



NSSEO Governing Board Brief

June 26, 2019

NSSEO May Shining Star: Erlind Laci -WGN Teacher of the Month the Ripple Effect on Students, Families and NSSEO.



The NSSEO Governing Board recognized Mr. Erlind Laci, High School Teacher at Kirk School after being nominated for and winning the WGN Teacher of the Month in April 2019. Jamie Cullen, parent of one of the students in Erlind's classroom nominated him for this award because of the tremendous impact he has had on their son, Luke over the years. Erlind's natural ability to connect so deeply to his students and their families is unmatched. He is a calm and supportive all while holding his students to high expectations of success. Jamie Cullen, Luke's mother shared her heartfelt appreciation for the work Erlind does for all students and said "he has a passion to do the best for children".

New Members of the NSSEO Leadership Team:



NSSEO hosted a brief reception, introducing new leaders to the organization.. The reception included members of the NSSEO Governing Board, Leadership Team as well as Member District Special Education Administrators, families and friends.

NSSEO welcomed four bright, experienced and innovative leaders to the Leadership Team this summer. Dr. Brad Carter has assumed the role of Director of HR and Communications, bringing a wealth of leadership experience that is person- focused and laser and an emphasis on positive culture and supporting the needs of NSSEO and districts through collaborative partnerships. Brad has served as the Westgate Principal in Arlington Heights District 25 for the past three years with the reputation of a reflective, responsive and committed leader driven toward excellence on behalf of students, staff, families and the educational community.

Ms. Stacy Colgan will take the reigns as the new NSSEO Coordinator for Professional Learning. She has spent the last decade in Naperville District 203 as the Supervisor of Social Work Services and has masterfully led over 30 staff through professional learning as they plan, coach, implement and reflect on practices that directly focus on social emotional learning improvements and tackling the tough issues of mental health and well being for students. Her passion for professional learning and creative ideas to design, facilitate and coordinate opportunities for professional growth will be a valuable asset to our organization.

The Kirk School/ Secondary Campus is thrilled to welcome two new Assistant Principals this Fall. Ms. Julie Egan is an experienced administrator with a diverse leadership career, serving in critical leadership roles in special education cooperatives and as a special education director in several school districts. Her spirit and energy is contagious and is a perfect match for the dynamic leadership team at Kirk School. Ms. Colleen Clifford is the other assistant principal of the Kirk Leadership Team. She comes to NSSEO after over ten years of excellence in teaching students with complex learning needs at the high school level. Colleen's exceptional teaching abilities coupled with her intense focus on learning will support teachers through the program redesign and guide students through the important transitions at the secondary level.

Continuous Improvement Plan 2018-2019 Final Report:

Over the 2018-2019 school year members of the NSSEO Leadership Team brought forth specific examples of how the goals of the Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) live within our classrooms, programs and schools. One of the CIP goals was highlighted monthly at the NSSEO Governing Board meeting and the alignment to a customized dashboard indicator that showed evidence of growth in that growth area. Dr. Hackett, Superintendent and Ms. Heather Miehle, Assistant Superintendent of Education Services shared highlights of the incredible work and impact of the CIP goals across instructional practices, learning environments, advanced transition planning and expanded partnership on behalf of students, families and the relationships across the educational community.

NSSEO 2019-2020 Goals:

The NSSEO Governing Board approved the NSSEO Continuous Improvement Goals for the 2019-2020 school year. These goals reflect an expansion of the focused work accomplished during 2018-2019, adding an intense focus on social-emotional learning as another important priority. Greater clarity and specificity on the goals, objective and customized indicators will be shared at the NSSEO August Governing Board meeting.

Goal #1 Student Outcomes

Foster development, ongoing growth, and positive outcomes for all students.

Goal #2 Transition Services

Upon exiting from NSSEO services, 100% of students will have defined post-secondary plans indicating either a placement in a day program or an individualized home based program designed by the family and/or agency for at least 50% of the work week including a combination of social, community, and/or work experiences.

Goal #3 Social Emotional Learning

Provide a supportive learning environment to promote social emotional learning and growth for all.

Goal #4 Student Centered Learning Environment

Provide a supportive professional learning environment to promote growth for all.

Goal #5 Collaborative Partnerships

Further advance our collaborative partnerships across the educational community to deepen efforts and influence change that contributes to greater student growth and success in adulthood.

Election of NSSEO Governing Board Officers:

Board Members Erin Johannesen, District 25 and Deb McAtee, District 21 served as the nominations committee for the NSSEO Governing Board for the 2019-2020 and presented the Board slate, reflective of a re-election of the current Board officers. The Board approved Janice Krinsky, Governing Board President, Anna Klimkowicz, Vice President and Deb McAtee, Secretary.

NSSEO FY 20 Budget Approval:

Ms. Julie Jilek, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services led the NSSEO Governing Board through a review of the proposed 2019-2020 Budget. A directed vote was taken on the FY 20 NSSEO Budget and unanimous support was shown by the eight member districts for the FY 20 NSSEO Budget.

Upcoming NSSEO Events:

8/6-8/9	NSSEO New Staff Orientation Series
8/7	August NSSEO Governing Board Meeting
8/12	NSSEO Opening Day
8/15	First day of student attendance for NSSEO Schools

Making a Difference:

NSSEO is actively engaging in efforts to expand partnerships with parents, district and community leaders and legislators to join together as a community committed to deepening understanding and positive impact for NSSEO students and families. To learn more about how to you make a difference visit us at <http://www.nsseo.org/MAKEADIFFERENCE/> as well as on our social media platforms:

Twitter	@NSSEO_org
Facebook	@NSSEO
Instagram	NSSEO_org