

Spring Lake Park Teachers United Executive Committee Meeting

February 21, 2023 - 4:30 PM

In person

Present

Scott Smith, President

Kelsey Cassidy, Secretary

Kari Walton, Treasurer

Jamie Ramirez, High School Rep

Jessica Frank, NP REP

Stephanie Sandvik, EC/ABE Rep

Mary Strohmayr, PT Rep

Whitney Worwa, CV Rep

Samantha Waibel, WC Rep

Erin Azer, EdMN Rep (guest)

Andrew Walsh, Membership Chair

Absent

Marge Zobitz, Members Rights

Kristine Powell, WW 7-8 Rep

Doug Cox, WW 5-6 Rep

Blair Hanson, Member Rights and High School Rep

Treasurer's Report: Kari Walton

The books were audited and the results are ready to be sent to EdMN. EOY summary will be sent out to members. Dues have been deposited with some debits.

Membership Report: Andy Walsh

89% of teachers in the district are members of SLPTU. There are some people moving from apprentice teachers to becoming eligible to be members.

A concern was discussed about district employees that travel to many buildings. How should SLPTU communicate with them about specific building topics and information (i.e. 10 minute meetings)? Executive Committee members will work on solving this issue before next school year.

President's Report: Scott Smith

Get Out the Vote: Matt Meier is our SLPTU Get Out the Vote lead. There will be some events in the spring and next fall coordinated with EdMN. SLPTU will be active in encouraging members to be active in increasing educators civic engagement. SLPTU will also consider the potential to endorse school board candidates in the future.

Schedule C: Members will receive an updated Schedule C when the district has finalized separating some of the athletic/activity positions. SLPTU will inventory what positions are left

on Schedule C and consider what roles are not being filled, what roles should be added, etc. According to the MOU, opportunities to amend Schedule C will sunset in June.

Negotiations are ongoing for Preschool teachers as they are members of SLPTU and the collective bargaining unit. They do not have a current salary schedule. SLPTU's proposal is to add Preschool teachers to the Early Childhood salary schedule (Schedule E).

Education Minnesota:

The 2024 Education Minnesota Representative Convention is April 19-20. SLPTU may have 5 delegates.

Pension Rally at the Capitol on the 29th of February @ 3:45. There is an opportunity to get subs for those that may need them and want to attend.

Lobby Days are coming up where members can go speak at the Capitol. Columbia Heights settled their contract. St. Paul voted to strike at over 92% voting for a strike approval.

Building Reports:

EC/ABE - Short on substitutes.

CV - Class Kick app disappearing; questions about taking sick time;

NP - Inefficiencies in sub model; concerns about professional development on conference days; morning meetings are running right up to the bell to begin the school day; assignment changes during the school year – workload

PT - Consequences for student behavior when unsafe behaviors occur. It is important to document unsafe behaviors and when they are reported to supervisors.

WCSI - Difficulty sometimes covering specialist classes when there are absences; apps for student learning that we used to have have now disappeared or have restricted access

WW 5-6 - No report at this time.

WW 7-8 - Elopement of students is a growing concern among staff. Questions have been raised about the sub-model for next year and teacher compensation if necessary. -Some students are not attending class regularly and/or coming significantly tardy. Desire has been expressed to administration to run a refresher on building expectations for students and staff. What are the expectations regarding staff responding to behavior flows and follow-up after an incident?

HS - Teachers want confirmation regarding whether or not competencies will be fully implemented next year. Many students in the hallways especially the last two hours of the

day.

SLPTU BUSINESS:

OFS Grant: Final grant budget allocations and documentation has been submitted and waiting for final approval from EdMN.

Representative Convention: April 19th and 20th in Bloomington. So far, we have three members who will be attending. Because we have fewer than 5, SLPTU does not need an election.

Executive Committee Elections will tentatively open the last week in March. A vote for positions will be held in early April. Nominations will begin the week of March 25th. Potential vote around April 8th. If we have new members elected, they will be invited to attend the last Ex. Committee meeting of the year in May.

The Spring Social and General Membership Meeting is Thursday, May 2nd. Planning for the social to begin at the end of March.

Teacher of the Year is announced at the Spring Social. Sam Howard will be assisting Maria Ahrndt with the TOY program.

SLPTU survey(s) to come in March. Targeted surveys for buildings.

Upcoming Dates

Executive Committee Meeting March 20th at 4:30 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 6:03 PM.

Kelsey Cassidy, Secretary