

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
October 24, 2011
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 7:00 p.m.

Convene

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Tom Ward. The meeting was noticed to the Coulee News, La Crosse Tribune, WLSU Radio 89 FM, WXOW TV-19, WKBT-TV, WKTY, WIZM, Union State Bank, First Community Credit Union, St. Joe Country Market, River Bank-Barre Mills, West Salem Post Office, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district web site, and district office on October 20, 2011.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Megan Tabbert led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Thomas Helgeson recited the District Mission Statement.

Roll Call

Present: Jason Falck, Tom Ward, Errol Kindschy, Scott Scafe, Linda Brown, and Thomas Helgeson. Also in attendance – Administrators: Troy Gunderson, Dean Buchanan, Eric Jensen, Mark Carlson, Barb Buswell, John Smalley, and Michael St. Pierre; Student representatives: Megan Tabbert and Taylor Gile. Finance Director: Davita Molling, Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Lisa Gerke and Ken Spratz.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Helgeson moved, Mr. Kindschy seconded to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Representative Steve Doyle and Senator Jennifer Shilling

Representative Steve Doyle and Senator Jennifer Shilling each spoke on legislation being worked on and those bills that have recently passed.

Connection with the Community

Megan Tabbert reported on:

1. Some high school choir and band students will be attending the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre this Wednesday.
2. The high school cross country team competed at sectionals on Saturday.
3. The high school football team won their first play-off game last Friday and have another game this Friday.

Taylor Gile reported on:

1. The high school Spanish 4 class is working on their Day of the Dead art project.
2. There is no school for students this Thursday and Friday.

Correspondence

1. A thank you note from Barb Jessen was read.
2. A thank you note from the family of Nick Kendhammer, father of Linda Levendoski, was read.
3. A thank you note from Christy Brodsky was read.
4. A letter from the Jim & Diane Rogala family was read.

Public comments – The following people signed up to speak on the budget and tax levy: Richard Loomis, Lance Jurgensen, John Lautz, Jennifer Grenier, Rich Bergehefer, and Eric Hesselberg. The above people were given the opportunity to speak during the agenda item on setting the 2011-0212 budget.

Written and Oral Reports

Buildings and Grounds Committee – No meeting was held.

The supervisors' reports were reviewed.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Scafe moved, Mr. Falck seconded to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2011, Regular Board meeting; and the invoices to be paid. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

Mr. Gunderson presented information on the 2011-2012 budget. Richard Loomis was permitted to speak, and the rest of the people who signed up to speak waived their right. Mrs. Brown moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to reducing the Fund 73 contribution by \$100,000 and by reducing a total of \$75,000 from miscellaneous budgets as determined by the administration. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck Aye, Mrs. Brown Aye, Mr. Scafe Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Nay, and Mr. Kindschy Aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Kindschy moved, Mr. Falck seconded to set the 2011-2012 levy at \$6,760,376. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kindschy moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to adopt the guiding principles for the process of developing an employee handbook: serve with passion to ignite creativity, innovation and excellence; student achievement; sustainable/affordable/manageable; recruiting, hiring, training, retaining; fair and legal, and community support. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Falck moved, Mr. Helgeson seconded to adopt the process for developing an employee handbook: 1) Create a transition team of employees – begin with former negotiators; 2) Review The “Handbook Roadmap” and policies purchased from Lathrop & Clark; 3) Administrators, supervisors and business staff apply the roadmap to develop a draft/outline of new handbook (red, yellow, green activity); 4) Transition team will begin working through each segment of the draft/outline for the purpose of providing input (red, yellow, green activity); 5) Communicate and allow for general input; and 6) School Board will adopt the 2012-2013 employee handbook. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Falck moved, Mrs. Brown seconded to accept donations from Kay and Tom Niemeier for the elementary school art department and from the National Weather Service for the middle school. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Loretta Zwonitzer, and students Alex Otto, Whitney Lambert and Erin Butzler presented the request for a July 2012 Spanish trip. Mr. Kindschy moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to approve the Spanish trip for July 2012. Motion carried unanimously.

Brent Servais and Nolan Wahoske presented their Senior Exit Project request to construct a concession stand near the baseball field. Mr. Helgeson moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to approve Brent and Nolan's SEP project. All work must be approved by the administration with specific attention to be paid to a professional engineered design, use of materials, construction and technology. Motion carried unanimously.

Eric Jensen presented information on the review of pupil nondiscrimination and a link on the district's website giving the Board and staff an opportunity to review.

Mr. Scafe moved, Mrs. Brown seconded to approve the second semester Youth Options request as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Falck moved, Mrs. Brown seconded to accept the administration's co-curricular recommendations: Amy DuPont, head gymnastics coach; Carrie O'Hearn, assistant gymnastics coach; Kevin Briggs and Josh Brewer, middle school wrestling coach; Kevin Briggs, Josh Brewer and Eric Zinck, high school assistant wrestling coach. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Falck moved, Mr. Kindschy seconded to make the following resolution: Be It Resolved that the School District of West Salem will borrow on a short-term basis the sum of \$1,500,000 for the operation of the schools of the district from October 27, 2011, until December 6, 2011. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Mr. Falck moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to adjourn at 9:29 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda A. Brown, Clerk