

Spring Lake Park Teachers United Executive Committee Meeting

February 19, 2025 - 5:00 PM

WebEx

Present

Scott Smith, President
Kelsey Cassidy, Secretary
Whitney Worwa, CV Rep
Jamie Ramirez, High School Rep
Doug Cox, WW 5-6 Rep
Blair Hanson, Member Rights
Jessica Frank, NP REP

Kristine Powell, WW 7-8 Rep
Samantha Waibel, WC Rep
Kari Walton, Treasurer
Stephanie Sandvik, EC/ABE Rep
Doug Cox, WW 5-6 Rep
Kari Walton, Treasurer
Andrew Walsh, Membership Chair

Absent

Erin Azer, EdMN Rep (guest)
Marge Zobitz, Members Rights

Treasurer's Report: Kari Walton

The SLPTU audit required by EdMN is due at the end of the month. The audit team is meeting next week to wrap that up.

Membership Report: Andy Walsh

SLPTU membership is at 406 teacher members with 57 potential members. 87.8% of eligible teachers are members of SLPTU.

President's Report: Scott Smith

Negotiations Committee - The Negotiations Committee has met twice. Members are in plans to host listening sessions in district buildings then follow those with an online survey. Listening sessions will begin the week of March 24th. The committee will file a "notice of intent to negotiate" in March. This will initiate discussion with district officials about the sequence and timeline for the upcoming negotiations process. A "lead negotiator" has not been chosen.

Staffing Assignments - The district will follow a similar timeline for notifying members about staffing assignments that they used last year. Probationary teachers will be notified about their future status no later than April 11th. All other staff will be notified of their teaching assignment for 2025-26 by April 25th. There may be some staff whose assignment will not be determined until a later date, but this number should be minimal.

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 - The EC/ABE building rep has plans to meet with supervisors regarding staff being required to complete additional training on days identified for OLLA trainings. Also, probationary teachers have brought concerns forward about scoring on rubrics used by supervisors during observations.

CV - Concerns have been raised about the district's lane change process and annual timeline. The building rep has encouraged those members to bring this topic up at negotiations committee listening sessions.

NP - Building rep shared ideas related to the use of professional development with the building administrator.

PT - No report at this time. PT will have a new building Rep starting in March.

WCSI - Some new and probationary teachers feel they haven't been adequately trained on the reading and math curriculum. These teachers feel they are unable to implement these curricula well. The building rep plans to discuss this with the building administrator.

WW 5-6 - Ongoing issues related to student behavior and available support for teachers. Also ongoing staff shortages. Building rep emailed HR to meet about some of these concerns.

WW 7-8 - Similar experiences as the 5-6 building.

HS - Many teachers have expressed concerns about CBL implementation and the amount of communication episodes. Quite a few teachers have also shared that they feel that building leaders are not adequately listening to teacher feedback. Building reps shared that over the last few years, teacher workload inequities have increased which is leading to teacher burnout and teacher retention issues. The building reps are bringing these concerns to building admin when they next meet with them.

SLPTU BUSINESS:

OFS Grant Update - OFS Grant process is going slowly this year. SLPTU is still waiting on approval from EdMN.

Teacher Resignation Dates in Negotiations Year (Odd Numbered Years) - If a new contract is not in place for the following school year by March 1, a teacher can resign up to 30 calendar days after the new teacher contract is ratified or before July 15, whichever comes first. (Sec. 122A, 40 MN Statutes, Subdivision 7)

Representative Convention - Jamie Ramirez, Sam Waibel, Stephanie Sandvik, and Scott Smith will all attend the RC April 25th-26th. New Executive officers for Education Minnesota will be voted on at the Convention.

Read Act Training - Executive Committee members discussed issues related to the required time for training related to the READ Act. Members have shared experiences when they were required to continue attending a training session even though the training requirements had been completed successfully. President Smith will share these concerns with district leaders to clarify READ Act time requirements.

Spring Social - SLPTU's spring social will once again be held at Forgotten Star. Tentative date is May 22nd.

School Board Attendance - Some Centerview members attended the school board meeting on February 11th.

The SLPTU Executive Committee has agreed that each building will have a designated month to show up for the school board meetings if members are able to attend. More information will come out closer to the meeting dates.

March 4 - SLPHS

April 8 - WW Complex

May 13 - Northpoint

June 10 - Early Childhood / All call

Upcoming Dates

March 26th - In-Person at 4:30 PM

Meeting adjourned at 6:24PM.

Kelsey Cassidy, Secretary