

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET HEARING, JUNE 20, 2022

The Spring Lake Board of Education held a Budget Hearing on Monday, June 20, 2022, in person at the SLIS/MS Media Center. Jennifer Nicles called the hearing to order at 6:30 p.m. Board members present: Jennifer Nicles, Curt Theune, Katie Pigott, Kathy Breen, Paul Aldridge and Christopher (Chris) Beck. Absent: Bruce Callen

2022-23 SLPS GENERAL FUND BUDGET

Scott Powers, Chief Financial Officer, advised that a public budget and truth in taxation hearing was required before the Board can adopt next year's budget or tax levy. No action is taken at this hearing.

Mr. Powers presented the following:

2021-22 Budget

Notable changes:

- Slightly favorable changes from the January 2022 amendment due to:
 - new state funding for school health professionals and curriculum-based software
 - additional federal Medicaid funding
 - Federal COVID funding for summer school
 - staffing adjustments and off-schedule 1% payment to staff
- Fund balance is growing due to one-time federal funding from response to COVID
- Current budget of \$32,859,500 has a proposed amendment to \$33,315,700
- Expected excess revenues of approximately \$1,650,000
- Expected fund balance of \$5,201,276 and fund balance percentage of 16.43% - with a significant portion of the growth due to one-time funding sources

2022-23 Budget

The revenue assumptions take the following into consideration:

- Blended enrollment of 2,389, which is the same as 2021-22
- Foundation allowance increase of \$500 per pupil
- Increases to special education and at-risk funding from the state
- COVID-related grant funding estimated at \$1,400,000
- Enhancement millage funding estimated at \$665,000 – year 4 of 10
- State funding for school health professionals – year 2 of 3
- Indirect cost subsidies from: Food Service, \$65,000/FAC, \$50,000

The expenditure assumptions take the following into consideration:

- Negotiated wages with employees, union and non-union
- Employee compensation factors, including retirement contribution rate of 28.23%
- State hard cap increase of 1.3% for health insurance
- Impact of staff retirements/resignations and replacements
- Portion of year 4 enhancement millage funding earmarked for capital needs
- Inflationary increases to utilities, fuel, supplies/materials and contracted services

The proposed budget for 2022-23 provides for \$33,648,600 in revenues with assumed expenditures of \$32,369,000. The projected ending fund balance is \$6,480,876, which would leave the fund balance at roughly 20%.

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET HEARING, JUNE 20, 2022 (cont.)

2022-23 Proposed Operating Tax Levy

Voters approved an 18.25-mill levy for operations in November 2021. The .25 mill in excess of the 18-mill cap on operational levies was approved as a hedge against potential Headlee rollbacks. The district will be levying 18.0 mills on non-homestead properties for the upcoming year. Mr. Powers noted the district will be approaching voters before next summer to renew that 18-mill levy.

2022-23 Proposed Debt Tax Levy

In order to meet the principal and interest obligations on voter-approved bonds, the district will levy 7.00 mills for the upcoming year. This amount remains unchanged since 2014.

Mr. Powers accepted questions from the Board.

Paul Aldridge inquired if the free breakfast and lunch program will be carried into next school year and if there will be any impact on the budget if it does not carry over. Mr. Powers advised that as of now, it is not expected to continue and the general fund budget will not be impacted as the food service program has its own budget.

Mr. Furton provided the budget was reviewed in greater detail last week with the finance committee. He also noted that the district will be taking on High School Lacrosse as a school-funded sport in 2022-23, as it makes good financial sense to do so at this time.

Chris Beck provided that there was good discussion at the finance meeting and that Mr. Powers provided a good summary and recap at tonight's hearing.

Jennifer Nicles inquired if Middle School Lacrosse would also be added as a school-funded sport. Mr. Furton advised that it would not be at this time as it not with most area school districts.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to adjourn the Budget Hearing.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

Jennifer Nicles adjourned the meeting at 6:47p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Date

Board Secretary

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING, JUNE 20, 2022

The Spring Lake Board of Education held a Regular Meeting on Monday, June 20, 2022 in person at the SLIS/MS Media Center. Jennifer Nicles called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. following the Budget Hearing. Board members present: Jennifer Nicles, Curt Theune, Katie Pigott, Kathy Breen, Paul Aldridge and Christopher (Chris) Beck. Absent: Bruce Callen

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Curt Theune moved, supported by Kathy Breen, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 16, 2022, as presented.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR PRINTED AGENDA

None

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 \$493,875.
- Payroll – totaling \$2,041,990.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

BUDGET AMENDMENT

Curt Theune moved, supported by Kathy Breen, to approve the 2021-22 General Appropriation Resolution Amendment as presented.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ACTION ITEMS

CONSENT AGENDA

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the consent agenda as presented:

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING, JUNE 20, 2022 (cont.)

- New Hires –
Anthony Bush Asst Principal High School
Mike Feasby School Safety Coordinator High School
Nickolas Feekings 4th Grade Teacher Jeffers Elementary
Nicole Bayles Spec Ed/Resource Room (.5 FTE) Jeffers Elementary
Lisa Donner K-2 Interventionist/Parapro Jeffers Elementary
Marcia Boik 2nd Grade Teacher Holmes Elementary
Todd Welscott FAC Director Fitness & Aquatic Center
Brad Nietering Maintenance District-Wide
- Resignations/Retirements –
Shana Woodwyk, IS/MS Guidance Counselor, and Katie DeVries, 3rd Grade Teacher at Holmes, have provided letters of resignation effective at the end of the 2021-2022 school year. Shana has been with the district for 19 years, and Katie for 6. They will be greatly missed by staff, students and parents.
- MHSAA Membership Annual Resolution

Chris Beck inquired about the hiring of school bus drivers. Mr. Furton advised that he will be provide an update at a later date when he has a better idea of how the hiring process is coming along

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

2022-2023 BUDGET RESOLUTION

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the General Appropriations Resolution for Fiscal Year for 2022-2023 as presented.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

2022-2023 LEVY

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the 2022-2023 Tax Levy, as presented.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

BUS PURCHASE

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the purchase of one (1) International CE S-53 passenger size bus with the 200,000 Mile Extended Engine Warranty, Track Mounted Seats, & Air Conditioning from Midwest Transit Equipment for a total purchase not to exceed of \$131,199 as presented.

Liz Boeve, Director of Operations, provided that this is part of 22-23 bus replacement plan, and that this bus needs to be ordered now in order to secure possession of it in the later part of next year.

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING, JUNE 20, 2022 (cont.)

Chris Beck inquired if a substantial price increase was noticed from recent bus purchases, and Ms. Boeve provided that since this is a special needs bus with special features, it is hard to compare apples-to-apples pricing with recent purchases.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

ESSER I, II, III

Scott Ely provided the 98B Goal Setting Report required under ESSER I, II and III. He reviewed the mid-year and end-year goals. Mr. Ely provided a report on 11T as well, which is part of the ESSER III requirement, on how the funds are being used and indicated that all funds need to be expended by December of 2024.

Brad VanDeVusse, Controller, indicated that the district will be singled-audited on these programs over the next 2 years and the district is following the strict guidelines provided by ESSER.

POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT ON BOOK COMPLAINT

In response to questions regarding two book titles available through the High School media center collection, *The Infinite Moment of Us* and *Gender Queer*, a committee met to evaluate the questioned material on the criteria as detailed in Board Policy 9130. The three Board members who sat the Material Review Committee provided the following feedback:

Paul Aldridge stated that it was an educational process unlike any other in his 12 years on the Board. He learned how books are evaluated to be chosen or left out of the library and how the annual review process operates for the current books in the library. He commented it is a very thorough process.

Kathy Breen provided that Laurie Draeger, who is the district's media specialist for all school libraries, did a great job of pulling information together for the committee. She indicated that all of the committee members read both books and reviewed the material that Ms. Draeger provided. She feels that the books were very well vetted by Ms. Draeger.

Katie Pigott stated that the four areas of evaluation as provided in Policy 9130 are:

- the appropriateness of the material for the age and maturity level of the students with whom it is being used
- the accuracy of the material
- the objectivity of the material
- the use being made of the material

Ms. Pigott provided that the committee discussed each of those aspects and that the committee determined the content of both books to be appropriate for grades 9-12. She further noted that neither book is required reading in any classroom setting and, while students have the option to choose the materials, district parents are able to request their child(ren) not be allowed to check out specific materials.

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING, JUNE 20, 2022 (cont.)

Ms. Breen also indicated that information be included in parent handbooks on how parents can request certain materials not be available to their child(ren).

DISTRICT OFFICE SUMMER HOURS

- ◇ June 27 through July 29, Monday-Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- ◇ Closed July 4
- ◇ Regular hours resume August 1

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kathy Kasnowicz, 11485 Cleveland St., SL – stated she was not aware of the option to opt out of her kids being able to check out certain books and asked if that could be posted somewhere so parents know how to do that. She further inquired if there is a list of all the books in the school libraries that would be available to parents.

Mr. Furton responded that notice will be posted on the website and included in the parent handbooks. He advised that the book listing is available on the district website, and he will email a link to Ms. Kasnowicz as well.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Furton reported on the following:

- Legislative Update – provided to the Board. Final budget information is expected in the next few weeks. Mr. Furton noted that Governor Whitmer signed legislation that will require a half-credit in personal finance literacy beginning in 2024. He noted this course could replace either math, the arts or world languages. Kathy Breen inquired if this class could be offered sooner than 2024. Mr. Furton advised that it is too early to know but at best it could be brought in as an elective in 2023.
- Audit of Changed Grades – The first annual audit of changed grades will take place in early July.
- Personnel – The IS/MS counseling position should be filled this week. The remaining paraprofessional vacancies will be filled over the next several weeks.

UPCOMING MEETING

- Regular Board Meeting – July 18, 2022, 7:00 p.m., IS/MS Media Center

CLOSED SESSION – STUDENT DISCIPLINE HEARING AT REQUEST OF PARENT

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to move to closed session at 7:37 p.m.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to return to open session at 7:45 p.m.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING, JUNE 20, 2022 (cont.)

ACTION ITEM

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

Curt Theune moved, supported by Paul Aldridge, to suspend Student A for 180 days.

Roll Call Vote: Yes – Pigott, Beck, Theune, Nicles, Breen, Aldridge
No – None

Motion approved.

CLOSED SESSION – PROPERTY PURCHASE

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to move to closed session at 7:48 p.m.
Vote: Yes – Unanimous

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to return to open session at 8:30 p.m.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ADJOURNMENT

Curt Theune moved, supported by Paul Aldridge, to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

Jennifer Nicles adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Date Board Secretary