

PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTION

(regarding resignation of high school principal Michael Gilchrist)

WHEREAS, the District's Superintendent became aware of allegations that Spring Lake High School Principal Michael Gilchrist, in violation of Board policies, changed the recorded grades of certain high school students, including grade changes made without proper authorization and without input from the teachers of record for the courses at issue;

WHEREAS, in response to the allegations, the District's Superintendent conducted a thorough investigation, which included the following: multiple interviews with Mr. Gilchrist; an interview with the District's Registrar and High School Media Specialist; interviews with 16 of the teachers who had originally reported some of the grades at issue; and a review of student grading records;

WHEREAS, during the Superintendent's investigation, the District placed Mr. Gilchrist on paid administrative leave on January 24, 2022 pending completion of the investigation;

WHEREAS, while the investigation was ongoing, Mr. Gilchrist tendered his written resignation on January 26, 2022, announcing his intention to retire effective January 31, 2022;

WHEREAS, the Superintendent's investigation culminated in an 11-page written investigation report to the Board dated February 10, 2022, which the Board has carefully reviewed;

WHEREAS, Mr. Gilchrist was given multiple opportunities to respond to the allegations against him, including multiple interviews with the Superintendent (as detailed in the investigation report) and a meeting of the Board in compliance with the Open Meetings Act; and

WHEREAS, the Board is deeply troubled by the conduct detailed in the investigation report;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Education of the Spring Lake Public Schools, as follows:

1. That the Board accepts Mr. Gilchrist's resignation based on the facts contained in the Superintendent's investigation report; and
2. That the Board's acceptance of Mr. Gilchrist's resignation is without prejudice to all rights and remedies available to the Board under Mr. Gilchrist's Administrator Employment Contract and Michigan law, which rights are expressly reserved; and
3. That the Superintendent is directed to promptly provide a copy of this Resolution to Mr. Gilchrist.

YES: Jennifer Nicles, Kathy Breen, Curt Theune, Bruce Callen, Katie Pigott,  
Paul Aldridge, Christopher Beck

NO: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED: February 10, 2022.

SPRING LAKE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
Board of Education

By *Aut A. Thorne*  
Its: Board Secretary

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Education of Spring Lake Public Schools, Ottawa County, Michigan, at a special meeting held on the 10th day of February, 2022; and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976; and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.

*Aut A. Thorne*  
Secretary, Board of Education  
SPRING LAKE PUBLIC SCHOOLS