

## Spring Lake Park Teachers United Executive Committee Meeting

March 26, 2025 - 4:30 PM

In-Person

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### Present

Kristine Powell, WW 7-8 Rep  
Kelsey Cassidy, Secretary  
Whitney Worwa, CV Rep  
Doug Cox, WW 5-6 Rep  
Marge Zobitz, Members Rights  
Allie Knuston, PT Rep

Jessica Frank, NP REP  
Samantha Waibel, WC Rep  
Kari Walton, Treasurer  
Stephanie Sandvik, EC/ABE Rep  
Andrew Walsh, Membership Chair

### Absent

Erin Azer, EdMN Rep (guest)  
Blair Hanson, Member Rights  
Kyle Detert, Vice President

Scott Smith, President  
Jamie Ramirez, High School Rep

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### Treasurer's Report: Kari Walton

The price of Survey Monkey has increased. Discussion of looking into other survey options. The internal audit has been conducted. Kristine Powell, Audrey Hendrickson, and Rachel Gates-Bickery conducted the audit alongside the treasurer.

### Membership Report: Andy Walsh

407 teachers in the district are SLPTU members. This makes the member percentage at 87.9%. 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

The Negotiations Committee is hosting listening sessions in each building. Sessions will wrap up the week of 4/8. Committee members will use that information and feedback to establish priorities for negotiation topics and create additional surveys. If members are unable to attend listening sessions, initial surveys will be available through a SurveyMonkey link. Lead negotiators are Jeremy Sellman (High School) and Scott Kranz (High School).

District leaders have notified SLPTU that the staffing decision timeline that was communicated earlier this year is going ahead as planned and on time.

Some members have expressed concerns about the SLP Tip Line tool. SLPTU leadership has communicated these viewpoints with district leaders and are actively working to address any

questions our members have regarding the processes related to Tip Line implementation. If you have questions or concerns about the SLP Tip Line please share them with your building rep.

Compensation for Read Act training (OL&LA or LETRS) will be allocated “upon the successful completion of the required training” ending this April. The district intends to make those stipend payments and award board credits in May.

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**Education Minnesota:** No report at this time.

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

**EC/ABE** - Positive change with non-tenured teacher rubrics on Proserva.

**CV** - Members are asking about negotiations and contract bargaining. Some members are feeling frustrated with Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance. Some members were dissatisfied with lack of timely communication around evening expectations and Title I funding.

**NP** - Due to smaller numbers, Northpoint is reducing sections. Looping models are also leading to feelings of uncertainty.

**PT** - Upcoming 10 minute meeting to be scheduled.

**WCSI** - Continued frustration about the frequent number of meetings. Building rep is going to encourage members to attend a listening session.

**WW 5-6** - Continued behavior concerns and some teachers feeling lack of support. Subbing is still a problem. Admin is addressing the sub model and considering changing it to be similar to the 7-8 side. Some teachers want input with student placements for classes next year.

**WW 7-8** - New responses to tardies and absences for T3. The building rep has reached out to building admin regarding these new responses to seek clarification. There are some questions from members about timelines for staffing and prototypes. Ongoing SpEd staffing concerns.

**HS** - No report at this time.

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**SLPTU BUSINESS:**

**Spring Social:** Thursday, May 22 will be the date for the Spring Social. Location will be at Forgotten Star Brewery. Caterer TBD.

**Building Rep Confirmation:** Allie Knutson appointed Park Terrace Building Representative. Motion made, seconded, and approved by SLPTU Executive Committee.

**OFS Grant Update** - OFS Grant application was approved by EdMN. SLPTU will receive \$23,690 in grant allocations to help pay for enhanced negotiations and organizing activities.

SLPTU will spend an additional \$5,922 to qualify for the grant amount. A committee will meet to start utilizing the money from the grant.

**Pizza & Politics Event** - SLPTU members are invited to a Legislative Dinner scheduled for Thursday, April 17th at 4:45pm at Torg Brewery to have casual conversations with legislators to share your experiences. State legislators in attendance will be Senator Mary Kunesch (Chair of the Education Finance Committee) and Representative Erin Koegel from District 39A (Spring Lake Park, Fridley, Columbia Heights). This event is open to members from Spring Lake Park, Fridley, and Columbia Heights locals.

**EdMN Representative Convention** - 3 delegates representing SLPTU will attend the EdMN Representative Convention held at the DoubleTree Hilton in Bloomington on April 25-26. This year's delegates are Scott Smith (High School), Jamie Ramirez (High School), and Samantha Waibel (Woodcrest Elementary).

**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)

**School Board Attendance** - Some SLPHS members attended the school board meeting on March 4th.

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.

April 8 - WW Complex

May 13 - Northpoint

June 10 - Early Childhood / All call

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### **Upcoming Dates**

April 16 at Westwood Lounge 4:30-6:00

**Meeting adjourned at 5:47 PM.**

Kelsey Cassidy, Secretary