

## SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING DECEMBER 14, 2020

The Spring Lake Board of Education held a Regular Meeting on Monday, December 14, 2020 via electronic video conferencing using Zoom Webinar, Webinar ID: 895 0505 4275, as permitted by Open Meetings Act amendments. Jennifer Nicles called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members present: Jennifer Nicles, Curt Theune, Dennis Devlin, Kathy Breen, Katie Pigott, Jeff Lauinger and Bruce Callen.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Curt Theune moved, supported by Jeff Lauinger, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 16, 2020 and Special Meeting of December 2, 2020, as presented.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

### ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR AGENDA

None

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

### FINANCIAL REPORTS

#### CONSENT AGENDA

Curt Theune moved, supported by Jeff Lauinger, to approve the consent agenda as presented:

Check Listings

- Accounts Payable – Food Service, SLCFAC, General Fund, Student Activity, etc. – wires, EFTs and checks totaling \$789,649
- Payroll - totaling \$2,035,180

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

### ACTION ITEMS

#### CONSENT AGENDA

Curt Theune moved, supported by Jeff Lauinger, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented:

- Summer Tax Collection Fees – no changes from previous year.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

### EXTENDED CONTINUITY OF LEARNING PLAN

Curt Theune moved, supported by Kathy Breen, to approve the Extended Continuity of Learning Plan as presented.

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Mr. Furton provided that as Ottawa County receives its first doses of the vaccine they will be provided to health care workers, pharmacists, EMS worker and vaccinators first. School and childcare staff are slated under Group IB with a 5-12 week vaccination window from now.

Mr. Furton is recommending continuing in-person learning for grades PK-8 and resuming in-person learning for grades 9-12 after Christmas break on January 4, 2021, pending review of data and consultation with the Ottawa County Department of Public Health (OCDPH) on December 30, 2020. He cautioned staff and parents that they will need to still plan for the chance of moving or continuing in remote learning, depending on the results of the December 30 review of information.

Mr. Furton gave a review of the last 30 days of COVID case information for Ottawa County. Dr. Heidel at the OCDPH has indicated there has been a decrease in the number of cases in the county and that the positivity rate seems to have plateaued.

Mr. Furton further provided the current district COVID dashboard information for students and staff indicating two new cases with a total of four cases currently in isolation and a total of 29 students and staff in quarantine at this time. He also shared the MI Safe Start Map and Ottawa County dashboard information showing 7-day average of positive tests trending in the right direction for the county.

Mr. Furton provided the two-way interaction rates to the Board as required under the Extended Continuity of Learning Plan.

Mr. Furton also noted two recent improvements have been added for students and staff as follows:

- Increase in emphasis on social-emotional needs for high school remote learning, including a slight modification of the daily schedule to reflect more one-on-one time for struggling learners
- Increase in employee access to support with a new Employee Assistance Program (EAP) in partnership with Mosaic Counseling beginning December 15, 2020

Mr. Furton reiterated his support for and recommendation of returning to in-person learning for all grades on January 4 as noted above pending the review of data on December 30.

Discussion and questions were heard from the Board. Board member Katie Piggott asked what specific data Mr. Furton will be looking at on December 30.

Mr. Furton responded that the following will be considered:

- In-district data
- County positivity rate
- County new cases per million
- County hospital capacities

Roll Call Vote:

Yes – Kathy Breen, Curt Theune, Jeff Lauinger, Bruce Callen, Dennis Devlin, Jennifer Nicles

No – Katie Piggott

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ELIMINATION OF INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB) PROGRAM

Curt Theune moved, supported by Jeff Lauinger, to eliminate the IB Program as part of the high school curriculum following the 2021-22 school year as presented.

Scott Ely, Mike Gilchrist and the Curriculum Advisory Council recommend the elimination of the IB program for the reasons shared at the November 16, 2020 Board meeting. The AP program offerings will be expanded over the next two years to offset the IB classes that will no longer be offered. It was noted that current junior IB students will be able to finish the IB program under this 2-year timeframe.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

- Central Office Holiday Hours: Central Office will be open December 21, 22, 23, 28, 29 & 30 from 9 a.m. to Noon; Central Office will be closed December 24, 25, 31 and January 1.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Furton expressed his appreciation for retiring Board members Dennis Devlin (13 years) and Jeff Lauinger (10 years) and specifically thanked them for their lengthy service to the district advocating for students, staff and all the things that the community would expect and want from Board members.

UPCOMING MEETING

- Organizational Board Meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. (Please note this meeting is the second Monday in January due to MLK Day being the third Monday.)

EXECUTIVE (CLOSED) SESSION – SUPERINTENDENT'S EVALUATION

Curt Theune moved, support by Jeff Lauinger, to move to closed session at 7:49 p.m.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

Curt Theune moved, supported by Jeff Lauinger, to return to open session at 8:58 p.m.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

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**ADJOURNMENT**

Curt Theune moved, supported by Jeff Lauinger, to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

Jennifer Nicles adjourned the meeting at 8:59 p.m.

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