

School District of West Salem  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
May 22, 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 7:01 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 May 18, 2023.

*Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag*

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

*Roll Call*

Present: Erik Peterson, Chris Peterson, Bob Minard (7:25 p.m.), Catherine Griffin, and Robin Fitzgerald. Also in attendance – Administration: Ryan Rieber, Ben Wopat, Heidi Horton, Mike Malott, Charlie Alexander, Deanna Wiatt, and Shawn Handland. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Tom Grosskopf, Sean Gavaghan, Payton Greer, and Sam Stenberg.

*Approval of Agenda*

C. Peterson moved, E. Peterson 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 Resource updates: the resignations of paraprofessionals-Lorrie Burch, Jordyn Schurhammer, Kelsey Thomas, and Autumn Weed; the retirement of paraprofessional Susie Rudesill; and the employment of assistant nurse Kathleen Waldenberger.

**Connection with the Community**

*Correspondence*

A thank you note was read from the family of Bryan Bahr.

*Public Comments* – None.

**Consent Agenda**

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

- a. the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of May 8, 2023;
- b. the invoices to be paid;

- c. to accept the donation from Dynamic Lifecycle Innovations, Inc. for the high school Odyssey of the Mind team;
- d. there were no retirements or resignations to act upon;
- e. to hire a 1.0 FTE middle school Spanish teacher-William Hinman.

Motion carried unanimously.

Bob Minard arrived at 7:25 p.m.

**Discussion/Action Items:**

High School Spanish Teacher Emily Phillips and High School Science Teacher Kelly Rueckheim presented their request for a Spanish/Ecology Club Trip to Costa Rica in June 2024. C. Peterson moved, E. Peterson seconded to approve the request for a Spanish/Ecology Club Trip to Costa Rica in June 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

R. Fitzgerald moved, B. Minard seconded to setting the wages for the support staff for the 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried. E. Peterson didn't participate in the discussion of the support staff wages and abstained from the vote.

B. Minard moved, R. Fitzgerald seconded to set the wages for the district staff and administration for the 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

R. Fitzgerald moved, C. Peterson seconded to approve the miscellaneous wage-sheet for the 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Peterson moved, B. Minard seconded to approve the agreement with the West Salem Education Association for the 2023-2024 school year which included the salary schedule. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Peterson moved. C. Peterson seconded to approve the Open Enrollment requests for the 2023-2024 school year, with the exceptions of students 26, 48, 58, 60, 68, and 70. 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**

Superintendent Rieber reviewed with the Board a draft of the Community Survey.

**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, B. Minard seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 8:46 p.m. A roll call vote was taken: R. Fitzgerald, Aye; E. Peterson, Aye; C. Peterson, Aye; C. Griffin, Aye; and B. Minard, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

*Closed Session*

**Adjournment**

C. Peterson moved, B. Minard seconded to adjourn at 9:09 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk