

West Salem School District

April 2010



Newsletter

From the Superintendent

The ship did not know the course to travel, the crew was concerned about the new strategy just implemented on turning the ship, and the hole that the iceberg had inflicted was causing the ship to list to the side. Where was the captain of the ship? In fact, he was sleeping in his cabin. This seasoned sailor had been hired for only half-time employment and he was resting on the return trip to England following the ship's safe journey across the Atlantic. What a news story this would be.

In many ways this past year, our curriculum has been adrift as we were only able to hire, at a late date, a part-time curriculum director. We were most fortunate to find a highly-qualified individual for this position who was employed half-time in a neighboring district. I am told that many citizens of West Salem do not see the value in having a trained leader for curriculum development employed at our school. Recently I authored an article on the role of the superintendent. I have had many people comment that they didn't know that I served on so many boards and was active in so many community organizations. Thus, it is understandable that many citizens do not understand the role and importance of curriculum leader.

A curriculum director has normally been a classroom teacher for many years, and additionally holds a Masters Degree in Curriculum Development (30 post graduate credits) and state licensure in this field. A principal or superintendent has taken a few courses in curriculum. The focus of the preparation and work involves the "CIA". Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment.

Over the past twenty years a unification of curriculum and alignment to recognized standards has occurred throughout our nation. In fact, new national standards in mathematics and language arts are being released next month. This will mean that the written curriculum documents will need to be reviewed, aligned, assessments created, and materials reviewed for these curriculum areas by the staff.

Coordinating staff development is also a responsibility of the role of the curriculum director. This individual coordinates staff trainings: our Professional Development Academy, REACH grant, RtI, SMART Boards, new software applications, and staff activities on early release days.

An easily understood concept of how assessment has changed is that elementary students do not receive letter grades. Instead they are rated on their mastery of specific learning targets. Parents are then able to understand what their child knows and does not know and help in the process. We are in the process of discussing if we need this form of assessment tracking, and reporting needs to move to higher grades in our district.

Last year, I completed a survey for the school board on districts in the state that are similar in size. This survey demonstrated that districts similar in size have a full-time curriculum director. I also studied the administrator to student ratio and we had an average ratio of 1 administrator for every 250 students. The lowest was 1 to 196 and highest 1 to 276.

We cannot let our ship drift aimlessly and head for a dangerous or own known shoal. Our children deserve the best preparation for higher education and life that we can provide. We must ensure that the curriculum is aligned to learning standards, infused with 21st century skills and technology, instruction is differentiated, the best and latest materials are used, and students are assessed using differentiated assessments. To achieve this, each staff member needs training and time to work together as teams to complete this work. The work is arduous and it cannot be completed by "willing it to happen." A strong leader must coordinate the collaborative work. Our field, like others, is changing and moving at warp speed. Truly, our teachers must be first and foremost good learners. They need the best leader in this field that we can provide.

If you have concerns, talk to one of your educator friends, call our office and I will answer your questions, or talk to a Board member. We need small class size so that all of the aforementioned strategies can be implemented by our educators. In that we all agree, and we need an instructional leader to ensure that the "ship is piloted into a safe harbor."

Your partner in education,

Nancy C. Burns
Superintendent



NESHONOC YEARBOOK DEDICATION MAY 19

West Salem High School's 2010 Neshonoc yearbook dedication ceremony is set for Friday, May 14, at 7:00 p.m. at the Marie W. Heider Center for the Arts.

The event will reveal this year's dedicatee, who, by tradition, is either a district employee or a community member selected by the Neshonoc's senior editors from among a list of nominees who have made a positive impact on West Salem students. Great anticipation ordinarily precedes the event, for the name of the dedicatee is not divulged until the night of the presentation.

The program, about a half hour in length, will consist of speakers—students, colleagues, friends, and family—recognition of past dedicatees, introduction of the Neshonoc and journalism staffs.

After the ceremony, yearbooks will be distributed to those who have purchased their books in advance. A limited number of additional books will go on sale the following week.

A reception honoring the dedicatee, as well as former dedicatees and editors, will take place in the Heider Room following the program. Both the program and the reception are free and open to the public.

Outdoor Education Center Visits

West Salem students will be visiting the Outdoor Education Center in April and May. La Crosse and surrounding counties are areas which are found to be populated with deer ticks, which may cause exposure to Lyme Disease. It is important for people who work or recreate outdoors to learn the facts about the disease and how to prevent it. By taking some simple precautions we can all continue to safely enjoy the pleasures

and benefits of outdoor activity. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Barb Thompson or Connie Troyanek at the elementary school, 786-1662.



OEC Training

Do you enjoy learning about nature? Do you like spending time with young children? Do you have a free day or two this spring to spend outside? If this sounds like you, we'd like to invite you to participate in a special program for parents of West Salem Elementary School students. This spring we will be training volunteers to lead hikes with small groups of students at the West Salem OEC. We will train anyone who is interested in learning more about our OEC and is willing to share that knowledge with our children. No special knowledge or experience is required. You will attend a three hour training session at the forest prior to the visit. When the students are there, you will be asked to lead a short hike through the forest with a small number of students. What better way to enjoy a warm spring day! For more information or to volunteer, call Barb Thompson at 786-1662 (days) or 786-2382 (evenings). Thank you for caring about our youth.



40 Years of Going Green Together

Earth Month April 1 - 30, 2010

www.greenlacrosse.com

Annual Community Clean-Up Day Saturday, April 17, 2010

Help Make West Salem a More Beautiful Place to Live

The West Salem Business Association is proud to sponsor the Annual West Salem Clean-Up Day

FREE FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS



The event will kick-off in the West Salem Village Park with coffee, rolls and juice at 9:00 am and will end with a picnic in the park starting at 11:45am.

Come out and join area business leaders, your neighbors, the West Salem Cub and Boy Scouts, and youth church groups for a morning of food, fun, and community service.

Volunteers are Needed – Spread the Word!

Everyone is invited and the more people we have participate, the more good we can do for the village of West Salem and its citizens. No registration is needed, but feel free to call Margette Quam at 786-1150 to let us know you'll be there. Or just show up at the Village Park and we will take care of the rest.

*We look forward to seeing you on
Saturday, April 17th at the Village Park.*

On behalf of the West Salem School Board, we would like to thank the district residents who took part in assisting with the selection process of the new superintendent. Your time and effort was very much appreciated. Your input was taken into consideration, and the selection of Mr. Troy Gunderson to replace retiring Superintendent Nancy Burns was made.

Thank you again for your participation.

40 Years of Going Green Together 2010 La Crosse Earth Month!

Mark your calendars for the 2010 La Crosse Earth Month celebration hosted by the La Crosse Earth Week Coalition! The La Crosse Earth Week Coalition (LEWC) is a group of public, private and non-profit organizations working together to improve the quality of the environment in the Upper Mississippi River Valley. This year's theme, "40 Years of Going Green Together," is an invitation to all sectors of our community to celebrate Earth Day's 40th anniversary by seeking ways to reduce our impact on the environment, not only during Earth Month, but throughout 2010 and beyond. (Name of organization) is proud to be a Partner of 2010 La Crosse Earth Month by helping to promote "Earth Month" activities being held during the month of April.

2010 La Crosse Earth Month will begin with a proclamation from La Crosse Mayor Matt Harter and County Board Chair Steve Doyle, declaring the month of April to be designated as "Earth Month" for both the City and County of La Crosse. "Earth Month" activities include:

- Greens, Eggs, and Cheese Gala – April 5th, Myrick Hixon EcoPark
- Voluntary "Pull The Plug" Day! – April 11th
- Will Allen, Growing Power Inc. – April 13th, UW-L Graff Main Hall Auditorium
- "Food, Inc" – April 15th, Franciscan Spirituality Center
- Sustainable Farms Bus Tour – April 17th, Ridgeland Harvest & Small Family CSA
- Sacred Ground talk with Bill Miller – April 22nd, Viterbo Fine Arts Center
- Earth Day Concert featuring Bill Miller with Dan Sebranek – April 22nd, The Cargill Ballroom at The Waterfront Restaurant
- Rick Chrustowski – Children's author illustrator – April 22nd, La Crosse Public Library Main
- Earth Fair – April 24th, Three Rivers Waldorf School
- Green Expo – April 24th, Western Technical College Lunda Center
- Green Homes Bus Tour – April 25th – Roald Gundersen and Guy Wolf homes
- Hans Mayer Children's Concert – April 30th & May 1st, Myrick Hixon EcoPark

"Earth Month Supporter" window clings will be available for a \$1 suggested donation at various La Crosse area businesses and organizations. For a list of the locations, as well as more information on Earth Month events and Partners and Sponsors, go to www.greenlacrosse.com. Please support 2010 La Crosse Earth Month!

West Salem Community Fitness Center

Annie Labus, Fitness Center Director

Current fitness center hours are Monday–Friday mornings 5:00–8:00 a.m., Monday–Thursday evenings 3:00–9:00 p.m., Fridays 3:00–7:00 p.m., Sunday 4:00–7:00 p.m. Fitness center gift certificates are available for purchase and are a great way to stay healthy. Also check with your insurance provider to see if they offer a reimbursement for your fitness center membership.

Clean shoes are required to enter the fitness center and indoor track. Current fitness center hours and class schedules are specified on the school website <www.wsalem.k12.wi.us>. Click on the fitness center icon to get the latest information about your community fitness center. You may call 786-1220 extension 2275.

April is a great time to get outdoors and get into shape. Below are a few ideas on outdoor activities you can do and the calories they burn.

Based on 150 pound person for one hour of activity

Sweeping garage- 272 calories
Lightly playing with kids-190 calories
Moderate playing with dog- 272 calories
Gardening- 272 calories
Picking up yard-204 calories
Planting trees- 306 calories
Racking yard- 292 calories
Walking-190 calories

And like they say, April showers bring May flowers and bring you indoors to the fitness center! Our walking track is free to the West Salem Community! The fitness center offers a wide variety of cardio equipment and weight training machines. Prices are affordable and you can pay daily, monthly or save money with a yearly membership!

Please ask our staff about our current fitness classes being offered. In April we will have Sunday evening yoga/pilates, Wednesday yoga and Monday & Wednesday Zumba. For prices and times please call or ask our staff. These classes are a fun way to get into shape and learn new ways to de-stress and stay healthy!

We hope to see you soon!

2010 Summer School Program

The West Salem School District is conducting a summer school program for pre-kindergarten through eleventh grade students who reside within the school boundaries. A variety of enrichment activities are planned in math, language arts, science, art, music, physical education, swimming, computer education and drama. Summer school has terms and sessions. The majority of the classes will be held at the elementary and middle schools. Sessions are the times of classes. Session 1 is 9:00 – 10:20 and Session 2 is 10:40 – 12:00.

Term 1 June 7 – June 18

Term 2 June 21 – July 2

Term 3 July 5 – July 16 (swimming only and no busses)

Term 4 August 9 – August 12 & August 16 – August 19 (Academic Literacy, Developmental Reading and Jump Start to 1st Grade classes only and teacher referral is required)

Please mark the following important dates on your calendar:

Friday, April 30 - Summer School schedules will be sent home.
Friday, May 28 - Final copy of Summer School schedule will be sent home.

No changes will be made to the Summer School schedules after Friday, May 28.

If you register for Summer School and later find that your student will be unable to attend Summer School for any reason, please call the Middle School office as soon as possible; as we have waiting lists.

**Skippers (for 4 & 5 year olds/Pre-5K) swim classes will be July 19 – July 23. Registration for Skippers is done thru the pool on or after June 9.

If you have any Summer School questions, call Janel at the West Salem Middle School at 786-2090 between 9:00-11:00 a.m. or e-mail <jlochen@wsalem.k12.wi.us>.

This year we also have a summer school page on our website <www.wsalem.k12.wi.us>.

If you need an enrollment packet you can view it and print out the registration form (remember it is 2 pages) and you can either mail, fax or e-mail it back to Janel at the Middle School 450 N. Mark St. West Salem, WI 54669. Our fax number is 608-786-1081.

For a full-color version of this and past newsletters, check out the West Salem School District Website at <www.wsalem.k12.wi.us>

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2010
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 7:00 p.m.

Convene

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Errol Kindschy. 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 February 4, 2010.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Riley Schock led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Ann Bina recited the District Mission Statement.

Roll Call

Present: Ann Bina, Tom Ward, Errol Kindschy, Scott Scafe, Henry Althoff, and Linda Brown. Also in attendance – Administrators: Nancy Burns, Dean Buchanan, Eric Jensen, Mark Carlson, Barb Buswell, John Smalley, and Michael St. Pierre; Student representatives: Riley Schock and Warren Frank. Accounts Manager: Davita Molling. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Ken Spraetz and Lisa Gerke.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Scafe moved, Mrs. Brown seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Connection with the Community

Riley Schock reported on:

1. The senior social studies classes are making psychology presentations.
2. This Friday will be Culture Day in all the Spanish classes at the high school.
3. The Mrs. Patza's English 110 and college prep English classes started Macbeth.

Warren Frank reported on:

1. Conference wrestling was this past Saturday and the team did well. Regionals will be at West Salem next Saturday.
2. The winter sports season is winding down and tournaments will be starting soon.
3. The high school LinkCrew will be holding a dodgeball tournament on February 19.

Correspondence

Mr. Kindschy read a letter from Trees For Tomorrow regarding the middle school's recent trip.

Public comments on non-agenda items

High school softball coach Brian Babiash reviewed the tentative schedule for the teams trip to Florida and answered questions.

Written and Oral Reports

Finance Committee – Mr. Ward reported that the committee met earlier and discussed administration staffing requests for 2010-2011.

Professional Negotiations Committee – Mr. Kindschy reported that the committee met with the 3 principals about the administrators contract.

CESA Board of Control – Mr. Kindschy highlighted the following from the CESA meeting: New programs and services programs are out as well as the professional directory; Washburn Academy, teacher Dana La Fleur is on the cover; 18 non-renewal contracts were handed out at CESA #4; they approved an AODA grant which includes West Salem; carpeting-Mrs. Buswell found a group to assist with moving the furniture; April 20 is the new board member meeting at CESA #4 and will include information on *Race to the Top*; and at the Cracker Barrel, Mr. Kindschy shared our superintendent selection process.

Administrator reports and first semester goals were reviewed.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Ward moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of January 25, 2010; the Special Board Meeting Minutes of January 26 and January 28, 2010; and invoices to be paid. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

Mr. David Kies, Band Director, presented congratulatory letters he received for the bands recent performance at the 26th Annual National Band Association-Wisconsin Chapter Convention. Mr. Kies also shared pictures that were taken at the event.

Mrs. Brown moved, Mrs. Bina seconded to approve a 3 1/2 hour early childhood paraprofessional position. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bina moved, Mr. Althoff seconded to approve for the first reading of policy #731.2 Key Control. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bina moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to approve for the second reading of policy #361.4 Technology Concerns for Students with Special Needs, #723 Crisis Plan, #734 Staff

Personal Items Utilized in School, #735 Integrated Pest Management, #911 Buildings and Grounds Supervisor, #912 Second Shift Maintenance/Custodial Supervisor, and #724 Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS). Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Brown moved, Mr. Althoff seconded to approve Scott Johnson as a 2009-2010 Middle School Track Coach. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Althoff moved, Mrs. Brown seconded to accept the resignation/retirement of special education teacher Mary Crane. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kindschy volunteered to be the Board representative on the Bearing Wall Committee.

Each Board member gave Mrs. Burns two names of potential members to serve on the 2009-2010 Reconsideration Committee. The names will be drawn at the next board meeting.

Mr. Ward moved, Mr. Scafe seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 8:14 p.m. A roll call vote was taken Mr. Althoff Aye, Mrs. Brown Aye, Mr. Scafe Aye, Mrs. Bina Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, and Mr. Kindschy Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board will discuss, consider and, if appropriate, take action in closed session, under the exemption provided for in WI Statutes §19.85(1) (c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility for the purpose of accepting the resignation of a probationary teacher and/or to issue preliminary notice(s) of non-renewal for the 2010-11 school term to member(s) of the bargaining unit represented by the West Salem Education Association (see section 118.22 (3) of the Wisconsin Statutes); and to review superintendent interview schedule and questions, and to set special meetings for interviews and selection of the finalist.

Closed Session

Mr. Scafe moved, Mr. Althoff seconded to reconvene into open session at 8:52 p.m.

Open Session

Mr. Ward moved, Mrs. Brown seconded to set Special Board Meetings for February 15 at 4:55 p.m. and February 16 at 6:00 p.m. to select final superintendent candidates and whom to do an onsite visit. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Mr. Scafe moved, Mrs. Brown seconded to adjourn at 8:53 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Bina, Clerk

School District of West Salem
Special Board Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2010
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 4:55 p.m.

Convene

The meeting was called to order at 4:55 p.m. by President Errol Kindschy. 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 February 11, 2010. This meeting was at the request of a board member.

Roll Call

Present: Ken Spraez, Ann Bina, Tom Ward, Errol Kindschy, Scott Scafe, Henry Althoff, and Linda Brown. Also in attendance – candidate Thomas Helgeson, candidate Rita Zindorf (5:10-7:30), Jason Falck (6:50).

Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Brown moved, Mr. Althoff seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ward moved, Mrs. Brown seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 4:56 p.m. A roll call vote was taken Mr. Althoff Aye, Mrs. Brown Aye, Mr. Scafe Aye, Mr. Spraez Aye, Mrs. Bina Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, and Mr. Kindschy Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board will discuss, consider and, if appropriate, take action in closed session to interview candidates for Superintendent vacancy 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.

Closed Session

Mr. Ward moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to reconvene in open session at 8:29. Motion carried unanimously.

Open Session



Adjournment

Mrs. Bina moved, Mr. Spraetz seconded to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Bina, Clerk

School District of West Salem
Special Board Meeting Minutes
February 16, 2010

Marie Heider Meeting Room – 6:00 p.m.

Convene

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Errol Kindschy. 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 February 11, 2010. This meeting was at the request of a board member.

Roll Call

Present: Ken Spraetz, Ann Bina, Tom Ward, Errol Kindschy, Scott Scafe, Henry Althoff, and Linda Brown.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Althoff moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Mr. Scafe moved, Mrs. Bina seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 6:02 p.m. A roll call vote was taken Mr. Althoff Aye, Mrs. Brown Aye, Mr. Scafe Aye, Mr. Spraetz Aye, Mrs. Bina Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, and Mr. Kindschy Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board will discuss, consider and, if appropriate, take action in closed session to review information collected from the superintendent interview groups and open forum; to select a final candidate to fill the superintendent vacancy; discuss the contract and possible salary; and set-up a visitation schedule 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.

Closed Session

Mrs. Brown moved, Mr. Ward seconded to reconvene into open session at 7:13 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Open Session



Adjournment

Mr. Scafe moved, Mr. Ward seconded to adjourn at 7:14 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Bina, Clerk

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
February 22, 2010
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 7:00 p.m.

Convene

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Errol Kindschy. 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 February 18, 2010.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Warren Frank led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Henry Althoff recited the District Mission Statement.

Roll Call

Present: Ken Spraetz, Ann Bina, Errol Kindschy, Scott Scafe, Henry Althoff, and Linda Brown. Also in attendance – Administrators: Nancy Burns, Dean Buchanan, Eric Jensen, Mark Carlson, Barb Buswell, John Smalley, and Michael St. Pierre; Student representatives: Riley Schock and Warren Frank. Accounts Manager: Davita Molling, Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Tom Ward and Lisa Gerke.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Scafe moved, Mr. Althoff seconded to approve the agenda with the removal of the closed session item. Motion carried unanimously.

Connection with the Community

Riley Schock reported on:

1. The dance team's last performance will be this Friday.
2. The NHS will have a blood drive in March.
3. The senior slide show is being put together.
4. Families and Finances are doing budgets in class.
5. Tomorrow marks the half-way point of the third quarter.

Warren Frank reported on:

1. Basketball playoffs will be happening shortly, with both the boys and girls competing.
2. Four wrestlers competed this past weekend and had an overall good season.
3. Many students attended the wake and funeral of Craig Meyers.
4. Mr. Quenten Brown, high school art teacher, will be talking to seniors about poster boards for the SEP presentations.

Correspondence

A thank you note from the West Salem High School Booster Club was read.

Public comments on non-agenda items – None.

Written and Oral Reports

Policy Committee – Mr. Spratz reported that there will be one policy for second reading tonight and 14 policies were reviewed at committee earlier.

Professional Negotiations Committee – Mr. Kindschy reported that a second meeting was held and they have 11 tentative agreements.

Transportation Committee – Mr. Althoff reported on the following:

1. The future of the bus garage facility and needs.
2. A bus for special education needs to be considered for purchase and has been referred to the finance committee.
3. The disposal of bus #9 is on hold.
4. An update on four-year old kindergarten.

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Mr. Althoff reported on the following:

1. Many supervisors and administrators were present.
2. Future SEP Projects, related to the baseball field update.
3. Middle school lockers.
4. Middle school kitchen freezer and cooler units.
5. Civil Rights Compliance Review.
6. Special education room at the middle school.
7. Information from Baird on future financing.

Supervisor reports were reviewed.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Scafe moved, Mrs. Bina seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2010; the Special Board Meeting Minutes of February 15, 2010; and the Special Board Meeting Minutes of February 16, 2010; and the invoices to be paid. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

Mrs. Bina moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to approve the high school softball Florida Spring Training trip and practice on a holiday. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Spratz moved, Mr. Althoff seconded to approve for the second reading of policy #731.2 Key Control. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Brown moved, Mrs. Bina seconded to accept donations from Carl and Jennifer Wallace for the OEC, and from the Bangor Merrimakers for the middle school art class. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Scafe moved, Mrs. Brown seconded to approve the administrations co-curricular recommendations: Ellen Bice and Nicole Friell, middle school forensics; Eric Sorenson, junior varsity golf coach. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Brown moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to accept the resignations from paraprofessional Rose Marie (Tootie) Knutson, EBD teacher Karen Miller and fifth grade teacher Marsha O'Neil. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Bina moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to approve the lockers for the middle school and not to exceed the budget amount of \$57,000. Motion carried unanimously.

Warren Frank and Riley Schock drew from names submitted for possible community representatives to serve on the Reconsideration Committee. The order in which they will be asked: Marlene Gersch, Jan Wee, Lisa Arndt, John Hetland, Karen Drazkowski, Greg Bergh, Connie Huebsch, and Karen Gilster.

Adjournment

Mrs. Bina moved, Mrs. Brown seconded to adjourn at 7:31 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Bina, Clerk

The West Salem School District does not discriminate against pupils on the basis of sex, race, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, religion, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disabilities or handicap in its education programs or activities. Federal law prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, sex, or handicap.

2010 STATE MATHCOUNTS NEWS!!!!

The State Mathcounts Competition was held in Madison on Saturday, March 6, 2010. There were 127 total students competing, representing 46 different schools from across the state of Wisconsin. There were 20 official teams competing.

West Salem's team members were Michael Uebele, Christian Schran, Kaitlin Brueggen, and Mikaela Hunter. As a team, West Salem finished in 4th place. Individually, Schran placed 6th, Uebele placed 8th, Brueggen placed 35th, and Hunter placed 51st. Kyle Lang and Michael Anderson competed as individuals. Lang placed 74th and Anderson placed 89th.

Mathcounts is a national program designed to promote excellence in math and science in grades 6 through 8. West Salem's Mathcounts program is coached by Tammy Bentzen and Bryan Kinkel. The National Competition will be held in May in Orlando, Florida. The top four individuals from the State competition will represent Wisconsin at the National Competition.

Annual Fun-Raiser!
Taco and Nacho Night!
Thursday, April 15, 2010
Serving 4pm to 7pm
at the
West Salem
High School
to benefit the

**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
WEST SALEM AREA**
Cost: \$5 per person
Kids 6 to 12: \$3
5 and under free
Sponsored by: The Village People
For more information call Errol at 786-1675

Mark your calendar - Neshonoc Yearbook Dedication and distribution is set for Friday, May 14th.



Missoula Children's Theatre is coming to the Heider Center in West Salem!

Auditions for the production of "King Arthur's Quest" will be held on Monday, April 19, 2010 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on the Heider Center stage. Roles are available for approximately 60 area students kindergarten through grade 12. Rehearsals begin following auditions on Monday, April 19 and continue daily 3:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. through Friday, April 23rd. Performances are on Saturday, April 24th at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. A more detailed informational hand-out is available at the Heider Center box office (608)786-1220, Ext. 4, 405 E. Hamlin St., West Salem, WI 54669 or at any West Salem school office.

Libraries are the heart of their communities.
National Library Week 2010 (April 11-17)
 will be celebrated with the theme,
“Communities thrive @ your library.”

*Neil Gaiman
 was named the
 Honorary Chair
 of National
 Library Week*

Author Neil Gaiman, winner of this year’s Newbery Medal for “The Graveyard Book,” has been named the 2010 Honorary Chair of National Library Week, which will be celebrated April 11-17.

As Honorary Chair, Gaiman will appear in both print and radio public service announcements (PSA) and a podcast and will participate in a National Library Week event developed by the American Library Association’s Campaign for America’s Libraries.

<www.ala.org>



(above) Ms. Treu portraying a librarian from the past.
 (right) Just an old-time picture.



Librarian Expertise Available

Not all Wisconsin residents know about a tremendous resource at their disposal.

At any time of day or night, computer users can type in an informational question and reach a librarian via live chat, who will immediately look for an answer.

A consortium of reference librarians statewide, nationally, and globally, provide the service, known as Ask?Away. <http://dpi.wi.gov/rll/qp_form.html>

In addition to the live chat format, librarians may be queried by e-mail via a Web form.

“Any question at all” is fair game, says Martha Berninger, coordinator of the program at the Wisconsin Reference and Loan Library, <<http://dpi.wi.gov/rll/index.html>> a unit of the DPI. “It can be about state government, the DPI or the DPI website, child care services, their child’s school, elder care issues, their hobbies, help with their homework—everything from ‘bar bets’ to geneology.”

Berninger and other staff have provided Ask?Away trainings over the past year to school library media specialists. The trainings cover how the system works, how to work with students on appropriately using the service, and how to spread the word about it to faculty, students, and staff. (Contact Martha, <martha.berninger@dpi.wi.gov> 608-224-6168, to learn more.)

In addition to Ask?Away, most libraries in the state offer reference help by telephone and e-mail when they’re open.

Good News!

Jacob Martin, grade 2, received an Honorable Mention Award from Very Special Arts of Wisconsin. This is the second year in a row that Jacob has won an award from VSA-WI. His work called “Hands” is currently on display in Madison. He will receive a \$25.00 gift certificate for art supplies. He and his family were invited to attend the ceremony in Madison on March 20.

Ashlyn Arneson, Nick Oldenberg, Brianna Kruser, JohnnyRay Hansen, Taylor Gile, Christian Koepnick, and Abby Solberg had artwork on display at the Capitol rotunda in Madison for Youth Art Month. Their work was chosen as one of only 50 pieces that represent the entire La Crosse and Eau Claire area!

Heider Center Events

Marie W. Heider Center for the Arts

2009-2010 CELEBRATING OUR 6th SEASON

MAINSTAGE SERIES:

Reserve your tickets by contacting the box office.

Home Free A Cappella

Thursday, April 15, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. \$12/\$10

FAMILY SERIES:

All Seats \$6.00 and are General Admission

Missoula Children's Theatre presents:

King Arthur's Quest

A week long residency, culminating in two public performances starring local children. Call the box office for audition information.

(more information on page 10 of this newsletter)

Saturday, April 24, 2010, at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.



Visual Arts Series

District K-12 Art Show - March 1-31, 2010

Community Art Exhibit - April 1-30, 2010

West Salem High School Senior Art Show

May 1-31, 2010

www.heidercenter.org

Important Open Enrollment Dates

April 9, 2010 – School district notices of approval or denial must be mailed. If the application is denied, parents have 30 days to file an appeal.

May 14, 2010 – School districts must notify parents of accepted applicants of the specific school or program to which the student is assigned.

June 11, 2010 – Parents of accepted applicants must notify the nonresident district if the student will attend the nonresident district in the 2010-11 school year. If the parent fails to make this notification, the nonresident district may refuse to allow the student to attend the district.

For more information on Open Enrollment, go to:

<<http://dpi.wi.gov/sms/psctoc.html>>

Public School Open Enrollment Program
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
P.O. Box 7841, Madison, WI 53707-7841
Toll-free: 888-245-2732
maryjo.cleaver@dpi.wi.gov
merry.larsen@dpi.wi.gov

THANK YOU

The West Salem High School Athletic Booster Club would like to thank the following donors for making the Annual Fun Night a success:

1st Community Credit Union	Northern Engraving
1st National Bank	O'Reilly Auto Care - Sparta
Ace Hardware of West Salem	Pischke Motors
Allen Dental	Quiznos
Altra Credit Union	Salem Floral & Gift
AmericInn of West Salem	Snap Fitness
BA Buritto Company	St. Joe's Equipment
Beyer's Cabinets	St. Joes Equipment – Industrial Division
Brenegen Auto Group	Syl's Place
Brushtalk Signs	TCI
Clinic Pharmacy	The Studio
Coca Cola	Union State Bank
Coney Island	UWL Womens Basketball
Cranberry Country Lodge	Viterbo University
Drugan's	Viterbo Volleyball
EZ Print & Copy	Viterbo Womens Basketball
Family Dentistry of West Salem	Waterloo Heights Dental Center
Family Tree Floral	West Salem Auto Repair
Features Sports Bar	West Salem Soccer
Fox Hollow	West Salem Baseball
Games People Play	West Salem Insurance
Green Bay Packers	West Salem Pharmacy
Hansen's IGA	West Salem School District
Harris Bank	West Salem School Store
I-90 Cenex	West Salem Softball
Identity Works	West Salem Volleyball
Jim Quinn Insurance	Western Wisconsin Plastics
Keyway Leather	Westview Inn
Kwik Trip	
LaCrosse Loggers	<u>Individuals:</u>
LaScher's Uptown Bistro	Angie Stefferud
Le Coulee Cheese Castle	Carl Schmitz
Linda's Cafe & Bakery	Jim Moore-Industrial Heat Transfer
Linda's Salem Bakery	Mary Koepnick
Marcie's Pet Spa	MaryAnn Welch
Milwaukee Brewers	Matt Kenseth
Milwaukee Bucks	Michelle Hansen
Minnesota Twins	Tom Stark – LaCrosse Spartans
Minnesota Vikings	
Nancy's Touch of Country	
Neshonoc Sports	

Calendar of Events

APRIL

- 1 Softball-V vs. Lakes Community, IL at Disney World - 8:00 a.m.
Softball-V vs. Ewing, NJ at Disney World - 10:00 a.m.
Softball-V vs. West Geauga, OH at Disney World - Noon
Soccer-V at Mauston- 4:30
- 6 Soccer-JV/V at Wisconsin Heights - 4:45/6:30
- 8 OEC - Sophomores
Softball-JV/V (H) GET - 5:00/5:00
- 9 OEC - Sophomores
Golf-V (H) WS Early Bird Invite - 3:00
Track-V/JV - WS Early Bird Triangular - 4:00
Auditions - The Wizard of Oz (grade 4-7)
- 10 Soccer-JV/V at Reedsburg Invite - 10:00
Golf-V (H) WS Early Bird Invite - 9:00
- 12 Auditions - The Wizard of Oz (grade 8-12)
- 13 Golf-V at Arcadia - 4:30
Softball-JV/V at BRF - 5:00/5:00
Track-V at MVC/Coulee Meet at Holmen - 3:30
Track-JV at Bangor Early Bird Meet - TBA
Golf-JV (H) Arcadia/BRF/GET - 4:30
Soccer-JV/V (H) Onalaska - 5:00/7:00
Auditions - The Wizard of Oz (grade 8-12)
- 15 Soccer-JV/V at Logan at Fields For Kids - 5:00/7:00
Softball-JV/V (H) Viroqua - 5:00/5:00
- 16 Golf-JV at BRF (Luther, Viroqua) - 4:30
- 17 Softball-JV/V at Prairie du Chien Tourney
Track-V/JV at St. Mary's University Invite
- 19 OEC - Grade 5 Volunteer Training - 8:30-11:30
Golf-V at Viroqua/Westby (18 Holes) 1:00
Golf-JV at GET Invite at Ettrick (18 holes) 1:00
Track-FR/SO (H) WS FR-SO Invite - 4:00
- 20 OEC - Grade 4 (Huth, Olson, Reedy)
Golf-JV at Arcadia (GET/Viroqua) 4:30
Softball-JV/V at Luther - 5:00/5:00
Soccer-JV/V (H) Tomah - 5:00/7:00
- 21 **Late Start - School Begins at 10:00 (no 4K)**
- 22 OEC - Grade 4 (Ebert, Hesse, Martinson)
OEC - 4K Parent Night
Golf-V at GET - 3:00
Track-V/JV at Central - 4:00
- 23 OEC - Grade 4 (All Classes)
Soccer at Wisconsin Rapids Assumption - 7:00
- 24 OEC - Grade 5 Volunteer Training - 8:00-11:00
Golf-V at Sparta Invite - 8:30
- 26 OEC - Grade 1 Volunteer Training - 8:30-11:30
OEC - Kindergarten Volunteer Training - 12:00-2:00
Golf-JV at BRF Invite - 1:00
- 27 OEC - Grade 4 Rain Date
Softball-JV/V at Arcadia - 5:00/5:00



PHOTO
Friday
HS



WS
HS



- Track-V/JV at Onalaska Quad - 4:00
Golf-JV (H) Luther, Viroqua, Westby) 4:30
Soccer-JV/V (H) Sparta - 5:00/7:00
- 28 OEC - Grade 5 (Czajka, La Fleur, Stachowski)
- 29 OEC - Grade 5 (Burdick, Jeranek, O'Neil)
Soccer-JV/V at Central at Fields For Kids - 5:00/7:00
Softball-JV/V (H) Westby - 5:00/5:00
- 30 OEC - Grade 5 Rain Date
Golf-V at Luther - 3:00
Track-V at Arcadia Invite - 4:00

MAY

- 3 May Fair
Golf-JV at Viroqua/Westby (18 holes) 1:00
Track-FR/SO at Mel-min FR-SO Meet - 4:30
- 4 Grade 4 Spring Concert - 6:30, Heider Center
Golf-V at BRF Invite - 1:00
Softball-JV/V at GET - 5:00/5:00
Soccer-JV/V (H) Aquinas - 5:00/7:00
- 6 Golf-JV at GET (BRF/Luther) 3:00
Softball-JV/V (H) BRF - 5:00/5:00
Soccer-JV/V (H) Wisconsin Heights - 5:00/7:00
- 7 Golf-V at BRF - 3:00

West Salem School District Receives New Computers

By WSHS journalism students
Taylor Rel, Kylie Gullickson, Shelby Williams

Troops stationed at Fort McCoy had the idea of donating their used computers to the West Salem School District, and that's exactly what they did. The new computers arrived Friday, March 5th to the high school. "We're just really excited to reach out to the community and show our support like they support us on a day-to-day basis," said Sergeant Michel Buterbaugh.



Superintendent Nancy Burns accepted the generous donation from the U.S. Military. Both desktops and laptops were donated. There were 15 desktops and 5 laptops, "This will certainly add a lot of ability for classroom teachers to use computers for research projects, for word processing, and working together in classrooms and I think that it will enhance instruction and learning." said Burns.



The military switches out computers every three years, so the computers the school district has received are fairly new. This program is called Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service (DRMS). It is used to provide IT equipment to schools and educational nonprofit organizations for grades pre-K through 12.

"We thought we'd donate these computers to the students in order to improve education, so we appreciate being able to do that for the community," said Colonial Michael Todd.



High school student learns job skills while serving beverages to staff at West Salem High School.





VAC - State Bound

On Friday, February 26, the La Crosse Regional Visual Arts Classic competition was held at UW-L. There were 11 teams competing at this all-day art event. At the end of day, West Salem High School emerged victorious earning a First Place rating for the team. As a team, West Salem will head to UW-Madison on April 9, to compete against the winners of the five other regionals.

The members of the 2010 State qualifying VAC team:

Kolton Christianson
 Katey Ferris
 Mariah Falck
 Katie Seeger
 Alicia Powers
 Amanda Uebele
 JohnnyRay Hansen
 Michael Reedy
 Joe Faella
 Zoe Ault-Brinker
 Seth Walker
 Rachel Auna



If you see these students, congratulate them on their hard work! Ask them about their experiences!

May Fair Arts Festival 2010

Sunday, May 2
West Salem High School Commons

Art Fair - 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Regional Artist will be selling their art work. Garden sculptures, jewelry, paintings, pottery, photos, and blown glass will be for sale. This is a great opportunity to find that one-of-a-kind Mothers Day gift and it's not too early to start shopping for Christmas. There will be a Silent Auction from 10:00-3:00 that will include items from area businesses and donations from many of the artists. There also will be music and dance performances along with face painting and childrens' art activities.

Chicken-Q - 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

1/2 chicken dinner including potato salad, baked beans and dinner roll will be prepared by Premier Catering. ****Beverage Not Included**** Concessions will be available.


- Chicken-Q tickets are available from any West Salem Fine Arts Board member.
- To reserve your dinners, please contact Peggy Green, 786-1962.
- Chicken-Q tickets are also available at the Heider Center Box Office.
- Please purchase tickets in advance.
- A minimal number of tickets will be available at the door.

Join us for the **5th Annual May Fair Arts Festival.**


Sunday, May 2nd

Mark your calendar for this fun family event.

This event is sponsored by the West Salem Fine Arts Board and the West Salem Music Department.



**2010
 Relay For Life
 of West Salem**



April 9-10, 2010
 Opening Ceremony at 7:00 p.m.
 West Salem High School

We have many exciting things happening at the 2010 Relay For Life of West Salem!

To view the latest information about this event, visit the website.
 < www.relayforlife.org/westsalemwi >

From the Superintendent
Open Enrollment
Relay For Life
Auditions for *The Wizard of Oz*
Arsenic & Old Lace
State Mathcounts News
Art Work Displayed
Auditions for *King Arthur's Quest*
National Library Week
Librarian Expertise Available
Thank You
Fort McCoy Donation
Taco & Nacho Night!
Student Articles
Mayfair - 5/2/10
Outdoor Education Center
NESHONOC Dedication

Informational Meeting
For the 2011 WSHS
Band & Choir trip to NYC
Thursday, April 8, 2010
at 7:00 p.m.
in the high school band room.

Community Clean-Up
Heider Center Events & Gallery Display
Summer School
La Crosse Earth Month
Calendar of Events
Photo Friday
School Board Minutes
School Board Election Notice

IN
THIS
ISSUE

Current Resident
School District of West Salem
West Salem, WI 54669

School District of West Salem
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West Salem, WI 54669

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