



## SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT OF MCHENRY COUNTY

### COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

October 29, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 1:31 a.m.

President: Dr. Linda Dujmovich, Ms. Karen Parks, Dr. Debbie Ehlenburg, Ms. Cathy Neiss, Dr. Ryan McTague, Dr. Tim Burns, and Ms. Kimberly Egerstaffer

Approval of Minutes: Ms. Cathy Niess moved to approve and, Dr. Debbie Ehlenburg seconded to approve the minutes from the September 24, 2019 meeting. Motion Carried.

#### **Old Business:**

**10-8-19 Cooperative Meeting: Medically Fragile Students:** On October 8<sup>th</sup>, SEDOM held its first inter-cooperative meeting focusing predominantly on student placement issues. One of the main focuses was on the Medically Fragile Students. Discussion took place regarding what took place when SEDOM stopped programming. The School of Expressive Arts and Learning intended to provide services for the Medical Fragile population. They do provide services to a few but there are concerns about their specific program. Dr. Burns questioned whether SEDOM should investigate launching a program. It was decided to have a cost analysis done to see what funding would be needed to start up a classroom for the Medically Fragile Students that are housed in the Member Districts.

**IAASE Fall Conference Summary:** Dr. Burns attended the I.A.A.S.E. Fall Conference and Administrative Academy on October 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. The focus was on common and recent mistakes made by IEP teams. All in all, the Conference was good. There were lots of activities.

#### **New Business:**

**IASB 2019 Delegate Assembly Meeting – Resolutions Committee Report: #16 and #17 – Position Statement 2.04:** Dr. Burns reviewed with the board the position statements that the Resolutions Committee recommends adopting. Both #16 and #17 focuses on Funding Special Education Programs. #16 focuses on X fund Children and Placement Provisions. The Committee recommends that #16 be adopted. #17 focuses on placement through a neutral process. The Committee also recommends that #17 be adopted.

**Phillip J. Rock Center Inquiry:** Dr. Burns expressed interest in possibly becoming Fiscal Agent for the Phillip J. Rock Center which is a school for the Blind and Deaf. He asked the Board if it would be something that SEDOM should investigate doing. This could be an alternate funding mechanism for SEDOM. The Board expressed interest to research this possibility further. Dr. Burns requested the ability to engage an outside law firm to analyze the current statute regarding this matter. The board agreed to allow Dr. Burns to engage outside counsel limitedly in order to assess this matter fully.

**FY 19 Audit:** Dr. Burns apprised the Board that during the month the official audit was released and submitted to all required authorities. One of the themes expressed was the cessation of SEDOM's role as IDEA grant manager. Within this capacity a larger discussion was had on the issue of maintaining financial controls with specific reference to purchasing controls, asset management, dual layer controls on payment approval and vendor relations. A wake of the cessation of the IDEA Grant unless the above-mentioned financial controls can be maintained. Also discussed were a few issues regarding balancing of the IDEA Grant transfers to the General Ledger. Right now, a Reconciliation Spreadsheet

that was put in place several years ago is being used. This spreadsheet only checks what the district requests to another spreadsheet and not to the SUI Finance program. Kim has worked with the Auditor to better this process for the future.

**FY 21 Planning-Membership Fee Status:** Dr. Burns discussed with the board the possibility of charging a membership fee to the remaining districts. He informed the board that with the current deficit by design option, SEDOM will have between 12 and 16 years of maintainability. With the release of the IDEA Grant back to the districts, IDEA Carry-over dollars will no longer be available. The Board asked for Dr. Burns to do a Strategic Plan and some long-term projections.

**Learning Environment Coordinator – Collaboration with County Wide Truancy Officer:** Dr. Burns shared with the Board that Melissa, our Learning Environment Coordinator has partnered with the Truancy Officer for McHenry County. She is seeing families and working with Students regarding their issues with school attendance.

**HB 3897:** Dr. Burns spoke regarding HB 3897. The bill will allow students to stay in Transition programs after their 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday. If their 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday occurs during the school year, students could potentially stay in transition programs for up to a year longer than they do now.

**Semi-Annual Review of Unreleased Closed Session Minutes:** Dr. Burns recommended that 1 closed session minutes be released, and 1 closed session minutes be retained. Further discussion could take place in closed session of the Executive Board Meeting.

#### **Finance:**

**September Financial Reports:** Financial Statements for September were reviewed noting the percentages of revenue and expenses compared to the budget for each fund. As of September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 25% of the FY20 fiscal year is complete. Revenues were received at 19.15 % and expenditures were received at 18.23%. In the Education Fund revenues are received 19.03% while expenditures are at 18.36%. Excluding Member District transfers, State TRS and the Regional Safe Schools Program. SEDOM revenues are at 32.4% of the budget and expenditures are at 30.2%. Outstanding receivables as of are at \$15,618.59. In the Transportation Fund revenues are received at 0% of the budget while expenditures are at 0% of budget. Outstanding receivables as of September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019 are \$0. In the Operations and Maintenance Fund revenues are received at 21.25% of budget while expenditures were at 15.41%. Outstanding receivables as of September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019 are \$13,499.72 and in the Debt Service Fund revenues are received at 0% of the budget while expenditures are 0%. Outstanding receivables as of September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019 are \$0.

**October Bill List:** The October bills totaled \$912,138.13. Of this total, 94% of the total bills were payments back to member districts for a total of \$856,939.00. Administration is recommending the approval of the October Bills and reasonable and customary bills through October 31, 2019.

**Other Items:** SEDOM offices will be closed on 11-28-19 and 11-29-19.

#### **Facilities:**

The Next meeting of the Committee of the Whole will be held on Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. in the SEDOM Board Room.

Adjournment: 2:24 p.m.