

Spring Lake Park Teachers United Executive Committee Meeting

April 16, 2025 - 4:30 PM

WebEx

Present

Kristine Powell, WW 7-8 Rep

Kelsey Cassidy, Secretary

Kari Walton, Treasurer

Doug Cox, WW 5-6 Rep

Marge Zobitz, Members Rights

Allie Knuston, PT Rep

Jamie Ramirez, High School Rep

Jessica Frank, NP REP

Samantha Waibel, WC Rep

Kyle Detert, Vice President

Stephanie Sandvik, EC/ABE Rep

Andrew Walsh, Membership Chair

Scott Smith, President

Blair Hanson, Member Rights

Absent

Erin Azer, EdMN Rep (guest)

Whitney Worwa, CV Rep

Treasurer's Report: Kari Walton

Some dues deposits have come through. SLPTU has an outstanding balance from the 2023-2025 OFS grant of \$4,666.13. The Treasurer will repay this money in order to receive funds for the 2025-2027 OFS grant.

Membership Report: Andy Walsh

SLPTU has 87.5% of eligible teachers as members. There are 465 eligible teachers in the district. 407 are members of SLPTU and 58 are potential members.

Starting in April, potential members that join will be able to join EdMN/SLPTU and not pay dues until September of 2025. If they do sign up, the new members will agree to be a dues paying member for the length of the next school year. New members can register through this link: <https://www.educationminnesota.org/member-benefits/join-us/New-member>.

President's Report: Scott Smith

SLPTU will send 3 delegates to the EdMN Representative Convention April 24th and 25th. Representing SLPTU will be Scott Smith, Jamie Ramirez, and Samantha Waibel.

Over 50 union members from Fridley, Columbia Heights, and SLP attended the Pizza and Politics event on April 17th. Union members questioned state legislators about pension support, health insurance reform, and continued/consistent funding streams for public education.

The district is taking a longer time than they had originally planned to notify staff about their assignments for next school year. SLPTU leadership is working with district personnel to ensure members are clearly informed about their future assignments as soon as possible. Any questions or concerns about assignments for next year should be brought to the attention of building reps.

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 - Ongoing teacher concerns about feeling support from supervisors across buildings. An EC survey is coming out soon.

CV - No report at this time.

NP - Some teachers are feeling more micromanaged recently. Ongoing feelings of stress related to a proposed looping mode for next school year..

PT - Some teachers have raised concerns about the sub model, time grading in LiFT, and that needs aren't being met for SpEd students. A few teachers are wondering about new furniture roll out and time commitments from teachers.

WCSI - There are concerns about the amount of time it takes for members to discern concerns reported on the TipLine.

WW 5-6 - Ongoing concerns for behavior and SpEd students. Board credits are being awarded for READ Act training completion which benefits some employees and not others. Additional frustration for some teachers who are trying to move over lanes and can't because there are no new SLP Academy classes.

WW 7-8 - Some members are concerned about the nature and accuracy of information shared on the TipLine.

HS - Some concerns were raised about how probationary staff were notified about their status for next year. The timing and setting of the notifications were questioned.

SLPTU BUSINESS:

Spring Social: Thursday, May 22 will be the date for the Spring Social. Location will be at Forgotten Star Brewery. This will run from 3:30-7:00.

Health Committee Update - Costs are going to increase next year. The increase in cost is less than many other districts in the state. The district health plan is also no longer covering the cost of GLP-1 medications for weight management starting July 1st.

OFS Grant Update - The OFS Committee is starting to plan out ways to allocate the grant funds. The free t-shirt store is up and running and will close on April 20th. Building reps will deliver free t-shirts to members.

May Executive Committee Meeting - Due to a conflict for high school staff, the May 21st, Executive Committee meeting will be changed to another date. TBD

School Board Attendance - About 30 members of the Westwood Complex attended the school board meeting on April 8th.

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.

May 13 - Northpoint

June 10 - Early Childhood / All call

Upcoming Dates

Tentative date for May 15th as the next Executive Committee Meeting

May 22 - Spring Social

Meeting adjourned at 5:55 PM.

Kelsey Cassidy, Secretary