

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
March 25, 2024
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 March 21, 2024.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

Roll Call

Present: Tom Grosskopf, Chris Peterson, Catherine Griffin, Robin Fitzgerald, and Sean Gavaghan. Also in attendance – Administration: Ryan Rieber, Ben Wopat, Alex Hubing, Mike Malott (7:24) and Alyssa Harlan; Director of Human Resources Crystal Becker; Director of Transportation Rick Kline; Student representatives: Payton Greer and Sam Stenberg. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Erik Peterson, Bob Minard, Heidi Horton, and Shawn Handland.

Approval of Agenda

S. Gavaghan moved, T. Grosskopf seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Written and Oral Reports

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

Human Resources Update: the retirement of Ingrid Michael-school nutrition.

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

Bearing Wall Committee – Mike and Lorie Zwonitzer are the 2024 recipients of the Bearing Wall Award, and Bob Vick is the recipient of the La Verne Nuttelman Distinguished Service Award.

Business Operations Committee – T. Grosskopf reported on the agenda items: staffing for 24-25, and district property boundaries and 4K educational impact.

Connection with the Community

Payton Greer, Student Representative, reported on:

1. The NHS volunteered at the Park and Rec Egg Hunt that happened on Saturday.
2. Track and field had an indoor meet at UWL on Saturday. The boys placed 5th and the girls placed 4th as a team. Carter Walter in the 55, Carter Quackenbush in the mile, and Drew Anderson in the 800 were the highest individual finishers for the boys and Mia Olson in the mile and the 4x800 relay team (Mallory Long, Maria Cannon, Gretchen Lysne and Faith Minard) were the highest female finishers.
3. The choir and band concert had a wonderful, combined concert on March 22. The band and choir sang 2 combined numbers to end the concert.

Sam Stenberg, Student Representative, reported on:

1. Winter sports wrap up - boys basketball concluded West Salem's winter sports season. They lost in the State Semifinals against Pewaukee 89-69. Both Tamarrien Henderson and Megan Johnson were selected as a part of the All-State Team for Division 2.
2. Spring sports are in full swing - golf and boys' tennis started today but have practices inside; softball was supposed to have its first game today but it was canceled due to the weather; girls' soccer and baseball started last week and don't have regular games until next week.
3. Seniors begin in class Panther Portfolio Presentations next week on Tuesday.

Correspondence

Information from the Wisconsin Challenge Academy was shared.

A thank you note from retiring teacher Mike Lang was read.

A thank you note from Julie Athnos and her family was read.

Public Comments – None.

Citizen Participation at Board Meetings speaker was Stephanie Sharp.

Consent Agenda

S. Gavaghan moved, R. Fitzgerald seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- a. the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2024;
- b. the invoices to be paid;
- c. to accept the resignation of Middle School Counselor Mike Lang;
- d. to accept the administrations co-curricular recommendation for Kendall Sheldon-JV softball coach, Noah Maliszewski-pool director, Lexi Hinker-middle school assistant softball coach;
- e. to accept a donation Kreibich Landscaping for the elementary school, from David & Cathy Leibl for Sydney Laursen's Panther Portfolio Project, from Jane Halverson for the Jane Doe Fund, and from Sam Stenberg's Panther Portfolio project for the football program; and
- f. the memorial request from the elementary school for an engraved rock to go with the Kreibich Landscaping donation in memory of Emerson Small.

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

Senior Project Manager from WSB Erik Seiberlich provided information and recommendations from the traffic study that was taken this past fall. No action was taken.

C. Peterson moved, S. Gavaghan seconded to accept the Business Operations Committee's recommendation for staffing requests for the 24-25 school year:

2 hours per day for a 12-month position to either be added on to a 6-hour position, or to a position that would not go over 5.75 hours per day

.5 FTE elementary school math interventionist paraprofessional

1.0 FTE middle school reading interventionist teacher

2 middle school success center paraprofessionals

.4 FTE high school math interventionist teacher

1.0 FTE Educational Interpreter for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing

1.0 FTE School Social Worker (grant funded)

Increase the OEC Coordinator to .43 FTE (teacher)

Motion carried unanimously.

College, Career and Life Ready (CCLR) video scholarships were awarded to Payton Greer-\$250, Sareece Sackett-\$250, Sam Stenberg-\$500, Brennan Garbers-\$750. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Peterson moved, T. Grosskopf seconded to approve the Early College Credit/Start College Now requests for the fall of 24-25 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Adjournment

C. Peterson moved, C. Griffin seconded to adjourn at 8:14 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk