

SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT OF LAKE COUNTY
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Jennifer Thomas, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Please Note: The public hearing on the final budget will begin at 6:50 p.m.

TO: Governing Board Members

FROM: Administration

RE: Governing Board Meeting

DATE: Wednesday, August 5, 2026

TIME: 6:50 p.m. Public Hearing
7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

LOCATION: Gages Lake School, Community Room

1. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL (Dr. Mack)

Once a quorum is present, Dr. Mack will call the meeting to order.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Dr. Mack)

3. OATH OF OFFICE FOR MEMBERS (Dr. Mack)

The oath of office is as follows:

I, (name), do solemnly affirm that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of member of the Board of Education of Special Education District of Lake County, in accordance with the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Illinois, and the laws of the State of Illinois, to the best of my ability.

I further affirm that:

I shall respect taxpayer interests by serving as a faithful protector of the School District's assets;

I shall encourage and respect the free expression of opinion by my fellow Board members and others who seek a hearing before the Board, while respecting the privacy of students and employees;

I shall recognize that a Board member has no legal authority as an individual and that decisions can be made only by a majority vote at a public Board meeting;

I shall abide by majority decisions of the Board, while retaining the right to seek changes in such decisions through ethical and constructive channels;

As part of the Board of Education, I shall accept the responsibility for my role in the equitable and quality education of every student in the School District;

I shall foster with the Board extensive participation of the community, formulate goals, define outcomes, and set the course for SEDOL;

I shall assist in establishing a structure and an environment designed to ensure all students have the opportunity to attain their maximum potential through a sound organizational framework;

I shall strive to ensure a continuous assessment of student achievement and all conditions affecting the education of our children, in compliance with State law;

I shall serve as education's key advocate on behalf of students and our community's schools to advance the vision for SEDOL; and

I shall strive to work together with the District Superintendent to lead the School District toward fulfilling the vision the Board has created, fostering excellence for every student in the areas of academic skills, knowledge, citizenship, and personal development.

4. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Mack)

Motion to Accept/Amend the Agenda - VOICE VOTE

Move the agenda be accepted/amended as presented or recommended.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Mack)

[Minutes GB Jun 03 2026 Members.pdf](#) 

Motion to Approve Minutes - ROLL CALL VOTE

Move approval of the public session minutes from the June 3, 2026, meeting.

6. SPECIAL RECOGNITION (Dr. Thomas)

6.1 Board Members and Administrators

President Mack will ask Governing Board Members, SEDOL administrators, and member district administrators to introduce themselves.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT (Dr. Mack)

President Mack will recognize any visitors at the meeting. The Governing Board is always interested in hearing from anyone who has a concern or issue regarding SEDOL programs and services. In order to ensure that everyone is heard, and at the same time, conduct the meeting properly and efficiently, those wishing to address the Board are asked to observe the following guidelines.

1. Sign in at the meeting and complete the Public Comment Information Form.
2. Address the Board at the appropriate time as indicated on the agenda and when recognized by the Board President.
3. State your name for the record.
4. Comments should be limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes. The Board President may deny a person the opportunity to speak for more than 3 minutes. The President may also deny such opportunity to a person who has previously addressed the Board on the same subject.

5. Groups attending Board meetings are requested to appoint a spokesperson, if possible. The spokesperson should identify the group he/she represents and then briefly explain the concerns shared by the group. The Board President reserves the right to terminate a speaker's comments if they are repetitive or redundant.
6. Comments made during open session should not pertain to individual students or employees. Concerns regarding a specific student or employee should be presented in closed session.
7. The Board President or other presiding officer shall have the authority to terminate the remarks of any individual addressing the Board under public comment and to determine procedural matters regarding public comment not otherwise defined in Board policy.

8. PROGRAM REPORTS - INFORMATIONAL (Dr. Jimenez-Captain)

SEDOL Administration will update the Board on this summer's Extended School Year (ESY) Program.

9. SEDOL CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLANNING (CIP) - INFORMATIONAL (Dr. Thomas)

Administration will provide the Board with an update from summer planning and next steps regarding CIP 2026-27.

10. STU PROPOSED CONTRACT - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Wojcik)

Dr. Wojcik and Ms. McHugh of the SEDOL Board Negotiations Team will provide an overview of the proposed 3-year contract between the SEDOL Teachers' Union (STU) and the SEDOL Board to begin with the 2026-27 school year. The Executive Board will be asked to approve and recommend to the Governing Board for approval at their August 5, 2026 meeting.

Motion to Approve STU Contract - ROLL CALL VOTE

Move approval of the proposed 3-year contract to start with the 2026-27 school year between the SEDOL Teachers' Union and the SEDOL Board as presented.

11. FINANCE UPDATE AND PRESENTATION OF THE FY27 FINAL BUDGET - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Johns/Ms. Allard)

The Executive Board recommends approval of the final budget as presented.

The final budget be based on the cash basis, which includes Evidence-Based Funding and tuition revenues being calculated accordingly and for final budget purposes, total SEDOL expenditures for FY27 are set at \$65,332,118. Those expenditures are offset by SEDOL revenues of \$61,692,877, leaving a fund balance of \$12,404,210.

- Total expenditures in the Education Fund are \$56,273,934; expenditures in the O&M Fund are \$3,739,509; Debt Services Fund are \$180,625; Transportation Fund are \$840,000; IMRF Fund are \$1,045,050; and Capital Projects are \$3,250,000

Motion to Approve Final Budget - ROLL CALL VOTE

Move approval of the FY27 final budget and related recommendations as presented.

12. INFORMATIONAL

12.1 SEDOL Foundation (Ms. Subry)

Golf Invitational - September 14

5K Run/Walk - September 19

One Special Night - November 7

Ping Pong for the Kids - February 7

Laremont Trivia Night - March 6

12.2 SEDOL Events (Dr. Jimenez-Captain)

- Summer Program Tours

13. OPEN FORUM - INFORMATIONAL (Dr. Mack)

Governing Board members are encouraged to suggest items for the next regular meeting.
Governing Board members are invited to make whatever comments they feel appropriate.

14. ADJOURNMENT (Dr. Mack)

2026-27 Executive Board Meeting Schedule *SEDOL Office Bay Room*

Dates to be approved at the July 23, 2026 Executive Board meeting.

Thursday, July 23, 2026

Thursday, August 27, 2026

Thursday, September 24, 2026

Thursday, October 22, 2026

Thursday, November 12, 2026

Thursday, December 17, 2026

Thursday, January 28, 2027

Thursday, February 25, 2027

Thursday, March 18, 2027

Thursday, April 15, 2027 (***Special meeting on tentative budget***)

Thursday, April 22, 2027

Thursday, May 27, 2027

Thursday, June 24, 2027

Thursday, July 22, 2027

2026-27 Governing Board Meeting Schedule *Gages Lake School Community Room*

Wednesday, August 5, 2026 – 7:00 p.m. *6:50 p.m. Public Hearing on the FY26 Budget*

Wednesday, December 2, 2026 – 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 3, 2027 – 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, June 2, 2027 – 7:00 p.m.