

SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT OF LAKE COUNTY

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Valerie M. Donnan, M.Ed.

Superintendent

Executive Board Meeting Summary

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Consent Agenda

Minutes, financial matters and review of closed session minutes/recordings were approved, along with the following personnel items:

- 👤 Requests for contracts for 11 educational support personnel (ESP) and 5 licensed staff
- 👤 Resignations/retirements by 8 ESPs
- 👤 Request by 1 ESP to rescind resignation
- 👤 See last page of summary for list of professional vacancies

Public Comments: Ten visitors expressed their concern regarding the possibility that the SEDOL program for the deaf and hard of hearing (DHH) may be relocated from John Powers Center to Millburn District #24. Moving the program is only part of a possible plan under consideration by the SEDOL Administration and Executive Board that would relocate several programs in order to accommodate growth at Laremont School and Gages Lake School. The Board heard from five parents from three families of students in the DHH Program, two alumni, one retired teacher of the DHH and a spokesperson for the Illinois Association of the Deaf. The Board also heard from a parent of a student in the LASSO-3 (Language and Social Skills Opportunities) Program, housed at Laremont School, who expressed concern about the overcrowded classrooms and the numerous times her child's program has been moved over the past few years.

Executive Board Comments: No comments were made.

Recognitions

Students Taking Academic Responsibility Seriously (STARS): The STARS student for December was not in attendance. The recognition will be moved to January.

Employee of the Month

The Board recognized Speech Pathologist Sarah Hilton as December's employee of the month.

Pictured with Sarah (l-r) are: Speech Liaison Lyn Edwards; Supervisor Tegan Dittmer; and Superintendent Val Donnan.



Old Business

- A. **Capital Improvement Projects:** The Board authorized Administration to go out for bids to complete the capital improvement projects at John Powers Center and Transition Center South. The work needed at Powers Center includes a secured entrance vestibule and an additional staff restroom on the first floor at an estimated cost of \$140,673. The work at Transition Center South also includes a secured entrance vestibule and replacing the carpet with tile at an estimated cost of \$100,000. The Board reviewed a report prepared by Architect John Mauer on the work that would be needed at John Powers Center, Transition Center South and Fairhaven School. Mr. Mauer was in attendance and answered Board member questions about the recommended work and the estimated costs. Ms. Watson noted that another project that will be needed at the north end of Laremont School is a motorized transport/lift system, which is used to reposition students. More information will be presented in January.
- B. **Planning for SEDOL Future Growth:** Mrs. Donnan updated the board on the steps Administration has taken to explore all options to support the future growth of SEDOL programs as directed by the Board at the November meeting. Steps taken include: (1) collaborative meeting of parents, staff, Governing Board and Executive Board members, and member district administrators held on December 11; (2) visit to and preliminary discussion with Millburn District #24; (3) visit to Fairhaven School and preliminary discussion with Diamond Lake District #76; (4) discussion on audiology booth; (5) meetings with Hawthorn District #73; and (6) the costs associated with the potential use of Fairhaven School, which were addressed in Mr. Mauer's report. After discussion, Board consensus was for Administration to continue to explore all options and gather information necessary for Administration to develop recommendations to address growth of SEDOL programs.
- C. **Revised List of Contractual/Itinerant Rates for FY20:** The Board approved a revised list of contractual and itinerant rates for FY20. The list approved in November should not have included a rate for audiology/vision services, as that rate cannot be finalized until a decision is made regarding the change in the IDEA funding process.
- D. **FY18 Audit Report:** The Board approved the FY18 audit report.

New Business

- A. **District #75 Snow Removal Proposal:** The Board approved an intergovernmental agreement with Mundelein District #75 to provide snow removal and salt application at Transition Center South effective November 1, 2019 through November 1, 2021.
- B. **IDEA, Housing and O&M Assessment:** Mrs. Donnan reported on the work of the Audiology Subcommittee and the Housing Credit Subcommittee. The Board reviewed a draft overview of two different ways of charging for audiology services, one based on enrollment and one based on actual use. The next IDEA Planning meeting was scheduled for January 9. This meeting will be rescheduled due to the Board's request for more time to review and discuss these matters before making a decision.
- C. **FOIA Request:** Administration reported on a FOIA request received via email on December 7 from Jennifer Richards of the Chicago Tribune and Jodi Cohen of ProPublica Illinois for all logs and related documents from August 1, 2017 to the present detailing instances when students were placed in isolated time out and/or physical restraint. SEDOL exercised its right to extend the response time, which will be provided on December 20.

Committee Reports: There were no committee reports. Ms. Watson noted that she would be contacting Board members who volunteered to serve on the Wellness Committee for possible meeting dates.

Program/School Reports

- A. **Announcements / Wins**
- Resource Development received a donation from promotional products vendor 4imprint of 44 backpacks and 180 durable tote bags. These items will be used to support the Carole Brooks Weekend Backpack Program. The approximate value of the donation is \$2,000.
 - Gages Lake School Teachers Maggie Norton and Bob Salmons each received \$100 from the Meemic Foundation. The presentation was made at the school on December 6.

- Laremont School held a Fun with Santa and parents' day out on December 1. Staff volunteered during the parents' day out.
- The Ronald McDonald Care Mobile supported 8 students at Gages Lake School and 16 students at Cyd Lash Academy to get physicals and immunizations on November 19.
- The Cyd Lash Academy girls sponsored a mock restaurant for Foods Class.
- Stand for the Silent
- PUNS night was held December 6; 41 families received support with completing applications for services.
- Approximately 100 people attended the December 11 collaborative planning session. Participants reaffirmed the mission, vision and belief statements and also shared ideas on how to be able to support students' educational needs as SEDOL enrollment continues to grow.

Closed Session: The Board entered into closed session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees and collective bargaining matters.

Other Business

- A. **Termination:** The Board approved Administration's recommendation to terminate an educational support staff member during the probationary period.

With no other business to be considered, the meeting was adjourned.

:dm – 12/26/18

Professional Vacancies for 2018-19

- 1 School Psychologist
- 1 School Social Worker (LASSO-3/Laremont School)
- 1 School Social Worker (Cyd Lash Academy/M.S.)
- 1 Certified School Nurse (Gages Lake School)
- 1 DHH Itinerant Teacher
- 1 ED/BD Teacher (Gages Lake School)
- 1 LASSO-2 EC Teacher (Millburn)
- 2 ED/BD Teachers (Cyd Lash Academy/M.S.)

Executive Board Meeting Schedule *SEDOL Office Bay Room unless noted otherwise*

Thursday, January 24, 2019 – 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, February 28, 2019 – 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, March 21, 2019 – 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, April 11, 2019 – 9:30 a.m. *Special Meeting to Review Tentative Budget*

Thursday, April 25, 2019 – 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, May 23, 2019 – 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, June 27, 2019 – 9:30 a.m.

Thursday, July 25, 2019 – 9:30 a.m.

Governing Board Meeting Schedule *Laremont School Gym unless noted otherwise*

Wednesday, March 6, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, June 5, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.