

SPIRIT LAKE COMMUNITY SCHOOL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
PUBLIC HEARING
APRIL 14, 2025

The Spirit Lake Community School Board of Directors met on April 14th at 5:20 p.m. in the District Office Board Room to hold a public hearing for the purpose of seeking public comment on the 2026 School Budget Proposal and the 2024-2025 School Budget Amendment. Present were board members Teresa Beck, Sonja Hamm (call-in), Greta Gruys, Jeromy Mouw and Mieka Stecker. Also present were David Smith-Superintendent, Jane Loveall & Ashley Weber-Board Secretaries/Treasurers, Officer Vos, the Administration/Department Team, 5 visitors, 2 staff members, and 9 students. No public comments were received. The hearing was closed at 5:24 p.m.

SPIRIT LAKE COMMUNITY SCHOOL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 14, 2025

The Spirit Lake Community School Board of Directors met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. in the District Office Board Room at 2701 Hill Avenue. Present were board members Teresa Beck, Sonja Hamm (call-in), Greta Gruys, Jeromy Mouw and Mieka Stecker. Also present were David Smith-Superintendent, Jane Loveall & Ashley Weber-Board Secretaries/Treasurers, the Administration/Department Team, Officer Vos, 5 visitors, 2 staff members, and 9 students.

President Teresa Beck called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and visitors were recognized and welcomed.

Gruys/Mouw moved/seconded to approve the agenda. All aye vote. Motion carried.

Mouw/Stecker moved/seconded to approve the consent agenda including the following:

A) Minutes of the March 10th regular meeting, March 24th public hearing and March 26 work session; B) Claims for payment of \$308,882.34; C) Employment of Paul Heidebrink as Activity/Sub Driver, Jessica O'Rourke as HS Asst. Volleyball Coach, Michael Spinks as Activity/Sub Driver, Strachia Sullivan as MS Special Education Teacher and Hailey Wilken as HS Asst. Softball Coach; Transfer of Brady Dicks from HS Asst. Boys Basketball Coach to HS Head Boys Basketball Coach; Resignation of Paul Brown as HS Head Boys Basketball Coach, Patricia Fenske as HS Quiz Bowl Coach, Helise Frank-Sazama as MS Associate, Gary Hamer as Activity/Sub Driver, Dawn Kramer as ES Special Education Teacher, Amy Kueper as HS Large Group and Individual Speech Coach, Mark Nelson as HS Custodian and Juan Trinidad as EL Instructor and HS Asst. Boys Soccer Coach; D) Open Enrollment applications into Spirit Lake from Okoboji for Trace Kiner, Jayden & McKinley Kuhlmann and Declan & Meirah O'Tool; from Estherville for Cadence Adams and Kennedy Lavalpe; Open Enrollment applications out to Okoboji for Memphis Luinstra, Drew Marshall, and Abram Miller; E) Morningside Agreement for Teacher Education Clinical Experience Placements 2025-2026; F) Timberline 3-Year Agreement of Service. All aye vote. Motion carried.

The High School Robotics Team showcased their 2025 machine and reviewed their competitive year. Financial Report/Public Report was presented by Jane Loveall and Ashley Weber.

Jane Loveall presented a summary of the presentation on the 2024-2025 Budget Amendment given at the public hearing. The FY25 Budget Amendment is based on hiring a school psychologist and increasing costs for maintenance and food.

Gruys/Stecker moved/seconded to approve the adoption of the FY25 budget amendment. All aye vote. Motion carried.

Ashley Weber presented a summary of the presentation on the 2025-2026 School Budget proposal given at the public hearing. The FY26 budget is based on a 3.0 increase in salaries, the sustained levy in the management fund and the usual board approved PPEL levy.

Stecker/Mouw moved/seconded to approve the adoption of the FY26 budget. All aye vote. Motion carried.

Gruys/Mouw moved/seconded to approve the District Career and Academic Plan. This plan is a component of district reporting that provides a framework for each student's individual career and academic plan. All aye vote. Motion carried.

Hamm/Stecker moved/seconded to approve the benefits package for FY26. Central Insure will continue the administration of our benefits and our LTD/Life insurance policies. The overall health insurance increase was 4.1%. There is no increase to the dental premiums. The HSA/FSA district contribution will remain the same. All aye vote. Motion carried.

Mouw/Gruys moved/seconded to approved the Technology Refresh for FY25-26. Next year we will update 3rd and 8th grade computers as well as Ipads. All aye vote. Motion carried.

Mouw/Hamm moved seconded to adopt Board Policy 502.15 for discipline of students who make threats of violence or cause incidents of violence. Vicki Larson made public comment that substitute teachers should be made aware of this policy and receive training. All aye vote. Motion carried.

Gruys/Stecker moved/seconded to adjourn. All aye vote. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Jane Loveall
Board Secretary

Teresa Beck
Board President