



Judy Hackett, Ed.D.
Tim Thomas, Ed.D.
Co-Interim Superintendents

Executive Board Meeting Summary
Thursday, April 24, 2025

PLEDGE AND AGENDA

Following the Call to Order/Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance by President Lind, the Board accepted the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes and financial matters were approved along with the following personnel items:

- ~ Request for Contracts for 1 educational support personnel (ESP) and 4 licensed staff
- ~ Resignations/Retirements by 5 ESP and 3 licensed staff
- ~ Request for Contract Renewal for 2 administrative staff
- ~ Leave of Absence request for 1 ESP and 1 licensed staff
- ~ Employment Recommendations for 2025-26

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

STARS Student of the Month

The Board recognized a student from Ms. Zaslavsky's classroom at Gages Lake School as the April STARS student. This student has shown improvement in academic and behavioral practices. He exhibits kindness and is always willing to help. He fosters a positive and supportive classroom environment even when faced with difficulties.

Employee of the Month

The Board recognized Mr. Colin Rowley, Gages Lake School Teacher, as April's Employee of the Month. Mr. Rowley embraces the needs of his students and creates a great team environment. He shared the importance of great collaboration in the classroom and program. He adjusts to changes and needs to his classroom through a positive, flexible approach. He goes above and beyond in daily communication with parents.

Infinitec 2025 Outstanding Student Technology Award

Infinitec will recognize a student from Laremont School at a dinner/award celebration on April 24th. This student will also be recognized at the June 4, 2025 Governing Board meeting. Ms. Schmitt, Laremont School Principal, shared how this student uses eye gaze communication to support his learning and communication. This technology allows this student to actively participate in curriculum, in conversations with staff, and to independently express himself.

Introduce New Cyd Lash Academy Principal

Mr. Mark Kettering was welcomed as the new Cld Lash Academy Principal for the 2025-26 school year and was introduced to the Board.

Contract Renewals

Dr. Stephen Johns and Ms. Becky Allard were approved by the Board to continue as the Co-Interim Assistant Superintendents of Business for the 2025-26 school year.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no Public Comment.

SEDOL CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN (CIP) PRESENTATIONS

Ms. Andrea Rouse, Gages Lake School Principal, shared how identified objectives of the CIP are guiding the programs at Gages Lake School (GLS).

CIP Goal Alignment: SEDOL CIP Goal I- Provide exceptional programs and services to meet the needs of students throughout the SEDOL community. Objective E: Develop/clarify SEDOL curricular tools and supplemental resources.

Ms. Rouse presented via recorded presentation "Hope, the Therapy Dog". She explained that Hope is a therapy dog, not to be confused with a service dog. Hope works with her handler Ms. Huemann, GLS Social Worker. Before students interact with Hope, they are taught the appropriate way to approach her. This means not running up to her, no screaming or yelling, and that they should ask Ms. Huemann if they can pet her. They also learn that when she is at school, she is working and her job is to help her friends (students) stay calm. She does not play fetch, jump, run, or chew on toys during this time.

Parents are notified about the addition of a therapy dog and must complete a consent form for their child to interact with it. Currently, students in tier 2 & 3 schedule time to spend with Hope when she is at GLS. The school is working on having Hope visit to provide classroom assistance and crisis support. Data collected on high incident times was evaluated and Hope's services are scheduled into those times. The classrooms are already seeing a positive effect and the data shows a decline in incidents. Gages Lake School will continue to monitor the data with the hopes of increasing Hope's time and positive impact in their building next year.

OLD BUSINESS

FY26 Budget Update

Dr. Johns shared a sample of a district cost sheet and a comparison of member district rates/other services comparing FY25 and FY26. He also provided the Board with the following details pertaining to the FY26 tentative budget.

- Education Fund
 - Revenue - No change from April 17, 2025 Executive Board meeting
 - Expenditures - No change from April 17, 2025 Executive Board meeting
 - Transfers - Added a transfer of \$1,000,000 from the Education Fund to the Transportation Fund based on anticipated reductions in state Transportation reimbursement
- Operations & Maintenance Fund
 - Shifted \$50,000 Facility Maintenance Grant from Capital Projects to the O & M Fund
 - Included \$100,000 of the Fairhaven Roof Project to comply with ISBE guidelines
- Debt Service Fund
 - No change from April 17, 2025 Executive Board meeting
- Transportation Fund
 - Reduced State Transportation Revenue by \$200,000
 - Included Transfer of \$1,000,000 from the Education Fund
- IMRF Fund
 - No change from April 17, 2025 Executive Board meeting
- Capital Projects Fund
 - Moved \$50,000 Facility Maintenance Grant Funding to the O & M Fund
 - Increased Capital Outlay by \$250,000
 - Decreased Fairhaven Roof Project by \$300,000

The Board approved the tentative budget for FY26 and recommended approval by the Governing Board at its

June 4th meeting. Pursuant to Governing Board approval at its June 4th meeting, the final FY26 budget will be presented to the Executive Board June 26th with final approval at the August Governing Board meeting. Small district, board, and staff budget meetings will be scheduled throughout May.

FY23 Audit

Ms. Allard updated the Board on the FY23 audit. She stated that it is in the final staging of being completed pending one final issue related to ESSER III and that work has already begun on the FY24 audit.

NIHIP Resolution

Last month the Board approved SEDOL to participate in the Northern Illinois Health Insurance Program (NIHIP). The Board approved the resolution to join NIHIP at today's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

D73 School to School Contract

The Board approved the FY26 School to School Food Service Contract between SEDOL (John Powers Center and the Regional Safe School Program) and Vernon Hills District 73.

Resolution to Set Hearing on Interfund Transfers

At the May meeting, the Executive Board will be asked to approve a resolution authorizing interfund transfers within the following funds:

- Transfer Operations & Maintenance Fund to the Education Fund in the amount of \$3,000,000
- Transfer Operations & Maintenance Fund to the Capital Projects Fund in the amount of \$3,250,000
- Transfer Education Fund to the Transportation Fund in the amount of \$1,000,000

In order to do this, specific criteria must be met, including holding a public hearing to discuss the interfund transfers. The Board approved the resolution to set a hearing to be held prior to the start of the regular Executive Board meeting on May 22, 2025 at 8:20 a.m.

Proposed Organizational Chart

The Board approved the FY26 Organizational Chart (attached). The revised organization chart reflects alignment to priorities established in both the recent Educational Learning Solutions audit and recommendations through the Continuous Improvement Plan and stakeholder input.

Planning for the June Governing Board Meeting

The Board reviewed the June 4th Governing Board agenda.

FOIA

On March 31, 2025 Dr. Wojcik received a FOIA request for the following information from Ms. Ryan, LCFT.

- Substitute rates: Daily substitute teacher rate, long term substitute teacher rate, and daily substitute paraprofessional/teaching assistant rate.
- Copies of the performance evaluation tools used for the following job categories within your district: Paraprofessionals/Teaching Assistants, Health Aides/Health Clerks- N/A, Administrative Assistants (If separate tools exist for 9/10-month and 12-month classifications, provide both versions), Hall Monitors or Security Staff- N/A, Library Assistants or Clerks- N/A, Maintenance or Janitorial Staff, additionally, if any of these evaluations contain a sub-component for input from supervisors or classroom teachers, please provide copies of those as well.

Dr. Wojcik responded on April 4, 2025.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board entered into closed session 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. Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal.
3. 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.

OTHER BUSINESS

Possible Termination

The Board approved the termination of support staff member Ms. Jennifer Akin during her probationary period.

Request for Non-Member District Placement

The Board approved continued placement of a Kildeer D96 student in the John Powers Center Deaf and Hard of Hearing program for the 2025-26 school year.

Superintendent Search Firm

The Board approved Dr. Lind, Executive Board President, to contract Hazard, Young, and Attea Associates (HYA) to conduct the Superintendent search followed by a Certified School Business Official (CSBO) search. The combined cost for both searches is not to exceed \$27,500.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dr. Wojcik presented personnel related items discussed at the April 17, 2025 Personnel Committee meeting. Topics included the FY26 Organizational Chart.

INFORMATIONAL

1. SEDOL Foundation Events

- Dinner Dance- April 26 with a Kentucky Derby theme
- Pucks for Autism- June 20-22- will need volunteers to keep score, no experience needed!!

2. Upcoming Events

April:

Healthy Kids Week	John Powers	4.21-4.25.25
Infinitec Student Award Banquet	Cotillion	4.24.25
Deaf Hobby Club	JPC	4.12.25

May:

Prom	Laremont	5.2.25
Unified Sports Day	Fairhaven	5.2.25
Lake County Educator of the Year Banquet	LC Fairgrounds	5.7.25
Unified Sports Day	Laremont	5.9.25
Prom	Fairhaven	5.16.25
Promotion/Graduation	Cyd Lash	5.16.25
Transition Recognition	Laremont/DHH/Cyd	5.21.25
Retirement Ceremony	GLS Community Rm	5.22.25
Promotion/Graduation	Laremont	5.23.25
DHH 8th Grade Hawthorn Graduation	JPC	5.27.25
DHH High School Graduation	Grayslake North	5.29.25

June:

ESY Staff 1st Day	Multiple	6.10.25
ESY Student Open House	Multiple	6.10.25
ESY Student 1st Day	Multiple	6.11.25

Program Highlights

- Gages Lake School- Students completed taking the IAR assessment, staff worked to organize and add to our regulation rooms. (Thank you to O&M for painting Chillville.), students enjoyed another Grizzly gathering including old fashioned spring games.
- Cyd Lash Academy- RiSK Reward Experiences, Tech Campus Tours and CLA students are beginning internships, staff coaching has begun, Students completed IAR and ISA assessments.
- Laremont School- Trivia Night was a success!, some ELP classes took a mobility trip to the Kohl's pop up museum. We are working with them to try and recreate some of the STEAM and Gross Motor activities at Laremont, high school ELP classes are working on preparing things for Prom along with the help of Mr. Sonder's art class from CLA. The theme this year is candyland!
- Fairhaven School- Students participated in respect week and created a chain of respect, students celebrated our paraprofessional day and assistant principal day by making posters and cards, one of our middle school classes went into the community for a community based trip.
- John Powers Center- Students are participating in Healthy Kids Week, some of the students from Community Transition toured Lambs Farm and learned all about their services, RESPECT Week relay races and sidewalk chalk, Transition Horticulture Club worked on beautifying the outside entrance at JPC.
- Sector- Staff at Millburn Elementary participated in a neurodiversity training put together by our AT Facilitator and an SLP!, Thompson ELS went to Culver's to order their own meals and eat in the community.
- Vocational- 12 students (Reach transition and Community transition and D187) attended the Mitsubishi Mentoring Day on March 19, Vocational Enrichment Opportunity enrollment is open. There will be 2 sessions, each with 2 worksites (Walgreens and SEDOL IT). Both sessions will be Mon-Thur 8 am to 11:45 am. Session 1 -June 4 to June 26 and Session 2- July 21 to Aug 7

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

The Board commented on how well superintendent search firm interviews went on Tuesday, April 22nd.

ADJOURNMENT

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

2024-25 Executive Board Meeting Schedule

SEDOL Office Bay Room

Thursday, May 22, 2025 - 8:30 a.m.

Thursday, June 26, 2025 - 8:30 a.m.

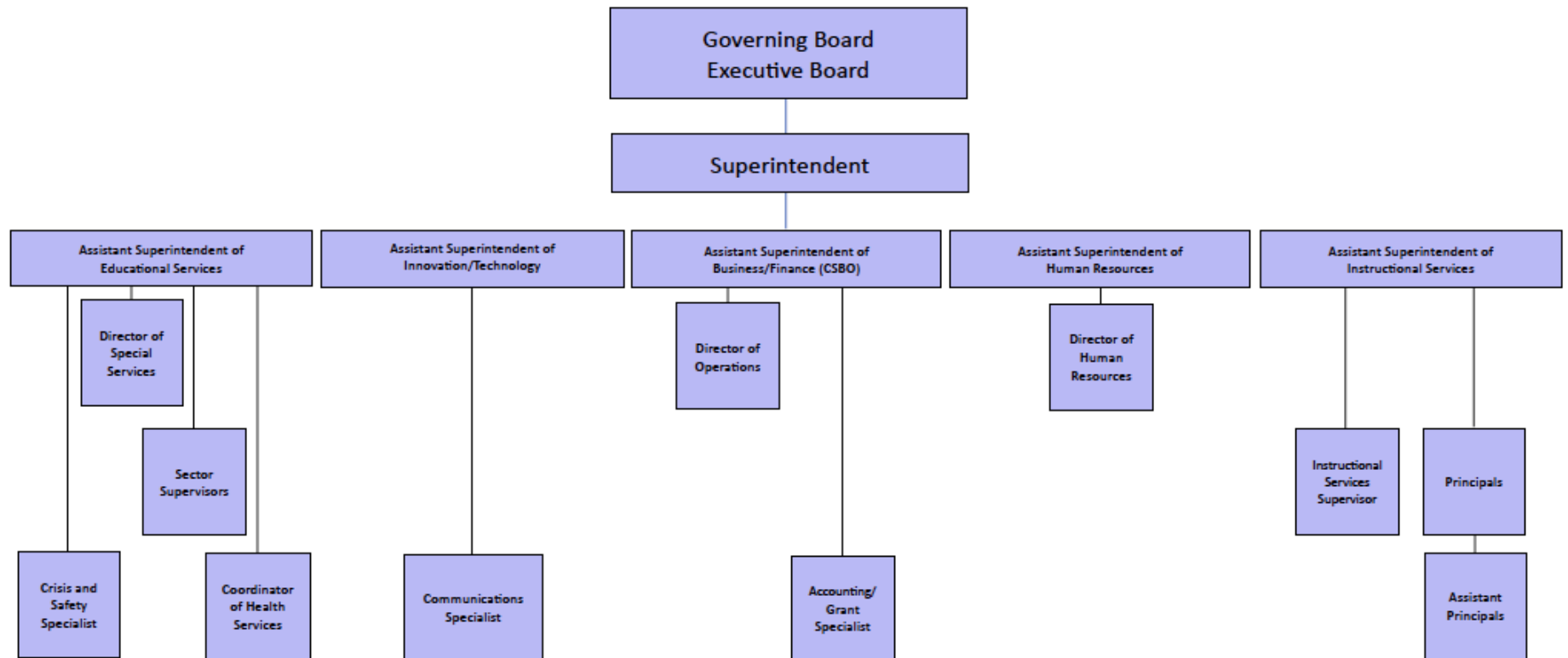
Thursday, July 24, 2025 - 8:30 a.m.

2024-25 Governing Board Meeting Schedule

Gages Lake School Community Room

Wednesday, June 4, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.

SEDOL Organizational Chart 2025-26



*[CLICK HERE FOR EXPANDED INFORMATION ON RELATED DUTIES.](#)
*(Updated *2025-26 Program Chart will be available at a later date)*

Draft Date: 4.4.25; 4.10.25
 Board Approved: 4.24.25