

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION WORK SESSION, DECEMBER 6, 2024

The Spring Lake Board of Education held a Work Session on Friday, December 6, 2024, in person at the Spring Lake Middle School Conference Room. Jennifer Nicles called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Board members present: Jennifer Nicles, Curt Theune, Bruce Callen, Paul Aldridge, Christopher Beck, Courtney Holmes and Kelly VanderHoek.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

WORK SESSION/DISCUSSION

Mr. Furton noted that the Strategic Plan discussion will be moved to January, 2025.

SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION

The new Superintendent's evaluation tool was provided to the Board. It was noted that Board members have been trained through MASH. Jen Nicles provided the process on how the evaluation will be conducted and documented. Mr. Furton has requested a closed session for the evaluation, and he will provide his self-evaluation to the Board ahead of the formal evaluation.

CLIMATE AND CULTURE DATA

Mr. Furton noted that this is the first time climate and culture data has been collected in this format. He noted it will be collected annually in October of future school years. Each administrator has received a copy of the data from their building. Mr. Furton will meet with each administrator and identify two or three areas to celebrate with staff and two or three areas to target for improvement. Mr. Furton provided an example of areas to celebrate, areas to target for improvement and his thoughts behind completing this process every year and how it will be evaluated year to year.

Survey data was provided to the Board and highlights were provided by Mr. Furton. Discussion was had.

MIDDLE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL VACANCY

A middle school staff survey was sent out early this week regarding the principal vacancy. Mr. Furton provided a schedule for meeting with middle school staff to gather their feedback and share the data received from the survey. Mr. Furton provided the items he plans to focus on from the survey.

Discussion and feedback followed regarding options to consider for the future leadership of the middle school.

MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2025

Interest has been expressed in moving the regular Board meeting start time to earlier than 7 p.m. Times were discussed and a 6:00 p.m. start time was favored by the Board. This will be brought for approval at the Organizational Meeting in January.

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COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

Courtney Holmes inquired about changing the format for committee meetings to meetings of the whole for personnel, policy and finance, i.e. a work session format. Discussion followed and a consensus was not reached. The topic can be revisited at another time.

ADJOURNMENT

Curt Thune moved, supported by Paul Aldridge, to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

Jennifer Nicles adjourned the meeting at 3:24 p.m.

APPROVED:

Date

Board Secretary