

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING, APRIL 17, 2023

The Spring Lake Board of Education held a Regular Meeting on Monday, April 17, 2023, in person at the Spring Lake IS/MS Media Center. Jennifer Nicles called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members present: Jennifer Nicles, Curt Theune, Bruce Callen, Paul Aldridge, Christopher Beck, Katie Pigott and Courtney Holmes. 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 and Closed Session of March 20, 2023 as presented.

Vote: Yes–Unanimous

ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR AGENDA

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

FINANCIAL REPORTS

CONSENT AGENDA

Curt Theune moved, supported by Bruce Callen, to approve the consent agenda for check listings as presented:

- Accounts Payable – Food Service, SLCFAC, General Fund, Student Activity, etc. totaling \$914,002
- Payroll – totaling \$3,727,401

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ACTION ITEMS

NEW HIRES

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the hiring of Julie Pruim to fill a vacant bus driver position as presented.

Vote: Yes - Unanimous

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RESIGNATION

Curt Theune moved, supported by Bruce Callen, to approve, with regrets, the resignation of Scott Ely at the end of the 2022-23 school year as presented.

Mr. Furton commented that Scott Ely is one of the most professional people he knows and that he consistently communicates, acts and reacts in the same professional way. He will be greatly missed by all!

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

TECHNOLOGY PURCHASE – STUDENT DEVICES

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the purchase of 180 iPad 10s and 180 Brenthaven 360 iPad cases from Apple, and 420 Dell Chromebook 3110s and 420 Chrome Management licenses from Presidio, for a total cost not to exceed \$178,377.00, as presented.

Brent Gustafson, Technology Coordinator, provided that this recommendation is similar to prior years and the plan is to rotate out a certain group of devices and rotate in new devices for incoming 3rd, 5th and 9th graders. The expected life span for Chromebooks is 4 years and 5 years for iPads. There is a slight increase in the quantity being requested so that there could be a bit of reserve. He also noted that the 2014 bond funds have been enough to cover device purchasing for last six years and should be able to complete this purchase before that fund is closed out.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

PBIS AT HOLMES & JEFFERS ELEMENTARIES

Sandra Smits, Holmes Principal, Shelley Peets, Jeffers Principal, Maddi Nogar, Jeffers Social Worker, Sarah Davison, Holmes Intensive Resource Room teacher, Bella Perez-Pala, Holmes Social Worker, Sara Gray, School Psychologist, and Tanya Mey, Jeffers Speech Pathologist, were on hand to provide the Board with information on the joint Positive Behavior Intervention System at Holmes and Jeffers.

They collectively provided the following:

- PBIS is an evidenced-based support system with 3 tiers, supporting students' behavioral, academic, social, emotional, and mental health.
- All students receive Tier 1 support, 15% of students receive Tier 2 small group support and 5% receive Tier 3 individual support.
- Academic and behavior tier information shared.
- The system has proven to provide improved student outcomes, reduced exclusionary discipline, and improved teacher outcomes.

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- While PBIS has been in both buildings for several years, a reboot began in 2020 with staff/teacher input on what expectations should be taught at both buildings to provide a common language between buildings.
- ISD provided training to all staff and teachers.
- HEART Smart Expectations: Be helpful, have a good attitude, be respectful and be a good thinker.
- Students are taught lessons at least six times throughout the year.
- Bus drivers have been trained in PBIS as well and students earn tickets on the bus.
- Consistent incentive programs provided.
- Reviewed what the HEART Smart program looks like at each building.
- Impact: common language at both buildings, consistent expectations, improves culture and climate, empowers students to demonstrate positive behaviors, develops and honors the whole child, build relationships among students, staff and parents, develop partnerships with the community and reduce negative reactions by increasing positive proactive interactions.

Chris Beck asked if Tier 2 and 3 support is increasing or decreasing in numbers. Shelley Peets provided it has been relatively consistent with some decrease in numbers.

Jennifer Nicles asked how this program is communicated to parents. Sandra Smits provided it comes from the classroom teachers via conferences, emails or phone calls.

Katie Pigott commented that common language between the schools is important and that it's really cool to see it being implemented.

Dennis Furton provided that one of the goals of the program is to have the two elementary buildings on the same page with PBIS. This one project has made the buildings more similar, through the leadership of this team in particular, and makes the student transition to 5th/6th grade that much better.

Jennifer Nicles asked for an example of community partnerships. Sandra Smits provided that the biggest would be the parent clubs and parent volunteers. Shelley Peets provided that monthly grade level assemblies with high school students, the Lumberjacks, and other district/community programs have been held as well.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Karen Obits, Spring Lake village resident – commented how grateful she was for Scott Ely's willingness to discuss her curriculum questions over the last few years and that she is sorry to see him go.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Furton reported on the following:

- May BOE Meeting – Expect FAC and HS presentations.
- Legislative Update – Advocacy letters provided and briefly reviewed with the Board.
- Bond Update –
 - A new one-page flyer will be delivered to all SLPS box holders by the end of the week or early next week.
 - A one-page poster for businesses to display will be distributed shortly.
 - Yard signs are up throughout the community, created and placed by the advocacy team.
 - One final presentation is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on April 25 at the SL District Library.

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- Personnel – updates on vacancy provided:
 - 5th grade vacancies filled by Kathy VanderMeulen (HS Food & Life Science) and Meryl VanLente-Vink (Holmes 1st Grade)
 - 1st Grade at Holmes recently posted internally
 - Food & Life Sciences is being evaluated before a decision to post is made
 - HS English – final interviews May 11
 - HS Social Studies – final interviews May 4
 - HS Science – final interviews April 26
 - IS/MS IRR – new position, recently posted internally
 - Curriculum Director – application deadline is April 21
 - FAC Director & Assistant Director - TBD
- Calendar/Events –
 - April 21 – Policy Committee Meeting, 2:00 p.m.
 - April 25 – Final Bond Presentation, SLDL, 6:00 p.m.
 - April 27 through 29 – HS Musical, White Christmas
 - May 5 – Board Work Session, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Chris Beck inquired what triggered making the decision to add an IRR teacher at this time. Mr. Furton provided it is the need to continue supports for K-4 students as they transition to the Intermediate/ Middle schools. Amy Kendall confirmed that the number of students with caseloads and complex issues are pretty high and capacity levels are a little too much for one teacher to handle.

Chris Beck asked about the current job pool and if the district was having a hard time recruiting for posted positions. Mr. Furton advised that he feels pretty confident at this time and believes the district is still attractive for candidates. He did note, however, that the overall job market is thinner.

Jennifer Nicles inquired about the July work session, and Mr. Furton provided it is slated for July 14, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Regular Board Meeting – May 15, 2023, 7:00 p.m., IS/MS Media Center

CLOSED SESSION – PROPERTY PURCHASE

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to move to closed session.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

The Board went into closed session at 7:43 p.m.

Curt Theune moved, supported by Paul Aldridge, to return to open session.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

The Board returned to open session at 8:30 p.m.

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ACTION ITEM

Curt Theune moved, supported by Paul Aldridge, to approve the property purchase resolution as presented.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ADJOURNMENT

Curt Thune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

Jennifer Nicles adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Date Board Secretary