

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING, APRIL 21, 2025

The Spring Lake Board of Education held a Regular Meeting on Monday, April 21, 2025, in person at the Spring Lake IS/MS Media Center. Jennifer Nicles called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Board members present: Jennifer Nicles, Kelly VanderHoek, Curt Theune, Christopher (Chris) Beck, Paul Aldridge, Courtney Holmes and Dustin Brown. Absent: None

- The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS

HS STUDENT COUNCIL

Brooklyn Verplank and Brody Bench, President and Vice President of the Executive Student Council, presented an update to the Board that included:

- The no phone policy integration at the high school and the positive impact it has had on student focus, productivity and student participation in the classroom
- They have written new bylaws, the first time in many years, and new committees have been created to help manage the visions and goals of the council, leading to increased communications and involvement of every student council member
- They are evaluating current participation in spirit days, dances, pep assemblies, brain breaks and clubs and looking for new ways to increase school spirit
- They would like to find a way to have "Honors"/Pre-AP track classes weighted to help boost GPAs and make student transcripts more competitive
- They would like to improve connection and communication for incoming freshmen parents by providing information on how kids can focus their HS classes on post high school plans, what opportunities are available to them to enhance their resumes and by connecting students and parents to guidance counselors at an earlier age
- They would like the district to provide information on academic policies regarding Dual Enrollment and Michigan Virtual to students/parents at the Middle School level and look at changing the credit granting for courses through Michigan Virtual
- They would like to have increased transparency so that all parents are aware of the pathways available to their children throughout their high school career at an earlier age

Board members asked questions throughout the presentation and commended the students for their work and the presentation.

FAC MEMBERSHIP FEES

Rachel Schlatter and Tori Brow presented the FAC membership rate analysis, which is now done every two years. This analysis assesses the current rates based on operating costs and local comparisons with similar facilities in the West Michigan area. After a review of the budget analysis, the following changes are recommended:

- Increase membership rates 14% on average which will provide a modest surplus to the FAC general fund while maintaining rates significantly lower than comparable local fitness facilities

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- Transition to monthly and annual membership options only
- Monthly memberships will operate on an auto-renewal basis
- Paid in full annual members will receive a discount by buying 11 months and getting 1 month free
- Annual memberships will renew on July 1 of each year, with prorated adjustments for mid-year enrollment
- Marketing strategy updates with rebranding the current out-of-district rate as the standard rate and offering a verified SLPS resident a 20% discount on the standard rate
- July 1, 2025 effective date for increases

The full list of proposed membership rates was provided to the Board. Questions and discussion were had throughout the presentation by the Board. It was noted there was a typo in the SLPS resident student rate provided and that it should be adjusted to \$32 per month versus \$33 as stated in the memo.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the Minutes of the Work Session of March 14, 2025 and Regular Meeting of March 17, 2025 as presented.

Vote: Yes–Unanimous

ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR AGENDA

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Brody Bench, 16172 Heron Dr, SL – inquired about the FAC offering students free memberships. Tori Brow was able to provide details about what was available to students and why.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Accounts Payable – Food Service, SLCFAC, General Fund, Student Activity, etc. totaling \$1,641,152.
- Payroll – totaling \$2,835,611.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ACTION ITEMS

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RESIGNATION

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the resignation of Melissa Hughes, GSRP Lead Teacher at Jeffers Elementary, effective June 9, 2025, as presented.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

FAC MEMBERSHIP RATES INCREASES

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the proposed increases in Spring Lake Fitness and Aquatic Center membership rates effective July 1, 2025 as presented with the notation of one correction needed to the SLPS resident student rate.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

FAC COMPETITION POOL MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the FAC competition pool maintenance projects for a cost not to exceed \$161,595 as presented.

Liz Boeve, Director of Operations, provided the reasoning behind completing the maintenance projects at this time and that these projects are part of the 10-year maintenance plan recommended in 2023 by the pool consultant hired by the district. It was noted that the projects need to start ASAP in order to be completed by early June so the pool can reopen for summer swim programs. It was also noted that no other disruptions to FAC activities are expected while the competition pool repairs are happening with the exception of some restrictions on use of the locker rooms while they are under repair.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

TECHNOLOGY PURCHASE FOR STUDENT DEVICES

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the purchase of 160 iPad 11s with headphone adapters from Apple, 160 Shockguard iPad cases from SEHI and 385 Lenovo 100e Chromebooks with EDU licenses from CDWG for a total cost not to exceed \$156,913.65 as presented.

Brent Gustafson, Technology Coordinator, provided the details around the purchase, indicated the purchase will be allocated from the general fund and that the statewide REMC bid pricing received is holding steady as of now.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

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RATIFYING RESOLUTION FOR 2025 BONDS, SERIES II

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the Ratifying Resolution for 2025 Bonds, Series II, as presented.

Scott Powers, CFO, provide the details on the bond sale, that favorable pricing was received with a lot of demand for these bonds and that this resolution is needed in order for the bonds to be sold at market.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Furton reported on the following:

- Legislative Update – provided to the Board. Mr. Furton indicated there is not a clear picture of what the fiscal year 2026 budget will look like.
- Personnel – Status of the following teaching positions provided:
 - HS Business – evaluating candidates
 - Jeffers DK Teacher – posted April 21
 - Jeffers GSRP – job description is being updated, posting to follow
 - Holmes K and 3rd Grade – on hold at this time
- Calendar:
 - April 22, 6:00 p.m. – Enrollment Presentation at Jeffers
 - April 30 & May 2 – Dennis Out of the District
 - May 15, 7:00 p.m. – Senior Awards Program at SLHS
 - May 22, 3:00-5:00 p.m. – District Happy Hour at Stan's
 - May 28, 6:00 p.m. – Graduation at Trinity Health Arena
 - June 6 – Last Day/Half Day

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Regular Board Meeting – May 19, 2025, 6:00 p.m., IS/MS Media Center

CLOSED SESSION – STUDENT DISCIPLINE HEARING

Curt Theune moved, supported by Kelly VanderHoek, to move to closed session.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

The Board went into closed session at 7:20 p.m.

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Curt Theune moved, supported by Kelly VanderHoek, to return to open session.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

The Board returned to open session at 8:18 p.m.

ACTION ITEM – STUDENT DISCIPLINE

Curt Theune moved, supported by Kelly VanderHoek, that the student’s suspension be equal to time served.

The Board discussed their understanding of the incident and the appropriate length of time for the suspension.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Theune, VanderHoek, Holmes, Brown and Beck
No – Aldridge and Nicles

Motion carries, 5/2

ADJOURNMENT

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

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

Jennifer Nicles adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Date Board Secretary