

SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT OF LAKE COUNTY
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Dr. Jennifer Thomas
Superintendent

**Please Note: A public hearing authorizing interfund transfers
will begin at 8:20 a.m.**

TO: Executive Board Members

FROM: Administration

RE: Executive Board Meeting

DATE: Thursday, July 23, 2026

TIME: Public Hearing: 8:20 a.m.
Regular Meeting: 8:30 a.m.

LOCATION: SEDOL Administration Office, Bay Room

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

The July meeting of the Executive Board is the annual organizational meeting. In accordance with Executive Board Policy 2:64, the SEDOL Superintendent will open the meeting and administer the oath of office to new/re-elected members.

At its June meeting, the Governing Board took action to reappoint members to the Executive Board. Dr. Thomas will administer the oath of office to Ms. Odie Pahl, Gurnee D56 Governing Board Member; Dr. Sandra Keim-Bounds, D41 Superintendent; and Dr. Corey Tafoya, D75 & 120 Superintendent. All will serve a two-year term expiring in June 2028.

[0256 Board Structure.pdf](#)

[0264 Oath of Office Jan 24 2019.pdf](#)

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Ms. McHugh)

3. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA - ACTION NEEDED (Ms. McHugh)

Motion to Accept the Agenda - VOICE VOTE
Move acceptance of the agenda as presented.

4. CONSENT AGENDA - ACTION NEEDED (Ms. McHugh)

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda - ROLL CALL VOTE

Move approval of the consent agenda items and addendum, if included, as presented.

4.1 Board Designations

1. Appointment of Board Secretary
2. Naming of Official Newspaper
3. Designation of Legal Counsel
4. Meeting Schedule
5. Committee Appointments

[Board Designations.pdf](#) 

4.2 Minutes

Public and closed session minutes of the regular meeting of June 25, 2026.

4.3 Financial Matters

Paid Accounts Payables:

[FY27 JUL26 Executive Board Meeting Summary.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Board Check Register 07-23-26.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Manual Check Register 07-24-26.pdf](#) 

4.4 Personnel Matters

Recommend employment of the following applicants, with work assignment and start date as indicated, subject to completion of the physical examination and forms, as required by Section 24-6 of the School Code, successful completion of a criminal background investigation as required by Section 10-21.9 of the School Code, a Child Abuse Registry check, and submission of all forms, documents, and certifications as required by law and/or requested by SEDOL for the position.

[July 23, 2026 Personnel Recommendations & Vacancies.pdf](#) 

4.5 Policy Matters

Proposed revisions to the attached policy have been reviewed by the Policy Committee. Administration recommends approval to change the policy.

[Policy 5:330 Leaves](#) 

5. RECOGNITION (Dr. Thomas)

5.1 Vocational Students

The vocational student workers will be recognized for their contributions and support to the technology department over the summer.

5.2 Introduction of New Administrators

Stephanie Jakimczyk, Assistant Sector Supervisor

6. PUBLIC COMMENT (Ms. McHugh)

President McHugh will recognize any visitors at the meeting. The Executive 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.

7. SEDOL CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN (CIP) UPDATE (Dr. Thomas)

8. OLD BUSINESS

8.1 Resolution Authorizing Interfund Transfers - (Mr. Shepherd)

Administration recommends adoption of the resolution authorizing interfund transfers from the Education Fund to the Operations & Maintenance Fund in the amount of two million dollars (\$2,000,000) and from the Operations & Maintenance Fund to the Capital Projects Fund in the amount of two million dollars (\$2,000,000).

[Resolution Authorize Interfund Transfer.pdf](#) 

Motion to Adopt Resolution - ROLL CALL VOTE

Move adoption of the resolution authorizing interfund transfers from the Education Fund to the Operations & Maintenance Fund in the amount of \$2,000,000 and from the Operations & Maintenance Fund to the Capital Projects Fund in the amount of \$2,000,000 as presented.

8.2 FY25 Audit Update - INFORMATIONAL (Mr. Shepherd)

8.3 Summer Project Update - INFORMATIONAL (Mr. Shepherd)

8.4 iPad Approval - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Thomas)

Administration requests the Board approve an increase of \$25,740 to the original Apple, Inc. iPad purchase proposal that was approved at the June 25, 2026, meeting. At the time of purchase, Apple, Inc. increased the unit price of each

device from \$324 to \$429.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Final Budget FY27 - ACTION NEEDED (Mr. Shepherd)

Administration recommends the final budget for FY27 be presented for Governing Board approval at the August 5, 2026 meeting.

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 Accept and Present Final Budget - ROLL CALL VOTE

Move acceptance of the FY27 final budget and recommend Governing Board approval at the August 5th meeting as presented.

9.2 Bank Resolution - ACTION NEEDED (Mr. Shepherd)

Mr. Shepherd will recommend Board approval to add Dr. Jennifer Thomas as an authorized alternate signer on the SEDOL account(s) at Libertyville Bank & Trust Co, N.A. and/or its affiliates.

[Resolution Authorizing Signers on Accounts at Libertyville Bank.pdf](#) 

Move Approval of Bank Resolution - ROLL CALL VOTE

Motion to approve Dr. Jennifer Thomas as an authorized alternate signer on the SEDOL account(s) at Libertyville Bank & Trust Co, N.A. and/or its affiliates as presented.

9.3 NIHIP Resolution - ACTION NEEDED (Mr. Shepherd)

Administration recommends the Board appoint David Shepherd as the Northern Illinois Health Insurance Program (NIHIP) representative and that Dr. Jennifer Thomas be appointed as the alternate representative.

Motion to Approve Appointments - ROLL CALL VOTE

Move approval of the appointment of David Shepherd as the Northern Illinois Health Insurance Program representative and that Dr. Jennifer Thomas be appointed as the alternate representative.

9.4 STU Proposed Contract - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Wojcik)

Dr. Wojcik and Ms. McHugh of the SEDOL Board Negotiations Team will provide a brief overview of the proposed 3-years contract to start with the 2026-27 school year between the SEDOL Teachers' Union and the SEDOL Board. A summary of the agreement will be disseminated to Governing Board members prior to the meeting.

Motion to Recommend Approval - ROLL CALL VOTE

Move to recommend the approval of the proposed 3-year contract to start with the 2026-2027 school year between the SEDOL Teachers Union and the SEDOL Board by the SEDOL

Governing Board at the August 5, 2026, meeting.

- 9.5 Art Therapy Contract - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Jimenez-Captain)
Administration recommends the Board approve the contract between SEDOL and Ms. Laura Luoma to provide art services for Community Life Skills, Reach Classes, and DHH Middle School Classes at John Powers Center. The total cost of providing these services for the 2026-27 school year will be \$85/hour for a total of \$34,317.50.

Motion to Approve 2026-27 Contract - ROLL CALL VOTE

Move approval of the contract between SEDOL and Ms. Laura Luoma to provide art services for Community Life Skills, Reach, and DHH Middle School Classes at John Powers Center in the amount of \$34,317.50 as presented.

- 9.6 Start of the 2026-27 School Year - INFORMATIONAL (Dr. Thomas)
Administration will provide an update on the fall return-to-school planning, including current staffing needs.

10. CLOSED SESSION - ACTION NEEDED (Ms. McHugh)

Motion to Enter Into Closed Session - ROLL CALL VOTE

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 legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity.
2. The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired.

Motion to Return to Public Session - VOICE VOTE

Move the Board return to public session.

11. INFORMATIONAL

- 11.1 Bereavement (Dr. Thomas)
Wayne Bentel, former SEDOL teacher, teaching supervisor, and later principal of Fairfield Academy, a former SEDOL-operated program, passed away on Monday, July 13.
- 11.2 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
- 11.3 SEDOL Events
- Extended School Year (ESY) Overview (Dr. Jimenez-Captain)

12. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (Ms. McHugh)

13. ADJOURNMENT (Ms. McHugh)

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

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

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 FY27 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.