

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING, OCTOBER 21, 2024

The Spring Lake Board of Education held a Regular Meeting on Monday, October 21, 2024, in person at the SLIS/MS Media Center. Jennifer Nicles chaired the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members present: Jennifer Nicles, Bruce Callen, Curt Theune, Christopher (Chris) Beck, Paul Aldridge, Courtney Holmes and Kelly VanderHoek. Absent: None

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS

2023-2024 Financial Audit Report

Mr. Furton introduced Nick Kossaras, CPA, with Maner Costerisan and provided that Scott Powers, CFO, provided the audit in detail at the Finance Committee meeting previous to this meeting. Mr. Kossaras summarized the audit and included notations of the following:

- The district's business office and administrative team is very knowledgeable and great to work with
- An unmodified, clean opinion was issued with respect to the district's financial statements
- Implementation of GASB 100, Accounting Changes and Error Corrections, in 2023-2024
- COVID-ear funds are coming to an end
- Summary statement of net position shows assets increased, liabilities decreased and the overall net position improved by \$9.8 million
- Highlighted governmental funds balance sheet which includes 2023 capital projects fund, non-major funds and general fund
- General fund balance ended at \$7,933,639, with \$5.8 million unassigned, providing for 16.2% of expenditures, consistent with last year's ratio
- Income statement summary showing a decrease in net change of fund balance of \$1.4 million
- Key performance indicators (KPIs) providing fund balance information for all districts in Ottawa County as of the previous fiscal year-end, with SLPS right about at the county-wide average
- Notes to financial statements
- Budget comparison of the general fund showing a net overall variance of just .08%
- A single audit of federal awards for the Education Stabilization Fund (ESSR) resulted in an unmodified opinion with nothing to report
- No Management Letter issued in the current year
- Governance letter provided no significant issues
- Upcoming accounting pronouncements shared on GASB 101, 102 and 103 for fiscal years 2025 and 2026

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes and Closed Session of the September 16, 2024, as presented.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR PRINTED AGENDA

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Israel Hildebrandt, 16897 Birchview Court, Nunica – asked how the Board assesses the staffing needs to support the student population and their needs, and if the Board gets personally involved with the decisions or just takes recommendation from the Superintendent. Mr. Hildebrandt also left written comments with the Board members which he stated were private.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

CONSENT AGENDA

Curt Theune moved, supported by Kelly VanderHoek, to approve the consent agenda as presented:

- Accounts Payable – Food Service, SLCFAC, General Fund, Student Activity, etc. – totaling \$4,378,231.
- Payroll – totaling \$2,608,338.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ACTION ITEMS

NEW HIRES

Curt Theune moved, supported by Bruce Callen, to approve the hiring of the following:

Tammy Miller..... Production Assistant.....Food Service

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ANNUAL SUMMER TAX RESOLUTION

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

Scott Powers, CFO, provided that the state requires school districts to approve a resolution annually in order to levy taxes in the summer. The summer tax collection improves the district’s cash flow for September payrolls.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Furton reported on the following:

- Legislative Update – none.
- Personnel – MS Science interviews are scheduled for Wednesday with two finalists. Dr. Dewitt will begin her role on November 11 as Jeffers Principal.
- Athletics Committee – met on October 14 to discuss how to handle the assistant AD position in the future. A job description will be developed and brought to the Board for consideration.
- SXI Program – Received disappointing news that, due to funding under the Act 18 Special Education millage, there will be consolidation of the SXI programs in the county. The district had hoped to offer a 9-12 program but that program will be offered at Grand Haven in future years. The district will continue to house K-8 SXI programs. A letter from the OAISD with the details was provided to the Board. Staff and district residents affected by this change were personally notified today and a letter was sent to other parents outside of the district.
- 2025-26 Calendar – Discussion on the calendar will be coming very soon and the district will be looking at adding a weekly early release or late start option to allow teachers time to collaborate and plan together and facilitate the work the district is beginning around Professional Learning Communities (PLCs). Parent input will be sought. A presentation to the Board on PLCs will be scheduled for an upcoming meeting.
- Presentation Schedule – Provided to the Board.
- Recognition – to Sandra Smits for initiating the kindergarten to senior meet up at the powderpuff game and to Ben Armev for jumping in to support and facilitate; to the HS Food Service team, led by Maggie Cook, for the creative things they are doing in the kitchen and stretching the boundaries and gaining enthusiasm for their offerings; to Bradyn Juhas and the Transportation team for their creative participation in the Homecoming parade.
- Calendar/Events:
 - October 24: Staff social at Dr. Rolf's from 3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
 - October 25: District Professional Development
 - November 5-7: Climate & Culture Surveys to students and staff (potentially sending a parent climate and culture survey at the same time or later in November)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Regular Board Meeting – November 18, 2024, 7:00 p.m., IS/MS Media Center

ADJOURNMENT

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

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING, OCTOBER 21, 2024 Cont.

Bruce Callen adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Date Board Secretary