

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
February 24, 2025
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 7:02 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 20, 2025.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

Roll Call

Present: Tom Grosskopf, Bob Minard, Bob Gollnik, Catherine Griffin, Caitlin Wilson, and Sean Gavaghan. Also in attendance – Administration: Ryan Rieber, Scott Johnson,; Student representatives: Jessa Hickey and Brennon Anderson. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Erik Peterson, Justin Jehn, Ben Wopat, Alex Hubing, Alyssa Harlan, and Shawn Handland, Heidi Horton.

Approval of Agenda

S. Gavaghan moved, B. Gollnik seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Written and Oral Reports

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

Teaching and Learning Committee, B. Gollnik-Chair reported on Agenda Items: High School Acceleration Options, Changes in Data Sources for 2024-2025 data, AIMS Web data & Personal Reading Plans, I-Ready data and FastBridge data.

Connection with the Community

Jessa Hickey, Student Representative, reported on:

1. The wrestling team ended their season at team sectionals last Tuesday in a close match against Menomonie. They bounced back on Saturday in the individual sectionals meet where junior, Teagen Moore, qualified for state in the 106-weight class.
2. The girls' basketball team clinched the Coulee conference title last Thursday at Luther. They are the 1 seed heading into the playoffs, and they will take on the winner of the Tomah/Logan game Friday night at home.
3. The boys' basketball team wraps up their regular season this week with games on Thursday and Saturday. They received the 3 seed for the playoffs next week.

4. A group of Mrs. Whitacre's students competed at the annual job skills Olympics at Onalaska High School, completing tasks such as shredding paper, folding laundry, and sorting silverware. They took 1st place for the 4th year in a row, beating 9 area schools.

Brennon Anderson, Student Representative, reported on:

1. The show choir team had their last competition of the season in Cedar Rapids this weekend. Vivace and Singsations both placed 2nd in their division. Singsations also placed 6th overall in finals and earned both the J-Hawk award and the People's Choice award.
2. Both boys' and girls' hockey teams wrapped up their seasons in the playoffs last Thursday at Somerset.
3. Last Thursday, Mr. Holter took 6 teams of seniors to the Finance Quiz Bowl at UWL. West Salem ended up having the winning team of Ethan Crusan, Tom Stenberg, Noah Stewert, and Philip Gabrielsen. They will all receive a 500-dollar scholarship from the surrounding financial institutions.
4. Last Wednesday seniors in the outdoor education class took a trip to Lake Onalaska to do some ice fishing. Although they didn't catch any fish, they had a fun day on the ice and got to do some grilling for lunch.
5. And this week Monday through Wednesday, there are around 20 high school students competing at the state DECA competition in Lake Geneva.
6. NHS blood drive March 3rd

Correspondence

A thank you note from the family of Frank Clements was read.

Public Comments – None.

Consent Agenda

- S. Gavaghan moved, C. Wilson seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:
 - a. The Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2025;
 - b. invoices to be paid;
 - c. to accept the administration's co-curricular recommendation for Tyler Shrake as Head Boys' Golf Coach, Rod Hamilton as Volunteer Softball Coach, Jared Hauser, Nick Schultz, Ben Luther, Cody Rohl as Assistant Baseball Coaches, Darwin Carranza as Assistant Girls' Soccer Coach, Lisa Hehli as Assistant Boys' Tennis Coach, Cameron Robaczewski, Tony Weilandt, Tanner Gibbons as Assistant Track Coaches, Avery Duffy as Volunteer Track Coach, Josh Shrake and Aaron Kupinski as Assistant Golf Coaches;
 - d. to accept donations from Cynthia & William Innes for the Random Acts of Kindness Fund; Rusteprufe donated items to the High School Trap Team; Dan Wetzal donated pork on behalf of the La Crosse County Pork Producers to the High School Family & Consumer Science Education class; JLO Homes II, LLC for the Unsung Hero Scholarship Fund; DPI auditors for the Jane Doe Fund.

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

Administrator, Ryan Rieber requested 3 volunteer board members to serve on the College, Career and Life Ready (CCLR) video scholarship committee to watch, review and score the videos to award the scholarships. C. Wilson, B. Gollnik and C. Griffin volunteered. No action was taken.

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

Administrator, Ryan Rieber presented a Fund 46 Presentation. How the fund is established, the presented plan and where do we go from here.

Adjournment

C. Griffin moved, S. Gavaghan seconded to adjourn at 8:04 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Caitlin Wilson, Acting Clerk