



**Judy Hackett, EdD**  
**Tim Thomas, EdD**  
Co-Interim Superintendents

**Executive Board Meeting Summary**  
**Thursday, December 18, 2025**

**PLEDGE AND AGENDA**

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

**A MOMENT OF SILENCE**

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Jill Jones, a Fairhaven School paraprofessional, who passed away on December 5, 2025..

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- ~ Request for Contracts for 6 educational support personnel (ESP) and 1 licensed staff
- ~ Resignations/retirements by 4 ESP
- ~ Request for Leave of Absence for 1 ESP
- ~ 3 Contract staff

**SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

**STARS Student of the Month**

The Board recognized a student from Ms. Michelle Clark's classroom at John Powers Center as the December STARS Student. Since coming to John Powers Center, this student has made amazing progress. He is able to communicate his wants and needs and is an active participant in groups and activities. He is picking up new vocabulary quickly and his confidence grows more every day.

**Employee of the Month**

The Board recognized Ms. Estefani Falcon, teacher at Gages Lake School, as December's Employee of the Month. Ms. Falcon supports her students with a positive attitude and a calm demeanor. She is able to motivate her students through tangible reinforcers that are meaningful to them creating a powerful classroom community. Her students respond with respect and hard work.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no Public Comment.

**SEDOL CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN (CIP) UPDATES**

The four goal leaders presented the focus of the next steps for each of their goals.

**Goal 1:** Provide exceptional programs and services to meet the needs of students throughout the SEDOL community (Dr. Jimenez-Captain)

**Objective D:** Leadership and member districts have been engaging in collaborative brainstorming meetings to process and review the continuum of SEDOL services, including sector and day programs, to best address the dynamic and changing needs of students and districts.

- Three meetings have been held already with 16 members, 9 of which are member district special education administrators.

**Goal 2:** Establish an effective equitable financial structure that best supports students and district needs (Dr. Thomas)

**Objective B:** Administration and member districts have been meeting to review SEDOL's staffing model and process to reflect programmatic needs by analyzing current allocations, identifying key variables, and have been working on developing a revised staffing model and process. The updated model and process will be shared with SEDOL administration and district leadership for review and feedback.

**Goal 3:** Advance high standards and expectations (Mr. Crowley)

**Objective A:** This team will complete a self-directed cyclical monitoring process aligned with ISBE's district monitoring plan, to review and refine instructional and procedural best practices at least quarterly, with documented improvements reflected in program evaluation summaries and shared action plans.

**Objective B:** SEDOL will continue to provide associated training on IEP components to all staff involved in the IEP process to build and promote assurances, consistency, and high-quality educational planning across all programs.

**Goal 4:** Advance effective collaborative team practices (Dr. Barbini)

**Objective B:** Information about SEDOL's programming continuum and services to better inform decision-making on behalf of students will be published in program brochures for SEDOL stakeholders.

- 12 out of the 14 brochures have been completed and will be displayed in SEDOL buildings and in the administration building front office. They are also currently available on the SEDOL website.

**Objective C:** Planning for a parent council focused on ways to engage and support SEDOL families through training, resources, and networking will begin in January.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **FY26 Budget Amendment**

Dr. Johns presented a draft of the amended budget. At the January 22 meeting, the Executive Board will be asked to recommend approval of the amended budget changes to the Governing Board at its March 4 meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Request for Quote (RFQ)**

Dr. Barbini presented the rationale for updating the audio equipment in the Gages Lake School Community Room and for obtaining quotes for its replacement. The Board approved the request.

### **Deduct Change Order**

The Board approved Deduct Change Order 001 from Douglas Flooring in the amount of (\$5,977.50).

### **Summer Construction Projects**

Dr. Johns presented the 2026 summer construction projects. These projects will be funded through the geothermal rebate.

**Cyd Lash Academy (Closed for ESY)-** Boiler replacement/new boiler and circulating pumps/boiler BAS controls, sanitary PVC piping in boiler room changed to pressure-rated PVC, replace water heater, and conduct glass testing and determine replacement needs

**Gages Lake School & Pre-Vocational-** Determine whether removal or re-roof/decking of canopy is required and complete the project, conduct glass testing and determine replacement needs, and replace frames/doors on (2) outside doors

**John Powers Center-** Replace water heater, replace electric circuit panel, replace (parking lot) building entrance door canopy/awning, replace (parking lot) building entrance storefront metal and glass, replace (parking lot) building entrance doors, replace magnetic locks with electric strikes at (parking lot) entrance, and conduct glass testing and determine replacement needs

**Fairhaven School-** Replace water heater, remove water heater mixing valve, and change the non-fire-rated gym hallway entrance/possible door access

#### FOIA Request

On November 18, 2025, SEDOL received a FOIA request from Mr. Max Binnington.

Dr. Wojcik responded to this request on November 25, 2025, offering the opportunity to narrow the scope of the request; otherwise, the request would be denied pursuant to FOIA Section 3(g) as being unduly burdensome. Mr. Binnington has not yet responded.

#### CLOSED SESSION

Move the Board enter 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 counsel for the public body to determine its validity.
2. 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 employee.
3. 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.

#### INFORMATIONAL

##### SEDOL Foundation Events

- Adopt-a-Family- 26 families
- Ping Pong- February 1
- Laremont Trivia Night- March 7
- Dinner Dance- April 25
- Pucks for Autism- June 12-14
- Golf Invitational- September 14
- 5K Run/Walk- September 19
- One Special Night- November 7

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Happy holidays to everyone!

#### ADJOURNMENT

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

#### **2025-26 Executive Board Meeting Schedule** *SEDOL Office Bay Room*

Thursday, January 22, 2026 – 8:30 a.m.  
Thursday, February 26, 2026 – 8:30 a.m.  
Thursday, March 19, 2026 – 8:30 a.m.  
Thursday, April 2, 2026 – 8:30 a.m. *FY27 Budget Meeting*  
Thursday, April 23, 2026 – 8:30 a.m.  
Thursday, May 28, 2026 – 8:30 a.m.  
Thursday, June 25, 2026 – 8:30 a.m.  
Thursday, July 23, 2026 – 8:30 a.m.

#### **2025-26 Governing Board Meeting Schedule** *Gages Lake School Community Room*

Wednesday, March 4, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, June 3, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.