



## SPECIAL EDUCATION DISTRICT OF MCHENRY COUNTY

### COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

The meeting was called to order on 11-19-25 at 8:00 a.m.

All Board Members were in attendance.

**Approval of Minutes:** Board Member Neiss motioned to approve the minutes of October 15, 2025, it was seconded by Board Member Elswick. The motion carried.

#### **Old Business**

- Dr. Burns discussed the recommendation for a FY 27 0% Assessment Fee. Dr. Burns also discussed the events associated with the ending of NEXTIVA phone services and the need to issue a stipend for certain staff to use their own personal cell phones for SEDOM-related business. Dr. Burns discussed the planning of the Superintendents Summit and the potential time in February of 2026. Dr. Burns gave an update on recently proposed changes to the manner in which districts demonstrate compliance with the 1% Exception rules for state testing and how districts will be required to submit their forms to ISBE via IWAS and this will also include a portion for the office of Dr. Burns to complete prior to submission. Dr. Burns discussed the potential correlation to cuts in federal special education programs and the increased use of the ISBE State Complaint forms. Dr. Burns mentioned that with Open A.I. the ability to generate information may be leading to new inquiries regarding the role and duties of the State Supported Director of Special Education.

#### **NEW Business**

- Dr. Burns discussed his desire to spend near \$8000 next year to have a full PRESS Policy Audit.
- Dr. Burns discussed conversations with MENTA regarding the state of the front office as it pertains to the lighting system, former offices and “work area” and whether the need existed to eliminate these work stations in favor of creating a new alternative board meeting room.
- Dr. Burns led a quick celebration of School Board Member Appreciation Day.
- Dr. Burns spoke more about his belief that SEDOM should no longer offer IDFPR based CEU’s but only offer ISBE based professional development CEU’s due to the reduction of staff members county wide that maintain dual licensure within both ISBE and the IDFPR.

**Financial Reports:** Dr. Burns discussed the recent and monthly financial activities and summary of the cooperative and how disbursement report.

**Disbursement List:** Dr. Burns discussed recent expenditures and the current disbursement report.

#### **Facilities-**

- Dr. Burns discussed the state of the washrooms.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31a.m.