



**Spring Lake Park Schools**  
District Services Center  
1415 81st Avenue NE  
Spring Lake Park, MN 55432

## **MINUTES OF THE SCHOOL BOARD WORK SESSION**

**School Board, Spring Lake Park Schools**

**Spring Lake Park, MN**

**Tuesday, January 27, 2026**

### **A. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Hennen called the meeting to order at 5:00pm. Board members in attendance were Amy Hennen, Kelly McClellan, Allie Schmidt, Melody Skelly, Marilynn Forsberg, and Sam Vilella, along with Superintendent Dr. Jeff Ronneberg. Member Tony Easter was absent.

### **B. AGENDA APPROVAL**

*Motion by Schmidt, seconded by Forsberg, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously with all members present voting yes. (6-0)*

### **C. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. Lighthouse Update – Dr. Hope Rahn, Executive Director of Learning and Innovation and Lisa Cisewski, Coordinator Learning and Innovation, shared an update on the District Operational Plan project of Study Lighthouse Location to Enhance Programming. Dr. Rahn shared with the board a summary of the work related to this project, including a recommendation for location and implementation timeline. Dr. Rahn shared that this project will assess how the location of Lighthouse impacts enrollment, grade levels served, physical operations, and learning opportunities, and explore if other locations within the district may enhance our services to this community of learners. Dr. Rahn shared that the design team came up with different prototypes that were shared with different groups and gathered feedback from: school board, extended cabinet, all principals, parents, Lighthouse staff, to mention a few. The themes that came up from these session were: Uniqueness and Identity of Lighthouse (unique within metro, state and nation, multiage, multigrade community is a defining feature and a significant draw for families as well as relocating into grade-equivalent schools would replicate what other metro school districts have); Belonging, Community, and Asynchronous Development (emphasis on students feeling understood, accepted and safe to be themselves, while there are positives to increased interactions with grade-level peers, this comes at a cost for highly gifted learners, particularly during middle school); Program Enhancement Opportunities and Trade-Offs (relocating could offer program enhancements and would introduce trade-off for each enhancement and the program enhancements that have happened over the past 4 years have made a difference, and there may be opportunities to make a few more enhancements at the current location); and Access, Enrollment and Logistics (everyone sees the positives of locating at a K-4 for younger Lighthouse students, at the same time, don't want this to undermine the defining, unique features of LH, while multiple sites introduce logistical challenges for families). Dr. Rahn presented a couple recommendations: Lighthouse remains at SLPHS serving students in grades 2-12 adding

enhancements to math and music arts and provide an option for Lighthouse at Northpoint Elementary in addition to the high school location, serving students and families who would benefit from the programming in a K-4 setting, providing more structure and explicit instruction in career and life competencies to set students for future LH enrollment at the high school and could potentially scale to Westwood Middle School in the future.

2. Budget Planning and Development FY26, FY27 – Ms. Amy Schultz, Executive Director of Business Services, shared revisions for the 25-26 budget stating that she will do a presentation at a board meeting that will have more detail on the revisions. Ms. Schultz explained the different avenues for revenues and expenditures for this year, as well as some decrease in revenue due to decrease in federal grants, student support aid and library aid. Dr. Ronneberg shared a guiding change for budget planning and development for the 26-27 school year. Ms. Schultz stated the different influences and assumptions that will guide budget planning as well as the desirable results. The 26-27 school year budget will be reviewed at the May work session and will be presented for approval at the June regular meeting.
3. Other – Dr. Ronneberg presented to the Board a draft for the 2027-2028 school year calendar, mentioning that will be presented up for approval at the February regular meeting. Dr. Ronneberg also shared with the Board the way Spring Lake Park Schools is helping students and families due to the current events in our community.

**D. ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion by Villella, seconded by Skelly to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously with all members present voting yes. (6-0). Meeting adjourned at 6:12pm*

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Date

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*Melody Skelly, Clerk*  
Spring Lake Park Schools  
Independent School District 16