

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2023
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 7:00 p.m.

As noted on the Public Meeting Notice: Live streaming of the entire meeting wasn't available due to technical difficulties.

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 August 24, 2023.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

Roll Call

Present: Erik Peterson, Bob Minard, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin, 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: Chris Peterson, Robin Fitzgerald and Mike Malott.

Approval of Agenda

S. Gavaghan moved, B. Minard 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 hiring of Nicolet Blank-school nutrition, Bonnie Bloomfield-school nutrition, Crystal Goulet-school nutrition, Brooks Heineck-school nutrition, Robert Gorniak-bus driver, Anne Beyer-paraprofessional, Cheryl Friell-paraprofessional, Jessica Ghaith-paraprofessional, Sarah Heger-paraprofessional, Heather Laskaskie-paraprofessional, Caitlynn Lueck-paraprofessional, and Lilly Lutz-paraprofessional; the resignations of Chloe Castillo-paraprofessional, Thomas Cunningham-school nutrition, and Ashley Miner-paraprofessional.

Connection with the Community

Sam Stenberg, Student Representative, reported on:

1. School begins tomorrow for high school students. Freshmen go all day; half of their day at the school forest and the other half at school learning the ins and outs of the high school from staff and Link Crew leaders. The rest of the students go to school in shifts.

2. Link Crew orientation - these student leaders were taught how to help make the freshmen feel comfortable and welcomed at the high school and taught how to lead activities with the freshmen that they will do tomorrow on the first day of school.
3. Football had a big win on August 18th against Onalaska and played a tough game against Tomah on the 25th and lost. They play at Westby this Friday.
4. Volleyball won their first game Thursday at Arcadia, participated in a tournament in Appleton this past weekend and went 2-4 on the weekend.

Payton Greer, Student Representative, reported on:

1. Girls Tennis had a tournament in Altoona this weekend. They won 4 of 6 matches.
2. Boys Soccer won 10-1 over Black River Falls last Tuesday. They play Holmen at home on Tuesday and at Logan on Thursday.
3. Cross County first meet was Saturday at Maple Grove Venues because the other 2 meets got canceled from the heat. Both boy and girls took second place - Mia Olson, Tom Stenberg and Carter Quackenbush received top 10 finishes. The next meet is tomorrow at Westby.
4. Band Night is on September 8th at the home football game against Arcadia. Band members from 7th grade all the way to senior band members will perform that night.
5. The first parade for the high school marching band is the Kellogg Watermelons Days parade on September 10th.

Correspondence

A thank you note from the family of Elaine Bina was read.

Public Comments – None.

Consent Agenda

- E. Peterson moved, B. Minard seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:
- a. the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of August 14, 2023;
 - b. the invoices to be paid;
 - c. to accept the donation from the Green Bay Packers for the high school art department, for the Nutrition Services Department from the La Crosse Community Foundation Jim's Grocery Bag-Schroeder Fund, Martha Burdick, Michelle Clements, Cassie Connell, Stephanie Sharp, Tina Thilmany, Jennifer Wheeler, Amber Zwierzycki, Mainhia Lee, Sarah Mesmer, Shari Peterson, Kim Dummer, Grace Engen, Sara Jeranek, and Joseph Zabel;
 - d. to accept the administration's co-curricular recommendations for Cody Risch-head 7th grade football coach, Reid Rasmussen-assistant 7th grade football coach, Roger Smith-8th grade assistant football coach, Pete Arentz head 8th grade football coach, Nathan Langer-8th grade assistant football coach, and Craig Reid-volunteer football coach;
 - e. to hire Jill Gunderson as a part-time high school reading teacher (limited term employment).

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

S. Gavaghan moved, T. Grosskopf seconded to adopt the following:

RESOLUTION

Whereas the following school districts have student with a disability, and whereas it appears that the educational interests of all children in these school districts will be served best by the districts joining together to offer special services, as authorized by the Department of Public Instruction, to meet the needs of the students with a disability.

Be it, and it is hereby resolved that the school boards of the School District of West Salem and the Bangor School District agree to establish and maintain, on a cooperative basis, a handicapped children's special education program(s) pursuant to Section 66.0301 of the Wisconsin Statutes

Motion carried unanimously.

T. Grosskopf moved, S. Gavaghan seconded to adopt the Food Service Agreement with the School District of Bangor. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Rieber provided an update on the selection of a campus traffic study firm.

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

Adjournment

E. Peterson moved, S. Gavaghan seconded to adjourn at 7:20 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Erik Peterson, Acting Clerk