

SPRING LAKE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING, OCTOBER 16, 2023

The Spring Lake Board of Education held a Regular Meeting on Monday, October 16, 2023, in person at the SLIS/MS Media Center. Jennifer Nicles chaired the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members present: Jennifer Nicles, Bruce Callen, Curt Theune, Christopher (Chris) Beck, Paul Aldridge, Courtney Holmes and Kelly VanderHoek. Absent: None

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS

2022-23 Financial Audit Report

Mr. Furton introduced Nick Kossaras, CPA, with Maner Costerisan. Mr. Kossaras provided the audit in detail at the finance committee meeting previous to this meeting. He summarized the audit and included notations of the following:

- Unmodified, clean opinion was issued with respect to the district's financial statements
- New in FY23: Implementation of GASB 96, SBITAs, which had no material impact on the financial statements
- Governmental funds balance sheet which included the general fund and the new 2023 capital projects fund
- Income statement summary including revenues, expenditures and other sources
- Key performance indicators (KPIs) providing fund balance information for all districts in Ottawa county as of the previous fiscal year-end, showing the statewide average of 19.2% and SLPS at 18.8%
- Budget comparison of the general fund showing a variance of just \$161 from the projected budget
- A single audit on federal awards for the Education Stabilization Fund (ESSER Funds) resulted in a clean opinion with no issues reported
- Governance letter provided no significant issues
- Management letter comment regarding food service follow up from previous year

Technology Report

Brent Gustafson, Technology Coordinator, provided the following information to the Board:

Who SL Technology is:

- What technology has looked like in the district from the 1980s to today, indicating the 2016 bond helped push the district to the next level
- His roles, past and present, and the technology support provided by Media Center staff
- With the implementation of the 1:1 program in 2012; the district joined the Ottawa Area Information Technology Consortium (OAITC), greatly benefiting the district with technology support
- OAITC tech support staff and what they do

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Where they are today:

- Instructional technology is 90% of what they do today
- Oversee infrastructure, safety and security
- Refresh student devices on a regular schedule, 4 to 5 years depending on device
- Support for clubs and sports teams
- Provide classroom design, management tools, and support teams for staff
- Administer devices and software support for collaboration tools
- Support network design, network capacity and management tools
- Train staff on safety and security
- Adjust technology as the needs of staff change
- Support all of the administrative and classroom software
- Utilize management tools to monitor events and outages
- Support door access and security camera technology and software

Where they are going:

- Continue to support instructional technology, clubs and sports teams with not a lot of change
- BYOD – bring your own device, security and problem solving
- Refresh of devices and improving classroom design with the new bond
- Create specialized support teams
- Make office space more efficient
- Grow the network design
- Implement new management and detection tools
- Improve safety and security as needed
- Continue safety and security training for staff
- Implement changes to infrastructure, network design, network capacity and management tools as the number of devices being used increases

Courtney Holmes asked what kind of security parameters are used on K-4 and upper grades devices. Mr. Gustafson provided a list of what is currently used and indicated the need for building out different and higher layers of security when they have found it necessary.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes and Closed Session of the September 18, 2023 and the Work Session Minutes of September 26, 2023, as presented.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR PRINTED AGENDA

None

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PUBLIC COMMENTS

Brandon Grozier, Division 7 Roofing, Grand Rapids – provided his position on the recent roof bid and asked the district to consider hiring an architect or construction manager to rebid the roof replacement project.

Kevin Priddy (no address provided) – read excerpts from a book from the high school library, “This Book is Gay”, and expressed his opinion of and objections to the book.

Kevin Priddy (no address provided) – questioned what would happen if a teacher gave that kind of book to a student, and a parent had documentation of that, if charges would be brought, and if that would be a Title IX violation.

Melissa Reeths, Grand Haven – Provided her opinion of and objections to the book referenced by Mr. Priddy and challenged the Board, specifically the men, to read the introduction through Chapter 3.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Accounts Payable – Food Service, SLCFAC, General Fund, Student Activity, etc. – totaling \$598,886.
- Payroll – totaling \$3,175,410.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

ACTION ITEMS

NEW HIRES

Curt Theune moved, supported by Bruce Callen, to approve the hiring of the following:

Terry Bandstra	Bus Driver	Transportation
Melissa Hughes	Parapro	GSRP/Jeffers Elementary
Elise Buchholz	Food Service Asst.....	IS/MS Kitchen
Laura Sevensma	ASD Teacher Consultant	IS/MS
Melissa Solesby	Special Ed Parapro	IS/MS
Crystal Smith	Instructional Parapro	Holmes Elementary

Curt Theune inquired if Mr. Furton knew the reason/s bus drivers are leaving, and Mr. Furton provided that it is mostly financial and he is currently addressing the issue to see what can be done.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

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ANNUAL SUMMER TAX RESOLUTION

Curt Theune moved, supported by Chris Beck, to approve the Annual Summer Tax Resolution as presented.

Scott Powers, CFO, provided that the state requires school districts to make an annual resolution in order for districts to collect taxes during the summer. The summer tax collection improves the district's cash flow for September payrolls.

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kevin Priddy (no address provided) – commented on the annual summer tax collection process and reminded the Board of the upcoming election year.

Kathleen Kasnowicz, 11485 Cleveland St., SL – provided her opinion of and objections to the book referenced by Mr. Priddy, commented on the upcoming Youth Assessment Survey and inquired how it was decided that the district participate in that survey.

Courtney Holmes inquired about the book review process and if the book referenced by Mr. Priddy could be put on hold until it can be reviewed. Mr. Furton provided that the district's policy states that the book must stay in circulation, even when there is an appeal or complaint made, until a final determination is made by the book review committee.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Furton reported on the following:

- Summer tax collection – this process has been in place for over 10 years and is not new.
- Legislative Update – provided details to the board on retiree return to work, senate education committee educator evaluations and one house bill which would revise the retirement plan option for newly hired public school employees.
- Bond Update – finishes for administrative spaces and fieldhouse are being finalized
- OK Conference – SL will vote next week to release the 7 schools who have requested permission from member district to leave the OK Conference at the end of this school year. SL will be staying with the OK Conference.
- BOE Presentation/Topic Schedule – provided to the Board.
- Superintendent Goals – provided to the Board and will be placed on November agenda.

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- Calendar/Events:
 - October 18, 19, November 1 & 2: Adaptive Schools Training for Admin Team
 - October 20: Chamber Early Bird Breakfast – Lakerpalooza
 - October 25: MASB Superintendent Evaluation Training with MASB, 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
 - October 26: Professional Development
 - October 27: No School
 - October 28: Lakerpalooza hosted by the Spring Lake Schools Foundation

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Regular Board Meeting – November 20, 2023, 7:00 p.m., IS/MS Media Center

ADJOURNMENT

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

Vote: Yes – Unanimous

Bruce Callen adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
Date Board Secretary