

# West Salem School District

March 2011



Newsletter

## Steady As She Goes

Troy M. Gunderson, Superintendent

This represents the last of many attempts at authoring an article for the monthly newsletter. My initial drafts offered information about open-enrollment and virtual schools. As I edited each draft, I became more and more uncomfortable with the feeling that I was avoiding a discussion about the ever-growing unrest in Madison.

Coincidentally, I received an e-mail from WASDA (The Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators) providing an update on the state budget process and the potential for dramatic budget reductions. The e-mail concluded with the following words of advice from WASDA Executive Director, Miles Turner:

“Your school board, teachers and community will be looking to you to be the calm, rational face of reason. You need to provide a sense of vision for your district. You need to indicate that these may be extremely difficult times but you need to work together for the best interest of Wisconsin’s students.”

With this as my motivation, here goes....

The political battle lines appear to have been drawn around Governor Walker’s proposed solutions to the state’s budget deficit. The proposals have exposed the economic, social and political differences of our citizenry. It seems as though the longer the conflict prevails, the more polarized we become. Attempting to balance a budget that includes a significant deficit requires difficult choices and enlists strong emotions. Our leaders in Madison are faced with a difficult task.

Speaking in general terms, the Governor has proposed a series of bold initiatives designed to balance the state’s budget. Among the many proposals are a number that directly impact public education. Those garnering the most attention center on the rights of public

employees to collectively bargain a contract, employee payments into the state pension fund, and the cost of health insurance. Also, we are told the impending budget bill will provide for dramatic reductions in state equalization aid to schools along with revenue limit reductions to prevent property tax increases.

While still too early to offer specifics, the financial impact of the proposed changes will reduce our local school budget by shifting a portion of our current employee benefit costs from the school district to our employees. The cost savings are proposed to be paired with a reduction in our state equalization aid. Of concern is the indication that the proposed reductions in equalization aid will far exceed the savings gained from shifting employee benefit costs. The resulting deficit will require additional reductions in our programming. Also of concern is how the unknown parameters of the proposed changes in collective bargaining will affect the employee/employer relationship. As I stated earlier, eliminating our state’s budget deficit will be difficult work.

I suspect the political unrest and charged emotions will be prevalent for some time. I will make it my charge, and hope you will as well, to help our children to understand and appreciate the complexity of our democracy. Our school district will face many obstacles during this process. It is my hope that we find it in our hearts to serve as good role models for our children by handling our difficulties and differences thoughtfully and respectfully. Our children and our school district deserve nothing less.

Let me conclude by thanking the many of you who contacted me to share your thoughts and concerns. I appreciate the diversity of opinions. I especially want to thank our parents for their patience during these trying times. I assure everyone that your school board and I will do our very best to provide the leadership and vision necessary to best serve our children in the trying times ahead.

# Kindergarten Registration

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, 2011 and your 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 a kindergarten packet.

# 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 5, 2011, Spring Election of school board members will be held. Candidates for the school board are as follows:

Linda Brown  
Tom Ward

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

- • • • •
- *8<sup>th</sup> Grade Spaghetti Supper*
- *Tuesday, March 29 from 4-6:30 is the annual spaghetti*
- *supper and bake sale. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$3 for*
- *children kindergarten through fifth grade, children younger*
- *than kindergarten free. For every ticket an eighth grader*
- *sells, he or she will have a dollar deducted from the St. Louis*
- *trip. All students benefit from this fundraiser because the*
- *proceeds will help cover the costs of our Civil War Day.*
- *Please support the eighth graders and come enjoy some*
- *terrific food.*
- • • • •

**Annual Fun-Raiser!**  
**Taco and Nacho Night!**  
Thursday, April 7, 2011  
Serving 4pm to 7pm  
at the West Salem High School  
Benefiting  
**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB WEST SALEM AREA**  
Cost: \$5 per person  
Kids 5 to 12: \$3  
Under 5 free  
Sponsored by: The Village People  
For more information call Errol at 786-1675

Door Prizes & Raffle  
Food for 1000!

## K-12 DISTRICT HONORS ART SHOW

March 1-31st, 2011

Marie W. Heider Center for the Arts

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.

### Scholarship

The West Salem Area Community Foundation is offering the Jerome Klos Family Graduate Scholarship. The scholarship is offered to graduates of the West Salem School District who already have an undergraduate degree from a college or university and are entering a graduate school program in pursuit of an advanced degree. Applications are now available at <[http://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us/high/student\\_services/Jerome\\_Klos\\_Family\\_Scholarship\\_Application.pdf](http://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us/high/student_services/Jerome_Klos_Family_Scholarship_Application.pdf)> or request an application from the West Salem Area Community Foundation, P.O. Box 30, West Salem, WI 54669. Deadline for applying is May 1.

## 6th Annual Mayfair Art Festival Sunday, May 1, 2011

The 6th Annual Mayfair Arts Festival, one of the major West Salem Fine Arts Board fundraisers, will take place on Sunday, May 1, 2011 at the West Salem High School Commons.

Activities will include:

- Art Fair from 10:00-3:00 p.m. with items sold by the artists
- Free Kids Art activities from 10:00-2:00 p.m.
- Silent Auction items to be bid on from 10:00-2:00 p.m.
- Entertainment



- Chicken-que by Premier Catering from 11:00-1:30 p.m., please get your tickets for the chicken-que from any Fine Arts Board Member or call Peggy Green, 786-1962 to reserve your tickets.
- Other concessions available also
- Plant and flowers sold by the high school FFA



Come and join us for a great Sunday in May. All events will take place in the high school gym and commons area. For artists interested in participating in 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 art fair information, call Jane Bangsberg at 608-786-2388



## Open Enrollment

For more information, visit the DPI website:  
<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  
Email: [DPIopenenrollment@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:DPIopenenrollment@dpi.wi.gov)

### Important open enrollment dates

- April 8, 2011 – School district notices of approval or denial must be mailed. If the application is denied, parents have 30 days to file an appeal.
- May 13, 2011 – School districts must notify parents of accepted applicants of the specific school or program to which the student is assigned.
- June 10, 2011 – Parents of accepted applicants must notify the nonresident district if the student will attend the nonresident district in the 2011-12 school year. If the parent fails to make this notification, the nonresident district may refuse to allow the student to attend the district.

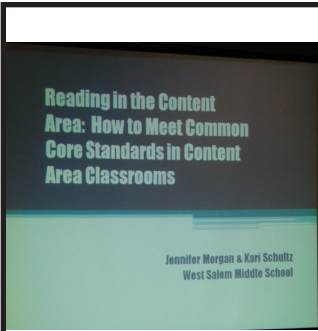
The West Salem Area Aquatic Center Committee is looking for new members. If you are interested, they meet the first and third Thursdays at the Hazel-Brown Memorial Library at 7:00 p.m. For more information contact Becky Auna at 608-786-0097.

*Mark Your Calendar*  
**March 1-31 — District K-12 Art Show**  
*There will be a reception on*  
*Thursday, March 24, 6:00–7:30 p.m.*

### School Board Members

Tom Ward	397-9873
Errol Kindschy	786-1675
Linda Brown	786-3027
Scott Scafe	786-0969
Ken Spraetz	786-0017
Jason Falck	397-3972
Thomas Helgeson	612-0018

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



WSMS Social Studies teacher Jennifer Morgan and 6th grade Reading Teacher Kari Schultz presented a session at the Wisconsin State Reading Convention in Milwaukee on February 4, 2011. The presentation discussed and demonstrated some strategies on how to cover the Common Core State Standards in the content areas and reading classes at the middle school level.



Students that performed in the All-State Senior Band at the NBA-WC Convention on January 22 in Wisconsin Rapids.



WSMS students' artwork selected to go to the regional art exhibit in Black River Falls



### WS Student Artwork on Display at Regional Art Exhibit

A big "CONGRATULATIONS!" to the West Salem students who had artwork chosen to be on display for the Wisconsin Art Education Association's Regional Exhibit. This annual art show displays outstanding student artwork from eleven west central Wisconsin counties.

The following students' artwork will represent West Salem at the district display:

- Keayrah Kelly - Kindergarten
- Rayna Dressel - 2nd Grade
- Connor Koepp - 2nd Grade
- Grant Bohnsack - 3rd Grade
- Dawson Hougom - 3rd Grade
- Walker Sevier - 7th grade
- Michael Anderson - 8th grade
- Jonah VanCleave - 7th grade
- Mandy Ueble - 11th grade
- Taylor Gile - 11th grade
- Julia Schomberg - 11th grade
- Molly Klos - 12th grade

The Regional Exhibit was on display at the Black River Falls Public Library February 15-28, with a reception on February 22.



## West Salem Community Fitness Center

Annie Labus, Fitness Center Director

### *GREETINGS FROM THE FITNESS CENTER!*

Don't make weight loss your only goal, try focusing on the small changes that are happening. People get discouraged when they don't see results quickly and then give up. Instead of focusing solely on the weight loss, try thinking about the daily activities you do and how you feel doing them. Strive to feel better, to have more energy, to be less stressed. Notice the small things that exercise can do for you rather than getting upset over the number on the scale.

Research shows that by March most people who made a New Years resolution to lose weight have given up. Think back to how you felt over those weeks you focused on getting fit. Did you sleep better? Drink more water? How was your blood pressure? Did daily activities feel easier or more enjoyable? Hopefully the answer is yes and will motivate you to take those small steps in the right direction again.

The Fitness Center can help you with those goals. We have a wide variety of cardio and weight lifting machines. We also offer fitness classes during the week, not to mention our indoor walking track is free and open to the community. Stop in and see all we have to offer. Our friendly staff is ready to assist you with any questions you may have.

We hope to see you soon!

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.

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 ext. 2275.

**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)>**

*Celebrate*

## West Salem Business EXPO

Sunday, March 20, 2011

11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

West Salem High School



- Free Admission
- Musical Entertainment
- Food

Over 70 Booths

- Businesses
- Civic Organizations
- Churches

Door Prizes  
&  
West Salem  
Gift Certificates

For more information go to <[westsalemwi.org](http://westsalemwi.org)>  
or contact Eric Bauer at 786-0890 or  
Dr. Dan Eoriatti at 786-3304.

## Elementary School Playground Equipment

With nearly 800 students using playground equipment daily, our equipment supply dwindles fast. If you have new or gently used inside or outside recess items feel free to drop them off at the elementary office. Some items that would be useful for outdoor recess are snow fort making supplies, sleds, soccer balls, basketballs, volleyballs and footballs. We are especially low on inside recess items. Examples of inside recess toys are: Legos, Lincoln Logs, Barbie dolls, Matchbox cars, play food, Beanie Babies and coloring books. If you have clear plastic tubs (with lids) to donate, please feel free to drop them off as well. Thank you in advance for your consideration. If you have any other questions please call 786-1662.

## 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.**

# American Cancer Society



## Relay for Life 2011



The West Salem Relay for Life of 2011 will be held April 1 and 2 at the West Salem High School. We are looking for teams to join in this special event held right here in our own community. This event along with many others helps to fund research to find a cure for this disease, education, advocacy and many services for Cancer patients and their families.

### Please help by forming a team!

Our Honorary Chairperson this year is community member Roger Fish. If you need more information please contact Jane Macdonald at the Elementary School or Lori Francis at the American Cancer Society @ 783-5000.



Members of the Middle School Show Choir participate in a workshop with the Wisconsin Singers on February 5.

Members of the Middle School Show Choir perform as the opening act for the Wisconsin Singers on February 5.



Members of the 8th grade choir show off the instruments received by a generous donation to DonorsChoose.org by U.S. Cellular.

## Help Wanted

The Business students at WSHS are looking for members of the community to share their expertise! Please check out the descriptions below and contact Kathy Hilby at [hilby.kathy@wsalem.k12.wi.us](mailto:hilby.kathy@wsalem.k12.wi.us) (or 786-1220) if you would be willing to share your knowledge with a small group of students.

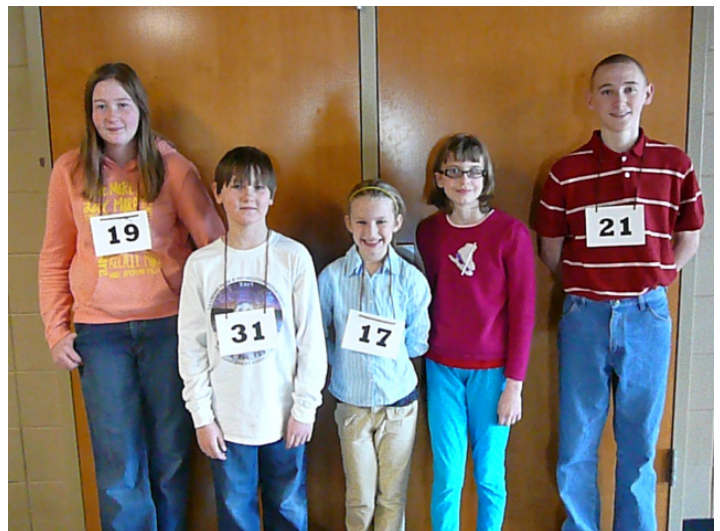
**Product Photography** Can you teach us the tricks of taking great pictures of products? While studying eCommerce, we would like to know how to produce appealing pictures of products that could be posted online.

**eCommerce** Do you have experience in selling products online? We are looking for someone to share his/her experiences regarding running an online business.

**Investing** The finance class covers a variety of investing opportunities. We are looking for individuals who would be willing to discuss one specific investment strategy such as: mutual funds, bonds, or annuities.

### Product Photography

Can you teach us the tricks of taking great pictures of products? While studying eCommerce, we would like to know how to produce appealing pictures of products that could be posted online.



West Salem Elementary and Middle School students who participated in the CESA #4 Regional Spelling Bee on February 3.

## Music Programs Gearing Up for Solo/Ensemble

by WSHS journalist

West Salem High School will host this year's district Solo and Ensemble competition on Saturday, March 26th. The day-long event showcases vocal and instrumental performances and exposes music students to the assessment of qualified judges. To participate, performers must select their pieces from approved and rated song books. The musical selections are graded by their degree of difficulty, Class A being the hardest, Class B being moderately difficult, and Class C being the least difficult selections. There are over 5,000 songs to choose from.

During vocal performances, judges grade on all aspects of singing; posture, tone, diction, breathing, and volume. Instrumental performances are evaluated on tone, intonation, accuracy, technique and expression. The judges also provide constructive feedback for the young musicians. Outstanding soloists (or starred first performances) advance to compete at a state level.

"This is an amazing opportunity for young musicians who are trying to enhance their technique," said choir director Amy Hanson.

Mr. Kies agrees with Hanson but adds "Students are put in groups of anywhere from 2-10. In doing so they are made to be more accountable to their part as they are now more likely to be the only person playing that particular part. It's a messy process sometimes, but as a wise veteran teacher once told me, 'Dave, sometimes learning is messy' and the benefits are worth it, as we see students make some of their biggest strides (musically as well as leadership) during solo/ensemble time."

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## West Salem Attends the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre

by Sarah Schneider, WSHS Journalist

On Wednesday, January 12, the Theatre Arts Class visited the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre in Chanhassen, Minnesota and watched the production All Shook Up.

"The play was themed after Elvis Presley, and his life and that great era of music", said senior Kolton Christenson. "The major themes of the musical included finding love, accepting other people, and coming together through music. The cast was absolutely great."

Christenson also mentioned his favorite parts of the play which included the dinner before the show, and also the different twists the play took. Overall, he really enjoyed the whole experience.

The class also put their very own production of The Princess and the Pea for an elementary audience, and then in the Heider Center for the public audience. Students had to build the set, pull costumes, block the scenes, and divide the class into actors and tech crew.

"I loved being able to work to produce a show, I learned a lot and had a lot of fun," said Christenson.

## High Quiz Bowl: Victory

By Jacob Noren, WSHS journalist

West Salem High School's Quiz Bowl team advanced to the finals of the 2010-11 High School Challenge season with a victory this past Saturday, Jan 29.

The team, which was the only one of the three West Salem teams to advance from the opening rounds November 20th, spent several weeks training vigorously for their meet Saturday.

Because of scheduling conflicts, three members of the original team, Justin Sagler, Alicia Powers, Jennifer Kelley, were unable to attend. Terry Anderson, Josh Baker, and Chris Stockus were brought in as their substitutes. Captain Kat Huston, along with Rachel Jahnke, Chad Seitz, Conner Givens, and Jacob Noren completed the squad.

West Salem started the day well with a win over Winona Cotter, 160-95.

The team's starters in the first round were Stokus, Seitz, Huston, and Jahnke.

In match two West Salem took on Bangor. The starters for West Salem were Noren, Givens, Huston, and Stokus. West Salem won 170-140.

This win advances West Salem's High Quiz Bowl team to move onto the final rounds on March 5th, where they will play Logan white for the consolation championship.

"Saturday went well," said Coach Laura Deal, "I'm very pleased with how our team performed, I'm excited we will have the opportunity to be on television again."

West Salem started the year as three separate teams, Team Black, Team Orange, and Team Silver.

The entire club, which includes Kolton Christenson, Zach Rigotti, Madeline Thorn, Jennifer Schlimgen, Terry Anderson, Rachel Koenen, Michael Uebele, Joe Faella, Emily Ender, Tanner Zimmerman, Scott Horton, Scout Mayer, Josh Baker, and MaKenna Helgerson, has remained active all season during the twice-weekly practice sessions.

"I have really enjoyed working with the group. Each member of the quiz bowl team brings something special to the table, and I'm excited to see how the teams will do this year," said Deal.

School District of West Salem  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
January 10, 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 January 6, 2011.

*Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag*

Jason Falck led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Christina Locante recited the District Mission Statement.

*Roll Call*

Present: Ken Spraetz, 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 (7:42), John Smalley, Michael St. Pierre, and Lisa Gerke (7:01); Student representatives: Christina Locante and Kolton Christenson. Finance Director: Davita Molling, Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Barb Buswell.

*Approval of Agenda*

Mr. Scafe moved, Mr. Falck seconded to approve the agenda, delaying the high school course offerings item until High School Principal Mark Carlson arrives. Motion carried unanimously.

**Connection with the Community**

*Christina Locante reported on:*

1. The high school LinkCrew has met during home room to plan for Cocoa and Cram – a social/academic event for freshman on January 12. The idea is to have cocoa and cookies in an environment where freshman can study for finals, pick-up review sheets, and plan their study schedule.
2. The high school semester finals will be January 19-21.
3. The high school students received their second semester schedules today.

*Kolton Christenson reported on:*

1. Before the holiday break, freshmen science papers and senior SEP papers were turned in.
2. On Wednesday, high school students will go to Chanhassen to see *All Shook Up*, featuring hits of Elvis Presley.

3. The high school student council is planning a fundraiser for multiple sclerosis.

*Correspondence*

A proclamation from State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Evers was read declaring January 10-14, 2011 as Adult School Crossing guard Recognition week in the State of Wisconsin.

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

*Written and Oral Reports*

CESA #4 – Mr. Kindschy reported that the evaluation of CESA #4 Director Guy Leavitt was completed; the representative from the La Crosse School District, Steve Kopp, was unable to be the delegate from CESA at the WASB Convention and Errol Kindschy will take his place; the WASB resolutions were reviewed and all were recommended; and the final audit from Vig & Associates was presented.

Policy Committee – Mr. Ward reported that the committee met earlier tonight. They are still working through the 100's and a couple more policies will be on the next agenda.

The administrator reports were reviewed.

**Consent Agenda**

Mrs. Brown moved, Mr. Helgeson seconded to approve the regular board meeting minutes of December 13, 2010, and the special board meeting minutes of December 16, 2010; and invoices to be paid. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion/Action Items:**

Michael Brendl from Vig & Associates was present and reviewed the 2009-2010 audit report.

Mr. Kindschy moved, Mr. Falck seconded to accept the following donations: from Patrick and Colleen Moran for the Horace Moran Memorial Fund; from Chris and Joe Bolwahn and the Mark Ziegler family for the Outdoor Education Center. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gunderson reviewed the enrollment projection report that was prepared by the Applied Population Laboratory at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Mr. Gunderson also reviewed the Stakeholder survey data and the Staff Performance survey data with the Board.

Mr. Carlson joined the meeting.

Mr. Gunderson presented, as a possible model, the 2010-2015 Strategic Plan that was adopted by the Blue Valley School District in Overland Park, Kansas.



Mr. Kindschy moved, Mr. Spratz seconded to direct the Buildings and Grounds Committee to look at a list of individuals to serve on a long-range facility planning group. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Carlson reviewed the summary of changes for the 2011-12 high school Course Planning Guide. Mrs. Brown moved, Mr. Helgeson seconded to approve the changes to the 2011-12 Course Planning Guide. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kindschy moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to direct Mr. Falck to approve the delegate assembly proposals and to use common sense as discussion arises. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kindschy moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to approve for the first reading of policy #151.1 Policy Review, Evaluation and Dissemination; #162 New Board Member Orientation; #165 Board Member Ethics; and #171.3 Board Member Use of Electronic Mail. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Scafe moved, Mrs. Brown seconded to approve for the second reading of policy #823 Access to Public Records; #824 Records Retention, and #131 School Board Elections. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kindschy moved, Mrs. Brown seconded to delete policy #151.2 Policy Dissemination. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Brown moved, Mr. Helgeson seconded to accept the administrations co-curricular recommendations for Justin Running, 7th grade assistant basketball coach, and Scott Johnson, middle school track coach. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Helgeson moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to accept the resignation of Fitness Center Director Bradley Frahm. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ward welcomes the motion for closed session: The Board will discuss, consider and, if appropriate, take action regarding the superintendent's evaluation 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" and nonrenewal/ renewal, nonextension/extension, and employment of administrators under Wis. Stats. §19.85 (1)(c).

Mr. Falck moved, Mr. Helgeson seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 9:02 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck Aye, Mrs. Brown Aye, Mr. Scafe Aye, Mr.

Spratz Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, and Mr. Kindschy Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

*Closed Session*

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Kindschy moved, Mr. Helgeson seconded to adjourn at 10:14 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda A. Brown, Clerk



School District of West Salem  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
January 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 January 20, 2011.

### *Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag*

Christina Locante led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Tom Ward recited the District Mission Statement.

### *Roll Call*

Present: Jason Falck, Tom Ward, Errol Kindschy, Linda Brown, and Thomas Helgeson. Also in attendance – Administrators: Troy Gunderson, Dean Buchanan, Eric Jensen, Mark Carlson, Barb Buswell (7:03), John Smalley, and Michael St. Pierre, Student representatives: Christina Locante and Kolton Christenson. Finance Director: Davita Molling, Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Ken Spratz, Scott Scafe and Lisa Gerke.

### *Approval of Agenda*

Mr. Falck moved, Mr. Kindschy seconded to approve the agenda as amended by moving item "I. administrator compensation for 2011-2012" to after closed session. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Connection with the Community**

*Christina Locante reported on:*

1. High school semester exams were taken last week using block scheduling.
2. The second semester starts Tuesday, January 25, 2011.

*Kolton Christenson reported on:*

1. Last week students in kindergarten through 12th grade auditioned, practiced and performed for a Missoula Children's Theatre production of Sleeping Beauty.
2. The senior art student for the month of January is Molly Klos and for the month of February it is Johnny Ray Hansen.

*Correspondence – None.*

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

*Written and Oral Reports*

WASB Convention – Mr. Ward, Mr. Kindschy, Mr. Helgeson, Mr. Falck, and Mr. Gunderson gave a review of last week's school board convention.

Policy Committee – Mr. Ward reported that the committee met earlier tonight. The committee went through a few policies and more will be coming at the next board meeting.

Supervisor reports were reviewed.

**Consent Agenda**

Mr. Kindschy moved, Mr. Helgeson seconded to approve the Regular Board meeting minutes of January 10, 2011, and the invoices to be paid. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion/Action Items:**

Mr. Kindschy moved, Mr. Falck seconded to accept the donation from Clinic Pharmacy of West Salem for the district, and from Dean and Marianne Buchanan for the middle school. Motion carried unanimously.

Curriculum Director Michael St. Pierre gave a presentation on assessment.

Mrs. Brown moved, Mr. Kindschy seconded to remove Mr. Ward as the chair person of the Policy Committee and assign Mr. Spratz as the chair person of the Policy Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gunderson reviewed sample strategic plans. Mr. Helgeson moved, Mr. Falck seconded to identify members/stakeholders to serve on an ad hoc committee and forward them to Mr. Gunderson, Mrs. Brown and Mr. Kindschy. Also to have presentations from a few facilitators for the board to choose from who will guide in the strategic planning process. Motion carried unanimously.

Each board member is to identify two or three school district/superintendent performance goals prior to the

February 14, 2011, board meeting and forward them to Patrick Bahr, School Board Administrative Assistant.

Mr. Helgeson moved, Mr. Falck seconded to approve for the first reading of policy #142 School Attorney; #151 Policy and Procedure Development, Revision and Deletion; #171.2 Agenda Preparation; and #823-Rule Guidelines for Access to Public Records as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kindschy moved, Mrs. Brown seconded to approve for the second reading of policy #151.1 Policy Review, Evaluation and Dissemination; #162 New Board Member Orientation; #165 Board Member Ethics; #171.3 Board Member Use of Electronic Mail. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kindschy moved, Mr. Falck seconded to approve Annie Wachter-Labus as the fitness center director. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ward welcomes the motion for closed session: The Board will discuss, consider and, if appropriate, take action regarding compensation for the administrators for 2011-2012, and nonrenewal/renewal, nonextension/extension and employment of administrators pursuant to Wis. Stat §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.

Mr. Helgeson moved, Mr. Kindschy seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 9:23 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck Aye, Mrs. Brown Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, and Mr. Kindschy Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

*Closed Session*

Mr. Falck moved, Mr. Helgeson seconded to reconvene into open session at 10:25 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

*Open Session*

Mr. Helgeson moved, Mr. Falck seconded to maintain the current total compensation package for the administrators for 2011-2012, as 2010-2011. Motion carried unanimously.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Kindschy moved, Mr. Falck seconded to adjourn at 10:33 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda A. Brown, Clerk

# Heider Center Events

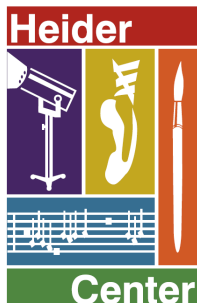
Marie W. Heider Center for the Arts

## Barrage - Animado!

Thursday, April 7, 2011 7:30 p.m.

## Bottom Line Duo

Friday, April 15, 2011 7:30 p.m.



### BOX OFFICE

405 East Hamlin Street, West Salem, WI  
(608) 786-1220 ext. 4

Monday ~ Noon – 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday & Friday - Noon – 4:00 p.m.

\*Hours will vary during the summer\*

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

## Visual Arts Series

### K-12 District Honors Show

March 1 – March 31

Reception: Thursday, March 24, 6:00–7:30 p.m.

### “Bon Appetite”

Marti Schwem & Martina Scobic

April 1 – April 30

Reception: Thursday, April 14, 6:00–7:30 p.m.

### W.S.H.S Senior Art Show

May 1 – May 31

Reception: Thursday, May 19, 6:00–7:30 p.m.



Friday, March 11, at 7:30 p.m. &  
Saturday March 12, at 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.  
Tickets on sale now — \$18.00 reserved seating

Cotton Patch Gospel is a musical based on the book The Cotton Patch Version of Matthew and John by Clarence Jordan. The story retells the life of Jesus as if in modern day, rural Georgia. The original Coulee Region cast of Dave Maxwell, Dan Schneider, Steve Dotz and Dennis Kuhn will be back on the Heider Center stage before taking the show on tour to Florida.

## March 1-31 — District K-12 Art Show

There will be a reception on

Thursday, March 24, 6:00–7:30 p.m.

## 2011 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 13 – June 24

Term 2 June 27 – July 8 (no classes on Monday, July 4)

Term 3 July 11 – July 22 (swimming only and no busses)

Term 4 August 8 – August 11 & August 15 – August 18

(Academic Literacy, Developmental Reading and Jump Start to 1<sup>st</sup> Grade classes only and teacher referral is required)

### Please mark the following important dates on your calendar:

Friday, March 18 - Summer School registration sheets are due.

Friday, April 29 - Summer School schedules will be sent home.

Friday, May 27 - Final copy of Summer School schedule will be sent home.

\*\*No changes will be made to the Summer School schedules after Friday, May 27.\*\*

\*\*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 25 – July 29. Registration for Skippers is done thru the pool on or after June 15.

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 [lochen.janel@wsalem.k12.wi.us](mailto:lochen.janel@wsalem.k12.wi.us).

Please check out our summer school page on our website [www.wsalem.k12.wi.us](http://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us).

If you need an enrollment packet you can view it and print out the registration/sign up form after 2/25 (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.

# Calendar of Events

## MARCH


- 1 Basketball-Boys Regional Quarter-Finals
- 3 Basketball-Girls C/JV/V (H) Onalaska Luther - 6:00/7:30
- 4 Basketball Boys Regional Semi-Finals  
Elementary Trimester Ends
- 4-5 Gymnastics State at Wisconsin Rapids
- 4-5 Wrestling Team State
- 5 Basketball-Boys Regional Finals at Onalaska
- 7 FFA meeting - 7:00
- 8 Basketball-Girls Regional Quarter-Finals  
Grade 1 music program - 6:15 p.m. "Dinostars!"  
Grade 2 music program - 7:15 p.m. "Happy Trails for Two"
- 9 Piano solo/ensemble at Onalaska Luther
- 10 Basketball-Boys Sectional Semi-Final at Osseo Fairchild  
Kindergarten music program - 6:15 "Oh the Places We'll Go!"  
Grade 3 music program - 7:15 "Project Rescue: Save the Planet!"
- 12 Basketball-Boys Sectional Finals at UW-Stout  
Basketball-Girls Regional Finals
- 14 SCHOOL WILL BE IN SESSION**
- 16 Piano Solo/Ensemble at Luther High School (all day)
- 17-19 Basketball-Boys State at Madison
- 17 Basketball-Girls Sectional Semi-Finals
- 18 Combined HS Choir & Band Concert - 7:00 p.m.
- 19 Basketball-Girls Sectional Finals
- 21 Grade 4 Rhythms Program - 7:00  
Grade 5 Rhythms Program - 7:00  
FFA Officers' meeting
- 24 Grade 2 PE Night - 7:00  
WSMS All Bands Concert - 7:00
- 24 FFA - UW-Platteville Career Development
- 24-26 Basketball-Girls State at Madison
- 25-26 FFA - MFE/Edge Conference - Eau Claire
- 26 District Solo/Ensemble Festival at WSHS
- 30 **Early Release - Dismissal at 12:30**  
Parent/Teacher Conferences for grades K-8, 1:00-4:30
- 31 **No School**  
Parent/Teacher Conferences for grades K-8, 3:30-7:00

## APRIL

- 1 No School
- 2 FFA - UW-River Falls CDE
- 4 Faculty Talent Night - 7:00  
FFA meeting - 7:00
- 7 Kindergarten Rhythms Program - 7:00  
Grade 1 Rhythms Program - 7:00
- 15-16 FFA COOPS/Yes Conference - Eau Claire



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WSHS

Mrs. Antony's first grade students dressed up for Packer Day. The elementary had a school-wide dress up day on Friday, February 4th.



Mrs. Weber's third grade class and Mrs. Antony's first grade class gave some special people at the elementary school a "heart-attack" on Valentine's Day. The two classes get together monthly to do special buddy projects.



# 2011 REGIONAL MATHCOUNTS NEWS!

The regional Mathcounts competition was held on Saturday, February 5th in La Crosse. There were 26 competitors representing four different schools.

The team results were as follows: 3rd place – Holmen Middle School, 2nd place – Viroqua Middle School, and 1st place – West Salem Middle School. West Salem's team consisted of Kyle Lang, Mariah Arneson, Michael Anderson and Josh Maliszewski. Lincoln Middle School (La Crosse) also competed.

The individual results were as follows: 10th place – Maria Otto (West Salem), 9th place – Aerial Leisso (Holmen), 8th place – Mariah Arneson (West Salem), 7th place – Josh Maliszewski (West Salem), 6th place – Erik Deetz (Lincoln), 5th place – Kate Ebert (West Salem), 4th place – Michael Anderson (West Salem), 3rd place – Roman Schlimgen (West Salem), 2nd place – Kyle Lang (West Salem), and 1st place – Jordan Francis (West Salem). Also competing for West Salem were Noah Reedy in 11th place and Jackson Kalas in 14th place.



Mathcounts is a national program designed to promote excellence in math and science in grades 6-8. Mathcounts allows students to improve their problem solving skills as individuals, as well as, in teams of four. West Salem's coaches are Tammy Bentzen and Rick Dobbs.

West Salem's Lang, Arneson, Anderson, Maliszewski, Ebert, Schlimgen, and Francis now advance to the State competition in Madison on Saturday, March 5th.

A cool way for people with warm hearts to support the *Special Olympics*.  
***Coulee Region Polar Plunge***

Saturday  
 March 5, 2011

◆  
 Online Registration

◆  
 Plunge at Pettibone  
 Beach,  
 La Crosse, WI

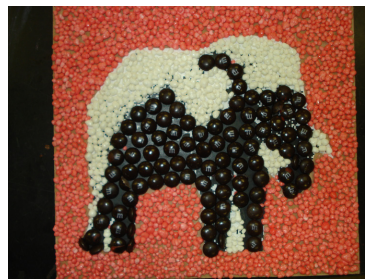
For more information, call (608) 789-7596.

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



Freezin' For A Reason



WSMS recent eighth grade art project...  
 Many Materials Mosaics

Check  
It  
Out

From the Superintendent  
Open Enrollment  
Mathcounts  
Relay For Life  
Celebrate West Salem  
Help Wanted-Product Photography/eCommerce  
Scholarship  
Taco & Nacho Night!  
8th Grade Spaghetti Supper  
Student Articles  
Mayfair - 5/1/11  
Heider Center Events & Gallery Display  
Polar Plunge  
Summer School  
Calendar of Events  
Photo Friday  
School Board Minutes  
ES Playground Equipment  
Community Fitness Center  
Used Cell Phones Being Collected  
School Board Election Notice

## K-12 DISTRICT HONORS ART SHOW

*When:* March 1-31st, 2011  
*Reception:* Thursday, March 24  
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

*Featuring approximately 100 pieces  
of kindergarten-12th grade student  
art work.*

**COME AND CHECK OUT  
THE SHOW!**

**March Is  
Youth Art Month**

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

There will be school on Monday, March 14, 2011,  
since school was cancelled on February 17, 2011.

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

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