

Spring Lake Park Teachers United Executive Committee Meeting

September 17, 2025 - 4:30 PM

In-Person

Present

Scott Smith, President
Kelsey Cassidy, Secretary
Samantha Waibel, WC Rep
Jamie Ramirez, High School Rep
Dean Downs, NP REP

Stephanie Sandvik, EC/ABE Rep
Andrew Walsh, Membership Chair
Blair Hanson, Member Rights
Kristine Powell, WW 7-8 Rep
Doug Cox, WW 5-6 Rep

Absent

Whitney Worwa, CV Rep
Kari Walton, Treasurer
Allie Knutson, PT Rep
Marge Zobitz, Members Rights
Erin Azer, EdMN Rep (guest)

Treasurer's Report: Kari Walton

Dues were \$55.34 per check last year. This year, national dues increased by \$1.06 per pay check. There was a discussion around raising local dues. A decision will be made by the second week of October.

Membership Report: Andy Walsh

There are 464 eligible teachers in the District to be SLPTU members. There are 400 teacher members. The membership rate is 86%.

President's Report: Scott Smith

EdMN is continuing to engage and organize members around the possibility of creating a statewide health insurance plan that creates one large pool for all school employees. EdMN is actively looking for a "Health Care Action Leader" from each local to engage and organize members on this issue. A grant of \$1,000 is available to each local to be used as a stipend for the Health Care Action Leader. Leader nominations are due Nov. 1. SLPTU will communicate information about the grant and leadership position in early October.

SLPTU has offered to partner with the Kids First organization to support all efforts to pass the district's operational levy referendum. SLPTU will be holding events to raise money and provide volunteers for Kids First initiatives. The levy vote will be Tuesday, November 4th.

Education Minnesota:

No report at this time.

Building Reports

EC - Some members are reporting lack of support from supervisors. The building rep is following up on this with supervisors.

CV - A portion of teachers are staying longer to ensure parent pick up is running smoothly. Other staff members are not being allocated full prep periods due to pick up and drop off times based on student class schedules. The building rep is working with the admin to resolve both issues.

NP - Northpoint teachers are experiencing high caseloads and behavior concerns. Some members feel as though they are not being listened to when raising concerns around class numbers and push in models. Due to staffing shortages, there is not adequate support for students with the largest needs.

PT - No report at this time.

WCSI - Union leaders met with District leaders regarding a staff safety incident.

WW 5-6 - A group of members met over the summer to discuss behavior. There has been some frustration around implementation of that design and teachers not feeling as though the district honored their work. Many staff are feeling overwhelmed with new duties: deadlines to contact families, evening episodes, and missing duty free lunch times. Some teachers are being required to monitor student lunch periods, cutting into the contractual duty free lunch period. Subbing remains a problem. Building rep and other members of WWI have been in contact with building leadership to discuss these issues.

WW 7-8 - Overall, many members have expressed concerns about time commitments outside of the duty day and of Panther Time. The building rep is meeting with building leaders to get clarity around these items.

HS - No report at this time.

SLPTU BUSINESS:

Executive Committee Meetings through December - October 22nd (In-person), November 19th (In-person), December 17th (WebEx)

Member Contact Info - If you are not receiving SLPTU emails or texts, let your building rep know.

Homecoming Event - Friday, September 26th in the SLPHS parking lot. Members are encouraged to attend with their families and march in the parade. The SLP Teachers of the Year will be in the parade.

10 Minute Meeting Building Schedules - Building reps should have an agenda for these meetings and hold them approximately once a month. Initial meetings can be used to show members how to find notice of assignment on Skyward, request a sub using Frontline, update members on Union matters, etc.

New Membership Drive - Individual buildings will potentially host an event in October or November.

Negotiations Updates -The first negotiations session is Monday, September 22nd, followed up with a meeting on Thursday, September 25th. A third meeting is Tuesday, September 30th. Members are encouraged to wear black SLPTU shirts on Monday, September 22nd to support the Negotiations Committee.

Upcoming Dates

Meeting adjourned at 6:21PM.
Kelsey Cassidy, Secretary