

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
February 12, 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 8, 2024.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Alex Hubing led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Shawn Handland recited the District Mission Statement.

Roll Call

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

Approval of Agenda

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

Written and Oral Reports

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

Business Operations Committee – S. Gavaghan reported on the agenda items: roof update and post-employment benefits for professional staff.

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

Community Safety Meeting – Director of Buildings and Grounds Scott Johnson presented information on the meeting that was held on Wednesday, February 7, 2024.

2023 Audit Report update was presented by Director of Finance and Business Operations Shawn Handland.

Connection with the Community

Payton Greer, Student Representative, reported on:

1. The West Salem Sports and Entertainment Marketing class for the second semester is starting to create videos about activities around the high school. They are calling it the West Salem Sports Center video. Here is a link for the video they made for these past 2 weeks! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NXFk8dZU3dA>
2. Spring Sports are just around the corner. The spring sports meetings are set to be held on Monday, February 26th.

Correspondence

A thank you from Kathy Morgan and from the family of Juanita Affeldt was read.

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Proclamations were read: National School Counselor Week, Career and Technical Education Month, 2024 Adult Crossing Guard Recognition Week, and FFA Week 2024 in Wisconsin.

Public Comments – None.

Consent Agenda

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

- a. the Regular Board Meeting of January 22, 2024, the Special Board Meeting of January 15, 2024, the revised Closed Session Meeting of January 8, 2024, the Special Board Meeting of February 1, 2024;
- b. the invoices to be paid;
- c. to accept donations: from Ashley For The Arts for the high school dance team and music program, from Errol Kindschy for the elementary, middle and high school libraries, from A & C Martial Arts, Bakalars, Big Boar, BioLargo, Bubba's Meats, Burrachos, Chick-Fil-A, Chris Munson Realty, Crimson Clover, Famous Dave's, Festival Foods, Founders Café, Great Lakes Cheese, Hansen's IGA, HyVee, Jersey Mike's, Kenrich Foods, KFC, Kwik Trip, Linda's Bakery, Lindy's La Crosse, Meringue Bakery, Pepsi, Riot MotorSports, Russ Davis, Sam's Club, St. Joe's Meats, and Taco John's for the high school WonderStruck event, from The West Salem Panther Booster Club for the purchase of a softball hitting machine, from the Friends of West Salem Baseball, Inc. for the purchase of baseball uniforms, from Jason Lassen towards the installation of EV chargers at the Panther Den, from Sandra Hammond-Gonia for the Game Getter Scholarship in memory of Gene Gonia, from Randall & Priscilla Weinke in the memory of Patti Neimeier for the high school volleyball team, boys' basketball team and girls' basketball team, from Robert & Bonnie Elliot in memory of Patti Niemeier for the girls' soccer booster club, from the Class of 1992 in memory of Shannon Frydenlund for the Random Acts of Kindness Fund, from the West Salem Lions Club for the Random Acts of Kindness Fund, and from the Barre Co-Ed Lions Club for the Random Acts of Kindness Fund;
- d. to accept the retirement of High School Principal Mike Malott.

Motion Carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

Superintendent Rieber provided an update and explanation of the pupil counts from September and January. No action was taken.

Superintendent Rieber shared information regarding the Facility Study Kick-Off meeting and the next steps in the facilities study process. No action was taken.

Director of Human Resources Crystal Becker presented information on post-employment benefits for professional staff. S. Gavaghan moved, E. Peterson seconded to approve going to the new post-employment benefit plan with the National Insurance Services (NIS). Motion carried unanimously.

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

Adjournment

C. Peterson moved, S. Gavaghan seconded to adjourn at 7:56 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk