

## SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING, NOVEMBER 18, 2024

The Spring Lake Board of Education held a Regular Meeting on Monday, November 18, 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**

#### **Professional Learning Communities – Building Collaborative Cultures for Student Achievement**

Dennis Furton and Kate Drake, Curriculum Director, provided the Board with a review of the recent professional development teachers had about Professional Learning Communities (PLCs). They explained where it came from, how it develops teacher teams and that it is one of the most utilized systems by schools and districts that directly impacts student achievement. To continue the work with PLCs, the district may need to consider either an early release or delayed start day each week, or every other week, in order for teacher teams to do the work required as the contractual common planning time and scheduled PD is not sufficient to keep the work moving.

Slides from the recent PD were shared with the Board to provide the basis of PLCs:

- A PLC is a group of educators that meets regularly to collaborate, reflect and improve teaching strategies and student learning outcomes
- Provides continuous improvement, shared leadership and collective responsibility for all students' success
- Focuses on learning - From "teaching" to "ensuring" all students learn
- Collaborative culture - Working interdependently toward common goals
- Results orientation - Using data to drive improvement and accountability
- Addresses 4 critical questions: What do we want students to learn; How will we know if they have learned it; What will we do if they don't learn it; What will we do if they already know it
- Why PLCs work: Improved student outcomes, professional growth and shared responsibility
- Defines essential knowledge, skills and academic behaviors every student should acquire

Questions/discussion with the Board followed. Mr. Furton noted a survey will be sent out after Thanksgiving to get feedback from parents on an early release/delayed start schedule.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 21, 2024 and Special Meeting and Closed Session Minutes of October 29, 2024, as presented.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

### **ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR PRINTED AGENDA**

None

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- Accounts Payable – Food Service, SLCFAC, General Fund, Student Activity, etc. – totaling \$1,068,608
- Payroll – totaling \$2,706,518

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

**ACTION ITEMS**

**NEW HIRES**

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the hiring of the following:

Ashlee Charron .....	Science Teacher .....	SLMS
Jolene Surbrook .....	Food Service Assistant .....	IS/MS
Richard Lyons .....	Bus Driver .....	Transportation
Robyn Richardson .....	Bus Driver .....	Transportation

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

**WINTER COACHING ASSIGNMENTS**

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the winter coaching assignments as presented.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous; Kelly VanderHoek abstained

**DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Superintendent Furton reported on the following:

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

- Legislative Update – provided to the Board. Mr. Furton touched on lame duck topics including PA152 changes, Michigan Merit Curriculum bill, firearm storage flyers, 12<sup>th</sup> grade vaccinations and the PSA transparency bills.
- Personnel – the current job postings, for the most part, are sub positions and a few with the FAC; this is probably the fewest the district has had at any point over the last 5 years.
- Recognition –Mr. Furton provided a few data points from the staff climate survey including:
  - 97% of operational staff respondents said they somewhat or strongly agreed that their department positively impacts student success;
  - 92% of operational staff respondents strongly agree that they would recommend working at SLPS to friends or family, including 100% of FAC staff respondents;
  - 98% of building staff respondents somewhat or strongly agree that they get along well with staff at their school, including 100% of respondents from the Intermediate building and very close to 100% at the High School;
  - 95% of respondents somewhat or strongly agree that teachers at their school have high standards for achievement, including nearly 100% of the K-4 staff responding with strongly agree.
- Calendar/Events:
  - November 20 – Policy Committee Meeting, 4 p.m.
  - November 27 – Central office work from home day, 8 a.m. to Noon
  - December 6 – Board work session, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- Regular Board Meeting – December 16, 2024, 7:00 p.m., IS/MS Media Center

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

Jennifer Nicles adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Board Secretary