

SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT OF LAKE COUNTY
18160 W Gages Lake Road, Gages Lake, Illinois 60030-1819
847-548-8470 Fax 847-548-8472 VP 224-207-8476
www.sedol.us

Judy Hackett, Ed.D.

Tim Thomas, Ed.D.

Co-Interim Superintendents

Minutes
SEDOL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
Thursday, August 28, 2025

- Board Members Present:** Dr. Jason Lind, Dr. Lynn Glickman, Dr. Michael Karner, Dr. Scott Schwartz, Ms. Carey McHugh, Ms. Joanne Osmond, and Ms. Odie Pahl
- Board Members Absent:** Dr. Donn Mendoza
- Staff Members Present:** Dr. Tim Thomas, Dr. Yesenia Jimenez-Captain, Dr. Laura Wojcik, Mr. Matthew Crowley, Ms. Sara Martinez, Dr. Matthew Barbini, Dr. Judy Hackett, Dr. Stephen Johns, and Ms. Becky Allard

1. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL (Ms. McHugh)

The regular meeting of the SEDOL Executive Board was called to order at 8:30 a.m. on August 28, 2025, at the Administration Office in Gages Lake, IL.

2. OATH OF OFFICE (Ms. McHugh)

Dr. Scott Schwartz, Superintendent of D37, who was reappointed by the Governing Board to serve another 2-year term and was absent from the July Executive Board meeting, recited the oath of office. Dr. Schwartz was also voted in as the Executive Board Vice-President at the July 24, 2025, meeting.

[Oath of Office.pdf](#) 

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Ms. McHugh)

4. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA - ACTION NEEDED (Ms. McHugh)

Motion to Accept the Agenda - VOICE VOTE

Moved by: Ms. Joanne Osmond

Seconded by: Ms. Odie Pahl

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

Carried 7-0

5. CONSENT AGENDA - ACTION NEEDED (Ms. McHugh)

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda - ROLL CALL VOTE

Moved by: Dr. Lynn Glickman

Seconded by: Ms. Joanne Osmond

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

Carried 7-0

5.1 Minutes

Public and closed session minutes of the regular meeting of July 24, 2025.

[Jul 24 2025 - Minutes - Public.pdf](#) 

5.2 Financial Matters

Paid Accounts Payables:

[FY26 August Executive Board Meeting Summary.pdf](#) 

[AP Check Register 07-23-25.pdf](#) 

[AP Check Register 08-28-25 - Invoices Over \\$8,000.pdf](#) 

[AP Check Register 08-28-25.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Check Register - Payroll Liabilities 07-28-25.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Check Register - Payroll Liabilities 07-30-25_0001.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Check Register - Payroll Liabilities 07-31-25 \(2\).pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Check Register - Payroll Liabilities 07-31-25.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Check Register - Payroll Liabilities 08-14-25.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Check Register - Payroll Liabilities 08-15-25 \(2\)-1.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Check Register - Payroll Liabilities 08-15-25 \(2\).pdf](#) 

5.3 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.

[Aug 28, 2025 Personnel Recommendations & Vacancies.pdf](#) 

[Aug 28, 2025 Addendum.pdf](#) 

6. **RECOGNITION (Dr. Hackett)**

- 6.1 Employee of the Year 2024-25
Dr. Julie Sweeney-Grana, SEDOL Audiologist
- 6.2 New Staff
Over 50 new staff joined the SEDOL family this year.
- 6.3 Introduction of New Administrators
 - Pam Evans, Interim Sector Supervisor
 - Karen Fletcher, Fairhaven School Assistant Principal
 - Jennifer Pilcher, John Powers Center Co-Interim Assistant Principal
 - Gail Wright, John Powers Center Co-Interim Assistant Principal

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT (Ms. McHugh)**

There was no Public Comment.

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

Dr. Hackett, Dr. Jimenez-Captain, Dr. Thomas, Mr. Crowley, and Dr. Barbini presented an overview of the SEDOL 2025-26 Continuous Improvement Plan, outlining the four goals and briefly explaining the objectives. The Board received a copy of the new plan to review.

Goal #1- Provide exceptional programs and services to meet the needs of each program, including college/careers

Goal #2- Establish an effective, equitable financial structure that best supports students and district needs

Goal #3- Advance high standards and expectations

Goal #4- Advance effective collaborative team practices

At the September 18, 2025 meeting, the Board will be asked to approve the 2025-26 CIP Plan.

9. **OLD BUSINESS**

- 9.1 Summer Project Update - INFORMATIONAL (Dr. Johns/Ms. Allard)
Dr. Johns and Ms. Allard shared several recent improvements across our schools, many of which were made possible thanks to generous support from the SEDOL Foundation:

- **Fairhaven School:** A new roof, window replacements, and a new sensory area were completed. The sensory area was funded by the Foundation.
- **John Powers Center:** The kitchen received new cabinets and will serve as a learning space for students in the Transition Program. This renovation was also made possible through Foundation funding.
- **Gages Lake School:** Repairs were completed on the back canopy, improving both safety and functionality for students and staff.
- **SEDOL Campus:** The campus landscaping received a refresh and included cleaning out and adding new flower beds, perennial plantings, and fresh mulch. This project was funded by the Foundation and completed with the help of our Transition Program students.
- **Laremont School:** Students in the Transition Program received new furniture designed to be both more functional and safer for their needs.

9.2 SEDOL Tuition Restructuring Update - INFORMATIONAL (Dr. Thomas)

Dr. Thomas presented the proposed new tuition restructuring model recommended by the Advisory Committee at the July 16, 2025 meeting and approved by the Steering Committee at the July 24, 2025 meeting. He discussed the process, thought, and details that went into selecting this model. SEDOL Administration will present the proposed model to member district administrators (superintendents, special education directors, and CSBOs) at a meeting on September 18th and address any questions. The Executive Board will be asked to consider approval at the October 23, 2025 meeting and recommend Governing Board approval at the December 3, 2025 meeting.

9.3 Policy Updates 2nd Reading and Approval - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Wojcik)

The Board approved updates to PRESS policies: *04:80 Accounting and Audit*, *6:235 Access to Electronic Networks*, *7:250 Student Support Services*, and *7:255 Students Who are Parents, Expectant Parents, or Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence*.

[*0480 Accounting and Audit Aug 28 2025.pdf](#) 

[*6235 Access to Elec Network rev Aug 28 2025.pdf](#) 

[*7250 Student Support Services Jul 24 2025.pdf](#) 

[*7255 Student Support Services Jul 24 2025- New.pdf](#) 

Motion to Approve Policy Updates - VOICE VOTE

Moved by: Ms. Joanne Osmond

Seconded by: Ms. Odie Pahl

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

Carried 7-0

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.1 1st Days of 2025-26 School Year - INFORMATIONAL (Dr. Hackett/Dr. Thomas)
Dr. Hackett shared that the beginning-of-the-year institute days were focused more heavily on staff development this year. She also shared photos of staff and students from the first few days of school.

10.2 Annual Student Behavioral Policy Committee - INFORMATIONAL (Mr. Crowley)
Mr. Crowley provided an update on the committee meeting held on August 26, 2025.

Highlights included:

- A review of Policy 7:190 – Student Behavior.
- A reported 95% reduction in restraints and timeouts compared to the previous three years.
- Implementation of a renewed culture and climate initiative across the district.

10.3 10-Year Life Safety Plan Update - INFORMATIONAL (Dr. Johns/Ms. Allard)
Dr. Johns outlined the timeline for the 10-Year Life Safety Plan.

- Review - August, 2025
- Adoption - September, 2025
 - A Items - Within 1 Year - \$304,050
 - B Items - Within 5 Years - \$2,298,880
 - C Items - Future considerations - \$15,502,290

10.4 Vehicle Purchase - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Johns/Ms. Allard)
Dr. Johns requested approval to purchase the following vehicle from Currie Motors using the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative: a 2026 Ford Transit Full Size Van in the amount of \$51,727.00. A vehicle purchase was included in the 2025-26 budget. The Board approved this purchase.

Motion to Approve Vehicle Purchase - ROLL CALL VOTE

Moved by: Ms. Odie Pahl

Seconded by: Dr. Lynn Glickman

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

Carried 7-0

10.5 FOIA Request - INFORMATIONAL (Dr. Wojcik)

1. On July 31, 2025, SEDOL received a FOIA request from Ms. Amna Khan. The request was denied on August 7, 2025, as it sought records that contain personally identifiable information as well as law enforcement records that are not in the possession of the district.
2. On August 18, 2025, SEDOL received a FOIA request from Justin Wenig requesting public records detailing financial transactions (check register, expenditure report, or purchase order history) from January 1,

2022, to the present. Dr. Wojcik responded to this request on August 22, 2025.

10.6 Summer Curriculum Projects Update - INFORMATIONAL (Dr. Jimenez-Captain)
Dr. Jimenez-Captain shared with the Board that she received 19 requests for summer curriculum projects totaling \$23,420.80. Projects needed to align to Illinois Learning Standards or Essential Elements, and staff needed to define the impact on students. Her team approved 15 projects totaling \$8,841.72. Staff with approved projects needed to submit evidence of completion and will need to present the details of their project.

10.7 Art Therapy Contract - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Jimenez-Captain)
The Board approved a 1-year art therapy contract with Ms. Laura Luoma to provide services to the John Powers Center DHH Program and the Transition Program for the 2025-26 school year in the amount of \$39,057.50.

Motion to Approve Contract - ROLL CALL VOTE

Moved by: Ms. Joanne Osmond

Seconded by: Ms. Odie Pahl

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

Carried 7-0

10.8 Center for Special Education Contract - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Wojcik)
The Board approved a 1-year contract with the Center for Special Education to provide fifteen comprehensive evaluations in the amount of \$42,290.00. This will assist with a psychologist on long-term absence.

Motion to Approve Contract - ROLL CALL VOTE

Moved by: Ms. Odie Pahl

Seconded by: Dr. Jason Lind

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

Carried 7-0

11. CLOSED SESSION - ACTION NEEDED (Ms. McHugh)

There was no closed session.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 Possible Termination - ACTION NEEDED (Ms. McHugh)

This agenda item was not needed.

13. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee Reports.

14. INFORMATIONAL

14.1 SEDOL Foundation (Ms. Subry)

- Golf Invitational- September 8
- 5K Run/Walk- September 13
- One Special Night- November 8

14.2 SEDOL Events (Dr. Hackett/Dr. Thomas)

Superintendent Focus Group Meetings/Survey

- Virtual Focus Group Staff- September 2nd, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- Virtual Focus Group Parents- September 8th, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- A survey link will be shared via email the 1st week of September and will be available on the SEDOL website under Superintendent Search.

Curriculum Night

- September 4th from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

SEDOL Program Tours

- Tuesday, September 23rd (Laremont School, Gages Lake School, & Cyd Lash Academy) 9:30 a.m.
- Monday, September 29th (Fairhaven School & John Powers Center) 9:30 a.m.
- RSVP by Wednesday, September 17th

15. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (Ms. McHugh)

Ms. McHugh wished everyone a great year.

16. ADJOURNMENT (Ms. McHugh)

With no other items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sara Martinez
Recording Secretary

Approved by:

Carey McHugh
Board President

Dr. Judy Hackett
Board Secretary