



Administrative Offices

Minutes of the SWCCCASE Board of Directors Meeting March 18, 2026

- 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 8:02 a.m. on Wednesday, March 18, 2026.
- On roll call, the following members were found to be present: Dr. Orzel, Dr. Droba, Dr. Scarsella, Dr. Roth, Dr. Stawick, Dr. Brunson, Dr. Maxwell, and Dr. Sikora.
- Also present, Dr. Gineen O’Neil, Executive Director, Mr. Tage Shumway, Business Manager, and Ms. Lisa Promis, Assistant Director.
- The following members were absent: Dr. Sala, Dr. Julius D160 Interim Superintendent, and Dr. Nolting.
- RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC** Karyn Kempke, Union President, Brandon Wigboldy Union Vice President, Dr. Lisa Giglio Byczek, D228 Special Education Administrator, Dawn Hinkle, Board Attorney, (left meeting at 9:17 a.m.), Kristine Jones, Braun Principal, Spencer Saal, IFT Field Service Representative, and Eduardo Campins, Braun Paraprofessional
- MOTION TO APPOINT DR. STAWICK AS BOARD SECRETARY** A motion was made by Dr. Roth and seconded by Dr. Brunson, to appoint Dr. Stawick as Board Secretary.
- Upon roll call the following voted aye: Dr. Orzel, Dr. Droba, Dr. Scarsella, Dr. Roth, Dr. Stawick, Dr. Brunson, Dr. Maxwell, and Dr. Sikora. Nays none, whereupon the chairperson declared the motion carried.
- PLACEMENT OF ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA** A motion was made by Dr. Brunson 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 meeting minutes from the February 18, 2026 Board of Directors Meeting, Invoices and Payroll, Employment of Professional Personnel, Employment of Educational Support Personnel, Resignation of Professional Personnel, Resignation of Educational Support Personnel, Request for Leave of Absence, Braun Educational Center - Phase 3 Parking Lot Improvements, Public Consulting Group EDPlan Easy IEP Contract, and Snow Plow Truck Purchase.
- Upon roll call the following voted aye: Dr. Orzel, Dr. Droba, Dr. Scarsella, Dr. Roth, Dr. Stawick, Dr. Brunson, Dr. Maxwell, and Dr. Sikora. Nays none, whereupon the chairperson declared the motion carried.

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CLOSED SESSION A motion was made by Dr. Scarsella and seconded by Dr. Maxwell to enter into closed session at 8:03 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, and Dr. Sikora. Nays none, whereupon the chairperson declared the motion carried.

A motion was made by Dr. Stawick and seconded by Dr. Maxwell to return from closed session at 9:14 a.m.

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

**MOTION TO
REMOVE ACTION
ITEM 10.5 FROM
THE AGENDA**

A motion was made by Dr. Scarsella and seconded by Dr. Stawick to remove agenda item 10.5, Potential Action on Termination of Support Staff Employees, from the agenda.

Upon roll call the following voted aye: Dr. Orzel, Dr. Droba, Dr. Scarsella, Dr. Roth, Dr. Stawick, Dr. Brunson, Dr. Maxwell, and Dr. Sikora. 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 February 27, 2025.

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REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

COOPERATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. O’Neil shared highlights from various Cooperative Programs.

SWCCCASE PROGRAM WAITING LISTS

Dr. O’Neil reported that as of March 13, 2026, there is one 6th grade student on a waiting list for DESTINY. Morton Gingerwood opened a new classroom this month to accommodate additional students. Three students are waiting for personnel to be hired to provide aide support prior to the students’ first day.

NATALIE CREEK TRAIL LETTER OF SUPPORT

Dr. O’Neil reported that on February 17, 2026, she provided a letter of support to the City of Oak Forest to build the Natalie Creek Trail. This project will significantly expand community impacts, linkages to the regional trails and neighboring communities.

CONSENT AGENDA

FEBRUARY 18, 2026 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The Board of Directors of the Southwest Cook County Cooperative Association for Special Education approved the minutes from the February 18, 2026 Board of Directors Meeting.

FEBRUARY/MARCH INVOICES AND PAYROLL

The Board approved the February/March invoices in the amount of \$1,137,831.26. The February payroll in the amount of \$2,193,154.89 and the estimated amount of \$2,500,000 for the March payroll

EMPLOYMENT OF PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>	<u>Step/Column or Days</u>	<u>Annual Salary</u>
Hurley, Margaret	SLP	CD	8/5/2026	Step 1/MA	\$64,150.00

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>
Karajeh, Ghada	Paraeducator	DESTINY	3/3/2026	\$22/hr	n/a

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RESIGNATION OF
PROFESSIONAL
PERSONNEL

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Chapan, Christina	Teacher	CD	6/15/2026
Powell, Megan	SLP	CD	5/29/2026
Reade, Stephen Barry	Teacher	Itinerant	12/22/2026

RESIGNATION OF
EDUCATIONAL
SUPPORT
PERSONNEL

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Hampton, Natasha	Secretary	DESTINY	6/30/2026
Lundy, Michelle	Paraeducator	Transition	3/6/2026
Petry, Ausra	Payroll	Business Office	6/30/2026

REQUEST FOR
LEAVE OF
ABSENCE

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Type of Leave</u>	<u>Effective Dates</u>
Bowes, Mary	Teacher	Transition	FMLA	8/10/2026-10/30/2026
Litterst, Laura	Teacher	DHH	Extended FMLA	2/17/26-3/11/2026
Petry, Ausra	Payroll	Business Office	Extended LOA	4/7/26-6/30/2026
Schenkenfelder, Edward	Paraeducator	Transition	FMLA	2/24/26-6/2/2026

BRAUN
EDUCATIONAL
CENTER - PHASE
3 PARKING LOT
IMPROVEMENTS

The Board of Directors of the Southwest Cook County Cooperative Association for Special Education authorized the CSBO to award the parking lot improvement contract to Accu-Paving Co. for the amount of \$269,995.

PUBLIC
CONSULTING
GROUP EDPLAN
EASY IEP
CONTRACT

The Board of Directors authorized the Business Manager to sign a 5-year contract with PCG for the EDPlan Suite Modules including EasyIEP, Translation, PaperClip, EasyFax/SmartScan, Single Sign on, and EDPlan Connect for an annual fee of \$178,176.12 commencing on July 1, 2026 and ending on June 30, 2031.

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SNOW PLOW
TRUCK
PURCHASE

The Board of Directors, upon the recommendation of the CSBO, authorized the purchase of one snow plow truck through Currie Motors Chevrolet and the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative for a price not to exceed \$65,000.

ACTION ITEMS

FY26 RELEASE OF
CERTIFIED STAFF

A motion was made by Dr. Stawick and seconded by Dr. Scarsella to approve the resolution dismissing certified staff members Michael Dwyer and Catilyn Murphy.

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

POTENTIAL
ACTION ON
RESIGNATION OF
SUPPORT STAFF
EMPLOYEES

A motion was made by Dr. Stawick and seconded by Dr. Maxwell to accept the resignation of the following support staff employees: Edwardo Campins, Antonia Fratto, and Sandra Henstein.

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

POTENTIAL
ACTION TO
APPROVE FY27
ADMINISTRATIVE
SALARIES

A motion was made by Dr. Brunson and seconded by Dr. Stawick to approve the FY27 Administrative Salaries. The salaries are as follows: Tage Shumway \$184,500.00, Lisa Promis \$154,800.00, Jennifer Gallus \$143,800.00, Kristine Jones \$137,500.00, Matt Sheehan \$123,000.00, Jennifer Lucas \$122,000.00, Julie Beasland \$120,500.00, Regina Schnell \$120,200.00, Kelsey De Biasio \$113,000.00, Amy Kalas \$112,500.00, Jennifer Lindstrom \$112,300.00, Lena Ayala-Martinez \$109,000.00, Jeremy Majka \$86,806.00, and Jennifer Corse \$85,000.00.

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

APPROVAL OF
CONSENT
AGENDA

A motion was made by Dr. Roth and seconded by Dr. Scarsella to approve the consent agenda.

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

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BOARD REPORTS Mr. Shumway thanked the Board for the approval of an additional 1.0 FTE position for the Business Office.

Dr. O'Neil reported that the Special Education Director from District 160 has resigned and she may be called upon to assist the district in the interim.

ADJOURNMENT A motion was made by Dr. Roth and seconded by Dr. Brunson to adjourn the meeting at 9:36 a.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Signed by:



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Dr. Jeff Stawick

Board Secretary