

School District of West Salem  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
March 27, 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 March 23, 2023.

*Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag*

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

*Roll Call*

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

*Approval of Agenda*

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

**Written and Oral Reports**

Business Operations Committee – S. Gavaghan reported on the agenda item cash defeasance.

Bearing Wall Committee – Mr. Rieber reported the Carol Brown was selected as the Bearing Wall recipient and Anita Jagodzinski as the LaVerne Nuttelman Distinguished Service Award recipient.

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

Human Resource updates: the resignations of Amy Jorstad-assistant nurse; Anna Molling-paraprofessional; the retirement of Kathy Beshensky-paraprofessional; and the hire of Megan Rheaume-paraprofessional, Teresa Stendalen-assistant nurse.

Mr. Rieber presented an update to the Marketing Plan.

## **Connection with the Community**

*Brennan Kennedy, Student Representative, reported on:*

1. Softball had their first game against Holmen last week and brought home a win
2. Boys' and girls' track had a meet at UWL this past Saturday - girls took 3rd overall and boys took 6th overall
3. Girls' soccer game was canceled for tomorrow so their first game will be Thursday at 5:00 in Arcadia
4. Boys' baseball will have their first game this Friday at Central at 4:30
5. Boys' tennis started today
6. The robotics team will be competing at the 7 Rivers Regional Competition at the La Crosse Center March 29th-April 1st

*Madison MacRogers, Student Representative, reported on:*

1. CCLR - job shadows, adulting
2. The communications class will host a March Madness for the last session (CCLR)...this will consist of basketball games where each grade level will compete against staff in some sort of basketball activity...it will end with a staff vs. senior basketball game...and there will be intermissions between each basketball activity including Mr. Brown singing while Hailey Puent paints, the history department minute to win it challenge, student talents, and more.
3. NHS members will be helping with the PTO science night, Easter egg hunt, and school clean-up in the next couple of weeks
4. Our high school Odyssey of the Mind team placed first with a high score despite the low competition at the state event a couple weeks ago earning a trip to Worlds.

## *Correspondence*

A thank you note from the family of Vern Dahl was read.

*Public Comments* – None.

## **Consent Agenda**

E. Peterson moved, S. Gavaghan seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- a. the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of March 14, 2023, the Special Board Meeting of March 14, 2023, and the Special Board Meeting of March 21, 2023;
- b. the invoices to be paid;
- c. to accept the Administration's co-curricular recommendation for Jamee Houchins-volunteer softball coach, Leslie Hehli-assistant tennis coach, Emily Palmen-assistant girls soccer coach, Josh Iliff-assist girls' soccer coach, Shaun Borre-assistant boys' golf coach, and Tyler Woodke-assistant boys' golf coach;
- d. to accept the donations from Marlene & John Martin for the Mike Lyga Memorial Fund and from Peg Lyga for the Mike Lyga Memorial Fund.
- e. to accept the resignations of special education teacher Kristen Meyers and boys' soccer coach Ammar Sabar.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion/Action Items:**

College, Career, and Life Ready video scholarships will be reviewed, and selections made by B. Minard, E. Peterson, and S. Gavaghan or R. Peterson.

B. Minard moved, C. Peterson seconded to move forward with the cash defeasance for 2022-2023 process. Motion carried unanimously.

Director of Pupil Services Heidi Horton provide information on how the third school psychologist would benefit the district. C. Peterson moved, E. Peterson seconded to accept the administration's request to make the third school psychologist position a permanent full-time position. 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**

The administrator hiring process was reviewed by Director of Human Resources Crystal Becker and Mr. Rieber.

**Adjournment**

S. Gavaghan moved, E. Peterson seconded to adjourn at 8:33 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Bob Minard, Acting Clerk