SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT OF LAKE COUNTY
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Judy Hackett, Ed.D.
Tim Thomas, Ed.D.
Co-Interim Superintendents

Minutes
SEDOL GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, June 3, 2026

Board Members Present:	D1-Lise McCarthy, D3-Andrea Usry, D6-Jacqueline SanDiego, D36-Natalie Karner, D37-Sarah Ives-Brezinski, D38-Vivian Kueter, D41-Randy Harnicker, D56-Odie Pahl, D70-Kate Grove, D73-Michael Engle, D75-Eric Billitier, D76-David Becker, D102-Justin Parker, D117-Sue Dickson, D118-Carey McHugh, D120-Laura Mellon, D121-Tony DeMonte, D127-Liz Wiczer, D128-Nina Austin
Board Members Late:	D72-Bridget Folliard
Board Members Absent:	D24-Fred Skeppstrom, D33-Heather Devine, D34-Dr. Tanya Karner, D46-Dr. Stephen Mack, D50-Jay Wiltshire, D68-Emily Savino, D79-Shawn Killackey, D116-Scott Jewitt, D124-Kathy Kusiak, D126-Open Seat, D187-Veronica Collins
Staff Members Present:	Becky Allard, Dr. Matthew Barbini, Matthew Crowley, Dr. Judy Hackett, Dr. Yesenia Jimenez-Captain, Sara Martinez, and Dr. Laura Wojcik
Staff Members Absent:	Dr. Stephen Johns and Dr. Tim Thomas

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

At 7:01 p.m. a quorum being present, Dr. Hackett called the meeting of the SEDOL Governing Board to order on Wednesday, June 3, 2026 at the Gages Lake School in Gages Lake, IL. The following Executive Board members were in attendance: Dr. Schwartz, Ms. McHugh, and Ms. Pahl.

1.1 President Pro Tem - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Hackett)

In President Mack's absence, the Board approved Ms. McHugh to serve as president pro tem and run the meeting.

Motion to Accept President Pro Tem

Moved by: D127- Liz Wiczer

Seconded by: D76- David Becker

Aye: D1-Lise McCarthy, D3-Andrea Usry, D6-Jacqueline SanDiego, D36-Natalie Karner, D37-Sarah Ives-Brezinski, D38-Vivian Kueter, D41-Randy Harnicker, D56-Odie Pahl, D70-Kate Grove, D73-Michael Engle, D75-Eric Billitier, D76-David Becker, D102-Justin Parker, D117-Sue Dickson, D118-Carey McHugh, D120-Laura Mellon, D121-Tony DeMonte, D127-Liz Wiczer, D128-Nina Austin

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Dr. Hackett)

3. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Hackett)

Motion to Accept/Amend the Agenda - VOICE VOTE

Moved by: D127-Liz Wiczer; seconded by: D128-Nina Austin

Aye: D1-Lise McCarthy, D3-Andrea Usry, D6-Jacqueline SanDiego, D36-Natalie Karner, D37-Sarah Ives-Brezinski, D38-Vivian Kueter, D41-Randy Harnicker, D56-Odie Pahl, D70-Kate Grove, D73-Michael Engle, D75-Eric Billitier, D76-David Becker, D102-Justin Parker, D117-Sue Dickson, D118-Carey McHugh, D120-Laura Mellon, D121-Tony DeMonte, D127-Liz Wiczer, D128-Nina Austin

Carried 19-0

4. ELECTION OF GOVERNING BOARD OFFICERS - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Hackett)

The Governing Board appointed Dr. Stephen Mack (Community Consolidated #46) to serve a one-year term as Governing Board President and Ms. Sarah Brezinski (Gavin #37) to serve a one-year term as Governing Board Secretary.

Motion to Elect Officers - VOICE VOTE

Moved by: D73-Michael Engle; seconded by: D76-David Becker

Aye: D1-Lise McCarthy, D3-Andrea Usry, D6-Jacqueline SanDiego, D36-Natalie Karner, D37-Sarah Ives-Brezinski, D38-Vivian Kueter, D41-Randy Harnicker, D56-Odie Pahl, D70-Kate Grove, D73-Michael Engle, D75-Eric Billitier, D76-David Becker, D102-Justin Parker, D117-Sue Dickson, D118-Carey McHugh, D120-Laura Mellon, D121-Tony DeMonte, D127-Liz Wiczer, D128-Nina Austin

Carried 19-0

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - ACTION NEEDED (Ms. McHugh)

Motion to Approve Minutes - ROLL CALL VOTE

Moved by: D127-Liz Wiczer; seconded by: D3-Andrea Usry

Aye: D1-Lise McCarthy, D3-Andrea Usry, D6-Jacqueline SanDiego, D36-Natalie Karner, D37-Sarah Ives-Brezinski, D38-Vivian Kueter, D41-Randy Harnicker, D56-Odie Pahl, D70-Kate Grove, D73-Michael Engle, D75-Eric Billitier, D76-David Becker, D102-Justin Parker, D117-Sue Dickson, D118-Carey McHugh, D120-Laura Mellon, D121-Tony DeMonte, D127-Liz Wiczer, D128-Nina Austin

Carried 19-0

The Board approved the public session minutes from the March 4, 2026 meeting.

Minutes - Mar 4 2026.pdf

6. PUBLIC COMMENT (Ms. McHugh)

There was no Public Comment.

7. SPECIAL RECOGNITION

7.1 Student Recognition (Ms. Haney)

A student from a SEDOL Sector Program was selected by UCP Sequin Infinitec Assistive Technology Coalition Center and on April 23rd received the 2026 Outstanding Student Technology Award. The student and family were unable to attend; however, Ms. Haney shared his accomplishments.

7.2 SEDOL ROE Educators of the Year Recognition (Dr. Hackett/Admin)

The following staff were nominated for the ROE Educator of the Year Award and attended a dinner/reception with other Lake County nominees.

- Michelle Clark - Classroom Diverse Learner Teacher
- Matthew Crowley - School Administrator
- Chris Howes - Educational Service Personnel
- Erin MacDonald - Student Support Personnel
- Erin Picco - Early Career Educator

Ms. Michelle Clark received the Educator of the Year Award for the Classroom Diverse Learner Teacher.

7.3 Co-Interim Superintendents' Recognition (Ms. McHugh)

The Board recognized the accomplishments of Dr. Hackett and Dr. Thomas, who was absent, for their service and achievements over the past two years. In honor of their contributions, the Board presented them with a donation made in their names to the SEDOL Foundation.

8. ANNUAL MEETING ACTIONS

8.1 Executive Board Member Appointments - ACTION NEEDED (Ms. McHugh)

The following member was reappointed to serve another two-year term:

- Odie Pahl, Governing Board Member, Gurnee D56

The following new members were appointed to serve a two-year term:

- Dr. Sandra Keim-Bounds, Superintendent, Lake Villa D41
- Dr. Corey Tafoya, Superintendent, Mundelein D75 & 120

Their term will expire in June 2028.

There are still two Governing Board seats open on the Executive Board.

Motion to Appoint Executive Board Members - VOICE VOTE

Moved by: D120-Laura Mellon; seconded by: D76-David Becker

Aye: D1-Lise McCarthy, D3-Andrea Usry, D6-Jacqueline SanDiego, D36-Natalie Karner, D37-Sarah Ives-Brezinski, D38-Vivian Kueter, D41-Randy Harnicker, D56-Odie Pahl, D70-Kate Grove, D73-Michael Engle, D75-Eric Billitier, D76-David Becker, D102-Justin Parker, D117-Sue Dickson, D118-Carey McHugh, D120-Laura Mellon, D121-Tony DeMonte, D127-Liz Wiczer, D128-Nina Austin

Carried 19-0

8.2 Delegation of Executive Board Authorities - ACTION NEEDED (Ms. McHugh) #

The Board approved the delegation of authorities to the Executive Board for FY27 as delineated in policy 2:38.

0238 GB Deligation of Auth to EB Dec 4 2019.pdf

Motion to Approve Delegation of Authorities- VOICE VOTE #

Moved by: D102-Justin Parker; seconded by: D127-Liz Wiczer

Aye: D1-Lise McCarthy, D3-Andrea Usry, D6-Jacqueline SanDiego, D36-Natalie Karner, D37-Sarah Ives-Brezinski, D38-Vivian Kueter, D41-Randy Harnicker, D56-Odie Pahl, D70-Kate Grove, D73-Michael Engle, D75-Eric Billitier, D76-David Becker, D102-Justin Parker, D117-Sue Dickson, D118-Carey McHugh, D120-Laura Mellon, D121-Tony DeMonte, D127-Liz Wiczer, D128-Nina Austin

Carried 19-0

8.3 Appointment of Treasurer 2026-27 - ACTION NEEDED (Ms. McHugh)

The Board approved David Shepherd, incoming CSBO (July 1, 2026), to serve as treasurer for the district.

Motion to Appoint Treasurer- VOICE VOTE

Moved by: D73-Michael Engle; seconded by: D3-Andrea Usry

Aye: D1-Lise McCarthy, D3-Andrea Usry, D6-Jacqueline SanDiego, D36-Natalie Karner, D37-Sarah Ives-Brezinski, D38-Vivian Kueter, D41-Randy Harnicker, D56-Odie Pahl, D70-Kate Grove, D73-Michael Engle, D75-Eric Billitier, D76-David Becker, D102-Justin Parker, D117-Sue Dickson, D118-Carey McHugh, D120-Laura Mellon, D121-Tony DeMonte, D127-Liz Wiczer, D128-Nina Austin

Carried 19-0

8.4 Establish Meeting Dates- ACTION NEEDED (Ms. McHugh)

The Governing Board approved the following meeting dates for the 2026-27 school year.

- Wednesday, August 5, 2026
- Wednesday, December 2, 2026
- Wednesday, March 3, 2027
- Wednesday, June 2, 2027

Motion to Establish Meeting Dates- VOICE VOTE

Moved by: D117-Sue Dickson; seconded by: D3-Andrea Usry

Aye: D1-Lise McCarthy, D3-Andrea Usry, D6-Jacqueline SanDiego, D36-Natalie Karner, D37-Sarah Ives-Brezinski, D38-Vivian Kueter, D41-Randy Harnicker, D56-Odie Pahl, D70-Kate Grove, D73-Michael Engle, D75-Eric Billitier, D76-David Becker, D102-Justin Parker, D117-Sue Dickson, D118-Carey McHugh, D120-Laura Mellon, D121-Tony DeMonte, D127-Liz Wiczer, D128-Nina Austin

Carried 19-0

9. SEDOL CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN (CIP) - INFORMATIONAL (Dr. Hackett/Admin)

Administration presented the final 2025-26 CIP Plan, which included key highlights and progress from the past year.

Goal 1 Highlights

- Seven evidenced-based curricula were implemented this year.
- The county-wide Institute Day had 1267 participants and received a participant rating of 4.3 out of 5.0!

Goal 2 Highlights

- The Executive Board unanimously approved the revised tuition model on October 23, 2025, and the Governing Board unanimously approved it on December 3, 2025.
- Processes were documented to assist the SEDOL administrative team with navigating the annual budget process.
- Refined staffing model and process to reflect programmatic needs.

Goal 3 Highlights

- 84% overall compliance with all indicators from the ISBE cyclical monitoring framework.
- Developed a comprehensive IEP Manual

- Implementation of a security camera system and visitor system with building security.

Goal 4 Highlights

- Developed a comprehensive suite of informational brochures describing each of our 14 specialized programs.
- Developed a communication plan for the 2026-2027 school year.

SEDOL Foundation Highlights

- Successfully executed seven fundraising events and one direct mail campaign, raising critical funds and increasing awareness to support SEDOL students and programs.
- Awarded more than $380,000 in grants to enhance SEDOL programs, including classroom and school-based initiatives, campus-wide enhancements, and summer camp scholarships.
- Instrumental in helping fund the Laremont MOVE curriculum, making them one of only 30 MOVE Model Sites worldwide and the first and only MOVE Model Site in Illinois.

Next Steps

Curriculum & Data: Convene a multi-tiered curriculum committee to review data and tools measuring curriculum implementation and efficacy.

Capacity Building: Expand internal capacity using an embedded train-the-trainer and coaching model.

Fiscal Monitoring: Track and assess the impacts of the restructured tuition model.

Strategic Planning: Complete a collaborative action plan for programs and services that aligns with continuum and steering committee values.

Professional Development: Expand customized training on instructional strategies, IEP development, and state monitoring compliance.

Safety & Operations: Advance Standard Response Protocol (SRP) and Standard Reunion Method (SRM) training, efforts, and expectations.

Staffing Analysis: Review annual staffing data and trends to identify hard-to-fill positions and address district needs.

Family Engagement: Deepen parent partnerships through targeted training, networking, and a parent advisory focus.

Communications: Launch and execute a comprehensive 2026–27 communication plan.

Dr. Hackett summarized and shared that the SEDOL interim leaders continue to work closely through the transition for the incoming superintendent and CSBO and continued focus on established priorities.

Dr. Jimenez-Captain presented the Board with highlights from the year from the SEDOL programs.

10. FINANCE UPDATE and PRESENTATION OF FY27 TENTATIVE BUDGET- ACTION NEEDED (Ms. Allard)

The Board approved the tentative FY27 budget. A budget hearing will be scheduled for Wednesday, August 5, 2026, at 6:50 p.m., prior to the start of the Governing Board meeting where the final FY27 budget will be presented for approval.

Ms. Allard presented the following to the Board relating to the FY27 tentative budget. SEDOL will continue to modify revenue and expenses as new information becomes available and as anticipated new students are enrolled in SEDOL programs. The SEDOL budget operates on a cash basis, and the SEDOL audit is modified accrual.

Additional information shared that affects the tentative budget includes, but is not limited to, a reduction in transportation reimbursement and a reduction in the IMRF Levy.

Ms. Allard proposed the following to the Board for the tentative FY27 budget:

- 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.

New Tuition Model Implemented

The new tuition model includes a separate administrative fee as outlined below:

- Board of Education *(Function 2310)*
- Office of the Superintendent *(Function 2320)*
- Special Services Administration *(Function 2330)*
- Improvement of Instruction *(Function 2210)*
- Business Office *(Function 2520)*
- Office of Human Resources *(Function 2640)*
- Office of Technology *(Function 2660)*

Program Tuition

- Direct and indirect expenses were estimated for each program *(cost accounting)*
- Tuitions were calculated at 80% of student enrollment capacity
    - Example: Program has capacity to house 100 students – tuition rates were calculated at 80% or 80 students being enrolled for the school year

Motion to Approve Tentative Budget- ROLL CALL VOTE

Moved by: D127-Liz Wiczer; seconded by: D73-Michael Engle

Aye: D1-Lise McCarthy, D3-Andrea Usry, D6-Jacqueline SanDiego, D36-Natalie Karner, D37-Sarah Ives-Brezinski, D38-Vivian Kueter, D41-Randy Harnicker, D56-Odie Pahl, D70-Kate Grove, D73-Michael Engle, D75-Eric Billitier, D76-David Becker, D102-Justin Parker, D117-Sue Dickson, D118-Carey McHugh, D120-Laura Mellon, D121-Tony DeMonte, D127-Liz Wiczer, D128-Nina Austin

Carried 19-0

11. INFORMATIONAL

11.1 SEDOL Foundation (Ms. Subry)

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

11.2 SEDOL Events (Dr. Hackett)

12. OPEN FORUM - INFORMATIONAL (Ms. McHugh)

Suggestions, questions/concerns, and future agenda items recommended by the Board:

- Board members thanked Dr. Hackett and Dr. Thomas for their service and achievements at SEDOL and their commitment to rebuild the bridges with the member districts.
- Ms. McHugh thanked Dr. Glickman and Dr. Mendoza for their service on the Executive Board as they finish out their term and welcomed Dr. Tafoya and Dr. Keim-Bounds, who will take the oath at the Executive Board meeting in July.
- On behalf of both interim superintendents, Dr. Hackett thanked the Board for the honor and joy of leading SEDOL through a period of transition and advancing specialized practices. She noted that SEDOL is a very special organization and that she knows the Board and community share the dedication. Dr.

Hackett thanked the Board for their ongoing commitment to supporting the students, families, staff, and community and shared appreciation for the donation to an incredible Foundation as their appreciation gift.

13. ADJOURNMENT (Ms. McHugh)

With no other items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

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Sara Martinez
Recording Secretary

Approved by:

_____________________________ _________________________

Ms. Carey McHugh
Board President ProTem

Ms. Sarah Brezinski
Board Secretary