



Judy Hackett, EdD
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Co-Interim Superintendents

Executive Board Meeting Summary
Thursday, April 23, 2026

PLEDGE AND AGENDA

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

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- ~ Request for Contracts for 6 educational support personnel (ESP) and 7 licensed staff
- ~ Request for Contract 1 Psychologist Intern
- ~ Resignations/retirements by 6 ESP and 4 licensed staff
- ~ Contract staff -2
- ~ Employment recommendations for 2026-27

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

STARS Student

The Board recognized a Transition student from Ms. Tuzzio's classroom. This student has always been a hard worker and has worked himself up to a Level VI site (highest). This year, he has come into his own. He loves his current worksite at Beachwaver. When asked about it or observed at work, he is all smiles. He has learned all aspects of the job. This student has done an amazing job using his cell phone with a communication app to interact not only with his coach and crewmates but also with Beachwaver co-workers. He is a team player who does whatever is needed in the warehouse.

Employee of the Month

The Board recognized Ms. Ashley Merkel, Laremont School Teacher, as the April Employee of the Month. Ashley creates a supportive and inspiring learning environment. She provides engaging and responsive instruction to meet the unique needs of her students while building strong relationships with colleagues. She is deeply committed to her school community and her students.

March Staff Recognition

The Board recognized the following national staff recognitions for April: Administrative Assistants, Assistant Principals, Occupational Therapists, and Paraprofessionals/Job Coaches.

Introduction of New Administrators

Ms. Traci Strieter- Principal, Laremont School
Ms. Lynsea Volbrecht- Assistant Principal, Fairhaven School

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no Public Comment.

SEDOL CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN (CIP) UPDATES

Goal 3: *Advance high standards and expectations*

Objective B: *IEP Manual*

Mr. Crowley, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, shared with the Board that the SEDOL IEP Manual is complete.

The Concept

- To create an IEP manual that serves as a single location for staff guidance/review
- Provide clarity on compliance requirements
- Develop a deeper understanding of how the various components of the IEP impact one another

The Process

- CIP Goal 3 Team Members: Amy Timonen, Erin Tidd, Geri-Lynn Montellano, and Samantha Haney
- Created a section that addresses each "IEP form" that could be used within the written IEP document and related development process
- Collaborated with ISBE representative and associated guidance/resources, member districts' perspectives, SEDOL administrative team, attorneys for input and feedback that reflects current practice
- Conducted an internal self-cyclical monitoring process utilizing ISBEs review tools to review random IEPs to identify patterns/concerns to address
- Used data from self-cyclical monitoring to ensure identified areas are addressed within the manual
- Updated screen shots and language to align with ISBE updates to IEP forms and additional requirements by ISBE
- Developed accompanying presentation to highlight significant changes by ISBE or new practices/procedures for SEDOL paperwork

The Results

- IEP Manual
- IEP Compliance Updates Presentation

SEDOL will share this manual with its member districts and will continue reviewing their IEP processes to ensure greater alignment with SEDOL practices.

OLD BUSINESS

FY27 Budget Update

Dr. Johns shared the following details pertaining to the FY27 tentative budget.

Estimated 2026-27 Expenditures:

- Education Fund: \$56,276,934
- O&M: \$3,739,509
- Debt Services: \$180,625
- Transportation: \$840,000
- IMRF: \$1,045,050
- Capital Projects: \$3,250,000

Total Expenditures: \$65,332,118

Additional costs included:

- IMRF LEVY 2026 pay 2027 for 2028 Budget: \$800,000
- 1:1 Nurse Cost: \$135,575
- 1:1 Sign Language Interpreters: \$109,648
- 1:1 Paraprofessional: \$49,267

There will be a transfer of \$2,000,000 from the Education Fund to the Capital Projects Fund.

The Fund Balance % of Revenue 17.15%

The Board approved the tentative budget for FY27 and recommended approval by the Governing Board at its June 3rd meeting. Pursuant to Governing Board approval at its June 3rd meeting, the final FY27 budget will be presented to the Executive Board on June 25th with final approval at the August Governing Board meeting. Small district, board, and staff budget meetings will be scheduled for May.

FY25 Audit Update

Ms. Allard informed the Board that she does not have a set date for the completion of the FY25 audit however, they are very close to completion.

NEW BUSINESS

NIHIP Health and Dental Rates

The Board approved the Northern Illinois Health Insurance Program (NIHIP) health and dental insurance rates for 2026-27.

Renewal Premiums reflect the following overall NIHIP renewal action:

- PPO: +8.7%
- HMO: +9.9%
- Guardian Dental: DPPO 9.0% Increase/DHMO Rate Pass - Renews 9.1.27
- EyeMed Vision: In Rate Guarantee – Renews 7.1.29
- NIHIP Voya Life/ADD: In Rate Guarantee – Renews 9.1.27
- Met Life STD/LTD – In Rate Guarantee- Renews 7.1.27

OrganicLife Contract Extension

The Board approved a 1-year food service contract extension with OrganicLife with an increased amount of 4.1% for breakfast and lunch. Reimbursable breakfast will cost \$4.04 per meal, and lunch cost will be \$6.42 per meal.

Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)

The Board approved SEDOL's participation in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). The CEP program allows for reimbursement to school districts for student breakfast and lunch programs for all students in a qualifying school district. SEDOL and its member districts will have a seamless food service program that all students can participate in at no cost. SEDOL will provide member districts that house sector programs with recordkeeping guidelines. This is a 4-year approval.

Proposed Organizational Chart

The Board approved the FY27 Organizational Chart.

Planning for June Governing Board Meeting

The Board reviewed the June 3rd Governing Board meeting agenda.

Co-Interim CSBO Contract Extensions

The Board approved extending the contracts of Dr. Johns and Ms. Allard to include up to 60 additional days each (to be scheduled at a later date) for the 2026–27 school year at a rate of \$1,000 per day.

Given the complexity of SEDOL as a special education cooperative, along with ongoing changes to internal and external systems and procedures, the Board identified the need for Dr. Johns's and Ms. Allard's ongoing assistance. These services are scheduled to begin July 1, 2026.

Policy Updates/Reviews

The Board reviewed Policy 7:150 *Agency Law Enforcement Requests*. This policy will be included on the May 28th agenda for 2nd reading.

FOIA Request

On March 24, 2026, Dr. Wojcik received a FOIA request for the following information from CT Mills, Educator Support Network. Electronic copies of any existing records that identify the employee(s) responsible for or overseeing any of the following functional areas at the district or central office level: Curriculum & Instruction/Teaching & Learning; Career & Technical Education (CTE) and STEM; English Language Learners (ELL); Technology/Information; Technology/Computer Science; Library/Media Services; and Core Academic Subjects. Dr. Wojcik responded with the information on March 25, 2026.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board went into closed session to discuss the following:

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. The placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students.

OTHER

Request for Non-Member District Placement

- The Board approved the request by Lincolnshire District 103 to continue placement for one student in the LASSO 3 Program for the 2026-27 school year.
- The Board approved the request by McHenry District 156 to continue placement for one student in the Deaf and Hard of Hearing High School Program for the 2026-27 school year.

INFORMATIONAL

Upcoming SEDOL Foundation Events

- Pucks for Autism- June 5-7 - volunteers needed
- Golf Invitational- September 14
- 5K Run/Walk- September 19
- One Special Night- November 7- new name coming soon
- Ping Pong for Kids- February 7, 2027
- Laremont Trivia Night- March 6, 2027

Upcoming SEDOL Events

May:

Unified Sports Day	Fairhaven	5.1.26	All Day
Prom	Laremont	5.1.26	12:45 p.m.
Lake County Educator of the Year Banquet	LC Fairgrounds	5.6.26	5:00 p.m.
Smile Illinois Dentist	Laremont	5.7.26	All Day
Unified Sports Day	Laremont	5.8.26	All day
Prom	Fairhaven	5.8.26	1-2:30 p.m.
Move Model Site Celebration	Laremont	5.14.26	1:00 p.m.
Parent University (Hybrid)	Admin Bldg	5.14.26	6:30 p.m.
Cop on a Roof (Third Lake/Vernon Hills Dunkin Locations)	Laremont/JPC	5.15.26	9:30-11:30 a.m.
Proud to Be Me Picnic	John Powers	5.15.26	11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Promotion/Graduation	Cyd Lash	5.15.26	MS 10:00 a.m. HS 1:00 p.m.
Transition Recognition	Laremont/DHH/Cyd	5.20.26	6:00-7:00 p.m.
Promotion/Graduation	Laremont	5.20.26	9:30 a.m.
Retirement Ceremony	GLS Community Rm	5.21.26	4:00 p.m.
DHH High School Graduation	Grayslake North	5.21.26	7:00 pm
Promotion/Graduation	Fairhaven	5.22.26	1:00 p.m.
Executive Board Mtg	Admin Bldg	5.28.26	8:30 a.m.
DHH 8th Grade Hawthorn Graduation	Vernon Hills HS	5.29.26	6:00 p.m.

June:

Governing Board Meeting	Gages Lake	6.3.26	7:00 pm
SEDOL Foundation Pucks for Autism	Multiple	6.5-7.26	All day
ESY Staff 1st Day	Multiple	6.15.26	Full Day
ESY Student Open House	Multiple	6.15.26	1-3:00 p.m.
ESY Student 1st Day	Multiple	6.16.26	8:30-12:00 a.m.
Executive Board Mtg	Admin Bldg	6.25.26	8:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

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, June 3, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.