

# West Salem School District

February 2010



Newsletter

## More Than Meets The Eye - Career Path To Superintendency Long and Arduous

One of the most difficult things to understand is what someone else does on their job. One might be married to someone for years before understanding their daily work life. Often this is the reason students choose professions with which they are most familiar; teacher, nurse, fireman, policeman or their parents' occupations.

When searching for a topic for this month's newsletter, Patrick Bahr, my Administrative Assistant, said, "Nancy, because we are searching for a new superintendent, you should let people know what you really do." So here is an attempt to let you know what occupies my day both during "school hours" and "after 3:30". Maybe my husband will learn a thing or two.

In order to qualify to be a Wisconsin superintendent one must have a teaching license and position for at least two years. I was a substitute for 12 years and a classroom and reading teacher for 15 years both in Illinois and Wisconsin. The next step is to take the courses to be a principal. This is a Masters Degree program requiring about 30 credit hours of course work focused on educational leadership. I was very fortunate to be a Wisconsin principal for 8 years. My superintendent encouraged me to consider becoming a superintendent, so I took the courses through the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee to qualify for a license and an Educational Specialist Degree (all of the courses for a doctorate without a dissertation). Course work focused on leadership in the areas of finance, legal, supervision, and curriculum development.

This is my second superintendency. I remember vividly the first day I was a superintendent. Within hours of my arrival, I learned the district needed to make \$300,000 of budget cuts, the high school principal and business manager turned in their resignations and a construction project was beginning without funding. However, I tackled the issues one at a time.

One of the reasons a district must have a superintendent is that state statutes require an individual to sign many legal documents, contracts and reports. My work, however, focuses on working with others through teambuilding. I attend many meetings with school staff, the school board and outside agencies. I am the

only employee of the Board and all other employees work directly under my supervision. The School Board's main work focus is to set policy and the direction of the district. I work as the advisor to all Board committees in areas of finance, policy, negotiations, building and grounds, technology, and etc.

I represent the district on local Boards: West Salem Boys and Girls Club, West Salem Business Association, Lions, Historical Society, UWL Chancellor's Council, and La Crosse County Human Services Board. One of the best parts of the job is being "Chief Panther Fan". Luckily for me I have a special spouse who loves to attend school events at my side. Together we love cheering for our athletes, performers and musicians.

During the day, I attend many school events. I especially enjoy reading with students, watching plays and just being with the teachers and kids. Certainly these activities are not in the job description, but they are the reason that I adore being an educator.

There is one part of the job that I do not enjoy: staying up all night when the weather is precarious for student safety. When I came four years ago, I was assured that school had rarely been cancelled. Yep, as I got here the snow and temperature started to fall.

There are many aspects of this position I enjoy and find engaging. I spend a great deal of time writing. I have learned to enjoy writing evaluations, news articles, policy, and letters of reference for staff members. I also enjoy hiring new staff members and personally interviewing every teacher prior to offering a position and approval by the School Board.

It must be remembered that each individual brings strengths and past experiences to a position and each school district is unique at the time. The importance is that there is a good match between the individual and the district's needs.

I hope this has helped you see the life of a superintendent at a glance. The days are long, but the rewards are for a lifetime. Hopefully, lives are improved due to cooperative and collegial efforts.

Nancy C. Burns,  
Superintendent

# 2010 Summer School Program

It's that time of year again to start thinking about summer school. 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 middle and elementary 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, February 26

Summer School registration packets sent home. (Please note classes are filled in the order that the registration forms are turned in. Classes fill so return as soon as possible. Home-schooled students may request a packet by calling the Middle School.)

### Friday, March 18

Summer School registration sheets are due.

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](mailto:jlochen@wsalem.k12.wi.us).

This year we also have a summer school page on our website at [www.wsalem.k12.wi.us](http://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us).

If you need an enrollment packet you can view 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.

## NOTICE OF SPRING ELECTION OF SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS §120.06(8)(C), Wis. Stats.

Notice is hereby given to the qualified electors of the West Salem School District that on Tuesday, April 6, 2010, Spring Election of school board members will be held. Candidates for the school board are as follows:

- THOMAS HELGESON
- JASON FALCK
- RITA ZINDORF
- SCOTT A. SCAFE

Electors will vote in their regular polling places. Polls will be open and time may be obtained by contacting appropriate town and village clerks.

## West Salem Athletic Booster Club Fun Night Saturday, February 13, 2010 Fox Hollow Banquet Hall

Dinner is \$25 per person and includes:  
prime rib, chicken, tips, potato, veggie,  
and beverage  
Doors open at 5:30 p.m.  
Dinner served at 6:45 p.m.

The cost also includes fun money to play the games for chances to win lots of donated prizes.

If you can't attend the dinner, come to play the games and win prizes at 7:30. Cost: \$10 which includes fun money to play and beverage.

Contact Brian Babiash at 792-9330 or Terri Martinson, [tmartinson@wsalem.k12.wi.us](mailto:tmartinson@wsalem.k12.wi.us), or any booster club member for tickets by February 1.

The booster club contributes to all high school athletics. Recent contributions include: money towards the soccer lights, baseball field renovations, and football camera.



## Kindergarten Registration 2010-2011

Now that West Salem has a 4-Year-Old Kindergarten program in place, we will no longer be hosting a kindergarten registration. If you have a student who will be five years old by September 1, 2010 and the child does not attend our 4K program, please contact the elementary office at 786-1662 to pre-register. All current 4K students will automatically receive kindergarten registration information.

# 5th Annual Mayfair Arts Festival

## Sunday, May 2, 2010

The 5th Annual Mayfair Arts Festival, one of the major West Salem Fine Arts Board fundraisers, will take place on Sunday, May 2nd at the West Salem High School. Activities will include: art fair, silent auction, chicken-que, entertainment, free children's art activities, and concessions. Chicken-que tickets will go on sale in March with a limited number available at the door.

For artists interested in participating in the the art fair, applications will be available online at the Heider Center Website <[www.heidercenter.org](http://www.heidercenter.org)> and the Heider Center box office. For more information, call Jane at 608-786-2388

## Emergency Radio/TV Stations

These are the radio and TV stations we use for school delays and closings. **Please listen to these stations when inclement weather arises or check their websites.** The decision to delay or close school is made as soon as possible and the stations are notified promptly. Please refrain from calling the radio stations and the schools as it ties up the phone for necessary calls.

**Please discuss with your children what to do if school is unexpectedly dismissed early.** Any preparations made in advance will make a hectic time run a little smoother.

*Your cooperation is much appreciated.*

WIZM - 1410 A.M.	WQCC - 106.3 F.M.
Z-93 - 93.3 F.M.	WLFN - 1490 A.M.
WRQT - 95.7 F.M.	WKBH - 100.1 F.M.
WKTY - 580 A.M.	WFBZ - 105.5 F.M.
KCLH - 94.7 F.M.	WCOW - 97.1 F.M.
KQYB - 98.3 F.M.	WKLJ - 1290 A.M.
KQEG - 102.7 F.M.	WXOW - TV-19
WLXR - 104.9 F.M.	WKBT - TV-8

Students and parents can check school closings and delays on the following websites:



[www.wlxr.com](http://www.wlxr.com)  
[www.lacrosserradiogroup.net](http://www.lacrosserradiogroup.net)  
[www.cc1063.com](http://www.cc1063.com)  
[www.1410wizm.com](http://www.1410wizm.com)  
[www.mwfbroadcasting.com](http://www.mwfbroadcasting.com)  
[www.classicrock1001.com](http://www.classicrock1001.com)  
[www.oldiesradioonline.com](http://www.oldiesradioonline.com)

## A Big Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who has responded and donated to our "Helping Hands" cause. We have received a multitude of clothing items from our caring community members! We will be able to help out many students (right here in our own district) because of this immense generosity. Some items have already been shared with those in need. Other items will be stored until they are needed. Giving and sharing are just helping out..that is what life is really about. Look all around you, that's where you should start...You'll find the best giving is done with your heart. Again, a big, heart-felt thank you from the West Salem School counselors!

## Spring/Summer Baseball Sports Parent Meeting

The pre-season sports meeting for all spring sports and summer baseball will be held on Monday, March 1st, 2010 in the Second Floor Conference Room of the high school beginning at 7:00 p.m. This meeting is for those athletes interested in participating in boys' or girls' track, girls' soccer, softball, golf, summer baseball, and their parents/guardians. The 7:00 – 8:00 general session is only for those parents and athletes who did not fulfill this obligation at the fall or winter pre-season meetings. At 8:00 p.m. all athletes and parents are expected to attend the break-out session with the coach(es) of their respective sport. The exception to this will be summer baseball which will not be having a break-out meeting at this time. From 6:30 – 9:00, there will be stations set up in the cafeteria to check the necessary paperwork requirements of each athlete. All paperwork must be completed before beginning practice. If there are any questions, call athletic director LeRoy Krall at 786-1220, Ext. 2353.

### School Board Members

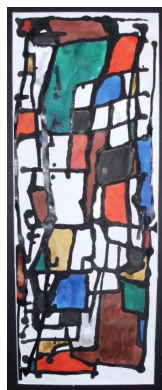
Errol Kindschy ~~~~~	786-1675
Tom Ward ~~~~~	397-9873
Ann Bina ~~~~~	786-1050
Scott Scafe ~~~~~	786-0969
Linda Brown ~~~~~	786-3027
Henry Althoff ~~~~~	786-0207
Ken Spraez ~~~~~	786-0017

Board meetings are held the second and fourth Monday of each month.



## JANUARY'S HEIDER GALLERY DISPLAY

**Alexis Deery is the WSHS Art Student of the Month for January.** Her work consists of dripping ink on paper, turning the paper to let the ink run, and then drawing back into these dripped compositions. Alexis has spent this semester refining this technique. Her work is currently up in the Marie W. Heider Center for the Arts Gallery. If you see Alexis, congratulate her on all of her hard work. Attached are some photos of her pieces.



### “Practicing What We Preach”

Angie Stefferud-Johnson, Krista Beron,  
Danielle Tsukano & Quenten Brown



## Open Enrollment

You may apply for open enrollment from February 1-19, 2010, on-line at <https://www2.dpi.state.wi.us/OpenEnrollApp>

### Who may participate in open enrollment?

Students in 4-year-old kindergarten to grade 12 may apply to participate in open enrollment.

In order for a 4-year old child to participate the resident district must also have a 4K program.

### How and when may parents apply?

The open enrollment application period for the 2010-11 school year is from February 1-19, 2010. *Late applications will not be accepted for any reason.*

Parents may apply in one of two ways:

- On-line (recommended) at <https://www2.dpi.state.wi.us/OpenEnrollApp>
- Although on-line application is recommended, paper applications may be obtained from the Department of Public Instruction or any school district after January 4, 2010, and must be delivered (hand-delivery is recommended) to the nonresident school district during the application period.

### For the brochure on Open Enrollment, go to:

<[http://dpi.wi.gov/sms/doc/oe\\_brochure\\_2009-10.doc](http://dpi.wi.gov/sms/doc/oe_brochure_2009-10.doc)>

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](mailto:maryjo.cleaver@dpi.wi.gov)  
[merry.larsen@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:merry.larsen@dpi.wi.gov)

FAQ: *Can an open enrolled student participate in sports and other extra-curricular activities in the nonresident school district?*

Open enrolled students have the same rights and responsibilities as resident students.

Inter-scholastic athletics are governed by the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA), which has recently adopted new rules concerning transfer students. Parents should check with the WIAA or the school district's athletic director about eligibility.



## 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. **Yogalates is held on Sundays at 5:30 p.m. and Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.** Some employers offer a full or partial reimbursement for fitness center memberships. 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](http://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.

## Looking For Used Cell Phones

**The Knights of Columbus is collecting used cell phones. There is a box located in the District office to drop off any used cell phones. Proceeds from the collection of the phones will be used for Special Olympics. Thank You.**



The West Salem Elementary School Library—  
a great place to read!

# Community Technology Workshops

Cooperative Education Service Agency # 4 (CESA #4)  
923 East Garland Street, West Salem, WI 54669 • 608-786-4800

### MAC 101 BASICS

Date: February 16, 2010 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Are you new to Mac computers or simply need a refresher on how to get the most out of your Mac? This class will guide you to using a Mac effectively and efficiently. Learn about your Mac desktop; figure out how to connect to a printer, iPod, digital camera, or other device; discover email and the Internet; learn how to do various tasks; learn how to use software that came with your Mac.

### PERSONAL COMPUTER 101

Date: March 9, 2010 6:00-8:30 p.m.

This class is for those who wish to learn basics about how to use the PC for simple tasks without becoming embroiled in a whole lot of technical detail. It is also aimed at showing some elementary operations of Windows for those who are new to personal computers.

### SOCIAL NETWORKING 101

Date: April 27, 2010 6:00-8:30 p.m.

Facebook? Twitter? YouTube? My Space? What is all this stuff? Social Networking - perhaps you've heard of it before, but are not quite sure what it means. Social networking is the grouping of individuals into specific groups. The Internet is filled with millions of individuals who are looking to meet other people to gather and share first-hand information and experiences on any number of topics. This class will explore the basic concepts of social networking, including photo sharing.

**Audience:** Open to the public. Must be 18 years or older to attend.

**Presenter:** Jim Welander, CESA #4 Educational Technology Director

**Registration and Fee Information:** Mary Freybler, (608) 786-4849, [mfreybler@cesa4.k12.wi.us](mailto:mfreybler@cesa4.k12.wi.us)

School District of West Salem  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
December 14, 2009  
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 December 10, 2009.

*Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag*

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

*Roll Call*

Present: Ken Spraetz, Tom Ward, Errol Kindschy, Henry Althoff, and Linda Brown. Also in attendance – Administrators: Nancy Burns, Dean Buchanan (7:55), Eric Jensen, Mark Carlson, Barb Buswell, John Smalley, and Lisa Gerke; Student representatives: Riley Schock and Warren Frank. Accounts Manager: Davita Molling. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Ann Bina and Scott Scafe.

*Approval of Agenda*

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

**Connection with the Community**

*Riley Schock reported on:*

1. The seniors are starting their SEP projects.
2. Seniors edited the freshman science papers and met with them today and will meet with others tomorrow if needed.
3. Friday was mid-quarter (students are realizing how fast this year is going).
4. In Senior Physical Education, students are learning and playing games from around the world.
5. The Spanish 2 dinner will be on December 21, 2009.
6. Everyone is excited for the much needed Christmas break.

*Warren Frank reported on:*

1. SEP final papers are due Friday.
2. The high school wrestling team's record is 4-2
3. The girls' basketball team won their last game.
4. There will not be a high school student council winter fantasy dance.

5. The LinkCrew will be having their first dodgeball tournament.
6. The high school band concert was Sunday night with a guest performance by Robert Baca, UW-Eau Claire professor.
7. The NBA (National Band Association) conference is coming up in January.

*Correspondence*

A note was read from the West Salem High School Booster Club regarding items they donated to the school.

*Public comments on non-agenda items* – None.

*Written and Oral Reports*

Policy Committee – Mr. Spraetz reported that there will be policies for first reading tonight and at the next meeting. The committee also discussed Policy Review.

Transportation – Mr. Ward reported that the committee met tonight to discuss the direction for 4k transportation.

Supervisor and administrator reports were reviewed.

**Consent Agenda**

Mrs. Brown moved, Mr. Spraetz seconded to approve the open and closed minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of November 23, 2009, and the invoices to be paid. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion/Action Items:**

Mrs. Bina is stepping down as the chair of the Policy Committee. Mr. Kindschy appointed Mr. Spraetz as the chair of the committee.

Mr. Ward moved, Mrs. Brown seconded to approve the Education for Employment Plan. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ward reviewed options and staff responses to possible District Mission Statements and asked for Board input. Mr. Ward will bring possible statements at the next meeting.

Mr. Althoff moved, Mrs. Brown seconded to approve Erin Ellerbach as the 8th grade girls' head basketball coach. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ward moved, Mr. Althoff seconded to approve for second reading policy #361.1 Acceptable use of Technology as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ward moved, Mrs. Brown seconded to approve for first reading of policy #349 Senior Exit Project. Motion carried unanimously.



Mr. Ward moved, Mr. Althoff seconded to approve for first reading of policy #151.2 Policy Dissemination as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Brown moved, Mr. Spraez seconded to approve for first reading of policy #830.3 District Fitness Center. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Althoff moved, Mr. Spraez seconded to approve the private school Parent Transportation Contracts. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Buchanan joined the meeting.

Mrs. Brown moved, Mr. Ward seconded to approve the request from the high school band for advertising. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Brown moved, Mr. Spraez seconded to approve Vanessa Hawkins at a .40 FTE Speech and Language Therapist. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Spraez moved, Mr. Ward seconded to approve the request from the high school boys' basketball coach for a non-mandatory Sunday practice on December 27, 2009. After some discussion, Mr. Spraez called for the question, all approved. A roll call vote was taken on the motion: Mr. Althoff Nay, Mrs. Brown Nay, Mr. Spraez Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, and Mr. Kindschy Aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Althoff moved, Mr. Ward seconded to approve the 2010-2011 high school course offerings. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Althoff moved, Mr. Spraez seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 8:15 p.m. A roll call vote was taken Mr. Althoff Aye, Mrs. Brown Aye, Mr. Spraez Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, and Mr. Kindschy Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board will discuss, consider and, if appropriate, take action in closed session regarding the non-union district employee and administrative contract and administrative assignments for 2010-12 under 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."



The Board will discuss, consider and, if appropriate, take action in closed session on employee health insurance proposals under Wis. Stats §19.85(1)(e) "Deliberating .....or conducting specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session."

The Board will discuss, consider and, if appropriate, take action in closed session to discuss a MOU with the West Salem School Employees Association under Wis. Stats §19.85(1)(e) "Deliberating .....or conducting specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session."

#### *Closed Session*

Mr. Ward moved, Mr. Althoff seconded to reconvene into open session at 9:26 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

#### *Open Session*

#### **Adjournment**

Mrs. Brown moved, Mr. Althoff seconded to adjourn at 9:27 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.



Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Brown, Acting Clerk

## **Child Development Days**

West Salem Elementary, along with various community and Coulee Region agencies, will be hosting Child Development Days on **Friday and Saturday, February 26th and 27th**. This joint program will offer information about your child's development and various services available to families in the West Salem School District. IF YOU HAVE A CHILD WHO WILL BE 4 YRS. OLD BY SEPTEMBER 1, 2010 PLEASE CALL THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OFFICE AT 786-1662 TO REGISTER.

# Heider Center Events

Marie W. Heider Center for the Arts

2009-2010 CELEBRATING OUR 6th SEASON

## MAINSTAGE SERIES:

*tickets going fast...*

*Reserve your tickets by contacting the box office.*

*Dallas Brass-A Musical Travelogue through American History*

Monday, February 15, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. \$15/\$13

*Randy Sabien and Friends in Concert*

Friday, March 19, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. \$12/\$10

*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

*Tom Pease, Children's Musician*

Saturday, February 6, 2010, at 2:00 p.m.

*Flanagan Irish Dancers*

Sunday, March 7, 2010, at 2:00 p.m.



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.

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

## Visual Arts Series

“Acrylic Florals & Landscapes/Watercolor

Portraits” - Jean Donohoe - February 1-28, 2010

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](http://www.heidercenter.org)

A cool way for people with warm hearts to support the *Special Olympics*.

## **Coulee Region Polar Plunge**

Saturday

March 6, 2010



Online Registration



Plunge at the new location - Pettibone

Beach,

La Crosse, WI



For more information, call (608) 789-7596.

CHECK WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION

<[http://www.specialolympicswisconsin.org/plunge\\_a6-2.asp](http://www.specialolympicswisconsin.org/plunge_a6-2.asp)>

Special Olympics WI - South Central Area, Kerry Gloede - [gloedek@cityoflacrosse.org](mailto:gloedek@cityoflacrosse.org), 400 La Crosse Street, 1st Floor City Hall, La Crosse, WI 54601

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.

## West Salem Lions Club

### ***Super Bowl Pancake Breakfast & Raffle***

Sunday, February 7, 2010

7:00 a.m.—noon

West Salem Elementary School Cafeteria

SERVING FAMILY STYLE

PANCAKES & SAUSAGE

Tickets at the door.

Cost: \$5.00 Adults & \$3.00 12 and under



# Calendar of Events

## FEBRUARY

- 2 Basketball-Boys FR/JV/V (H) Onalaska - 6:00/7:30  
Hockey-V/JV at BRF - 5:30/7:30
- 4 Basketball-Boys FR/JV/V (H) BRF - 6:00/7:30  
Gymnastics-JV/V at Westby - 7:00  
Hockey-JV (H) EC North - 5:30  
Hockey-V (H) Holmen/Aquinas - 5:30/7:30
- 5 Basketball-Girls FR/JV/V (H) GET - 6:00/7:30
- 6 Wrestling-JV/V at Conference at Viroqua  
Gymnastics-V at GET Invite
- 9 Basketball-Girls JV/V (H) Royall 6:00/7:30  
Basketball-Boys FR/JV/V at Viroqua - 6:00/7:30  
Hockey-V/JV at La Crosse 5:30/7:30
- 10 **Late Start - School Begins at 10:00 (no 4K)**
- 11 Gymnastics-JV/V at Caledonia - 6:30
- 13 Wrestling-Regionals at West Salem  
Hockey-JV (H) Onalaska - 2:00
- 15 Basketball-Boys FR/JV/V at La Crescent - 6:00/7:30
- 16 Basketball-Boys FR/JV/V at Prairie du Chien -  
5:50/7:30  
Wrestling-Team Sectionals at Amery  
Basketball-Girls FR/JV/V (H) Viroqua - 6:00/7:30  
Hockey Regional
- 18 Basketball-FR/JV/V at Arcadia - 6:00/7:30  
Hockey-Regional Finals
- 19 Basketball-Girls FR/JV/V at BRF - 6:00/7:30  
Gymnastics-Conference at GET
- 20 Wrestling-Sectionals at Somerset
- 23 Hockey Sectional Semi-Finals
- 25 Basketball-Girls FR/JV/V (H) Arcadia - 6:00/7:30
- 25-27 Wrestling-State at Madison
- 25-27 Gymnastics-Sectionals at Reedsburg
- 26 Basketball-Boys FR/JV/V (H) Onalaska Luther -  
6:00/7:30
- 27 Basketball-Girls FR/JV/V (H) Richland Center -  
1:00/3:00/5:00  
Hockey Sectional Finals at Onalaska Omni Center

## MARCH

- 2 Basketball-Boys Regionals  
Grade 3 Spring Concert - 6:30, Heider Center
- 4 Basketball-Boys Regionals  
Kindergarten Spring Concert - 6:30, Heider Center
- 4-6 Hockey-State Tournament in Madison
- 5 Basketball-Girls FR/JV/V at Onalaska Luther -  
6:00/7:30
- 5-6 Gymnastics-State at WI Rapids
- 5-6 Wrestling-Team State
- 6 Basketball-Boys Regionals
- 9 Basketball-Girls Regional Quarter-Finals  
Grade 1 Spring Concert - 6:15, Heider Center  
Grade 2 Spring Concert - 7:15, Heider Center

- 11 Basketball-Girls Regional Semi-Finals
- 12 Basketball-Sectionals
- 13 Regional Finals at Osseo-Fairchild  
Basketball-Boys Sectionals
- 18 Basketball-Girls Sectional Semi-Final at Stevens  
Point
- 18-20 Basketball-Boys State at Madison
- 20 Basketball-Girls Sectional Finals at Chippewa Falls
- 25-27 Basketball-Girls State at Madison

W  
S  
H  
S



P  
h  
o  
t  
o

F  
r  
i  
d  
a  
y



## **Ann Bina To Step Down From School Board**

By Christina Locante,  
West Salem High School Journalism Student

After 9 years of being a front-and-center member of the West Salem School Board, Ann Bina is stepping down from her position on the board.

At the time Bina first ran for the Board, not only had two referendums failed, but there were talks regarding a new school. “[It] was an issue that I wanted to become involved with,” said Bina.

When decisions had to be made with the school board, Bina described them as not always being a simple task. Bina spoke of the annual budget and writing, reviewing and maintaining school policies as being the most important work the Board has.

“As I became more comfortable in the role, things started becoming clearer and decisions I made in the very beginning are not necessarily the ones I would make today,” Bina recalled.

The time-consuming aspect of the job is one of the down sides but Bina still considers it very rewarding. “The budgeting process is one of the most important jobs the Board has. I am proud of the fact that West Salem Schools has not had to ask the public to allow exceeding the revenue caps. We spend a great deal of time every year on the budget and while we will never make everyone happy, I think we do a great job of balancing the budget while keeping the tax low for our district taxpayers.”

While not doing work for the school board, Bina works as a manager for Gundersen Lutheran, “While I have been there for many years, the best background for being a school board member is to have a passion for giving children every available opportunity.”

Bina is also a very family-oriented person and often enjoys going to sporting events with her husband Kevin and children Whitney and Jacob, all of which are West Salem High School graduates.

No matter where she is, she’s trying to improve the lives of children in every situation. “The children that attend our schools are the future and I try to ensure they get a great education,” said Bina.

## **Elementary Kids Get Into Holiday Spirit**

By Shelby Williams, WSHS journalism student

Two groups of West Salem Elementary School students sang at the Historical Society’s Open House held at the new Octagon House in downtown West Salem on December 5th. “It was a fun and festive time!” said elementary school music teacher Lisa Jones.

First to sing were the fifth grade choir students, followed by students from teacher Sherri Wizner’s Kindergarten class. Both groups sang a variety of Christmas carols. They all finished with singing and signing the words to Silent Night.

One of the kindergarteners, Calista Robaczewski, shared what she thought was the best part of the experience. “My favorites were ‘Jingle Bells’ and ‘Up on the Housetop’,” she said. Fellow fifth grader Janna Seeger also liked the singing. “I like singing with other people and a lot of my friends are in choir.”

## **Local Celebrities to Read to Elementary Students and Families**

By Presley Giese West Salem Journalism

Throughout the years technology has gotten in the way of kids education in reading. In an effort to counteract, West Salem’s PTO is hosting a “celebrity reading night” at the elementary school, Friday, January 22 at 7:00 p.m., for all 4k-5th grade student families.

The PTO hopes the event will encourage children to make reading a life-long habit and reverse the disturbing trend away from reading and toward video games. In a recent study done by the Scholastics News foundation, the results revealed that only one in four kids read daily for pleasure, while a 2007 McArthur Foundation survey reports that 97 percent of young kids play video games regularly.

Among the local celebrity readers are WKBT meteorologist Bill Graul, State Representative Mike Huebsch, and Coast Guard veteran Ray Ebert.

Students should arrive at 6:45 at the elementary school to receive their list of celebrity readers.

**Parents of the Class of 2010:  
The yearbook still has room  
available in the  
ADS FOR GRADS section.  
Please send your pictures,  
messages and  
payment to West Salem H.S.,  
c/o yearbook staff.  
Please label photos.**

### **West Salem School District Search for New Superintendent Enters Final Stage**

By: Stephanie Miller WSHS Journalism Student

West Salem School District has officially started a search for a new superintendent for next year after current superintendent Nancy Burns announced her retirement this fall. The search for the new superintendent is in the early stages, with interviews set for January 26 and 27. Final interviews are scheduled for February 15.

“Based on input received from the Focus Groups conducted last week, the new superintendent will need to possess a strong finance background, have good interpersonal skills, and provide leadership to all aspects of the school district’s programs. A valid superintendent’s license issued by the Wisconsin DPI is required. Experience as an administrator is preferred,” said Dr. Dennis Richards. The superintendent will be announced in the end of February.

The exact interview process will be finalized on January 14. The search is a two-stage process and entered its final stage after the focus group phase was completed, which occurred on December 7. Applications began arriving in the Madison office by the end of the month of December.

Applications for the position must have at least a master’s degree. The superintendent serves as the school districts executive. Chief executive officers are largely responsible for all facets of operations that go on in the school. The individual needs to provide leadership to both the school board and the staff.

“Final candidates chosen for this job will have to undergo reference checks along with criminal and financial background checks” said Richards.

The search for next year’s superintendent seems to be going well so far, and people will soon find out who West Salem School’s new superintendent is in the next few months.



**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](http://www.relayforlife.org/westsalemwi) >

### **Perkins Restaurant Donating to Boys and Girls Club of West Salem**

Kylie Gullickson, WSHS, Journalism Student

A great and easy way to raise a little extra money for the Boys and Girls Club of West Salem is only a coupon away.

Thanks to the Dine to Donate Program, Perkins Restaurant on Rose Street in La Crosse is able to help out the Boys and Girls Club by donating 10% of supporters’ pre-taxed purchases when they use a special coupon.

The coupon itself was sent by email to all West Salem teachers and staff and can be printed off, copied, or handed out to anyone wishing to donate to the cause. There are no limits to how many copies of the coupon can be made or how much can be purchased. For everyone who presents the coupon with a purchase at Perkins Restaurant and Bakery, a donation will be given to the club. The purchase, however, can include anything from Perkins Restaurant or Perkins Bakery. The coupon is valid and will be available until March 31st, 2010.

### **Interested in finding out what the Destination Imagination program is all about?**

It is a creative problem solving team competition and much much more.

To see first hand, join us for **DI Parent Night**  
Monday, March 1, 2010  
6:30 p.m.

Elementary Multi-Purpose Room

All five of our district’s teams will be performing their challenge-live! This is great practice for participants for the “real thing” at the end of the month! The “show” starts at 6:30. Teams will also be performing a live “instant challenge”.



Check  
It  
Out

From the Superintendent  
Open Enrollment  
Child Development Days  
4K & Kindergarten Registration  
Mayfair - 5/2/10 - Looking for Artists  
Sports Parent Meeting

Student Articles  
Heider Center Events & Gallery Display  
Pancake Breakfast  
Polar Plunge  
Summer School

Community Workshops Offered  
Community Fitness Center  
Used Cell Phones Being Collected

School Board Election Notice  
Calendar of Events  
Photo Friday  
School Board Minutes  
TV/Radio Stations  
Booster Club Fun Night

IN  
THIS  
ISSUE

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

**B-A-O-AB?**  
**Donate Blood**  
**It takes all blood types,**  
**all generations...Especially Yours**

West Salem Blood Drive

Friday, February 5, 2010

12:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Presbyterian Church

625 West Franklin Street, West Salem, WI

Blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of ID required at check-in.

*American Red Cross*



Appointments call 786-0684. Walk-ins are Welcome.

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

There will be school on Friday, March 19, 2010,  
since school was cancelled on December 9, 2009.

School District of West Salem  
405 East Hamlin Street  
West Salem, WI 54669

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
WEST SALEM, WI  
PERMIT NO. 38