

## **Spring Lake Park Teachers United Executive Committee Meeting**

April 15th, 2026 - 4:30 PM

Westwood Staff Lounge

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### **Present**

Kelsey Cassidy, Secretary  
Samantha Waibel, WC Rep  
Jamie Ramirez, High School Rep  
Kari Walton, Treasurer  
Scott Smith, President  
Doug Cox, WW 5-6 Rep  
Dean Downs, NP REP

Andrew Walsh, Membership Chair  
Stephanie Sandvik, EC/ABE Rep  
Allie Knutson, PT Rep  
Kristine Powell, WW 7-8 Rep  
Erin Azer, EdMN Rep (guest)  
Whitney Worwa, CV Rep

### **Absent**

Marge Zobitz, Members Rights

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### **Treasurer's Report: Kari Walton**

The 20% of the OFS Grant SLPTU owes is \$5, 184. The Treasurer has sent that check to Education Minnesota.

### **Membership Report: Andy Walsh**

445 staff are eligible to be members of SLPTY. 52 are potential members. SLPTU membership rate is about 88.1% There are 394 SLPTU members. Through the end of the school year, Early Enrollment from EdMN makes joining the union now free until the end of the year. Agreeing to sign up means agreeing to be a member the following year.

### **President's Report: Scott Smith**

Members who are on PFML could potentially have state union dues reduced based on how long members remain on leave. This raises some questions about ensuring members are up to date on the membership status upon returning from leave. This is an item that needs to be clarified with EdMN Membership representatives.

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### **Education Minnesota:**

The RC is on Friday and Saturday, April 24-25 . The state wide school employee health care bill has been combined with legislation outlining minimum pay for paras and teachers at the state legislature. The topic of "Top off" for PFML payments is in arbitration in some districts. The

decision could have state-wide impacts. Some districts allow this, others don't. Topping off is negotiable. SLP does not allow topping off.

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### **Building Reports**

EC - Some contractual concerns have been resolved.

CV - No report at this time.

NP - Some teachers are frustrated with the behaviors of some students who are making the learning environment difficult for the other students in the class. There are concerns about lack of consequences for repeated behaviors.

PT - Many students are qualifying for many special education services, but there doesn't seem to be enough staff to support those students. The needs of some of the students are larger than what seems can be provided.

WCSI - There have been some shifts in staff coverage leading to aggressive behavior towards other staff.

WW 5-6 - Addressing student behavior issues continues to be a topic that the building steward is working on with the admin.

WW 7-8 - Several staff members have been working with the building rep and district admin regarding disparaging videos that target staff and are being posted on social media.

HS - No report at this time.

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### **SLPTU BUSINESS:**

**Spring Social** - Thursday, May 14th is the date of the Spring Social. Week of SLPTU Solidarity potentially this same week. A Spring Social Meeting will be held with a smaller committee the week of April 22nd to help plan the event.

**Surveys** - Potential survey topics include instructions coaching models, student behaviors, case load sizes.

**Health Committee** - The cost of dental insurance is increasing by 10%. The cost of this rise will be paid by employees, not the District. Health insurance is increasing by 7%. The District is covering this cost.

**Open Enrollment** - The individual high deductible plan comes with a VEBA contribution. If members are on a spouse or partner's health insurance, they can still elect to be on the individual high deductible plan.

**OFS Grant** - SLPTU has closed out the OFS Grant.

**SLPTU Executive Committee Elections** - There will not be a vote for positions on the Executive Committee; all positions were unchallenged. There are three openings: 2 member's rights positions and 1 high school building rep position.

**Upcoming Exec Comm mtg dates** - The last Ex. Committee Meeting of the year is Wednesday, May 20th. This will be in person.

**School Board Meeting Dates** - Set the schedule for the remainder of the school year.

May 12- Centerview / Early Childhood

June 9 - All call / ???

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**Upcoming Dates**

May 14 - Spring Social

May 20 - Ex. Committee Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 6:13 PM.

Kelsey Cassidy, Secretary