

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING, DECEMBER 13, 2021

The Spring Lake Board of Education held a Regular Meeting on Monday, December 13, 2021, in person at the Spring Lake IS/MS Media Center. Jennifer Nicles called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members present: Jennifer Nicles, Curt Theune, Kathy Breen, Bruce Callen, Paul Aldridge and Christopher (Chris) Beck. Absent: Katie Pigott

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 15, 2021, as presented.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR PRINTED AGENDA

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

SL Student – provided this is her 4th month in a row coming to the Board requesting the mask requirements for 7-12 students be eliminated. She provided her belief that mask wearing induces mental and physical stress on students and staff and asked the Board to “free our smiles”.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

CONSENT AGENDA

Curt Theune moved, supported by Bruce Callen, to approve the consent agenda as presented:

- Accounts Payable – Food Service, SLCFAC, General Fund, Student Activity, etc. – totaling \$331,558.
- Payroll – totaling \$1,873,184.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ACTION ITEMS

CONSENT AGENDA

Curt Theune moved, supported by Kathy Breen, to approve the consent agenda as presented:

- New Hires –
Michiko Chattulani..... Special Ed Teacher Intermediate School

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING, DECEMBER 13, 2021 (cont.)

POLICY APPROVAL

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the NEOLA policy numbers 0100, 3120, 6114, 6152, 7450, 8310, 8320, and 8330 as presented.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

BUS PURCHASE

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the purchase of one International CE Special Needs Bus with the \$200,000 Mile Extended Engine Warranty, Track Mounted Seats & Air Conditioning from Midwest Transit Equipment for a total purchase not to exceed \$129,039 as presented.

Liz Boeve, Director of Operations, provided that this is part of the annual bus purchase program. This bus would be larger than the current special needs buses, accommodating 23 passengers and six wheel chairs. This would put the special needs bus fleet at 5 and fill the current needs. Further, this bus would be equipped with air conditioning and be used in the summer time for special needs program runs. As part of the MSBO bid process, 2 other makes were reviewed. International is the preferred model, most reasonably priced and provides for a uniform fleet of buses for the district.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ANNUAL SUMMER TAX RESOLUTION

Curt Theune moved, supported by Kathy Breen, to approve the Annual Summer Tax Resolution as presented.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

CENTRAL OFFICE HOLIDAYS HOURS

- Central Office will be open December 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, & 29 from 9 a.m. to Noon
- Central Office will be closed December 23, 24, 30 and 31

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Furton reported on the following:

- Legislative update – none

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- COVID – Case information was shared with the Board, and it was noted cases continue to be monitored within the district and on a regional basis. In order to adjust current guidelines, the low end of the CDC’s “substantial” level must be reached for at least one week. Two letters were shared with the Board, one from Spectrum and one from Mercy, both indicating the strain on their health systems from the recent COVID surge. Both strongly emphasized that masks are an effective mitigation strategy. Mr. Furton indicated that the mask guidelines for K-12 during school hours will continue, but the K-6 guidelines for mask wearing at extracurricular activities or after-school events will be eliminated in January. This will be communicated to parents shortly.
- ETS – The OSHA ETS is on hold pending the outcome of challenges being heard by the 6th Circuit Court. SLPS has paused the collection of vaccination status of staff and will not move forward with testing or other requirements pending the outcome of these challenges. It is anticipated that the ETS will be struck down.
- School Safety – With a lot of discussion around the recent tragic events at Oxford, below are some things to note about SLPS’s preparedness to respond to that type of an event:
 - As required by law, all schools perform 3 lockdown drills per year.
 - Ottawa County Sheriff’s Department (OCSD) deputies are usually on hand for the drills and provide feedback.
 - SLPS Emergency Response Plan was last updated in December of 2019 with input and guidance from the Ottawa County Emergency Management Director.
 - Staff received CRASE Training (Avoid, Deny, and Defend) in the spring of 2020 and a refresher is scheduled for staff PD in January.
 - SLPS standard procedure for handling even the suggestion of a threat is to turn the issue over to the OCSD for a threat assessment. SLPS strategy is to err on the side of caution.
 - Deputy Johnson is at the high school, or in the district, on nearly all student days, approximately 176 days of the school year.
- Chalkboard Project – Launched at the high school with the gallery walk set for January 17.
- Christmas Vacation – plans provided to Board.
- Drawbridge Classic – SL and GH boys’ and girls’ basketball play on Friday at the SLHS gym, 6:00 p.m. for the boys, and 7:30 p.m. for the girls.
- Transition at Holmes – Karen Teays, a long term parapro for the district, has been hired to replace Diane Lindberg as the new administrative assistant at Holmes Elementary. We are excited to have Karen step in to fill those big shoes. Diane has been a great asset to the district and has done a remarkable job at Holmes Elementary. She will be greatly missed and is wished a wonderful retirement.

UPCOMING MEETING

- Regular/Organizational Board Meeting – January 17, 2022, 7:00 p.m., IS/MS Media Center

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION – SUPERINTENDENT’S EVALUATION

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to move to closed session at 7:26 p.m.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING, DECEMBER 13, 2021 (cont.)

Curt Theune moved, supported by Bruce Callen, to return to open session at 8:54 p.m.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ADJOURNMENT

Curt Theune moved, supported by Bruce Callen, to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

Jennifer Nicles adjourned the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Date Board Secretary