

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING, JULY 29, 2024

The Spring Lake Board of Education held a Special Meeting on Monday, July 29 2024, in person at the Spring Lake Middle School Conference Room. Jennifer Nicles called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Board members present: Jennifer Nicles, Bruce Callen, Paul Aldridge, Christopher Beck, Courtney Holmes and Kelly VanderHoek. Curt Theune arrived at 8:42 a.m.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Kelly VanderHoek moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the regular and closed meeting Minutes of July 15, 2024 as presented.

VOTE: Yes – Unanimous

POLICY APPROVAL

Kelly VanderHoek moved, supported by Paul Aldridge, to approve Policy #2264 and Policy #2266 relating to Title IX as presented.

VOTE: Yes – Unanimous

WORK SESSION/DISCUSSION

CURRICULUM UPDATE

Kate Drake, Curriculum Director, provided a curriculum update that included detailed information on the following:

- Kahoot curriculum trivia challenge
- Big ideas for the Curriculum Dept
 - Relationships & learning
 - Curriculum reviews/Curriculum Advisory Council
 - GLL/Dept Chairs & District Implementation Team (DIT)
 - PBIS for the middle grades
 - Securing and utilizing resources and funding
 - Strategic planning
- Current status/work
 - Reflecting and planning
 - Supporting summer learning
 - PK-5th grades Reading & Sciences PD
 - Securing UOS materials and unpacking of same

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- New teacher orientation
- District implementation team opportunities
- SIT timeline and process
- Data-based decision-making
- Coaching cycles
- Highlights and achievements from 2023-24
 - High stakes assessments
 - Course offerings/review via CAC for World Language and 9-12 Math
 - Enhanced PBIS for graded 5-8
 - SLHS courses added for AP Human Geography, Iterated design/prototype course, Health and English 10
 - County-wide state testing data
 - Historical MStep results
 - 23-24 iReady growth
 - iReady historical data and implications
 - Advanced Placement data
 - WIDA Assessment data
 - Summer credit recovery program
 - 23-24 SLHS student participation in extra/co-curricular activities
- Growth edges
 - Collaboration efforts
 - Guaranteed/viable curriculum
 - Developing 5-8 intervention systems
 - Updating curriculum maps
- Next Steps
 - Finalize and publish strategic plan
 - Promote Solution Tree practices around collaboration
 - Review of Tech/STEM courses
 - Further MTSS and DIT practices
- Stakeholder Engagement
 - Community feedback
 - Culture surveys
 - Parent/stakeholder representatives
 - GLL & CAC, staff learning
 - Visibility
 - OAISD partnerships
 - Opportunities

The Board was presented with the opportunity to ask questions throughout the presentation.

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STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE

Dennis Furton, Superintendent, provided that progress has been made and the goal is to get a finished plan by the August regular meeting for Board approval. Mr. Furton provided the history of the process and shared the mission statement:

- We educate, empower and inspire students to achieve their highest potential.

He shared the three vision statements that have been established:

- Teaching and Learning Vision: Spring Lake, the premier provider of education for life
- Climate & Culture Vision: Spring Lake, where all belong and thrive
- Organizational Vision: Spring Lake, the best place to work and raise children

Mr. Furton provided that there will be three or more goals connected to each vision statement and the work to identify actions that will take place has started and, ultimately, will have five actions that relate to each goal. Mr. Furton explained what the committee was looking at for possible activities and that they will need to be narrowed down and refined, then an action plan will be determined and mapped out over 3-5 years.

Questions and comments from Board followed.

SUPERINTENDENT'S GOALS, 2024-2025

Mr. Furton reviewed last year's goals:

- Strategic Plan
- Human Resources
- Enrollment

Discussion and feedback on where those goals stand today followed.

Mr. Furton asked that Board what the areas of focus should be for 2024-25. Discussion followed and some of the ideas presented were:

- Visioning for the high school campus, athletic spaces and bus garage, and what land acquisitions may be necessary for the vision
- Safety and security, including reunification training and enhanced communications within all district buildings, student safety and cybersecurity

Mr. Furton provided that he would draft a list based on the discussions and present it at the August or September meeting.

CLOSED SESSION – SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION

Curt Theune moved, supported by Kelly VanderHoek, to move to closed session at 10:58 a.m.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

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Curt Theune moved, supported by Paul Aldridge, to return to open session at 11:30 a.m.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

SUPERINTENDENT CONTRACT EXTENSION

Chris Beck moved, supported by Kelly VanderHoek, to approve the Superintendent’s contract, effective July 1, 2024 through June 20, 2027, as presented.

VOTE: Yes – Unanimous

ADJOURNMENT

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

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

Jennifer Nicles adjourned the meeting at 11:31 a.m.

APPROVED: _____
Date Board Secretary