

SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT OF LAKE COUNTY

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Judy Hackett, Ed.D.
Tim Thomas, Ed.D.
Co-Interim Superintendents

Minutes SEDOL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING Thursday, April 23, 2026

- Board Members Present:** D24-Dr. Jason Lind, D37-Dr. Scott Schwartz, D46-Dr. Lynn Glickman, D56-Odie Pahl, D118-Carey McHugh, and ROE-Dr. Michael Karner
- Board Members Absent:** D116-Dr. Donn Mendoza
- Staff Members Present:** Becky Allard, Dr. Matthew Barbini, Matthew Crowley, Dr. Judy Hackett, Dr. Yesenia Jimenez-Captain, Dr. Stephen Johns, Sara Martinez, Dr. Tim Thomas, and Dr. Laura Wojcik

1. CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL (Ms. McHugh)

The regular meeting of the SEDOL Executive Board was called to order at 8:30 a.m. on April 23, 2026, at the Administration Building in Gages Lake, IL.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Ms. McHugh)

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

Motion to Accept the Agenda - VOICE VOTE

Moved by: D24-Dr. Jason Lind; seconded by: D56-Odie Pahl

Aye: D24-Dr. Jason Lind, D37-Dr. Scott Schwartz, D46-Dr. Lynn Glickman, D56-Odie Pahl, D118-Carey McHugh, and ROE-Dr. Michael Karner

Carried 6-0

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

Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda - ROLL CALL VOTE

Moved by: D56-Odie Pahl; seconded by: D24-Dr. Jason Lind

Aye: D24-Dr. Jason Lind, D37-Dr. Scott Schwartz, D46-Dr. Lynn Glickman, D56-Odie Pahl, D118-Carey McHugh, and ROE-Dr. Michael Karner

Carried 6-0

4.1 Minutes

Public and closed session minutes of the regular meeting on March 19, 2026 and public session minutes of the special meeting on April 16, 2026.

[Minutes Mar 19 2026- Members.pdf](#) 

[Minutes Apr 16 2026 - Special EB Mtg .pdf](#) 

4.2 Financial Matters

Paid Accounts Payables:

[FY26 April Executive Board Meeting Summary.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Board Check Register.pdf](#) 

[Paid AP Manual Check Register 03-13,20,31-26.pdf](#) 

4.3 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.

[April 23, 2026 Personnel Recommendations & Vacancies \(2\).pdf](#) 

[April 23, 2026 Addendum.pdf](#) 

4.4 Employment Recommendations for 2026-27

Staff recommended for re-employment for the 2026-27 school year.

[FY27 Recommendation for Re-Employment.pdf](#) 

4.5 Policy Matters

Proposed revisions to the attached policies have been reviewed by the Policy Committee. Administration requests approval to change the policies as presented.

[**Combined Policies.pdf](#) 

5. **RECOGNITION (Dr. Hackett)**

5.1 STARS Students

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.

5.2 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.

5.3 April Staff Recognition

The following staff are recognized in April:

- Administrative Assistants
- Assistant Principals
- Occupational Therapists
- Paraprofessionals/Job Coaches

5.4 Introduction of New Administrators

Ms. Traci Strieter- Principal, Laremont School

Ms. Lynsea Volbrecht- Assistant Principal, Fairhaven School

6. PUBLIC COMMENT (Ms. McHugh)

There was no Public Comment.

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

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.

8. OLD BUSINESS

8.1 FY27 Budget Update - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Johns/Ms. Allard)

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.

Motion to Approve Tentative Budget - ROLL CALL VOTE

Moved by: D56-Odie Pahl; seconded by: D46-Dr. Lynn Glickman

Aye: D24-Dr. Jason Lind, D37-Dr. Scott Schwartz, D46-Dr. Lynn Glickman, D56-Odie Pahl, and D118-Carey McHugh

Nay: ROE-Dr. Michael Karner

Carried 5-1

8.2 FY25 Audit Update - INFORMATIONAL (Dr. Johns/Ms. Allard)

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.

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 NIHIP Health And Dental Rates - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Johns/Ms. Allard)

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

[2026 SEDOL Rate Letter.pdf](#) 

Motion to Approve Rates - ROLL CALL VOTE

Moved by: D46-Dr. Lynn Glickman; seconded by: D24-Dr. Jason Lind

Aye: D24-Dr. Jason Lind, D37-Dr. Scott Schwartz, D46-Dr. Lynn Glickman, D56-Odie Pahl, D118-Carey McHugh, and ROE-Dr. Michael Karner

Carried 6-0

- 9.2 OrganicLife Contract Extension - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Johns/Ms. Allard)
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.
[SEDOL SNP-Vended-Meals-Contract-Renewal-Form-FY27-2.pdf](#) 
- Motion to Approve Contract Extension - ROLL CALL VOTE
Moved by: D46-Dr. Lynn Glickman; seconded by: D56-Odie Pahl
Aye: D24-Dr. Jason Lind, D37-Dr. Scott Schwartz, D46-Dr. Lynn Glickman, D56-Odie Pahl, D118-Carey McHugh, and ROE-Dr. Michael Karner
- Carried 6-0**
- 9.3 Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) (Dr. Johns/Ms. Allard)
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.
[CEP Admin Memo.pdf](#) 
[CEP Approval.pdf](#) 
[CEP Approval-2 .pdf](#) 
- Motion to Approve Request - ROLL CALL VOTE
Moved by: D37-Dr. Scott Schwartz; seconded by: D56-Odie Pahl
Aye: D24-Dr. Jason Lind, D37-Dr. Scott Schwartz, D46-Dr. Lynn Glickman, D56-Odie Pahl, D118-Carey McHugh, and ROE-Dr. Michael Karner
- Carried 6-0**
- 9.4 Proposed Organizational Chart - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Hackett/Dr. Thomas)
The Board approved the FY27 Organizational Chart.
[2026-27 DRAFT Organizational Chart.pdf](#) 
- Motion to Approve Organizational Chart- VOICE VOTE
Moved by: D24-Dr. Jason Lind; seconded by: D46-Dr. Lynn Glickman
Aye: D24-Dr. Jason Lind, D37-Dr. Scott Schwartz, D46-Dr. Lynn Glickman, D56-Odie Pahl, and D118-Carey McHugh
Abstain: ROE-Dr. Michael Karner
- Carried 5-0**
- 9.5 Planning for the June Governing Board Meeting- INFORMATIONAL (Dr. Hackett/Dr. Thomas)
The Board reviewed the June 3rd Governing Board meeting agenda.
[DRAFT GB Agenda Jun 03 2026.pdf](#) 
- 9.6 Co-Interim CSBO Contract Extension - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Wojcik)
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.

Motion to Approve Contract Extensions - ROLL CALL VOTE

Moved by: D24-Dr. Jason Lind; seconded by: D56-Odie Pahl

Aye: D24-Dr. Jason Lind, D37-Dr. Scott Schwartz, D46-Dr. Lynn Glickman, D56-Odie Pahl, D118-Carey McHugh, and ROE-Dr. Michael Karner

Carried 6-0

9.7 Policy Updates/Review - INFORMATIONAL (Dr. Wojcik)

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

[**7150 Agency Law Enforcement Requests May 28 2026.pdf](#) 

9.8 FOIA- INFORMATIONAL - (Dr. Wojcik)

1. On March 24, 2025 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.

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

Motion to Enter Into Closed Session - ROLL CALL VOTE

Moved by: D56-Odie Pahl; seconded by: D24-Dr. Jason Lind

Aye: D24-Dr. Jason Lind, D37-Dr. Scott Schwartz, D46-Dr. Lynn Glickman, D56-Odie Pahl, D118-Carey McHugh, and ROE-Dr. Michael Karner

Carried 6-0

The Board went into closed session at 9:24 a.m. 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.

Motion to Return to Public Session - VOICE VOTE

Moved by: D56-Odie Pahl; seconded by: D46-Dr. Lynn Glickman

Aye: D24-Dr. Jason Lind, D37-Dr. Scott Schwartz, D46-Dr. Lynn Glickman, D56-Odie Pahl, D118-Carey McHugh, and ROE-Dr. Michael Karner

Carried 6-0

The Board returned to Public Session at 9:28 a.m.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

11.1 Request for Non-Member District Placements - ACTION NEEDED (Dr. Hackett/Dr. Thomas)

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.

Motion to Approve Request - ROLL CALL VOTE

Moved by: D46-Dr. Lynn Glickman; seconded by: D56-Odie Pahl

Aye: D24-Dr. Jason Lind, D37-Dr. Scott Schwartz, D46-Dr. Lynn Glickman, D56-Odie Pahl, D118-Carey McHugh, and ROE-Dr. Michael Karner

Carried 6-0

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.

Motion to Approve Request - ROLL CALL VOTE

Moved by: D56-Odie Pahl; seconded by: D46-Dr. Lynn Glickman

Aye: D24-Dr. Jason Lind, D37-Dr. Scott Schwartz, D46-Dr. Lynn Glickman, D56-Odie Pahl, D118-Carey McHugh, and ROE-Dr. Michael Karner

Carried 6-0

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Committee Reports.

13. INFORMATIONAL

13.1 SEDOL Foundation (Ms. Subry)

- 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

13.2 SEDOL Events (Dr. Hackett/Dr. Thomas)

Dr. Hackett updated the Board on upcoming SEDOL events.

14. EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS (Ms. McHugh)

There were no Executive Board Member Comments.

15. ADJOURNMENT (Ms. McHugh)

With no other items to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sara Martinez
Recording Secretary

Approved by:

Carey McHugh, Board President

Dr. Judy Hackett, Board Secretary