

School District of West Salem  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
October 9, 2023  
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 7:00 p.m.

As noted on the Public Meeting Notice: Live streaming of this meeting was available on our District's YouTube page.

**Convene**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Catherine Griffin. The meeting was noticed to the Coulee Courier, La Crosse Tribune, WLSU Radio 89 FM, WXOW TV-19, WKBT-TV, WKTY, Union State Bank, First Community Credit Union, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district website, and district office on October 5, 2023.

*Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag*

Chris Peterson led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Bob Minard recited the District Mission Statement.

*Roll Call*

Present: Chris Peterson, Bob Minard, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin, and Sean Gavaghan. Also in attendance – Administration: Ryan Rieber, Ben Wopat, Mike Malott, Alyssa Harlan, and Shawn Handland; Student representatives: Payton Greer and Sam Stenberg. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Erik Peterson, Robin Fitzgerald, Alex Hubing, and Heidi Horton.

*Approval of Agenda*

B. Minard moved, C. Peterson seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Written and Oral Reports**

District Strategic Initiative updates from the Superintendent's Cabinet Team and the Superintendent were reviewed.

CESA #4 Board of Control – C. Griffin reported on the Board of Control's agenda.

Bob Gollnik, from WSB, provided an update on the upcoming traffic study that will take place the week of October 16, 2023.

PR Specialist/Grant Writer Samantha Pederson and Superintendent Rieber presented a report on Open Enrollment/Third Friday Report.

Director of Instruction Alyssa Harlan shared presented a report on the 2023 Summer School.

## **Connection with the Community**

*Sam Stenberg, Student Representative, reported on:*

1. Football had a game against Black River Falls on Friday where they won (49-8). They play against Aquinas this Friday at home where they have a chance to share the Coulee Conference Title.
2. Volleyball had games last week at Galesville-Ettrick-Trempealeau and Black River Falls where they won both in three. They play at home against Viroqua tomorrow and at Luther on Thursday.
3. Tennis sectionals were on Wednesday; Taylor Burch and Natalie Graham qualified for the state tournament as a double, and Megan Johnson qualified for the state tournament as a single. The state tournament starts this Thursday and is in Madison.
4. Cross County had a meet on Saturday in Arcadia. Both teams took first place. For the boys Carson Gronemus, Carter Quackenbush, Tom Stenberg, Brennan Garbers, Brennon Anderson, and Drew Anderson, all placed top 15. For the girls Mia Olson, Kennedy Garbers, Maria Cannon, and Payton Greer got top 15.
5. Dance performed on Friday at the home football game.

*Payton Greer, Student Representative, reported on:*

1. The high school band marched in the Oktoberfest parade last Saturday. This Friday they will perform during the football game's half-time, where they honor the senior band members.
2. Show Choir had a performance at Viterbo Thursday night.
3. DECA has a regional event on October 28th. This is a practice competition with many teams in the area participating.
4. The math team is starting to organize. Sign-ups for the team are due by October 11th and their first competition will be on November 1st at UW Platteville.
5. HOSA club also met this past Friday.

## *Correspondence*

Two proclamations by Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction State Superintendent Jill Underly were read: National School Lunch Week-October 9-13 and Gifted Education Month-October.

*Public Comments* – None.

## **Consent Agenda**

- C. Peterson moved, T. Grosskopf seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:
- a. the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of September 25, 2023;
  - b. the invoices to be paid;
  - c. to accept the donations from Union State Bank, Kristen Fox and Erin Miller for the Jane Doe Fund, and from Tom Wegner for the Technology Department;
  - d. to accept the administration's co-curricular recommendation for winter dance coach-Brianna Kruser, volunteer dance coach-Claire Schrader, head boys' basketball coach-Mark Wagner, head girls' basketball coach-Matt Quick, head wrestling coach-Josh Brewer, head gymnastics coach-Carrie O'Hearn, boys' hockey coach-Richie Brown-boys' hockey coach, Heather Jehn-head 7th grade girls' basketball coach, Heather Jehn-head

7th grade boys' basketball coach, Heidi Propson-head 8th grade girls' basketball coach, and Lauren Lovely-assistant 8th grade girls' basketball coach.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion/Action Items:**

C. Peterson moved, S. Gavaghan seconded to approve the amendment to the high school student handbook for the 23-24 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

**The list of to do items / information requests was reviewed. No action was taken.**

*Live Streaming of the Board Meeting ended, as noted on the Public Meeting Notice.*

**Board Development**

Principal Malott provided information for the upcoming facilities planning session at the Special Board Meeting on October 11, 2023. Director of Finance and Business Operations Handland provided financial information for the upcoming Business Operations Committee Meeting on October 11, 2023, on the following: revenue limit, tax levy, and Other Post Employee Benefits (OPEB). No action was taken.

**Adjournment**

C. Peterson moved, S. Gavaghan seconded to adjourn at 8:38 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Bob Minard, Acting Clerk