

Spring Lake Park Teachers United Executive Committee Meeting

November 20, 2024 - 4:38 PM

In-Person

Present

Scott Smith, President
Kelsey Cassidy, Secretary
Kari Walton, Treasurer
Jamie Ramirez, High School Rep
Doug Cox, WW 5-6 Rep
Stephanie Sandvik, EC/ABE Rep
Jessica Frank, NP REP

Kristine Powell, WW 7-8 Rep
Andrew Walsh, Membership Chair
Samantha Waibel, WC Rep
Marge Zobitz, Members Rights
Doug Cox, WW 5-6 Rep
Blair Hanson, Member Rights
Whitney Worwa, CV Rep

Absent

Erin Azer, EdMN Rep (guest)
Stephanie Sandvik, EC/ABE Rep

Treasurer's Report: Kari Walton

SLPTU has had dues deposited. Our 3 month CD has rolled over. There have been no expenses since the last meeting.

Membership Report: Andy Walsh

87.5% of eligible teaching staff are members of SLPTU. We currently have 400 members out of 457 Union eligible teaching staff. Dues have been finalized with payroll.

President's Report: Scott Smith

Negotiations Committee Update - Nominations will close on 11/22. If voting is necessary, it will open the week of 12/09. The announcement of elected committee members will happen before winter break. EdMN Collective Bargaining and Organizing Conference is at the end of January (24th/25th). SLPTU will use OFS grant money to help cover the cost of negotiators attending the conference.

Substitute Teaching Compensation and Coverage - SLPTU is becoming aware of several instances where compensation for substitute teaching is unclear. In some cases, contract language is imprecise regarding compensation amounts. SLPTU has communicated concerns with HR. Any questions regarding substitute teaching expectations and compensation should be brought to the attention of building supervisors and SLPTU building representatives.

Education Minnesota: No report at this time.

Building Reports (These reports represent a brief description of concerns, issues, and topics that have been shared with Building Representatives.)

EC/ABE - No report at this time.

CV - Subs using Comp + are losing their group time which is impacting student learning. Members have expressed concerns to the building representative around behavior and the amount of meetings they must attend. Trimester grade reporting for all subjects with personalized comments is causing more work without increased time to complete the work.

NP - Lack of consistency for Setting 3 students is impacting all students and staff. Comments in the gradebook are causing more work without increased time to complete the work.

PT - No report at this time.

WCSI - Some staff have expressed concerns over responses to behavior flows and shared these concerns with the building representative.

WW 5-6 - CBL and LiFT are creating more work for teachers. Math and LA teachers are required to include personalized comments in the grading comments beyond what was done before. Concerns around staff safety have been shared with the building representative.

WW 7-8 - Subs on lead learner days are coming from teams and not enough outside coverage – this is impacting the students and the system as a whole. Plans are in the works to engage with building leaders about the impact on students and teams. There is a discrepancy between flow response time between admin and teachers. Some teachers have a desire to clear this up.

HS - Some staff have reported concerns about escalating student behavior and some staff are not feeling support. Building reps have shared those concerns with site and district leaders. Building reps have also shared staff concerns regarding CBL grading practices with site leaders.

SLPTU BUSINESS:

OFS Grant Update - SLPTU submitted the application last week. SLPTU is waiting to hear feedback from EdMN. The budget is approximately \$30,000 which means SLPTU (at most) will have to cover 20% (\$6,000). SLPTU's cost will come from the social events line item. This will be \$3,000 each budget year for the next two years.

SLPTU Surveys - High school survey will come out at the beginning of December. If other building reps have requested surveys, they will be used later in the month.

Health Committee - Health insurance costs across Minnesota are rising. The Health Committee has determined that there will be an increase in SLP's health insurance costs next year. Details are not yet known because more cost projections will be run over the course of the next few months.

School Board Attendance - Many members have expressed an interest in attending school board meetings. This effort would help demonstrate to members and district leaders that SLPTU is active and engaged outside of negotiation years. School board meetings are about 2 hours. The SLPTU Executive Committee has agreed that each building will have a designated month when those members can attend school board meetings if they are able. More information will come out closer to the meeting dates. Discussion regarding child care for members attending meetings.

January 14 - Woodcrest

February 11 - Centerview

March 4 - SLPHS

April 8 - WW Complex

May 13 - Northpoint

June 10 - All call

Future Executive Committee Meetings - Dec. 18th via WebEx

Upcoming Dates

Meeting adjourned at 6:05PM.

Kelsey Cassidy, Secretary