

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING, OCTOBER 20, 2025

The Spring Lake Board of Education held a Regular Meeting on Monday, October 20, 2025 in person at the SLIS/MS Media Center. Jennifer Nicles called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Board members present: Jennifer Nicles, Kelly VanderHoek, Curt Theune, Christopher Beck, Paul Aldridge, Courtney Holmes and Dustin Brown. Absent: None

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATION

2024-2025 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, responsive and great to work with
- The audited financial statements are still in draft format due to the 2025 version of the OMB compliance supplement not being released yet by the federal government
- The MDE has authorized that the audit can be broken out into two separate reports
- The financial statement will be issued by the November 1 deadline and the federal award audit within 30 days after the release of the 2025 OMB compliance supplement
- As the current draft stands, an unmodified, clean opinion will be issued with respect to the district's financial statements
- COVID-era ESSER funds have sunset
- GASB 101 for compensated absences was implemented in 2025 and the impact of it was shared
- Summary statement of net position shows assets and liabilities increasing primarily due to the bond issuance with the overall net position improving by \$9 million
- General fund balance ended at approximately \$7.2 million
- Statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balance shared
- County wide fund balance information shared
- Budget comparison shared showing just a 0.01% variance, which is remarkable
- Single audit is yet unknown
- Governance letter provided no significant issues
- Management letter not issued in the current or prior year
- Upcoming accounting pronouncements shared on GASB 103, financial reporting model improvements for fiscal year 2026

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting and Closed Session of September 15, 2025, as presented.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR PRINTED AGENDA

Move Item 7d, HS Choir Out-of-State Travel Approval, to 7a, the first action item.

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 \$1,791,099.
- Payroll – totaling \$2,764,222.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ACTION ITEMS

HS CHOIR OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL APPROVAL

Curt Theune moved, supported by Kelly VanderHoek, to approve the out-of-state travel for HS Choir students to New York for April 8-12, 2026 as presented.

Aaron Polet, Choir Director, was present and expressed his excitement about this student opportunity. He indicated the main purpose will be a choir performance at Carnegie Hall with SLPS students joining other choir students from all around the United States in one performance. There are currently 30 students signed up along with some parent volunteers.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous, Chris Beck Abstained

RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve, with regrets, the resignation of Patricia Johnson, ASD Preschool teacher, as presented.

Mr. Furton commented about the retiring of both Pattie Johnson and Jana Keena, Jeffers paraprofessional, and what great assets they have been for the district for many years, wished them well and noted that they will be missed!

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

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NEW HIRES

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the following new hires as presented:
Casey Brow..... Food Service Assistant..... Food Service
Rachel Marn..... EC SE Teacher Jeffers Elementary

Mr. Furton provided details on the new hires including that Dana Miller, current EC SE teacher at Jeffers, will step into Pattie Johnson’s position and Rachel Marn will replace Dana Miller.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ANNUAL SUMMER TAX RESOLUTION

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, 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

2025-26 STUDENT MEAL PRICES

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve an adjustment to student meal prices for the remaining 2025-26 school year as presented:

- Student breakfast - \$2.50 for all grade levels
- Elementary lunch - \$3.25
- Secondary lunch - \$3.75

Maggie Cook, Food Service Director, provided details of the minor increases in the student meal prices, \$0.50 for breakfast and \$0.25 for lunch, and that the last increase was before COVID. She stated that there have been increases in food, supply and labor costs. The meal price increases would help maintain the financial health of the program and continue to ensure that the district can provide healthy meals for student. These increases would also put the district closer in line with what other schools are charging in the area.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

DRINKING FOUNTAIN REPLACEMENT AND KITCHEN FILTER ASSEMBY PROJECT APPROVAL

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the drinking fountain replacement and kitchen filter assembly project by Alternative Mechanical for a cost of \$38,905, plus time and material, not to exceed \$116,904 as presented.

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Liz Boeve, Director of Operations, provided the details behind the project and the grant received from the State of Michigan through the Filter First program. Questions from the Board were answered.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Superintendent Furton reported on the following:

- Legislative Update – Fiscal year budget was approved by the State earlier this month and a high-level review of the changes was discussed with the Finance Committee prior to this meeting. There are still some decisions to be made at the district level but the net outcome should be mostly positive. An update will be shared with the Board in November and a revised budget brought for approval in January or February.
- Calendar/Events:
 - October 30, 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. – SL Happy Hour @ Dr Rolf’s
 - November 7, Jeffers receives Mi HeartSafe School Award in Lansing
 - November 12, Jeffers recognized for NBR award by State Board of Education

UPCOMING MEETING

- Regular Board Meeting – November 17, 2025, 6:00 p.m., IS/MS Media Center

CLOSED SESSION – STUDENT DISCIPLINE HEARING

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to move to closed session for the student discipline hearing.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

The Board went into closed session at 6:49 p.m.

Kelly VanderHoek moved, supported by Chris Beck, to return to open session.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

The Board returned to open session at 7:45p.m.

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ACTION ITEM

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

Curt Theune moved, supported by Courtney Holmes, to reinstate the student immediately following a scheduled conference with high school administration, the student and parents.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ADJOURNMENT

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

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

Jennifer Nicles adjourned the meeting at 7:46 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Date Board Secretary