

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, February 27, 2025

Board Members Present: Dr. Donn Mendoza, Dr. Jason Lind, Dr. Michael Karner, Ms. Carey McHugh, and Ms. Odie Pahl

Board Members Late: Dr. Lynn Glickman and Ms. Joanne Osmond

Board Members Absent: Dr. Scott Schwartz

Staff Members Present: Dr. Tim Thomas, Dr. Yesenia Jimenez-Captain, Dr. Laura Wojcik, Dr. Stephen Johns, and Ms. Becky Allard

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 8:32 a.m. on February 27, 2025 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. Carey McHugh

Seconded by: Ms. Odie Pahl

Aye Dr. Donn Mendoza, Dr. Jason Lind, Dr. Lynn Glickman, Dr. Michael Karner, Ms. Carey McHugh, Ms. Joanne Osmond, and Ms. Odie Pahl

Carried 7-0

4. RECOGNITION (Dr. Thomas)

4.1 STARS Students

The Board recognized a student from Ms. Zanarini's classroom at Laremont School, as the February STARS student. This student has shown amazing growth and independence and has taken on full ownership of her AT device.

4.2 Employee of the Month

The Board recognized Ms. Jodi Hasner, Laremont School Paraprofessional, as February's Employee of the Month. Ms. Hasner is deeply committed to her students' success. Her patience, skills, and positiveness are demonstrated in her work with the students as well as when collaborating with staff.

4.3 CAAEL Art Show- Cyd Lash Academy

Mr. Brian Sonders, CLA Art Teacher, talked with the Board along with three students from Cyd Lash Academy. Mr. Sonders shared that last week CLA hosted an art show where visitors were able to vote on their favorite pieces of art. The top ten pieces were then entered into the CAAEL art show and the three students in attendance took first place in their respective categories for their artwork.

5. CLOSED SESSION - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Lind)

Motion to Enter Into Closed Session - ROLL CALL VOTE

The Board enter into Closed Session at 9:16 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.

Moved by: Ms. Carey McHugh

Seconded by: Ms. Joanne Osmond

Aye Dr. Donn Mendoza, Dr. Jason Lind, Dr. Lynn Glickman, Dr. Michael Karner, Ms. Carey McHugh, Ms. Joanne Osmond, and Ms. Odie Pahl

Carried 7-0

Motion to Return to Public Session - VOICE VOTE

The Board returned to Public Session at 9:29 a.m.

Moved by: Ms. Carey McHugh

Seconded by: Ms. Joanne Osmond

Aye Dr. Donn Mendoza, Dr. Jason Lind, Dr. Lynn Glickman, Dr. Michael Karner, Ms. Carey McHugh, Ms. Joanne Osmond, and Ms. Odie Pahl

Carried 7-0

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

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda - ROLL CALL VOTE









Moved by: Dr. Donn Mendoza

Seconded by: Dr. Michael Karner

Aye Dr. Donn Mendoza, Dr. Jason Lind, Dr. Lynn Glickman, Dr. Michael Karner, Ms. Carey McHugh, Ms. Joanne Osmond, and Ms. Odie Pahl

Carried 7-0

Sandra Pardo's resignation was pulled from the consent agenda as the board wishes to wait to take employment action following the conclusion and findings of the District's investigation.

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| 6.1 | Minutes | # - # |
| | Public and closed session minutes of the regular meeting of January 23, 2025. | |
| | Minutes- Jan 23 2025 Members.pdf  | |
| 6.2 | Financial Matters | # - # |
| | Paid Accounts Payables and Fund Balance Report: | |
| | FY25 February Executive Board Meeting Summary.pdf  | |
| | Paid AP Check Register - Payroll Liabilities 01-31-25.pdf  | |
| | Paid AP Check Register - Payroll Liabilities 02-14-25.pdf  | |
| | Paid AP Check Run 02-27-25.pdf  | |
| | Paid AP Check Run Over \$8,000 02-27-25.pdf  | |
| | Paid AP Manual Checks 01-17,24,31-25.pdf  | |
| | Paid AP Manual Checks Over \$8,000 01-17,24,31-25.pdf  | |
| 6.3 | 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.

[Feb 27, 2025 Personnel Recommendations & Vacancies.pdf](#) 

[Feb 27, 2025 Addendum.pdf](#) 

6.4 Policy Updates

[Combined Policies.pdf](#) 

7. PUBLIC COMMENT (Dr. Lind)

There was no Public Comment.

8. SEDOL CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN (CIP) UPDATE (Dr. Thomas)

- Ms. Allison Schmitt, Laremont School Principal and Adaptive Physical Education (APE) Supervisor shared how identified objectives of the CIP are guiding the programs at Laremont School and the APE Itinerants.
- CIP Goal Alignment: SEDOL CIP Goal I- Provide exceptional programs and services to meet the needs of students throughout the SEDOL community; Laremont School SIP Goal- During the 2024-25 school year, Laremont School will develop and implement a quarterly curriculum tailored to meet students' needs.
- 1. Exploring, Learning, and Participating (ELP) Program:
 - 18.5 classrooms with 109 students
 - Early Childhood - Transition with medically fragile/complex needs
 - Balanced Education- combining academics, daily life skills, essential therapy skills
 - Therapeutic Services
 - Specialized Environment
 - Transition Center
 - ELP- 4 classrooms with 18 students
 - Working on independence, daily life skills, community integration, functional academics, work experience
 - LASSO 3- 1 classroom with 6 students and 6 staff
 - Working on independence, daily life skills, community integration, functional academics, work experience
 - Supported Transition- 3 classrooms with 25 students

- Working on independence, daily life skills, community integration, and work experience
- CIP Goal Alignment: SEDOL CIP Goal III- Advance high standards and expectations. District Focus- Improving goal writing and alignment.
- Adaptive Physical Education (APE)
 - 6 APE teachers
 - Goal Alignment and professional development
- Dr. Matt Barbini, Director of Innovation & Technology, shared how identified objectives of the CIP are guiding the Assistive Technology (AT) program focus areas.
- CIP Goal Alignment: SEDOL CIP Goal 1- Provide exceptional programs and services to meet the needs of students throughout the SEDOL community.
- 1. Assistive Technology (AT) Team
 - 6 staff along with data specialist, SLP liaison and OT liaison support.
 - Implemented a Tiered Model of AT Consideration and Service Delivery fall 2024
 - Empowers staff by giving them the ability to conduct an informal AT assessment as a part of Tier II for any student by using software that they have to
 - Request a device from SEDOL's AT loan library and then measure the impact of the use of this device on a child's learning.
 - Allows students to receive support faster
 - Tier I assessment process timeline: 40 days maximum
 - Tier II formal evaluation (domains) timeline: 60 school days
 - Providing Exceptional Service
 - Reduces paperwork burden by narrowing the scope and involvement of IEP team members when an AT evaluation is needed
 - Provides time for SEDOL's AT Facilitators to serve coaches building capacity in our staff while also serving as point person's when a formal evaluation is needed.
 - 91.7% of the IEP teams elected to purchase hardware and software for the student at the end of the trial.

9. OLD BUSINESS

- 9.1 FY23 Audit - INFORMATIONAL (Dr. Johns/Ms. Allard)
Mr. Kevin Smith, Eccezion, updated the Board on the FY23 audit. He stated that they are close to completion and that the regular part of the financial audit is complete; however, the ESSER Grant is still holding them up. Once these issues are resolved, the audit can be finalized and the FY24 audit can begin. He anticipates this audit will move at a quicker pace.
- 9.2 Business Office Financial Status Update - INFORMATIONAL (Dr. Johns/Ms. Allard)
Ms. Allard provided an update on the health insurance committee meeting. Insurance cooperatives were discussed and the potential savings and benefits of belonging to health co-ops.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- 10.1 Deduct Change Order #001 - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Johns/Ms. Allard)

The Board approved Deduct Change Order #001 from Happ Builders, Inc. for the Cyd Lash Academy HVAC Replacement Project in the amount of (\$58,483.43).

[Change Order #001 Cyd Lash HVAC Project Final.pdf](#) 

[Change Order #001 Cyd Lash HVAC Project Letter.pdf](#) 

Motion to Approve Change Order - ROLL CALL VOTE

Moved by: Dr. Lynn Glickman

Seconded by: Ms. Odie Pahl

Aye Dr. Donn Mendoza, Dr. Jason Lind, Dr. Lynn Glickman, Dr. Michael Karner, Ms. Carey McHugh, Ms. Joanne Osmond, and Ms. Odie Pahl

Carried 7-0

10.2 Deduct Change Order #002 - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Johns/Ms. Allard)

The Board approved Deduct Change Order #002 from Happ Builders, Inc. for the Administration Building HVAC Replacement Project in the amount of (\$96,149.18).

[Change Order #002 Admin HVAC Project.pdf](#) 

Motion to Approve Change Order - ROLL CALL VOTE

Moved by: Dr. Lynn Glickman

Seconded by: Ms. Odie Pahl

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

Carried 6-0

10.3 FOIA - INFORMATIONAL (Dr. Wojcik)

Dr. Wojcik received a FOIA request via email from Mr. James Francis on January 9, 2025. She requested an extension on January 15, 2025.

Mr. Francis requested the following information:

- All purchase orders for software technology services that the district has an active contract for during this fiscal year (2024-25), including but not limited to licenses and subscriptions for:
 - Educational/instructional software
 - Administrative software
 - Student information systems
 - Learning management systems
 - Communication platforms
 - Cybersecurity services
 - Cloud computing service

Dr. Wojcik provided this information to Mr. Francis on January 24, 2025.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no Other Business.

12. INFORMATIONAL

12.1 SEDOL Foundation (Ms. Subry)

- Laremont Trivia Night- March 15 at Lehmann Mansion in Lake Villa
- Dinner Dance- April 26 with a Kentucky Derby theme
- Pucks for Autism- June 20-22

12.2 SEDOL Events (Dr. Thomas)

Upcoming Events

February:

Movie Night JPC 2.27.25 6:30-8:00

March:

Respect Week SEDOL Bldgs 3.10-14

Laremont/Foundation Trivia Night Lehmann Mansion 3.15
6:00-9:00 p.m.

Deaf Hobby Club JPC 3.15 9:00-12:00

April:

Miles of Smiles Dentist Fairhaven(JPC) 4.14

Miles of Smiles Dentist Gages Lake(CLA) 4.15

Healthy Kids Week John Powers 4.21-4.25

SEDOL Foundation Dinner Dance Concorde Banquets 4.26
6:00-11:30 p.m.

Deaf Hobby Club JPC 4.12 9:00-12:00

13. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (Dr. Lind)

There were no comments.

14. ADJOURNMENT (Dr. Lind)

With no other items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 10:23 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sara Martinez
Recording Secretary

Approved by:

Dr. Jason Lind
Board President

Dr. Judy Hackett
Board Secretary