

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
February 26, 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 February 22, 2024.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

Roll Call

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

Approval of Agenda

C. Peterson moved, B. Minard seconded to approve the agenda with the removal of the Traffic Study Update. Motion carried unanimously.

Written and Oral Reports

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

Policy/Communication and Engagement Committee – E. Peterson reported on the agenda items under policy review.

Human Resource updates: the resignations of Bonnie Bloomfield-school nutrition, Mary Boggs-school nutrition, Amanda Boswell-custodian, Cheryl Friell-paraprofessional, Crystal Goulet-school nutrition, Allison Klug-paraprofessional, Tricia Mulholland-District Accounts Receivable/Accounts Payable Specialist, and Bridget Peterson-administrative assistant; the retirements of Jane Frank-administrative assistant, Kathy Stello-administrative assistant, Lynn Strong-kitchen manager; and the hire of Todd (Chester) Brown-custodian/mail.

Connection with the Community

Payton Greer, Student Representative, reported on:

1. Show choir finished a great season! They finished 5th runner up at Monona Grove, Hannah Reischl also got 2nd place in the solo competition. Last Thursday and Friday they had their last performance in the Heider Center for families and the community to come and watch. The junior show choir kid camp performed along with the middle school show choir performed that night.
2. This past week was FFA week. There were dress-up days the students participated in.
3. Spring sports meeting is also happening tonight.
4. West Salem had 23 students who qualified to compete at State DECA in Lake Geneva at the Grand Geneva Hotel from Sunday to Wednesday this week.
5. NHS scheduled a blood drive on March 7 in the high school LMC.
6. Boys' basketball had 3 home games this past week; won 2 and lost 1. They also tied/broke the record for most consecutive Coulee Conference wins in conference history. They also received a #1 seed.
7. Girls' basketball are Conference champs. They have started playoffs and beat Logan Friday night and won against Reedsburg Saturday night. They play this week Thursday against Onalaska.
8. Gymnastics are the conference champs and they competed at sectionals this past Saturday and got 1st so they are going to state.
9. Wrestling had sectionals 2 weekends ago and state this week. Brett Plomedahl (West Salem), Emily Anderson (Bangor) and Cody Peterson (Bangor) qualified and competed at state. Emily is the first girl from West Salem/Bangor to qualify for state wrestling.
10. Esports competed for state in Fortnite Squads.
11. Band had a clinician, Jim Peela, come in on Wednesday.
12. Spring play, *There's a Monster in my Closet* performs on February 29th and March 1st both at 7:00.
13. Art at the capital- Caralyn Parry, Lizzy Stavlo, Leah Beyer, Danica Hudzinski, and Maddie Dovenberg all have pieces displayed at the state capital.

Correspondence

Proclamations for Child and Adult Care Food Program Week and National School Breakfast Week were read.

Public Comments – None.

Citizen Participation at Board Meetings speakers were

Consent Agenda

C. Peterson moved, R. Fitzgerald seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- a. the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 12, 2024;
- b. the invoices to be paid;
- c. to accept the retirements of High School Math Teacher Scott Koepnick and the Outdoor Education Center Coordinator John Sullivan, the resignation from High School English Teacher Maggi Bishop.

- d. to accept the administration's co-curricular recommendations for girls' head track coach-Stacy Mitchell, boys' head track coach-Justin Stakston, assistant track coach-Cameron Robaczewski, Tony Weilandt and Tanner Gibbons, volunteer track coach-Avery Duffy, Ian McBride, Brett Miller, Laura Deal, Emma Clements and Orin Schwier, head baseball coach-Jamie Olson, assistant baseball coach-Jared Hauser, Nick Schultz, Ben Luther, Jayden Buchley, Cory Mehsikomer, volunteer baseball coach Randy Schultz, head softball coach-Brian Babiash, volunteer assistant softball coach-Rod Hamilton, head golf coach-Tyler Shrake, assistant golf coach-Josh Shrake, Aaron Kupinski, volunteer golf coach-Tyler Woodke, head girls' soccer coach-Lionel Karyea, assistant girls' soccer coach-Darwin Carranza, head boys' tennis coach-Julie Kamla, assistant boys' tennis coach-Lisa Hehli, and middle school track coach-Nicole Friell, Bill Jensen, Heidi Propson, Addison Frank.

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

E. Peterson moved, T. Grosskopf seconded to only have one meeting in May and that meeting would be on May 13, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Peterson moved, T. Grosskopf seconded to set April 10, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. as a Special Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Fitzgerald, Catherine Griffin and Tom Grosskopf volunteered to review the submissions for the College, Career and Life Ready (CCLR) video scholarship and select the recipients by the March 25, 2024, Board Meeting. No action was taken.

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 Session

Superintendent Rieber led a Board Development Session on controversial issues in the classroom.

Adjournment

C. Peterson moved, T. Grosskopf seconded to adjourn at 8:22 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk