

## Spring Lake Park Teachers United Executive Committee Meeting

January 21st, 2026 - 4:30 PM

WebEx

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### Present

Kelsey Cassidy, Secretary  
Samantha Waibel, WC Rep  
Jamie Ramirez, High School Rep  
Kari Walton, Treasurer  
Kristine Powell, WW 7-8 Rep  
Scott Smith, President  
Stephanie Sandvik, EC/ABE Rep

Marge Zobitz, Members Rights  
Dean Downs, NP REP  
Allie Knutson, PT Rep  
Doug Cox, WW 5-6 Rep  
Andrew Walsh, Membership Chair  
Erin Azer, EdMN Rep (guest)  
Andrew Walsh, Membership Chair

### Absent

Whitney Worwa, CV Rep

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### Treasurer's Report: Kari Walton

The Treasurer has paid back the unused OFS Grant funds to Education Minnesota. 1099s were given to eligible members at the beginning of January. The books will be audited next week.

### Membership Report: Andy Walsh

There are 446 eligible teaching staff and 55 potential members. In total, there are 391 teachers in SLPTU, putting membership at 87.4%.

### President's Report: Scott Smith

SLPTU, alongside EdMN, endorses the concept that federal immigration enforcement should not be conducted in public schools. Historically, ICE has not entered sensitive spaces such as school grounds.

We have also aligned ourselves with the Day of Action. We are encouraging all members to wear blue on Friday. SLPTU is also raising donations for the Panther Pantry to get our families the support they may need. This is part of the Day of Action pinnacle on Friday.

There is a group of teachers working to support SLP families in our local school community. SLPTU leadership will be supporting them as much as possible.

We are still in need of a Get Out the Vote lead. There is a \$1000 stipend for this position. Anyone interested in this position should message President Smith.

Retro pay for salaries and benefits (insurance) has been paid out by the district. Retro pay for work completed in the summer of 2025 (hourly pay, summer school, Read Act training, etc.) will be paid out in March.

If members are able, continue to support students and families as best as possible. This includes bus and parent pick up, contacting families, coordinating learning activities for remote learning.

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### **Education Minnesota:**

Columbia Heights has a TA they will vote on next week. Anoka-Hennepin's TA passed their member vote.

EdMN has not endorsed a school out/work out because it is technically illegal. This would be considered an authorized strike. We are a public union, not a private one, which is the difference between EdMN and other professional unions. However, EdMN endorses the idea behind the strike out including wearing blue and organizing something at the building level.

If there is ICE activity and presence, EdMN will come and support schools and be observers in any way they can. If a member gets arrested or detained, contact your building rep or President Smith who will connect members with the proper EdMN support. There are EdMN legal representatives at the Federal Whipple Building who are stationed there to rapidly respond to any legal need of members. This legal support also applies to family members of union members.

The EdMN Political Conference is Jan. 30th and 31st. The cost is \$25 for members which includes a hotel stay. It's at the Hilton DoubleTree in Bloomington. Registration closes Jan. 23rd. If any members are thinking of going to the political conference, EdMN staff has had training regarding ICE presence in hotels. You can register through [this link](#). The link requires all members to be logged into their EdMN account to register.

### **Building Reports**

EC - Transportation concerns for students. New protocols for EC teachers when doing home visits.

CV - A group of teachers are meeting with building administration to problem solve the time bus duty is taking. Positive feedback from members regarding the Know Your Rights cards.

NP - No report at this time.

PT - Many people have expressed thanks to SLPTU with all the communication and support regarding ICE. Many teachers still have furniture and storage needs.

WCSI - Members are thankful for the Know Your Rights cards. There has been a very strong parent presence the last few weeks including at dismissal time which has helped the teachers out a lot.

WW 5-6 - Many members were thankful for the Know Your Rights cards. The building rep is still in contact with the building admin about behavior.

WW 7-8 - Many teachers are helping at arrival and dismissal time.

HS - Many teachers are making their presence known before and after school at pickup and drop off. Teachers are showing up for each other and our students.

### **SLPTU BUSINESS:**

**RA Convention** - We have 5 delegate seats. A call for nominations will be going out soon. The Convention is April 24-25.

**OFS Grant** - The OFS Grant has closed and EdMN has received the documentation of receipts.

**Health Committee Updates** - Members of the Health Care Committee opened health insurance bids last week. The next meeting will be in March to discuss bids.

**HCAL Info** - The Health Care Action Lead has shared information slides for members. Education MN's goal is to create an education health insurance pool for all education professionals in Minnesota. The timing of the potential adoption of this plan is several legislative sessions away.

**Future Meetings** - The Executive Committee set the dates for future meetings this school year as follows: Feb. 24 (Tuesday), March 25, April 15, May 20.

**Spring Social** - Waiting to hear back from Forgotten Star for the Spring Social. Tentative date is May 14th.

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

February - Park Terrace

March - Northpoint

April - Centerview

May - Early Childhood

June - All call / ???

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### **Upcoming Dates**

Meeting adjourned at 5:54 PM.

Kelsey Cassidy, Secretary