

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING, JULY 18, 2022

The Spring Lake Board of Education held a Regular Meeting on Monday, July 18, 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, Katie Pigott, Bruce Callen, Kathy Breen, Paul Aldridge and Christopher (Chris) Beck. Absent: Curt Theune

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Jennifer Nicles appointed Katie Pigott as acting Board Secretary for this meeting due to the absence of Curt Theune.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chris Beck moved, supported by Kathy Breen, to approve the Minutes of the Budget Hearing, Regular Meeting and Closed Sessions of June 20, 2022, as presented.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR PRINTED AGENDA

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

FINANCIAL REPORTS

CONSENT AGENDA

Chris Beck moved, supported by Bruce Callen, to approve the consent agenda as presented:

- Accounts Payable – Food Service, SLCFAC, General Fund, Student Activity, etc. – totaling \$956,692
- Payroll – totaling \$2,358,444

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ACTION ITEMS

CONSENT AGENDA

Kathy Breen moved, supported by Paul Aldridge, to approve the consent agenda as presented:

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- New Hires –
Hadley O'BrienShared-Time Art TeacherSt. Mary's School
Sarah O'BrienGuidance Counselor Intermediate/Middle Schools
- Resignation–
Emily Marine, 4th Grade Teacher at Jeffers, has provided a letter of resignation effective at the end of the 2021-2022 school year. Emily has been with the district for 3 years. She will be missed by staff, students and parents.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

OFFICIAL DEPOSITORY FOR SCHOOL FUNDS RESOLUTION

Chris Beck moved, supported by Bruce Callen, to approve Official Depository for School Funds Resolution as presented.

Brad VanDe Vusse, Controller, advised that the district is required to approve on an annual basis the list of depositories. Mr. VanDeVusse noted the changes from the previous year.

Mr. Beck inquired about any improvements with the payroll process and Mr. VanDe Vusse indicated there are new checks and balances in place and all seems to be going well.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES CONTRACT

Kathy Breen moved, supported by Paul Aldridge, to award the Construction Management Services contract for 2023 Pre-Bond Services & Capital Improvements to Owen Ames Kimball (OAK) as presented.

Liz Boeve provided a review of the selection process and the committee makeup which included three Board members. Four proposals were received and the committee chose to interview three out of the four. When the scoring matrix was complete, it was clear that OAK was the overall top choice by all committee members and had the highest overall evaluation score.

Chris Beck, who sat on the committee, echoed what Ms. Boeve provided and commended Ms. Boeve on a great job organizing the interview and evaluation process. Jen Nicles provided that it was helpful to review the committee comment sheet provided to the Board since not all could be a part of the interview process.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

NOVEMBER ELECTION RESOLUTION

Chris Beck moved, supported by Kathy Breen, to approve the November 8, 2022 Election Resolution as presented.

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Mr. Furton provided that as property values are currently exceeding inflation, in order to collect the statutory 18 mills and not have it reduced due to the "Headlee" override, the district must ask voters for the 18 mills plus a .5 cushion. The next step may be moving to annual elections in May of each year to request the 18 mills. Mr. Furton noted that the district cannot collect more than 18 mills. This proposal is required for the district to receive its full revenue per pupil foundation allowance.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

DISTRICT PROVIDED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Bruce Callen moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve August 24 and 25, 2022, October 28, 2022 and January 27, 2023 scheduled PD days as student instructional time for the 2022-23 school year as presented.

Mr. Furton provided that this allows the district to have flexibility with the start and end dates and break times of the school year and that the district still exceeds the required number of hours of instruction as required by the MDE.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

TMP ARCHITECTURE PRESENTATION

Mr. Furton provided the background on the timing of previous bond proposals over the last 20 years. Based on the structure of the district's current debt that is scheduled to fall off significantly in 2027-28, the question became if the district should ride out the next 3 or 4 years or begin planning for a zero-increase bond proposal, extending the 7 mills currently collected on debt. This bond proposal could come before voters as soon as May of 2023. A discussion of the needs, particularly at the High School, included a new roof, secure entryway, upgrade or addition to HS for weight room for student athletes, and a fieldhouse for student activities, band and athletic programs. The district reached out to TMP Architecture, who was the partner in the previous bond, to complete a program assessment. Mr. Furton noted that OAK will be completing the facilities assessment in the coming weeks.

Eduardo Blanc, TMP Senior Vice President, Gail Allevato, TMP President/CMO and Keri Seeney, TMP Interior Designer were introduced.

Ms. Seeney explained that the program assessment was completed to:

- Assess alignment of curriculum, activities and space for each functional area; and
- Determine future opportunities

She provided the preliminary assessments findings from a high level and indicated that a program assessment book showing the work, narratives and more complete information will be forthcoming. The presentation included findings on the following, all pertaining to the HS campus:

- District Vision & Values
- Characteristics of Modern Learning

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- Learning on Display
- Hands-on Learning
- Collaboration
- Promote Wellness Everywhere
- Future-Ready
- Safety & Security
- Program Assessment Process
- Method of Assessment
- Functional, Activation and Sensory Attributes
- Activation Attributes
- Bond Formation Plan

Ms. Allevato provided the process moving forward after assessments are complete. The next step is the formation of a steering committee in August. The committee will explore and prioritize the guiding principals that will surround the development of a future bond proposal, which will be tested through a formal survey by EPIC MRA. The committee will then review those results and make a final recommendation to the Board in November and a Treasury meeting would follow in December. This would put the district on a path for a May 2023 ballot proposal.

Chris Beck asked how TMP involved staff during the assessment phase. Mr. Furton provided that every HS teacher was given the opportunity to be involved and a few were recruited to make sure all areas were covered. Mr. Furton stated that it is critically important to keep staff engaged and get their feedback throughout the entire process.

Mr. Beck commented that this is an opportunity to build culture within the building by listening to their feedback and needs so staff feel supported.

Jen Nicles commented that it would be nice to have a few students on the committee as well.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Furton reported on the following:

- Legislative Update – provided to the Board.
- Audit of Changed Grades – report received on July 12 and will be audited in the next two weeks.
- Bond Planning – In addition to TMP's program evaluation, OAK is in the process of completing a facility evaluation. The Ottawa County Sheriff's Department will be onsite July 27 to evaluate the safety and security of our school entrances. The following tasks are in the works:
 - EPIC MIRA contacted to poll the SL community sometime between mid-September and early October.
 - Stanfred Consultants will perform an enrollment projection as part of the Treasury application process.

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- Connecting with a wide range of community stakeholders, including parents, members of staff and members of the community to request engagement as part of the Steering Committee. The committee work will commence in mid to late August.
- Property acquisition – no update at this time.
- Personnel – current vacancies include:
 - 4th Grade Teacher @ Jeffers
 - Varsity Boys' Lacrosse Coach
 - Varsity Girls' Lacrosse Coach
 - Varsity Baseball Coach
 - Varsity Boys' Track Coach
 - Varsity Girls' Track Coach
 - 8th Grade Football Coach
- Schedule:
 - July 25 & 26: WMHIP Board meeting in Traverse City

Jennifer Nicles asked the following questions relating to the bond planning:

- Is the EPIC MRA poll random or will it include everyone in the community? Mr. Furton indicated it is random and the timing will be key in light of the upcoming November general election.
- Who will makeup of the Steering Committee? Mr. Furton advised that recommendations will be sought from Board members, administrators, staff, parents, students and the community. It is anticipated 40 members will be sought, including three Board members.
- Is the focus solely on the High School? Mr. Furton advised the main focus will be on the High School with very minimal focus on other campuses.

UPCOMING MEETING

- Regular Board Meeting – August 15, 2022, 7:00 p.m., IS/MS Media Center

ADJOURNMENT

Chris Beck moved, supported by Kathy Breen, to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

Jennifer Nicles adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Date Board Secretary