Ms. Carey McHugh, Dr. Scott Schwartz, and Dr. Donn Mendoza

Carried 6-0

4. CONSENT AGENDA - ACTION NEEDED (Dr.Lind)

Motion to Approve Consent Agenda - ROLL CALL VOTE

Moved by: Ms. Odie Pahl

Seconded by: Ms. Joanne Osmond

Aye Ms. Odie Pahl, Dr. Jason Lind, Ms. Joanne Osmond, Ms. Carey McHugh, Dr. Scott Schwartz, and Dr. Donn Mendoza

Carried 6-0

4.1 Minutes # - #

Public and closed session minutes of the regular meeting of January 25, 2024.

[Minutes Jan 25 2024.pdf](#) 

4.2 Financial Matters # - #

Paid Accounts Payables and Fund Balance Report:

[FY24 February Executive Board Meeting Summary.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Check Register - Payroll Liabilities 01-11-24 0001.pdf](#)



[Paid AP Check Register - Payroll Liabilities 01-12-24 0001.pdf](#)



[Paid AP Check Register - Payroll Liabilities 01-31-24 0001.pdf](#)



[Paid AP Check Run 02-15-24.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Check Run Over \\$8,000 02-15-24.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Manual Checks 01-19,23,26,31-24.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Manual Checks Over \\$8,000 01-19,23,26,31-24.pdf](#) 

[Fund Balance Report 02.07.2024.pdf](#) 

4.3 Personnel Matters

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Recommend employment of the following applicants, with work assignment and start date as indicated, subject to completion of the physical examination and forms, as required by Section 24-6 of the School Code, successful completion of a criminal background investigation as required by Section 10-21.9 of the School Code, a Child Abuse Registry check, and submission of all forms, documents, and certifications as required by law and/or requested by SEDOL for the position.

[Personnel Recommendations & Vacancies.pdf](#) 

[February 15, 2024 Addendum.pdf](#) 

5. RECOGNITION (Dr. Donnan)

5.1 STARS Students

The Board recognized a student from Ms. Rebecca Zaslavsky's classroom at Gages Lake School as the February STARS student. This student is a hard worker, perseveres when tasks are challenging, and is unafraid to ask for help when needed.

He is transitioning to speech group the first time when asked and working on his writing in OT. He is an incredible friend to his peers and is a perfect fit for the STARS award.

5.2 Employee of the Month

The Board recognized Ms. Karen Schreck, Academic Specialist, as February's Employee of the Month. Karen is an incredible mentor to staff. She takes time to make sure staff have the resources and knowledge needed to create the best learning experiences for their students. She assists in classrooms when needed and has a calmness about her that helps create a safe learning environment. Karen is dedicated to SEDOL, the staff and the students.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT (Dr. Lind)

There was no Public Comment.

7. OLD BUSINESS

7.1 Policy Revisions 2nd Reading/Approval - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Donnan) # - #

The following revised policies were reviewed and approved by the Board.

[0410 Fiscal:Business Mngmt Feb 15 2024.pdf](#) 

[0460 Purchases:Contracts Feb 15 2024.pdf](#) 

[7165 Reserved School Uniforms Feb 15 2024.pdf](#) 

[7270 Admin Meds to Students Feb 15 2024.pdf](#) 

Motion to Approve Revisions - VOICE VOTE # - #

Moved by: Ms. Joanne Osmond

Seconded by: Ms. Odie Pahl

Aye Ms. Odie Pahl, Dr. Jason Lind, Ms. Joanne Osmond, Ms. Carey McHugh, Dr. Scott Schwartz, and Dr. Donn Mendoza

Carried 6-0

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 SEDOL Program Update - INFORMATIONAL (Ms. Strieter)

Ms. Strieter provided an update on student achievement and instructional practice review using data compiled by the ECRA Group.

- SEDOL Mathematics Growth indicated areas of unsatisfactory, lower, and expected growth for the 2022-23 school year. The SEDOL buildings are already addressing the mathematics areas of concern. Sector classrooms will align with the mathematics programs in the member district they are housed in. Both programs align to the ELS Program Review recommendations. Growth in the mathematics area is expected to increase with the focus on mathematical instruction.
- SEDOL Reading Growth indicated areas of lower, expected, and higher than expected growth for the 2022-23 school year. Growth in the reading area is expected to continue.

8.2 2024-25 SEDOL Calendar - ACTION NEEDED (Ms. Strieter)

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The calendar was developed based on the suggested calendar from the Regional Superintendent of Schools, but was modified to fit the special needs of SEDOL facilities. The calendar pertains to Laremont School, Gages Lake School, Cyd Lash Academy, Fairhaven School, SEDOL Vocational Program, Transition Program at John Powers Center, REACH Community Site, the Regional Safe School Program, the ALOP Program and the administrative office. All other programs follow the calendar as established by the host school district for the class/program/attached building. The Board approved the 2024-25 School Calendar.

Motion to Approve School Calendar - VOICE VOTE

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Moved by: Ms. Carey McHugh

Seconded by: Ms. Joanne Osmond

Aye Ms. Odie Pahl, Dr. Jason Lind, Ms. Joanne Osmond, Ms. Carey McHugh, Dr. Scott Schwartz, and Dr. Donn Mendoza

Carried 6-0

- 8.3 Camera Request for Proposals - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Donnan)
Dr. Donnan discussed the need for security camera updating and replacement throughout the district. The Board approved Administration to seek Request for Proposals for the district.

Motion to Request Proposals - VOICE VOTE

Moved by: Dr. Donn Mendoza

Seconded by: Dr. Scott Schwartz

Aye Ms. Odie Pahl, Dr. Jason Lind, Ms. Joanne Osmond, Ms. Carey McHugh, Dr. Scott Schwartz, and Dr. Donn Mendoza

Carried 6-0

- 8.4 Fairhaven Gym Flooring Replacement Project- ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Donnan)
Dr. Donnan discussed the need for replacing the Fairhaven School gym flooring. This project will be paid for with a partnership with the SEDOL Foundation. The Board approved Administration to seek Request for Proposals for the flooring project.

Motion to Request Proposals - VOICE VOTE

Moved by: Ms. Joanne Osmond

Seconded by: Ms. Odie Pahl

Aye Ms. Odie Pahl, Dr. Jason Lind, Ms. Joanne Osmond, Ms. Carey McHugh, Dr. Scott Schwartz, and Dr. Donn Mendoza

Carried 6-0

8.5 PowerSchool Agreement - ACTION NEEDED (Mr. Crowley) # - #

The Board approved the three year contract with PowerSchool to purchase software and services to serve as SEDOL's next student information system (SIS) in the amount of \$54,820.00. Annual recurring fees beginning year two of implementation and moving forward will be approximately \$16,235.00. The implementation of PowerSchool is scheduled for Fall 2025.

Motion to Approve Agreement - ROLL CALL VOTE # - #

Moved by: Ms. Carey McHugh

Seconded by: Ms. Joanne Osmond

Aye Ms. Odie Pahl, Dr. Jason Lind, Ms. Joanne Osmond, Ms. Carey McHugh, Dr. Scott Schwartz, and Dr. Donn Mendoza

Carried 6-0

9. CLOSED SESSION

Motion to Enter Into Closed Session - ROLL CALL VOTE

Moved by: Ms. Carey McHugh

Seconded by: Ms. Joanne Osmond

Aye Ms. Odie Pahl, Dr. Jason Lind, Ms. Joanne Osmond, Ms. Carey McHugh, Dr. Scott Schwartz, and Dr. Donn Mendoza

Carried 6-0

The Board entered into closed session at 9:52 a.m. to discuss:

1. 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.
2. Security procedures, school building safety and security, and the use of personnel and equipment to respond to an actual, a threatened, or a reasonably potential danger to the safety of employees, students, staff, the public, or public property.

Motion to Return to Public Session - VOICE VOTE

Moved by: Ms. Carey McHugh

Seconded by: Ms. Joanne Osmond

Aye Ms. Odie Pahl, Dr. Jason Lind, Ms. Joanne Osmond, Ms. Carey McHugh, Dr. Scott Schwartz, and Dr. Donn Mendoza

Carried 6-0

The Board returned to Open Session at 10:15 a.m.

Motion to Return to Public Session - VOICE VOTE

Carried

10. OTHER BUSINESS

- 10.1 Termination Recommendation - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Donnan)

The Board approved terminating support staff member Ms. Eve Tarantur during her probationary period, effective January 22, 2024.

Motion to Approve Termination - ROLL CALL VOTE

Moved by: Ms. Carey McHugh

Seconded by: Ms. Joanne Osmond

Aye Ms. Odie Pahl, Dr. Jason Lind, Ms. Joanne Osmond, Ms. Carey McHugh, Dr. Scott Schwartz, and Dr. Donn Mendoza

Carried 6-0

10.2 Termination Recommendation - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Donnan)

The Board approved terminating support staff member Ms. Kara Wange for cause, effective February 15, 2024.

Motion to Approve Termination - ROLL CALL VOTE

Moved by: Ms. Joanne Osmond

Seconded by: Ms. Odie Pahl

Aye Ms. Odie Pahl, Dr. Jason Lind, Ms. Joanne Osmond, Ms. Carey McHugh, Dr. Scott Schwartz, and Dr. Donn Mendoza

Carried 6-0

10.3 Termination Recommendation - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Donnan)

The Board approved terminating support staff member Ms. Lacechia McClendon for job abandonment, effective January 29, 2024.

Motion to Approve Termination - ROLL CALL VOTE

Moved by: Ms. Odie Pahl

Seconded by: Ms. Carey McHugh

Aye Ms. Odie Pahl, Dr. Jason Lind, Ms. Joanne Osmond, Ms. Carey McHugh, Dr. Scott Schwartz, and Dr. Donn Mendoza

Carried 6-0

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Finance Committee discussed for the 2024-25 school year:
 - Tuition increase of 5% to begin the budget process
 - O & M increase of 5% to begin the budget process
- Personnel Committee discussed for the 2024-25 school year:
 - Student enrollment
 - Retirements
 - RIFs
 - Displaced Staff

Both committees will meet again in March.

12. PROGRAM/SCHOOL REPORTS - INFORMATIONAL (Dr. Donnan)

12.1 Evidence of Exceptional Service

1. SEDOL hosted their annual blood drive. SEDOL's Nursing Coordinator, Susan Kruckman, was instrumental in its success.
2. SEDOL has four seniors from the DHH program who have been accepted into the National Technical Institute of the Deaf (RIT) to pursue their future degrees for next year. SEDOL is excited to see them pursue their future endeavors.
3. Congratulations to two Cyd Lash Academy student who were recognized by Exchange Club. Great work Taylor and Keagan!
4. Community Transition classes prepared over 4000 books with Bernie's Book Bank! Way to go Community Transition

13. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (Dr. Lind)

Reminder of the March 6, 2024 Governing Board meeting at Gages Lake School Community Room.

- 6:45 p.m. SEDOL school buildings and program displays
- 7:00 p.m. Board Meeting

April 20, 2024 SEDOL Foundation Heart of Gold Dinner/Dance fundraiser

14. ADJOURNMENT (Dr. Lind)

With no other items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sara Martinez
Recording Secretary

Approved by:

Dr. Jason Lind
Board President

Dr. Valerie M. Donnan
Board Secretary