



## Administrative Offices

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### Minutes of the SWCCCASE Board of Directors Meeting September 17, 2025

- CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL** A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Southwest Cook County Cooperative Association for Special Education was called to order at 8:03 a.m. on Wednesday, September 17, 2025.
- On roll call, the following members were found to be present: Dr. Orzel, Dr. Droba, Dr. Scarsella, Dr. Roth, Dr. Stawick (left meeting at 9:03 a.m.), Dr. Brunson, Dr. Maxwell, Dr. Sikora, and Dr. Nolting. Also present, Dr. Gineen O’Neil, Mr. Tage Shumway, Business Manager, and Ms. Lisa Promis, Assistant Director. Absent: Dr. Sala and Dr. Meighan
- RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC** Karyn Kempke, Union President and Brandon Wigboldy, Union Vice President
- PLACEMENT OF ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA** A motion was made by Dr. Scarsella and seconded by Dr. Roth, upon the recommendation of Dr. O’Neil, that the following items be considered under a consent agenda unless otherwise requested by the Board: the FY26 Budget Hearing minutes, and the open and closed session minutes of the August 20, 2025 Board of Directors Meeting, Invoices and Payroll, Employment of Educational Support Personnel, Resignation of Professional Personnel, Resignation of Educational Support Personnel, Request for Leave of Absence, Recommendation for Termination of Employee, Rescind Resignation, Board Policies - Second Reading, and Tuition and Fees.
- Upon roll call the following voted aye: Dr. Orzel, Dr. Droba, Dr. Scarsella, Dr. Roth, Dr. Stawick, Dr. Brunson, Dr. Maxwell, Dr. Sikora, and Dr. Nolting. Nays none, whereupon the chairperson declared the motion carried.
- CLOSED SESSION** A motion was made by Dr. Stawick and seconded by Dr. Brunson to enter into a closed session at 8:04 a.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the Cooperative or legal counsel for the Cooperative, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee or against legal counsel for the Cooperative to determine its validity. 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), as amended by P.A. 93-0057.
- Upon roll call the following voted aye: Dr. Orzel, Dr. Droba, Dr. Scarsella, Dr. Roth, Dr. Stawick, Dr. Brunson, Dr. Maxwell, Dr. Sikora, and Dr. Nolting. Nays none, whereupon the chairperson declared the motion carried.

A motion was made by Dr. Maxwell and seconded by Dr. Sikora to return from closed session at 8:39 a.m.

Upon roll call the following voted aye: Dr. Orzel, Dr. Droba, Dr. Scarsella, Dr. Roth, Dr. Stawick, Dr. Brunson, Dr. Maxwell, Dr. Sikora, and Dr. Nolting. Nays none, whereupon the chairperson declared the motion carried.

**REPORT OF THE  
BUSINESS  
MANAGER**

**STATEMENT OF  
POSITION AND  
REVENUE**

Mr. Shumway presented the statement of position, revenue, and expenditures for the period ending August 29, 2025.

**MORTON  
GINGERWOOD  
SCHOOL**

Mr. Shumway shared that in April of 2021, the Cooperative entered into an agreement with Arbor Park School District 145 for the purchase of the real estate known as the Morton Gingerwood School located at 16936 Forest Avenue in Oak Forest. The Cooperative has paid four of the five installments towards the \$2,500,000 purchase price. A reciprocal easement agreement will be signed by both parties. The final installment payment and closing is scheduled for Wednesday, September 17th at 2 p.m.

**REPORT OF THE  
EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR**

**COOPERATIVE  
HIGHLIGHTS**

Dr. O'Neil shared highlights from each of the Cooperative programs.

**LEA  
DETERMINATIONS**

Dr. O'Neil reported that the Preliminary Local Education Agency (LEA) determinations data for school year 2024-25 is available for review in I-Star Plus until September 16, 2025. States are required to make "Determinations" under 616(d) on the performance of LEAs regarding the provision of special education and related services, according to 616(a)(1)(c)(i) and 300.600(a) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA 2004). All of the member districts had a preliminary designation of "Meets Requirements."

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES**

The Board of Directors of the Southwest Cook County Cooperative Association for Special Education approved open and closed session minutes from the August 20, 2025 Budget Hearing and the open and closed session minutes from the

regular August 20, 2025 Board of Directors Meeting.

APPROVAL OF  
INVOICES AND  
PAYROLL

The Board approved the August/September invoices in the amount of \$1,379,080.94. The August payroll in the amount of \$1,277,584.98, and the and the estimated amount of \$2,500,000 for the September payroll.

EMPLOYMENT OF  
EDUCATIONAL  
SUPPORT  
PERSONNEL

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Step/Column or Days</u>	<u>Annual Salary</u>
Hudson, Antonio	Van Driver	Transition	9/12/2025	\$20/Hr	N/A
Lanthorn, Sandra	Paraeducator	Transition	9/10/2025	1/Sub	\$30,739.00
Neary, Allyson	Van Driver	Transition	8/21/2025	\$20/Hr	N/A
Thornton, LaDonna	Paraeducator	Transition	9/18/2025	2/License	\$27,271.00
Trosper, DeAnna	Paraeducator	Transition	9/8/2025	3/Sub License	\$31,749.00

RESIGNATION OF  
PROFESSIONAL  
PERSONNEL

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Clark, Jennifer	VI Teacher	Services	6/1/2026

RESIGNATION OF  
EDUCATIONAL  
SUPPORT  
PERSONNEL

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Johnson, Shakaylah	Paraeducator	Transition	8/25/2025
Neary, Alysson	Paraeducator	DESTINY	8/20/2025

**REQUEST FOR  
LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Type of Leave</u>	<u>Effective Dates</u>
Petry, Ausra	Payroll	Business Office	Intermittent FMLA	9/3/2025-6/30/2026
Rutzky, Ronald	Paraeducator	Transition	FMLA	10/15-12/5/2025
Yunis, Hend	Paraeducator	Transition	FMLA	11/10-24/2025

**APPROVAL OF  
BOARD POLICIES  
SECOND READING**

The Board of Directors, upon the recommendation of the Executive Director, approved the second reading of the following policies: 1:10 - District Legal Status, 1:20 - Cooperative Organization, 1:30 - Educational Philosophy, 2:10 - Cooperative Governance, 2:240 - Board Policy Development, 3:65 - Staff Supervision, 4:50 - Payment Procedures, 4:180 - Pandemic Preparedness and Health Safety Protocols, 5:270 - Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment, 7:90 - Release During School Hours, 7:130 - Student Rights and Responsibilities, 7:140 - Search and Seizure, 7:300 - Extracurricular Athletics, 8:80 - Gifts to the Cooperative, and 8:110 - Public Suggestions and Complaints.

**TUITION AND FEES**

The Board of Directors, upon the recommendation of the Business Manager, approved the FY26 program tuition and service rates.

**RECOMMENDATION  
FOR TERMINATION  
OF EMPLOYEE**

The Board of Directors, upon the recommendation of the Executive Director, approved to terminate the employment of support staff employee Kristy-Lyn Walls, for cause, effective August 22, 2025.

**RESCIND OF  
EMPLOYMENT**

The Board of Directors, upon the recommendation of the Executive Director, approved rescinding the resignation of Shiren Cannon and allowing her to continue in her position as the Braun Secretary.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**APPROVAL OF  
CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Dr. Nolting and seconded by Dr. Maxwell to approve the consent agenda.

Upon roll call the following voted aye: Dr. Orzel, Dr. Droba, Dr. Roth, Dr. Scarsella, Dr. Brunson, Dr. Maxwell, Dr. Sikora, and Dr. Nolting. Nays none, whereupon the chairperson declared the motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

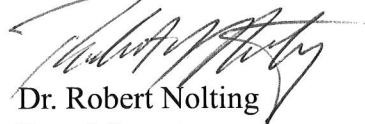
A motion was made by Dr. Scarsella and seconded by Dr. Roth to adjourn the meeting at 9:52 a.m.

Upon roll call the following voted aye: Dr. Orzel, Dr. Droba, Dr. Roth,

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Dr. Scarsella, Dr. Brunson, Dr. Maxwell, Dr. Sikora, and Dr. Nolting. Naves none,  
whereupon the chairperson declared the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Nolting", written over the printed name.

Dr. Robert Nolting  
Board Secretary