

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING, MARCH 15, 2021

The Spring Lake Board of Education held a Regular Meeting on Monday, March 15, 2021, in person at the SLIS/MS Media Center and via electronic video conferencing using Zoom Webinar, Webinar ID: 829 8491 4254, as permitted by Open Meetings Act amendments.

Jennifer Nicles called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Board members present: Jennifer Nicles, Curt Theune, Katie Pigott, Paul Aldridge and Christopher (Chris) Beck. Absent: Kathy Breen and Bruce Callen

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dennis Furton provided the remote meeting protocol for public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

Vote: Yes–Unanimous

ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR AGENDA

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

FINANCIAL REPORTS

CONSENT AGENDA

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the consent agenda as presented:

- *Accounts Payable – Check Listings*
 - Food Service, SLCFAC, General Fund, Student Activity, etc. totaling \$566,595.
 - Payroll – totaling \$1,677,412.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ACTION ITEMS

CONSENT AGENDA

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the consent agenda as presented:

- *New Hires –*
 - Brian Sabo Interim Asst Principal High School
 - Kallie Mekemson..... Food Service Asst..... Jeffers Elementary
- *Spring Coaching Assignments*

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- *Resignations/Retirements* – Barb Wessel, Special Education teacher at the Intermediate School, and Marisa Brady-Doane, Middle School Math teacher, have provided their official letters of retirement effective at the end of the 20-21 school year. Barb has been with the district for 21 years, and Marisa for 25 years. Both will be greatly missed by staff, students and parents.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

2021 BOND REFUNDING RESOLUTION

Curt Theune moved, supported Chris Beck, to approve the Resolution Authorizing the Issuance and Delegating the Sale of SLPS 2021 Refunding Bonds, as presented.

The Finance Committee has reviewed the information provided and is recommending this bond refunding. With a favorable interest rate climate for bonds, it is estimated that this action will save taxpayers approximately \$845,000 and, with previous refundings, has shaved about five years off the repayment timeline for the 2014 bond millage.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

TECHNOLOGY PURCHASE

Curt Theune moved, supported by Katie Pigott, to approve the recommended purchase of Chromebooks and Google Chrome OS Licenses from the REMC SAVES Vendor for a cost not to exceed \$88,620, as presented.

Brent Gustafson recommends pre-approval for the purchase of new Chromebooks for 5th and 9th grades student 1:1 program for a cost not to exceed \$88,620 from the winning vendor of the REMC SAVES bid. The replacement of 1:1 devices for students in grades 5 & 9 is consistent with the 2017-2026 10-year Technology Obsolescence and Replacement Plan, which includes phasing in new devices over time.

Dennis Furton noted that rather than waiting for pricing to come out from REMC, Board approval is sought now for a not to exceed price which would allow the District to place an order and get delivery sooner, which would put us in a better position to prepare and hand out devices before the next school year starts.

If the prices exceed the maximum cost indicated above, the matter will be brought back to the Board for further consideration before the purchase is made.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

EXTENDED CONTINUITY OF LEARNING PLAN

Curt Theune moved, supported by Paul Aldridge, to approve the Extended Continuity of Learning Plan as presented.

Dennis Furton is recommending that the district continue with the current plan with no modifications.

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He provided the following to the Board:

- COVID updates from the Dept. of Public Health
- 176 total staff have initiated the vaccination process; 122 staff have completed the process
- Current county positivity rate is 4.6% on a seven-day average
- SLPS Dashboard shared indicating five positive cases within the last seven days over four school buildings
- Two-Way Interaction Rates shared

Board members asked questions regarding spring break processes and Mr. Furton noted that he would communicate to parents prior to spring break about current CDC travel guidelines and the process for notifying the district of any positive case information during the spring break school closure.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Dennis Furton shared that after 18 years as the AD, Cavin Mohrhardt is retiring. He noted that it is a big job to fill and stressed the importance of filling it with the right person.

Mr. Furton shared the job description and proposed hiring timeline with the Board. The position will be posted on March 17 with an April 12 application deadline. Interviews are expected to begin April 20 and to be wrapped up by April 27.

The search committee will consist of approximately six coaches, two Board members, Jon Fitzpatrick, Mike Gilchrist, Sarah Bulthuis and Sue Theune.

Mr. Furton will keep the Board informed during the process and plans to make a hiring recommendation to the Board at the May meeting. The official start date for the new AD would be July 1, 2021.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Furton reported on the following:

- Overview of House Bills 4048 and 4049 were provided to the Board.
- Summer school – planning is in progress and details will be shared soon.
- Spring Lake Recreation – The Recreation Board is delaying their funding request until more certainty is known of what can be offered for summer programs.
- M-Step/SAT Testing – State Superintendent Rice has requested summative assessment and accountability waivers. It is unknown at this time if his request will be granted by the US Department of Education.

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- SXI Programs – per an inquiry by Katie Pigott, Mr. Furton will ask the SXI teachers to provide a program update to the Board at an upcoming meeting.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Regular Board Meeting – April 19, 2021, 7:00 p.m. – IS/MS Media Center

ADJOURNMENT

Curt Thune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

Jennifer Nicles adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Date Board Secretary