

School District of West Salem  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
January 23, 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. 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 January 19, 2023.

*Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag*

Erik Peterson led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Tom Grosskopf recited the District Mission Statement.

*Roll Call*

Present: Erik Peterson, Chris Peterson, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin, and Robin Fitzgerald. Also in attendance – Administration: Ryan Rieber, Ben Wopat, Heidi Horton, Mike Malott, Charlie Alexander Deanna Wiatt, and Shawn Handland; Student representative: Madison MacRogers. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Bob Minard, Sean Gavaghan, and Brennan Kennedy.

*Approval of Agenda*

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

**Written and Oral Reports**

Policy/Communication and Engagement Committee – E. Peterson provided an update on policies that were reviewed.

District Strategic Initiative updates from the District Leadership Team and the Superintendent were reviewed.

Human Resource updates: the resignations of David De Bernardi-custodian, Vikki Fitzpatrick-paraprofessional, Ashley Miller-paraprofessional and Katelyn Steckbauer; the employment of Jennifer Cole-bus driver, Sarah Heger-paraprofessional, Andrea Mueller-paraprofessional, Claire Schrader-paraprofessional and Cole Viner-bus driver; and the retirement of Robert Schneider-bus driver.

Danielle Temp from Tostrud & Temp, S.C., provided a summary of the 2021-2022 audit.

Superintendent Rieber provided a recap of January 9, 2023, Board Development Session – expulsion/abeyance agreements, policies and processes.

Board members Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin and Bob Minard, and the Director of Instruction Deanna Wiatt shared highlights from the 2023 Education Convention.

### **Connection with the Community**

*Madison MacRogers, Student Representative, reported on:*

1. Both high school show choir groups (including middle school) hosted their very own competition this past weekend with 10 schools attending. The middle school show choir competed on Friday night.
2. Students are excited for the new semester to begin and glad that finals are over.
3. Dance team has their regional competition this weekend.
4. Girls' and boys' basketball continue to dominate division 3 and have had tough match ups against higher divisional opponents these past couple weeks.
5. Girl's gymnastics won their meet with Viroqua.
6. Wrestling did well at the Sparta meet.
7. Brennan Kennedy was recognized as player of the week – recognized as a triple (sport) threat, but is actually in 4 sports.

### *Correspondence*

A thank you note from the family of Mike Lyga was read.

A thank you note from Tracy Sell was read.

### *Public Comments – None.*

Citizen Participation at Board Meetings speakers were Erica Boland, Kaylee Hanson and Brandon Iverson.

### **Consent Agenda**

- C. Peterson moved, R. Fitzgerald seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:
- a. the Special Board Meeting Minutes of January 5, 2023, and the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of January 9, 2023;
  - b. the invoices to be paid
  - c. to accept the administration's co-curricular recommendations for Lauren Lovely-head 7th grade girls' basketball coach and Heidi Propson-assistant 7th grade girls' basketball coach;
  - d. to accept donations from the West Salem Volunteer Fire Department for the Random Acts of Kindness Fund, from Quinvestment LLC for the Nicholas and Joann Quinn Scholarship Fund, from Healing Therapies Spirit mind Body (Camille Lusk) for the Nutrition Services Jane Doe Fund, from Bobbie Euler for the Euler Scholarship Fund, and from Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Eckelberg for the Chloe Kay Eckelberg Memorial Scholarship Fund;
  - e. to approve the WIAA Cooperative Team applications for girls' wrestling, boys' wrestling, gymnastics, girls swimming & diving, and boys' swimming & diving.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Discussion/Action Items:**

R. Fitzgerald moved, E. Peterson seconded to table the West Salem High School Alumni Hall of Fame selection for 2023. Motion carried. 4-Aye, 1-Nay (Grosskopf)

T. Grosskopf moved, R. Fitzgerald seconded to approve the elementary school Open Enrollment designated spaces. Motion withdrawn. T. Grosskopf moved, R. Fitzgerald seconded to approve the designation of regular and special education programs' Open Enrollment spaces for the 2023-2024 school year as recommended by the administration.

4-Year-Old Kindergarten: 10

Kindergarten: 13

Grade 1: 0

Grade 2: 3

Grade 3: 0

Grade 4: uncapped

Grade 5: 19

Grade 6: 13

Grade 7: 9

Grade 8: 15

Seats in the following programs

Elementary Early Childhood: 0

Elementary Cross Categorical: 0

Elementary Emotional Behavioral Disability: 1

Elementary Intellectual Disability: 0

Elementary Speech and Language: 0

Middle School Cross Categorical: 0

Middle School Emotional Behavioral Disability: Not Available

Middle School Intellectual Disability: 0

Middle School Speech and Language: 0

High School Cross Categorical: 0

High School Emotional Behavioral Disability: Not Available

High School Intellectual Disability: 0

High School Speech and Language: 0

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.*

**Closed Session**

C. Griffin welcomed the motion for closed session: The Board will discuss, consider and, if appropriate, take action pursuant to Wis. Stats §19.85(1) (c) “Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility” regarding the evaluation of the superintendent.

C. Peterson moved, R. Fitzgerald seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 8:38 p.m. A roll vote was taken: R. Fitzgerald, Aye; E. Peterson, Aye; C. Peterson, Aye; C. Griffin, Aye; and T. Grosskopf, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

*Closed Session*

**Adjournment**

C. Peterson moved, R. Fitzgerald seconded to adjourn at 9:27 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk