

**SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT OF LAKE COUNTY**

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**Judy Hackett, Ed.D.**

**Tim Thomas, Ed.D.**

*Co-Interim Superintendents*

**Minutes**

**SEDOL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**

**Thursday, December 19, 2024**

**Board Members  
Present:**

Dr. Jason Lind, Dr. Lynn Glickman, Dr. Scott Schwartz, Ms. Joanne Osmond, and Ms. Odie Pahl

**Board Members  
Late:**

**Board Members  
Absent:**

Dr. Donn Mendoza, Dr. Michael Karner, and Ms. Carey McHugh

**Staff Members  
Present:**

Dr. Tim Thomas, Dr. Yesenia Jimenez-Captain, Mr. Matthew Crowley, Ms. Sara Martinez, Dr. Judy Hackett, and Dr. Stephen Johns

**Staff Members  
Late:**

**Guest:**

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

The regular meeting of the SEDOL Executive Board was called to order at 8:36 a.m. on December 19, 2024 at the Administration Office in Gages Lake, IL.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Dr. Lind)**

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

Motion to Accept the Agenda - VOICE VOTE

*Moved by:* Ms. Joanne Osmond

*Seconded by:* Dr. Lynn Glickman

**Aye** Dr. Jason Lind, Dr. Lynn Glickman, Dr. Scott Schwartz, Ms. Joanne Osmond, and Ms. Odie Pahl

**Carried 5-0**

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

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda - ROLL CALL VOTE

*Moved by:* Ms. Joanne Osmond

*Seconded by:* Ms. Odie Pahl

**Aye** Dr. Jason Lind, Dr. Lynn Glickman, Dr. Scott Schwartz, Ms. Joanne Osmond, and Ms. Odie Pahl

**Carried 5-0**

4.1 Minutes

Public and closed session minutes of the regular meeting of November 14, 2024.

[Nov 14 2024 - Minutes.pdf](#) 

4.2 Financial Matters

Paid Accounts Payables:

[FY25 December Executive Board Meeting Summary.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Check Register - Payroll Liabilities 11-15-24.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Check Register - Payroll Liabilities 11-27-24.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Check Register - Payroll Liabilities 12-13-24-1.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Check Register - Payroll Liabilities 12-13-24.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Check Run 12-19-24.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Check Run Over \\$8,000 12-19-24-1.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Check Run Over \\$8,000 12-19-24.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Manual Checks 11-08,15,22-24.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Manual Checks Over \\$8,000 11-08,15,22-24.pdf](#) 

#### 4.3 Personnel Matters

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.

[Dec 19, 2024 Personnel Recommendations & Vacancies.pdf](#) 

[Dec 19, 2024 Addendum.pdf](#) 

#### 4.4 Policy

Remove non-PRESS, SEDOL ONLY (SO) policy 7:192-SO Use of *Physical Restraint* as this is an obsolete policy.

[7192-SO Use of Physical Restraint.pdf](#) 

### 5. RECOGNITION (Dr. Hackett)

#### 5.1 November STARS Student

The Board recognized a student from Ms. Clouston's classroom at Fairhaven School, as the November STARS student. This student has shown tremendous growth academically and behaviorally. He has become a role model for his peers. In addition to his academic and behavioral growth, he has shown incredible kindness and leadership.

5.2 December STARS Student

The Board recognized a student from Ms. Smith's classroom at Gages Lake School, as the December STARS student. This student has been on an upward trend both academically and behaviorally. He lives out the Grizzly Pledge of being Responsible, Safe, and Kind.

5.3 Employee of the Month

The Board recognized Mr. Jamal Patterson, APE Teacher at Gages Lake School as December's Employee of the Month. Jamal is hard-working, encouraging, kind, and inspiring for both staff and students. He is patient and stays positive during challenging situations. He is very creative and organizes fun engaging activities and is a valued member of the team. He is a great role model for our students and staff.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT (Dr. Lind)**

There was no Public Comment.

**7. SEDOL CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN (CIP) UPDATE (Dr. Hackett/Dr. Thomas)**

Dr. Kelly Hjorth, Fairhaven School Principal, shared how identified objectives of the CIP are guiding some of her program focus areas. Dr. Hjorth presented on her program and key areas of improvement.

1. Magic at Fairhaven- The Nest, New Gym floor/mats, Homecoming, Bi-monthly PBIS celebrations, Magic Makers of the Month (2-3 staff), Data collection Process/Data Days
2. The Nest- Provides an environment for students to regulate.
  - a. Behavior Support Team: Comprised of behavior specialist and paraprofessionals offering support in classrooms.
  - b. CIP and SIP Goals: Exceptional programs, providing behavior support team, implementation of a behavior support team.

### 3. Supports Provided

- a. Proactive Support: Instructional Support- visuals, Teacch System, centers.
- b. Behavioral Support: token economy, expectations, and visual supports.
- c. Overall Supports: BIP writing, crisis support, observations, and recommendations.

Ms. Andrea Rouse, Gages Lake School Principal, shared how identified objectives of the CIP are guiding the program at Gages Lake School and the English Learners (EL) Itinerant focus areas.

Ms. Rouse presented on the Gages Lake School following areas.

1. Data Den meetings focusing on daily data, meeting every six weeks, and focusing on problem solving high standards and expectations.
2. SIP Goal to include parent involvement, IEP compliance, and tier 2 intervention.
3. Bucket Filler Challenge to encourage positive student participation in using kind words, clean language, and providing compliments to others.
4. Other Happenings at Gages Lake School include:
  - a. SAB life skills cooking classes
  - b. SAB productions which allow other students to earn tickets and play money to be used to attend the production and buy popcorn. All students work on appropriate behavior while participating.
  - c. Sensory tents allow students a safe space to step away from everyone in a safe environment (help prevent eloping).
  - d. Current 7/10 classrooms participate in daily yoga, the goal is to have all 10 classrooms participate.

Ms. Rouse also supervises the English Learner (EL) Program. She shared information about this program.

1. EL Program: 190 students identified as EL and enrolled in SEDOL programming, 3 EL teachers, 19 different languages currently represented in the EL caseload
2. EL itinerant program

- a. Home Language survey completed, language screener given, services provided, ACCESS testing, scores reviewed, districts kept informed
- b. Meet monthly and created Google folders allowing member district access to view their students

Mr. Andrew Carlson, Regional Safe School Program (RSSP) Principal, shared how identified objectives of the CIP are guiding his program focus areas.

Mr. Carlson provided the following about his program

1. Population: 13 staff members, 63 students (19 middle school and 44 high school)
2. BASE Learning Program: one staff member, 10 students max, may be offered in lieu of OSS, daily SEL lessons, and transition meetings held with a current 96% success rate
3. Staff Tasks: six-week student reviews, alternate education plan updates, intervention and curriculum development/reviews, parent weekly check-ins, 100% staff ICEARY memberships.
4. Community Partnerships: multiple businesses and agencies provide staff and/or student meetings or trainings.
5. Shout Outs: 4 students graduated fall 2024, 28 students returned to home districts, 84% passed all courses attempted, monthly incentives provided, school merchandise available, ACT testing site in 2025.

Mr. Jim Arie, District Crisis and Safety Specialist, shared how identified objectives of the CIP are guiding focus areas in safety and security throughout SEDOL.

Mr. Arie provided in update in the following areas

1. Need for Camera Replacement: poor quality resolution, no linking of cameras, difficult to share captured images, and unreliable
2. Our Process: collaborative approach led by Dr. Barbini, input from building administrators, vendor (MMT), and Net56
3. New System (Verkada Security Camera System): Cyd Lash Academy began work on December 2, 2024 (Gages Lake School will be next), high quality, movement tracking, camera linking, and accessible via computer or phone app

The SEDOL Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) Mid-Year Report was provided to the Board and will be shared with member districts, SEDOL staff and the community.

Dr. Hackett communicated that ongoing updates will continue throughout the year and a final update of the 2024-25 CIP will be provided in June, 2025. The final update will reflect the collective efforts of SEDOL stakeholders and the guided efforts of the SEDOL leadership team.

## **8. OLD BUSINESS**

### **8.1 Capital Project Update - INFORMATIONAL (Dr. John/Ms. Allard)**

Mr. Peter Graves, Graves Design Group, Inc., updated the Board on current and upcoming capital projects.

The Gages Lake campus fencing project is complete; the administration building HVAC and sprinkler project is nearing completion with programming and adjustments continuing through the winter and summer (AC programming); Cyd Lash Academy HVAC project is near completion with summer adjusting of the AC units; Fairhaven School roof, windows, and gym HVAC bib docs will be reviewed at the January Executive Board meeting; and the Fairhaven sensory garden has a summer implementation timeline with funding provided by the SEDOL Foundation.

### **8.2 Co-Interim Superintendent Contracts**

The Board approved the recommendation to present contracts for Co-Interim Superintendent Dr. Judy Hackett and Dr. Tim Thomas for the 2025-26 school year to the Governing Board at the March 5, 2024 meeting.

[2025-26 Co-Interim Superintendent Contract JH.pdf](#) 

[2025-26 Co-Interim Superintendent Contract TT.pdf](#) 

Motion to Approve Contract Recommendation - ROLL CALL VOTE

*Moved by:* Ms. Joanne Osmond

*Seconded by:* Dr. Lynn Glickman

**Aye** Dr. Jason Lind, Dr. Lynn Glickman, Dr. Scott Schwartz, Ms. Joanne Osmond, and Ms. Odie Pahl

**Carried 5-0**

## **9. NEW BUSINESS**

### 9.1 Contract and Itinerant Rates for FY26 - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Johns/Ms. Allard)

The Board approved the billing rates for contractual and itinerant services for FY26 as presented.

Billing rates were calculated based on both SEDOL staff and agency staff costs, an increase in administrative costs from 2.8% to 5%, anticipated salary increases, and anticipated benefit increases. Two areas with larger increases are nursing services and behavior intervention.

[FY 26 MEMO - Contractual-Itinerant Rates EB 12-19-24.pdf](#) 

[CONTRACT-ITINERANT RATES FY26 FINAL 12-19-24.pdf](#) 

Motion to Approve Billing Rates - ROLL CALL VOTE

*Moved by:* Ms. Joanne Osmond

*Seconded by:* Dr. Lynn Glickman

**Aye** Dr. Jason Lind, Dr. Lynn Glickman, Dr. Scott Schwartz, Ms. Joanne Osmond, and Ms. Odie Pahl

**Carried 5-0**

Move approval of the billing rates for contractual and itinerant services for FY26 as presented.

## **10. CLOSED SESSION - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Lind)**

There was no Closed Session.

## **11. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no Other Business.

## **12. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

There were no Committee Reports.

## **13. INFORMATIONAL**

### 13.1 SEDOL Foundation (Ms. Subry)

- 24 Families Adopted for the Holidays
- Ping Pong for the Kids- February 2
- Laremont Trivia Night- March 15
- Dinner Dance- April 26
- Pucks for Autism- June 20-22

### 13.2 SEDOL Events (Dr. Hackett/Dr. Thomas)

#### **December**

Spirit Week - JPC

Signing Santa & Winterfest - JPC

NSSEO DHH Program Visit -JPC

#### **January:**

Community Blood Drive - Gages Lake Campus

#### **February:**

SEDOL Foundation Ping Pong for Kids - Mickey Finn's

#### **March:**

Laremont/Foundation Trivia Night - Lehmann Mansion

#### **April:**

Miles of Smiles Dentist - Fairhaven (JPC)

Miles of Smiles Dentist - Gages Lake (CLA)

Healthy Kids Week - JPC

SEDOL Foundation Dinner Dance - Concorde Banquets

## **14. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (Dr. Lind)**

Ms. Osmond commented on the positivity of requesting contract approval for Dr. Hackett and Dr. Thomas for the 2025-26 school year.

**15. ADJOURNMENT (Dr. Lind)**

With no other items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sara Martinez  
Recording Secretary

Approved by:

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Dr. Jason Lind  
Board President

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Dr. Judy Hackett  
Board Secretary