

Spring Lake Park Teachers United Executive Committee Meeting

March 25, 2026 - 4:30 PM

WebEx

Present

Kelsey Cassidy, Secretary
Samantha Waibel, WC Rep
Jamie Ramirez, High School Rep
Kari Walton, Treasurer
Scott Smith, President

Andrew Walsh, Membership Chair
Stephanie Sandvik, EC/ABE Rep
Allie Knutson, PT Rep
Kristine Powell, WW 7-8 Rep

Absent

Doug Cox, WW 5-6 Rep
Dean Downs, NP REP
Marge Zobitz, Members Rights

Whitney Worwa, CV Rep
Erin Azer, EdMN Rep (guest)

Treasurer's Report: Kari Walton

Two dues payments were deposited which is due to staffing. SurveyMonkey was renewed for another year. EdMN reimbursed SLPTU from the '22-'23 year. We overpaid them by \$290.

Membership Report: Andy Walsh

The membership chair is working with HR to see how the PFML Act impacts the dues members pay. There are 446 eligible teaching staff to be members of SLPTU with 54 potential members. There are 392 members of SLPTU with an 87.7% membership rate. Any member who joins in April is eligible to join without paying dues this spring with the understanding they have to pay next year.

President's Report: Scott Smith

SLPTU and district leadership have mutually reaffirmed their commitment to uphold the processes and procedures for implementing the READ Act in alignment with the current MOU previously negotiated between both parties. Additionally, compensation for READ Act training will be adjusted to reflect the updated hourly rates outlined in the current master contract.

Education Minnesota:

No report at this time.

Building Reports

EC - Some ECFE members are getting their FTEs cut due to budget constraints.

CV - Several members continue to feel frustrated with the number of meetings they need to attend. Continued concerns regarding the amount of time staff are required to supervise parent pick-up lines. SLPTU leadership is engaging with the district on how to address these concerns.

NP - No report at this time.

PT - No report at this time. Working with SLPTU leadership through a member workload concern.

WCSI - There are ongoing behavior concerns and concerns with tracking behavior.

WW 5-6 - No report at this time.

WW 7-8 - Members are advocating for more behavior support staff in the future. The building rep plans to discuss this with the building administration.

HS - Plans were shared with high school staff around graduation.

SLPTU BUSINESS:

Resignations - Teachers must submit their resignation before April 1 to be released for the following year without district consent (in non-contract negotiation years).

- After April 1, teachers may still resign and seek employment with another district; however, SLP may choose to hold them to their continuing contract until a suitable replacement is found.
- This is a state statute and is not included in the contract.
- The district generally prefers to release teachers when possible, but late summer resignations can make it difficult to secure replacements.
- As a general guideline, earlier notice of resignation is recommended.

Approximate Staffing Timeline -

- April 13-24th: staff will be notified of FTE including potential placement
- April 17th: on or before April 17th, probationary teachers will know whether they will be coming back or released

2026 Representative Convention - 5 SLPTU delegates are attending: Scott Smith (President), Jamie Ramirez (High School), Kelsey Cassidy (High School), Stephanie Sandvik (Early Childhood), and Candace Bunyan (Park Terrace). SLPTU is allotted 5 delegate seats.

Health Committee Update - The District Health Committee met in early March. Key messages from that meeting are:

- We requested and received proposals from 6 third party administrators. Based on the group's review of these bids, the insurance advisory committee strongly

recommended staying with BCBS. BCBS cost estimates were very similar to all vendors except PEIP. The insurance advisory committee expressed significant concerns with potential disruptions to member services/care within the PEIP program.

- Our self-insured medical and dental fund balances are still within the recommended ranges, but we are experiencing rising costs within both plans.
- As we consider medical and dental rate increases, we are also thoughtfully considering how we might mitigate direct impacts to our employees.
- Dental rate increases, even those at or greater than 10%, will have minimal per paycheck implications to employees.
- Finally, despite the necessity to take larger rate increases than we've seen in recent years, our plans continue to run better than most school districts across the metro and state.

Health Care Day of Action - Kyle Detert and David Muehe attended an EdMN sponsored day at the state capitol to lobby for an All School Employee health insurance group.

Spring Social - Thursday, May 14th is the date of the Spring Social. Week of SLPTU Solidarity potentially this same week. Members of the Executive Committee agreed to shift budget funds from unfulfilled committee members to the Week of Solidarity. A smaller committee will form to plan this event.

OFS Grant - Waiting for confirmation from the OFS Board to confirm our grant is closed.

SLPTU Executive Committee Elections - All Ex. Committee members are up for reelection. Nominations will open next week and be open for two weeks. There will be about a week between nominations and elections. Elections will take place the week of April 22nd. Ryan Deslauriers will receive nominations and run the elections if needed.

Upcoming Exec Comm mtg dates - April 15 and May 20 in person

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

April 14- Centerview

May 12- Early Childhood

June 9- All call / ???

Upcoming Dates

April 15 - Ex. Committee Meeting

May 14 - Spring Social

May 20 - Ex. Committee Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 6:03 PM.

Kelsey Cassidy, Secretary