

## SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING, MARCH 16, 2026

The Spring Lake Board of Education held a Regular Meeting on Monday, March 16, 2026, in person at the Spring Lake IS/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 (Chris) Beck, Paul Aldridge, Courtney Holmes and Dustin Brown. Absent: None

- The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 16, 2026 as presented.

Vote: Yes–Unanimous

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

Add Resignation as Action Item 6e for SLHS Health/PE teacher Sarah Orleskie

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Karen Obits 740 Winters St, SL – asked Mr. Furton to speak into the microphone so that the audience can hear him better during the Superintendent’s report.

Julie Murray-Dull, 18081 N Fruitport Rd, SL – inquired about the Board work session held March 13 and the discussion surrounding the Middle School tennis courts. Mr. Furton advised that he would provide an update with his Superintendent’s report.

### **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 \$914,044.
- Payroll – totaling \$2,756,483.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **SPRING COACHING ASSIGNMENTS**

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

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING, MARCH 16, 2026 (Cont.)

POLICY APPROVAL

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve policy #s 0131.1, 1540, 2340, 2370.01, 5320, 5330, 5330.01, 5350, 7217, 7540.03, 8320, 8500, 8510, 8531, and 8640 as presented.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

TECHNOLOGY PURCHASE APPROVAL – INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF AND STUDENT DEVICES

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the purchase of 40 Apple MacBook Air M5s, 34 Lenovo ThinkBook G5s, 190 Apple iPad 11s and 400 Lenovo 100e G4 Chromebooks for a cost not to exceed \$250,311.74 as presented.

Brent Gustafson, Technology Coordinator, provided that this is the district’s annual device replacement purchase for instructional staff and student devices. There were no questions from the Board.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

27I (2) STIPEND FOR STAFF

Kelly VanderHoek moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the 27 I (2) stipend payment for staff as presented.

Mr. Furton provided that the funding received from the state by all school districts through 27 I (2) is earmarked for additional educator compensation to be paid out as a stipend. The district and bargaining units agreed that all 270 educators who qualify under the guidelines of 27 I (2), and the remaining 36 other district employees not eligible under the guidelines, should receive a flat amount of \$920. The 36 non-eligible employee stipends will be paid out using General Fund resources. This stipend to staff will be scheduled as a separate payment to be received just before spring break on March 27.

Vote: Yes – Jennifer Nicles, Kelly VanderHoek, Christopher Beck, Courtney Holmes, and Dustin Brown  
Abstained: Curt Theune and Paul Aldridge

RESIGNATION

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the resignation of Sarah Orleskie, HS Health/PE teacher, effective March 27, 2026.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Mr. Furton reported on the following:

- Legislative Update – nothing to report.
- Personnel – The following vacancies will be posted this week or next:
  - MS Spanish Teacher
  - HS Resource Room Teacher
  - Jeffers Resource Room Teacher
  - HS Interventionist
  - HS Health & PE Teacher
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher, which will be filled internally
- Calendar
  - March 19, 2026, 9:30 am: Talent First Literacy Leaders Presentation, Holmes Elementary
  - April 3 – 10: Spring Break
- Work session Recap: Friday’s discussion focused primarily on the current Hickman Field at the IS/MS campus and removing/tearing out the existing tennis courts. It was noted that the tennis courts are in poor condition and well past their prime. The last recommendation the district received was to either replace the courts or remove them altogether. The cost of installing new courts and maintaining them is very expensive, and they are not used very often by the district. It was noted that four courts are being added at the High School. The district will look into costs for adding a synthetic surface to the current Hickman Field infield and the possibility of adding a portable mound. The Board will be making decisions on these two items at the April BOE meeting. The Board will be provided with a bond update at that meeting, and cost estimates for the tennis courts and Hickman Field changes will be provided to the Board before that meeting.

Curt Theune inquired if the district was exploring adding additional athletic/maintenance personnel at this time and Mr. Furton advised that is not in the budget now.

Courtney Holmes commented that with the Township’s removal of community courts and baseball fields, it puts a burden on the district with having to make decisions about maintaining the district’s current courts and fields at the district’s expense. She indicated that while she doesn’t want to lose athletic courts/fields, she understands that the district may not be able to afford the costs to maintain them.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- Regular Board Meeting – April 20, 2026, 6:00 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 6:23 p.m.

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