

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
December 11, 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 December 7, 2023.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

Approval of Agenda

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

Written and Oral Reports

District Strategic Initiative updates from the Director's Team and the Superintendent's Cabinet Team were reviewed.

Human Resource updates: the resignation of Anna Erdman-paraprofessional and the employment of Deb Greeno-school nutrition.

Board Grant Review Committee – R. Fitzgerald reported on the grants that were awarded.

CESA #4 Board of Control – C. Griffin reported that the meeting will happen this week and will report in January.

Superintendent Rieber provided an update from a recent meeting he attended regarding the West Salem Lakeview Neighborhood (county farm).

Connection with the Community

Sam Stenberg, Student Representative, reported on:

1. The National Honor Society is putting on their annual Giving Tree. This is an event where groups, organizations, homerooms, families, or groups of friends can pick a tag and purchase the items listed on the tag. These items will be then given to less fortunate families in the district for their Christmas presents.
2. Students of the month for December are Natalie Graham, Payton Greer, Andrew Jankowski, Delaney Jostad, Sydney Larson, Lexus Nelson, Olivia Borowski, Jack Beron, Natalie Wright, Breeley O'Donnell, and Camden Glass.
3. The Seniors' Panther Portfolio Papers were due this past Friday.
4. Boys' basketball won games against Tomah, Holmen and Viroqua in the last two weeks. Their next game isn't until December 19 when they play in Black River Falls.
5. Girls' basketball had three games this last week, one of which was a home game against Black River Falls where they won 90-10, beating the school record for most points scored in a girls' basketball game. They play three more games this week, all at home against Westby, Gale-Etrick-Trempealeau and Richland Center.
6. Boys' wrestling had a meet this last weekend in La Crosse where they won the meet as a team. Teghan Moore placed first overall in his weight class and five other Panthers placed 2nd. The team has two meets later this week.
7. Girls' wrestling team placed 2nd at Eau Claire North this weekend. They travel to the Badger State Girls' tournament this weekend.
8. Boys Swim: Had a meet last week and have one tomorrow and Saturday

Payton Greer, Student Representative, reported on:

1. Boys' hockey played last week Tuesday and Thursday.
2. Girls' hockey had a game Tuesday night and lost.
3. Gymnastics had a meet Tuesday at Holmen and hosted an invite Saturday. They got first at their invite.
4. Dance team placed in both Pom and jazz, Teagan Dutton and Payton Greer placed in their solos at Ashwaubenon. They put on a kids dance camp this week every day after school and They perform this week Friday at the girls' basketball game along with the kids.
5. High School Band held their Winter Concert is December 17th.
6. Choir had a successful concert two weekends ago!
7. Theater auditions for the winter musical, *There's a Monster in my Closet* were on December 7th.
8. Show Choir performed two weekends ago and they did great!

Correspondence

A thank you note from Elissa Kinstler was read.

A Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Proclamation for Computer Science Education Week was read.

Public Comments – None.

Citizen Participation at Board Meetings speaker was Brandon Iverson.

Director of Pupil Services Heidi Horton provided an update on Social Emotional Learning, Strategic Plan Performance indicator #3.

Consent Agenda

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

- a. the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of November 27, 2023;
- b. the amended Regular Board Meeting Minutes of October 23, 2023;
- c. the invoices to be paid
- d. to accept the donation from the Timothy & Melissa O'Neill family for the High School FFA Program, from Culver's of Onalaska for the FFA Program, from the La Crosse County Jean's Day Program for the Nutrition Services Jane Doe Fund and the Random acts of Kindness Fund.

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

E. Peterson moved, S. Gavaghan seconded to accept the recommendation from the Business Operations Committee to authorize Director of Finance and Business Operations Shawn Handland to transfer funds from the Union State Bank for West Salem Long-Term Capital Improvement Trust Fund (Fund 46) to a designated Local Government Investment Pool account as needed, if for some reason the Union State Bank of West Salem can't match. 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

Catherine 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 mid-year evaluation of the superintendent.

E. Peterson moved, R. Fitzgerald seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 7:50 p.m. A roll call vote was taken: R. Fitzgerald, Aye; S. Gavaghan, Aye; E. Peterson, Aye; C. Peterson, Aye; C. Griffin, Aye; T. Grosskopf, Aye; and B. Minard, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Adjournment

S. Gavaghan moved, R. Fitzgerald seconded to adjourn at 9:07 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk