

# West Salem School District

March 2013



Newsletter

## Public Education - The Real Thing!

Troy M. Gunderson, Superintendent

As part of the upcoming debate in Madison over the biennial state budget, we are soon to witness much discussion over the concept of expanding and enhancing a publicly-funded private school voucher program within our state. I offer some information and thoughts about this most controversial of proposals.

A state-based publicly-funded voucher program is a process whereby the state issues a pre-paid education voucher for each eligible student interested in participation. The voucher can be "cashed in" at any of a large variety of places such as private and religious schools, private virtual schools, and even private academies like Globe University. The theory is vouchers allow for more choices, more competition, better performance and lower costs through privatization.

As a point of interest, the State of Wisconsin has piloted a publicly-funded private school voucher program in Milwaukee for more than 20 years. In fact, this program is cited in nearly every study regarding the use of publicly-funded vouchers to attend private schools. For example, in 2011 the Wisconsin Legislative Audit Bureau released a five-year longitudinal study, which concluded the students in Milwaukee using vouchers to attend private schools perform no better on standardized tests than their counterparts in public schools. Numerous other national studies indicate no significant difference in student achievement.

Funding for the voucher program comes directly from the state's commitment to equalization aid. In other words, every private school voucher the state funds results in less money available for public school districts causing program reduction and/or higher property taxes. The current voucher amount allotted by the state is \$6,400 per student. This number exceeds the amount paid by the state to 80% of all public school districts in the form of equalized aid.

In short, our state is currently funding vouchers for private education at a higher rate than they fund 80% of the students attending public schools. Of note, current proposals in Madison call for a 1% increase in equalized aid for public schools but a 15% increase in the amount paid out for vouchers.

As the debate over education policy intensifies, proponents of a universal, publicly-funded voucher system will continue to tout freedom of choice and privatization as the benefits of expansion. In opposition, defenders of public education offer a lack of accountability, loss of opportunity, and destruction of community as inevitable consequences. When whittled down to the core, this debate is about the very foundation of societal beliefs regarding education. Is the education of our children an individual responsibility or a collective one? Should we embrace a system of every man for himself with a voucher? Or, a system of everyone together in a community school? This is no longer a debate about evolving public education, it is a debate about replacing it. I suggest we all pay attention, participate in the process, and consider the consequences.

In the past, whenever I heard the word voucher I thought of validated parking ramp vouchers, replacement vouchers for defective products, or travel vouchers for connecting flights. In short, the word voucher indicated "replacement" or "in lieu." Somehow or someday when I didn't get the real thing - I got a voucher. I conclude the current debate over publicly-funded private school vouchers represents much the same sentiment. Unlike parking lots and train rides, when it comes to publicly-funded educational programming for our children, I won't accept a voucher. I want the real thing.

### \* \* Please Note \* \*

School will be in session on April 19

June 6 - full day of school

June 7 - classes will be dismissed at 12:30

Check out the school district's Facebook page,  
listed as, "SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WEST SALEM"

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 2, 2013, Spring election of school board members will be held. Candidates for the school board are as follows:

Thomas Helgeson  
Scott Scafe  
Jason Falck

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

**Spring Band Extravaganza**

Monday, March 18, 7:00 p.m.

Heider Center

The WSMS 6th, 7th, & 8th Grade Concert Bands will be performing in the annual **Spring Band Extravaganza**. This fun-filled evening features a wide range of music styles and is always a hit in our community. Seating will be at a premium, so arrive early to get a great seat.

**The 2013-2014 School Year Student Calendar  
is available on the District's website.  
[www.wsalem.k12.wi.us](http://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us)**

The West Salem School District prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the Pupil Services Director at (608)786-0700. To file a complaint of discrimination write to: Pupil Services Director at 405 East Hamlin Street, West Salem, WI 54669 or call 608-786-0700. The West Salem School District is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

The WSHS 2013 Summer Musical

**MUSIC MAN**

June 20, 21, 22 at 7:00 p.m.

June 23 at 2:00 p.m.

**Centralized Registration.** All students NEW to the West Salem School District will need to register at the District Office prior to attending the elementary, middle or the high school. The District Office is located at 405 Hamlin Street East. Additional information is posted on our website. [www.wsalem.k12.wi.us](http://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us) and click on New Student Registration

**School Board Members**

Tom Ward	397-9873
Scott Scafe	786-0969
Jason Falck	786-0935
Thomas Helgeson	612-0018
Syl Clements	786-1491
Jane Halverson	786-1067
Ken Schlimgen	786-4382

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

**ALUMINUM FOR ATHLETICS**

When cleaning up around the garage, etc., you are encouraged to bring all aluminum cans to the can pen in the southwest corner of the Heider Center parking lot for recycling. West Salem Athletics will gain full benefit of this collection project. Also, if you have any car or truck batteries for recycling, please drop them off at West Salem Auto Repair at 513 Brickl Road, West Salem. Dave Eckelberg and the guys there have graciously offered their services to be our collection point for those recyclable batteries.

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.



### Wintertime Fun in the Elementary Library

The Elementary School celebrated Digital Learning Day on February 6, with a “Blizzard of QR Codes.” Snowflakes were decorated with QR codes containing “Did You Know Facts” and wintertime riddles.

February was also “Love Your Library Month.” The LMC handed out bookmarks and stickers to all library lovers. Many students also got a chance to have their picture taken in the “Love Your Library Photo Booth.”

Visiting Author: Michael Scotto visited the LMC on the afternoon of February 25. Mr. Scotto did a presentation for 2nd and 3rd grade classes.



Impromptu Guest Reader: If a kindergartener hands you a book and asks you to read it to them...you sit down and read to them! And that's just what Superintendent Troy Gunderson did!



At the January 28, 2013 School Board meeting, sixth grade students presented their science projects with the assistance of the student-issued iPads. Great Job Anna Gorski, McKenna Timm, Ryan Schlimgen, Samantha Thompson, Rachel Newton, and Collin Clements!





# Heider Center Events

Marie W. Heider Center for the Arts



**IN THE HEIDER CENTER GALLERY**

**K-12 Honors Exhibit - March 1 - 31**

Reception on Thursday, March 14, from 6:00-7:30 p.m.



## SHOW INFORMATION

Monday, March 25, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

Robert Baca - Jazz Orchestra

"Jazz Through The Ages"

Packed with costume changes, solo features, stories and jokes, you'll go home snapping your fingers, tapping your feet and appreciating an original American art form.

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$18 for students and senior citizens.



**Box Office**  
**(608)786-2550**

Monday: Noon to 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday: Noon to 4:00 p.m.  
Friday: Noon to 4:00 p.m.

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

## Artwork on Display at the Capitol

Six students from the West Salem School District have artwork that has been selected to represent the West Central Region at the State Capitol during the Annual Youth Art Month Celebration. The West Central region includes all of the CESA 4 and 10 school districts. Each Art Teacher can submit 3 images to the regional show. Only 50 of those pieces make it to state. The Capitol Rotunda exhibit will feature 300 works by pre-K through 12th grade artists from Wisconsin and ran from February 24-March 1. Youth Art Month is an annual observance which emphasizes the value of art education and encourages public support for quality art programs.

*What a HUGE honor this is!*

*Please congratulate these students when you see them!*

Ivy Engen-Grade 1

"Yellow Apples",

Tempera Painting

Sydney Hammes-Grade 4

"Halloween

Gothic", Markers

Kyle Hehli-Grade K

"Polar Bear", Tempera

and Marker

Erica Rich-11th grade

"Seeing", Mixed Media

on paper

Hayden Gullickson-12th grade

"Oh Sinners", Acrylic on Canvas

Rachel Auna-12th grade

"Tortuguero", Oil on Canvas





## 8th Annual Mayfair Arts Festival

Sunday, May 5, 2013  
West Salem High School

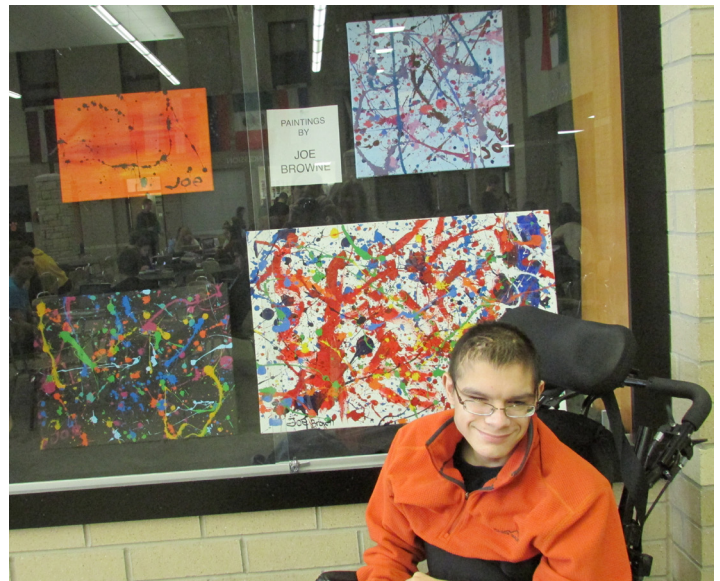
### Announcing the 2013-2014 Heider Center Season

The 8th annual Mayfair Arts Festival, one of the major Heider Center Arts Board fundraisers, will take place on Sunday, May 5, at the West Salem High School.

#### Activities will include:

- Art Fair from 10:00-3:00 p.m. with artwork for sale.
- Free kids' art activities from 10:00-2:00 p.m.
- Silent auction items to bid on from 10:00-2:00 p.m.
- Door prizes from Heider Center.
- Entertainment by local youth (instrumental, vocal and dance) and the West Salem Adult Jazz Band.
- Chicken-que by Premier Catering from 11:00-1:00 p.m. Please get your chicken-que tickets from any Heider Center Arts Board Member or call the Heider Center Box Office at 786-2550.
- Other concessions will be available.
- Plants and flowers will be sold by the high school FFA.

Come and join the Arts Board for great Family Fun! The perfect place to shop for that special Mother's Day gift. All events take place in the high school gym and commons area.



Artist Joe Browne with his most recent paintings. Joe paints with his canvases on the floor. He then splatters layers of paint on the canvases, choosing colors (and their placement) as he creates.



2nd graders working on music program scenery in art class



Teacher representatives from each grade level and our Lead Teachers work on aligning K-5 Social Studies curriculum.



**American  
Red Cross**

### West Salem High School Blood Drive

405 E Hamlin  
Dance Studio

**Friday, March 8**  
**8:45 am – 2:00 pm**

For an appointment call  
1-800-RED CROSS  
(1-800-733-2767) or visit  
[redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org)

The need is constant.  
The gratification is instant.  
Give blood.™

Sponsored by the WSHS National Honor Society.

## West Salem Community Fitness Center

Kelly Kalinowski, Fitness Center Director

### Current fitness center hours:

Monday – Friday 5:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.

Monday – Thursday 3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Friday 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Sunday 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Yogalates is held on Sundays and Wednesdays from 6:30-7:15 p.m. All students and fitness center guests with a year membership may attend classes FREE of charge.

Clean shoes are required to enter the fitness center and indoor track. During the slippery, wet winter months, PLEASE bring extra shoes! Not only is this a huge safety issue for all who use the facility, but it also helps to keep the fitness center floor clean and the hardwood floor of the indoor track clean and free of defects. A lot of funding was provided for these areas. We all need to do our part to keep this elegant facility looking great. Hardwood floors are expensive and difficult to replace.

Student Spring Athletes: The spring athletic seasons will begin in a couple of weeks, so take advantage of our exceptional facility to improve your conditioning prior to the season. Do not wait until the season starts to begin conditioning for your sport. Do it now! Everyone is encouraged to utilize the fitness center before or after school and also on Sunday afternoons.

We saw a large spike in participation in January and early February thanks to New Year's resolutions! Awesome! Now keep that trend going into the Spring! Come enjoy our indoor walking track, ellipticals, or weight machines to stay out of the cold snow, rain, and every other unpredictable weather pattern March typically throws at us! We offer great deals for college students home for Spring Break! The West Salem Community Fitness Center is not only affordable for any budget, but we also have all you need to stay in shape! We warmly welcome you here, so come see us today!

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

*Celebrate*

## West Salem Business EXPO

Sunday, March 17, 2013

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.



## 2013 Relay for Life

April 5 & 6

West Salem High School 6:30 p.m.

Get your team together and get registered.

Erica Schultz - Community member, mother of elementary student and RN at Lakeview Health Center is Honorary Chairperson this year.

We are looking for Cancer survivors to participate in our Opening Ceremony.

Please contact Jane Macdonald at the elementary school or [macdonal@gmail.com](mailto:macdonal@gmail.com).



## 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.



# Open Enrollment

You may apply for open enrollment from  
February 4-April 30, 2013, on-line at  
[http://sms.dpi.wi.gov/sms\\_psctoc](http://sms.dpi.wi.gov/sms_psctoc)

For more information, visit the DPI website:  
[http://sms.dpi.wi.gov/sms\\_psctoc](http://sms.dpi.wi.gov/sms_psctoc)

## Who may participate in open enrollment?

- Students in 5-year-old kindergarten to grade 12 may apply to participate in open enrollment.
- Open enrollment for prekindergarten, 4-year-old kindergarten and early childhood education is limited. Parents should call their resident school districts to find out if their preschool-aged children qualify for open enrollment.

## How and when may parents apply?

The open enrollment application period for the 2013-14 school year is from February 4-April 30, 2013. The application period closes at 4:00 p.m. on April 30, 2013. Late applications will not be accepted for any reason.

*Parents may apply in one of two ways:*

- On-line (recommended) at [http://sms.dpi.wi.gov/sms\\_psctoc](http://sms.dpi.wi.gov/sms_psctoc).
- Although on-line application is recommended, paper applications may be obtained from the Department of Public Instruction and must be delivered (hand-delivery is recommended) to the nonresident school district.

Public School Open Enrollment Program  
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction  
P.O. Box 7841, Madison, WI 53707-7841  
Toll-free: 888-245-2732  
Email: [openenrollment@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:openenrollment@dpi.wi.gov)  
Web site: [http://sms.dpi.wi.gov/sms\\_psctoc](http://sms.dpi.wi.gov/sms_psctoc)

## FAQ: Can an open enrolled student participate in sports and other extra-curricular activities in the non-resident 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 school district's athletic director about eligibility.

## Important open enrollment dates

**February 4-April 30, 2013** – Parents must submit applications online or directly to the nonresident school district.

**June 7, 2013** – Nonresident school districts must mail notices of approval or denial. If the application is approved, the school district must notify the parents of the specific school or program to which the student is assigned. If the application is denied, parents have 30 days to file an appeal.

**June 14, 2013** – Resident districts must notify applicants if the application is denied. If the application is denied, parents have 30 days to file an appeal.

**June 28, 2013** – Parents of accepted applicants must notify the nonresident district if the student will attend the nonresident district in the 2013-14 school year. If the parent fails to make this notification, the nonresident district may refuse to allow the student to attend the district.

## •••••Your school district needs you...•••••

Do you like working with students and staff?  
Would you like to earn extra money?  
The district is looking for substitutes in the following areas:

SUBSTITUTE Licensed Teachers  
SUBSTITUTE Paraprofessionals  
SUBSTITUTE Secretaries  
SUBSTITUTE Food Service  
SUBSTITUTE Custodians

- For an application, visit the district's web site.  
[www.wsalem.k12.wi.us](http://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us)
- Click on Employment Opportunities
- Scroll down and click on the Substitute Employment Application Form.
- You may also contact the District Office at 608-786-0700 for an application. You may also stop in at the District Office at 405 East Hamlin Street, West Salem, WI to pick-up an application form.

## The West Salem Elementary School Library has a Blog!

Visit <http://hunmar.edublogs.org>  
for some library news.

LMC Director Mary Hundt would love  
to hear your comments  
and to develop a readership.

School District of West Salem  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
January 28, 2013  
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 24, 2013.

*Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag*

Mrs. Halverson led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Kevin Martinson recited the District Mission Statement.

*Roll Call*

Present: Syl Clements, Jane Halverson, Thomas Helgeson, Tom Ward, Jason Falck (7:04), and Ken Schlimgen. Also in attendance – Administrators: Troy Gunderson, Dean Buchanan (8:48), Eric Jensen, Mark Carlson, Mike Malott (7:10), John Smalley, Michael St. Pierre, and Lisa Gerke; Student representative: Kevin Martinson. Finance Director: Davita Molling (7:40); Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Scott Scafe and Alyssa Noll.

*Approval of Agenda*

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Connection with the Community**

*Kevin Martinson reported on:*

1. The Community Jazz Band Concert is happening in the Heider Center tonight.
2. The poms team competed at regionals in New Richmond over the weekend and are awaiting the results.
3. The Coulee Classic was this past weekend at the La Crosse Center. The boys and girls basketball teams played Onalaska Luther.
4. There will be a school spirit meeting Tuesday evening at 5:00.

*Correspondence*

A thank you note from the family of Bill Smillie was read.  
A thank you note from the family of Dr. Smalley was read.

*Public comments* – None.

*Written and Oral Reports*

WASB Convention – Mrs. Halverson, Mr. Helgeson, Mr. Ward, Mr. Falck and Mr. Gunderson summarized the Wisconsin Association of School Board (WASB) Convention sessions they attended.

Delegate Resolutions – Mr. Falck reported on the resolutions that were dealt with during the delegate assembly.

Mrs. Halverson left the meeting at 7:20 p.m. and returned at 7:38 p.m.

Reports from supervisors Michelle Kloser, Mark Ledman, Bill Solsrud, Davita Molling, and Rick Kline were reviewed.

**Consent Agenda**

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Clements seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of January 14, 2013; and the invoices to be paid. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion/Action Items:**

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Clements seconded to accept the donation from the employees at Brenengen Auto to be used for needy families. Motion carried unanimously.

The following sixth grade students presented their science projects using their iPads: Anna Gorski, McKenna Timm, Ryan Schlimgen, Samantha Thompson, Rachel Newton, and Collin Clements.

Principal Carlson and Senior Social Studies Teacher Jeff Maves presented their proposal for an online SEP/AP Government class. Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Helgeson seconded to approve the AP Government class that will include an Online SEP (Senior Exit Project) component. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Falck seconded to approve the designation of open enrollment spaces, and sections and the district targets for each grade level as presented. Maximum number: Kindergarten-144, grade 1-126, grade 2-120, grade 3-140; grade 4-138, and grade 5-115. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Falck seconded to approve for a second reading of policy #384 Animals on School Grounds, #532 Instructional Staff Contracts, #911 Buildings and Grounds Supervisor, #832 Weapons on School Premises, #447.1 Use of Seclusion and Physical Restraint in Schools, #840.1 Memorials, #736 Indoor Environmental Quality (IEQ) Management Plan, and #514 Job Descriptions. Motion carried unanimously.



Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Clements seconded to accept the administration's high school co-curricular recommendations: Brian Babiash, head varsity softball; Julie Kamla, JV softball; Eric Sorenson, head varsity golf; Zachary Campbell, JV golf; Marc Anderson, head varsity girls' soccer; Ammar Sabar, JV girls' soccer; Chuck Ihle, head baseball; Jamie Olson, JV baseball; LeRoy Krall, head girls' track; Bret Miller, head boy's track; Stacy Mitchell, assistant track; Anthony Braun, assistant track; and Garrett Carlson, assistant track. Mr. Falck moved, Mr. Helgeson seconded to amend the motion to discuss this item in closed session. A vote on the amendment carried. No action was taken on the original motion and will be discussed in closed session.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Helgeson seconded to accept the resignation of assistant wrestling coach Eric Zinck. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Falck seconded to approve increasing the substitute teacher pay from \$95 to \$100 per day effective February 17, 2013. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Ward welcomed the motion for closed session: The Board will discuss, consider and, if appropriate, take action pursuant to Wis. Stats §19.85(1) (f) "Considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations" regarding the follow-up of an expelled student's progress. 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" regarding discussing co-curricular recommendations.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Falck seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 9:11 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck Aye, Mr. Helgeson Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

#### *Closed Session*

Mr. Falck moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded to return to open session at 9:37 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

#### *Open Session*

Mr. Helgeson moved, Mr. Falck seconded to postpone the discussion on the co-curricular recommendations until the February 11, 2013, board meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Adjournment**

Mr. Helgeson moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded to adjourn at 9:38 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jason Falck, Clerk

*The following minutes have not been approved  
by the school board.*

School District of West Salem  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
February 11, 2013  
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 7:00 p.m.

#### **Convene**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 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 February 8, 2013.

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

Alyssa Noll led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Syl Clements recited the District Mission Statement.

#### *Roll Call*

Present: Syl Clements, Jane Halverson, Thomas Helgeson, Tom Ward, Jason Falck, Ken Schlimgen, and Scott Scafe. Also in attendance – Administrators: Troy Gunderson, Dean Buchanan, Eric Jensen, Mark Carlson, Mike Malott, John Smalley, Michael St. Pierre, and Lisa Gerke; Student representatives: Alyssa Noll and Kevin Martinson (7:40). Finance Director: Davita Molling, Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: None.

#### *Approval of Agenda*

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

#### **Connection with the Community**

*Alyssa reported on:*

1. The FFA sponsored a trip to the World's Toughest Rodeo on Saturday, February 2 in St. Paul. FFA members Cole Hoyer, Jordan Francis, Avery Strangstalien, Ronni Clements, and Laura Munger

participated in the FFA district speaking contest on Monday, February 4. Laura Munger will be advancing to the Sectional Speaking Contest held at Black River Falls on March 12.

2. The Mock Trial team competed over the weekend and placed third.
3. This weekend will be a district Honors Band concert.

*Kevin Martinson reported later in the meeting.*

*Correspondence – None.*

*Public comments – None.*

#### *Written and Oral Reports*

CESA #4 – Mr. Ward reported on the following items from the recent CESA meeting: hired 2 people, approved issuing preliminary notices of non-renewal to staff, first reading on remote participation at board meeting policy, CESA administrator report/CSN meeting, April 4 Legislative Forum, Skyward Finance software, remodeled technology in meeting rooms, and Educator Effectiveness.

Policy Committee – Mr. Falck reported that the committee is reviewing the Personnel Policies, 500's section.

Reports by Dean Buchanan, Eric Jensen, John Smalley, Lisa Gerke, Mark Carlson and Mike Malott, and Michael St. Pierre were reviewed. Troy Gunderson's report was also reviewed, but added information on the following: facilities, closing school, art winners, Buildings and Grounds Supervisor search, Senior Exit Project – Pond Hockey, manage the long-range plan timeline, and the recent announcement of the Valedictorian – Alyssa Noll and Salutatorian – Kevin Martinson.

#### **Consent Agenda**

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Clements seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of January 28, 2013; and the invoices to be paid. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Discussion/Action Items:**

West Salem High School English Teacher Kim Volden and student Seth Walker reported on and presented a class project - Text Sets.

High School teachers Jeff Maves, Kathy Hiby and Kim Volden, Principal Mark Carlson and Curriculum Director Michael St. Pierre presented highlights from their January trip to Mooresville High School in North Carolina. Mooresville is a national leader in the Senior Project as well as 1 to 1 computing.

Kevin Martinson arrived at 7:45 p.m.

Kevin Martinson reported on:

1. The high school boys' basketball team is seeded sixth in the tournament series and will be hosting a game.
2. A school spirit meeting was held and he expressed interest in moving the students' section for basketball games to the end zones.

Mr. Gunderson reviewed the Strategic Plan Reporting Dashboard for Finances and Facilities.

Mr. Helgeson moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve the use of Heider Funds be expended as detailed in the proposal presented and not to exceed \$20,224. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to replace two 6.75 hour paraprofessional positions with three 5 hour paraprofessional positions. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gunderson reviewed possible topics to be discussed at the Joint Board Meeting with the Village of West Salem and asked if there were any other topics of discussion.

Mr. Gunderson and Mrs. Molling gave a budget update on the district's equalization aid and revenues for 2012-2013 and 2013-2014.

Mr. Ward welcomed the motion for closed session: The Board will discuss, consider and, if appropriate, take action 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" regarding discussing co-curricular recommendations; post-employment benefit for a district employee; and nonrenewal/renewal, nonextension/extension, and employment of administrators under Wis. Stats. §118.24.

The Board will discuss, consider and, if appropriate, take action pursuant to Wis. Stats §19.85(1) (f) "Considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations" regarding the termination of a support staff employee.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Helgeson seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 9:27 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Falck Aye, Mr. Scafe Aye, Mr. Helgeson



Aye, Mr. Ward Aye, Mr. Clements Aye, Mrs. Halverson Aye, and Mr. Schlimgen Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

#### *Closed Session*

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to return to open session at 10:22 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

#### *Open Session*

Mr. Falck moved, Mr. Helgeson seconded to accept the administration's co-curricular recommendation: Eric Sorenson, varsity golf; Zachary Campbell, JV golf; Marc Anderson, varsity girls' soccer; Ammar Sabar, JV girls' soccer; Chuck Ihle, varsity baseball; Jamie Olson, JV baseball; LeRoy Krall, varsity girls' track; Bret Miller, varsity boys' track; Stacy Mitchell, assistant girls' track; Anthony Braun, assistant boys' track; Garrett Carlson, assistant track; and Nicole Friell, winter dance team. Motion carried unanimously.

Resignation/termination of employee – no action was taken by the board.

Mr. Helgeson moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to issue contracts for the 2013-2015 school years to the following administrators: Mark Carlson, High School Principal; Mike Malott, High School Associate Principal; Dean Buchanan, Middle School Principal; John Smalley, Elementary School Principal; Lisa Gerke, Elementary School Associate Principal; Eric Jensen, Pupil Services Director, Michael St. Pierre, Curriculum Director, and Superintendent Troy Gunderson. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Adjournment**

Mr. Scafe moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to adjourn at 10:23 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jason Falck, Clerk

School District of West Salem  
Special Board Meeting Minutes  
February 18, 2013  
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 6:30 p.m.

#### **Convene**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 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 February 14, 2013. This meeting was at the request of a board member

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

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

#### *Roll Call*

Present: Syl Clements, Jane Halverson, Tom Ward, Jason Falck (6:31), Ken Schlimgen, Thomas Helgeson (7:38) and Scott Scafe. Administrator: Troy Gunderson. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Village of West Salem officials: Dennis Manthei, Marvin Iverson, John Lautz, Scott Schumacher, Merlin Wehrs, James Leicht, James Koelbl, and Teresa Schnitzler. Other: Chief Charles Ashbeck, Attorney Bryant Klos, Park and Recreation Director Michelle Czerwan.

#### *Approval of Agenda*

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

#### **Joint Board Meeting with the Village of West Salem Board**

##### 1) Baseball Diamond

The Village Buildings and Grounds Committee would like to explore options with the district's Buildings and Grounds Committee.

##### 2) Street Signs

Clarification on district sign placement was held.

##### 3) School Resource Officer

Current and future utilization of the School Resource Officer was discussed.

##### 4) Shared Facility Use

Scheduling of facilities was discussed.

Mr. Helgeson joined the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

##### 5) Long Range Plans for the School District and the Village

The Village of West Salem Comprehensive Plan was reviewed by Village President Dennis Manthei. The district's Long Range Plan was reviewed by School Board President Tom Ward.

#### **Discussion/Action Items:**

Mr. Scafe moved, Mr. Helgeson seconded to accept the administration's recommendation to approve Brian Babiash as the head softball coach. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **Adjournment**

Mr. Helgeson moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jason Falck, Clerk

**18% of Wisconsin teens have taken a prescription drug without a doctor's prescription one or more times during their life. (2011 WI YRBS)**

# A Prescription for Safe Communities

## STEP 1: STORE SAFELY

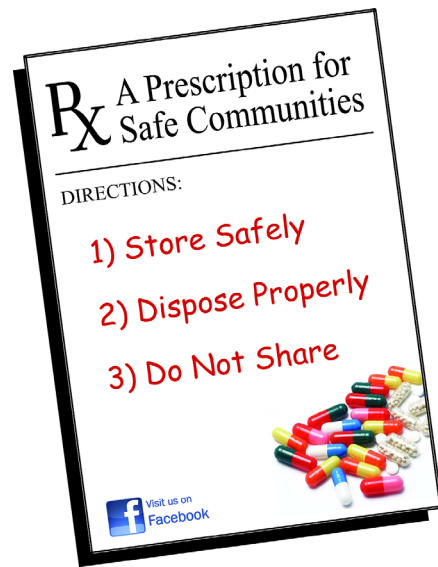
Parents are in an influential position to reduce teen access to drugs because these drugs are found in the home.

- If possible, keep all medicines, both prescription and over-the-counter, in a safe place, such as a locked cabinet.
- Start by taking note of how many pills are in each of your prescription bottles.
- Keep track of your refills. This goes for your own medication, as well as for other members of the household. The need for refills more often than expected may indicate the need for closer monitoring.
- If your teen has been prescribed a drug, be sure you control the medication, and monitor dosages and refills.
- Make sure your friends and relatives, especially grandparents, are also aware of the risks.
- Talk to other families about the importance of helping safeguard medications.

## STEP 2: DISPOSE PROPERLY

Safely disposing expired or unused prescription medications is a critical step in helping protect your teens and the environment. Help safeguard your family and home and decrease youth access

- Unless the directions on the packaging say otherwise, do not flush medication down the drain or toilet.
- To help prevent unauthorized refills and protect you and your family's privacy, remove any personal, identifiable information from prescription bottles or pill packages before you throw them away.



- Teenagers may retrieve discarded prescription drugs from the trash. To help prevent this from happening, mix the medication with an undesirable substance, such as used coffee grounds or kitty litter. Put the mixture into an empty can or bag and discard.
- Take unused medications to a local drop off site on designated days.

## STEP 3: DO NOT SHARE

Teens abuse prescription drugs because they are easily accessible and either free or inexpensive. In fact, 64 percent of youth ages 12 to 17 who have abused pain relievers say they got them from their friends or relatives, typically without their knowledge.

- It is illegal and dangerous to share medications.
- If you take another person's prescription for over-the-counter medication, you could be putting yourself at risk for negative medication interaction or side effects
- If you have a health problem, see your provider, have your symptoms evaluated, and use the treatment recommended for you.

*A Prescription for Safe Communities  
A collaborative prevention effort between the  
Drug Free Communities of Jackson, La Crosse,  
and Monroe Counties  
and Ho-Chunk Nation Family Services Program.*

*Find us on Facebook for more information!*



# Calendar of Events

## MARCH

- 1 WSHS Parent/Teacher Conferences
- 1-2 Hockey- V State Tournament TBA
- 1 Wrestling-V State Tournament TBA
- 1 Girls Basketball-V Regional Semi Finals TBA
- 2 Tri-State Honors Band Festival (selected WSMS students)
- 2 Wrestling-V- Team State TBA
- 2 Boys Basketball-V Sectional Finals TBA
- 2 Girls Basketball-V Regional Finals TBA
- 4 HS Track - 1st day of practice
- 5 Grade 1 Concert - The Mice From Outer Space - 6:15
- Grade 3 Concert - Spaced Out! - 7:15
- 7-9 Boys Basketball-V State Tournament TBA
- 7 Girls Basketball-V Sectional Semi Finals TBA
- Grade K Concert - What a Wonderful World - 6:15
- Grade 2 Concert - Movin' in the Right Direction - 7:15
- 8 WSHS Blood Drive - 8:45-2:00 p.m.
- 9 Girls Basketball-V Sectional Finals TBA
- 11 HS Softball - 1st day of practice
- 13 Piano Solo/Ensemble
- 14-16 Girls Basketball-V State Tournament TBA
- 15 WSHS Spring Band & Choir Concert - 7:00
- Track-Varsity at UW-Stout Indoor Meet - 3:30
- 17 WSHS Spring Band & Choir Concert Make-up Date
- 18 WSMS (all) Band Extravaganza - 7:00
- HS Baseball - 1st day of practice
- HS Soccer - 1st day of practice
- 20 **Early Release - Students dismissed at 12:20, Buses leave at 12:30**
- 21 Softball-JV/V (H) Sparta - 4:30
- 22 Track-JV/V at GET Indoor at St. Mary's - 3:30
- 23 District Solo/Ensemble
- Soccer-JV/V (H) WS Scrimmage - 10:00
- 25 HS Golf - 1st day of practice
- 26 Baseball-JV/V (H) Tomah - 4:30
- Soccer-JV/V at Arcadia - 5:30
- 28 Baseball-JV/V (H) Holmen - 1:00/3:00
- Softball-JV/V (H) BRF - 5:00
- Soccer-JV/V (H) Mauston - 5:00/7:00
- 28-29 **No School**

## APRIL

- 1 **No School**
- Softball-JV/V at Viroqua - 5:00
- 2 Baseball-JV/V (H) 5:00
- 4 Golf-JV at Luther at Coulee Golf Bowl
- Softball-JV/V (H) Onalaska Luther - 5:00
- Track-JV/V (H) WS Early Bird Meet - 4:00
- Soccer-V/JV at Tomah - 4:30/6:00
- 5 Baseball-JV/V at BRF - 5:00
- Golf-V (H) WS Early Bird Invite - 1:00

# Annual Fun-Raiser! Taco and Nacho Night!

Friday, April 12, 2013  
Serving 4pm to 7pm



Special Thanks to:  
Fox Hollow Golf Course  
Lloyd's Homemade Pizzas  
New Glarus Beer  
Organic Valley

Cost: \$6 per person  
Kids 4 to 10: \$3  
3 and under free

Sponsored by:  
The Village  
People of West Salem  
For more information  
call Cheryl at 608-304-6000

This event is open to the public and it benefits the Boys & Girls Club of West Salem.

The fun will include a bike raffle, a silent auction, a children's toy raffle, and lots of fun throughout the evening. The highlight of the evening will be the Grand Raffle.

The event is sponsored by The Village People of West Salem. For questions or to volunteer please contact the [VillagePeopleWestSalem@charter.net](mailto:VillagePeopleWestSalem@charter.net).

Mark Your Calendars!

## Attention Parents:

Title: *PARENTS AS PARTNERS AGAINST BULLYING*

Date: Wednesday, March 20, 2013

Time: 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Location: Marie W. Heider Center for the Arts

Presented by: Kohl's Cares®, Gundersen Lutheran Medical Foundation and Gundersen Lutheran Pediatrics and Behavioral Health

Presenter: Jeff Reiland, MS, CPT-S

For more  
information,  
visit:



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

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## 2013 REGIONAL MATHCOUNTS NEWS!

The regional Mathcounts competition was held on Friday, February 8, in La Crosse. There were 33 competitors representing four different schools.

The team results were as follows: 4th place – Longfellow Middle School, 3rd place – Viroqua Middle School, 2nd place – Holmen Middle School, and 1st place – West Salem Middle School. West Salem's team consisted of Courtney Koepp, Brandon Schran, Nick Schultz, and Erick Sells.

The individual results were as follows: 10th place – Paige Dunnum (West Salem), 9th place – Ben Sharp (West Salem), 8th place – Kasey Adams (Holmen), 7th place – Zeke Wettstein (Holmen), 6th place – Josh Krien (West Salem), 5th place – Isaac Trocinski (West Salem), 4th place – Jacob Fredricks (Holmen), 3rd place – Brandon Schran (West Salem), 2nd place – Nick Schultz (West Salem), and 1st place – Courtney Koepp (West Salem). Erick Sells finished in 19th place. Also competing for West Salem was Molly Hunter in 16th place, and Kaylee Mulholland in 20th 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 Jon Jones.



West Salem's Koepp, Schultz, Schran, Sells, Trocinski, and Krien now advance to the State competition in Madison on Saturday, March 2, 2013.

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### With spring right around the corner, please review this recently revised board policy.

#### West Salem Board of Education Policy 384 Animals on School Grounds

Animals are not allowed on school grounds. Exceptions include licensed service dogs for individuals with an appropriate disability and certified search dogs accompanied by law enforcement. Other exceptions may be granted for curricular reasons following approval of a written request to the building principal.

This policy does not preclude pet owners from walking their leashed animal on the public sidewalks bordering Mark Street, Hamlin Street and East Avenue. Owners must pick up and properly dispose of any and all animal waste left by such animal on District property and are subject to local laws and ordinances pertaining to animal control.

*Revised: January 28, 2013*

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

#### West Salem Blood Drive

Monday, June 17, 2013

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.

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## Welcome to Summer School 2013

The summer school schedule has changed for the 2013 school year. Please see the detailed schedule below.

### 2013 Summer School - Grades K-8

July 22 – August 9

8:30-12:00

Schedule:	8:00-8:25	Student Drop Off
	8:30-9:30	Class 1
	9:30-9:55	Break/Snack
	10:00-11:00	Class 2
	11:00-12:00	Class 3

- Classes will be held in the elementary school and middle school.
- Students will choose THREE classes to attend, however, some classes may be scheduled for all three periods.
- Class choices will include both enrichment and intervention. Parents will be notified if students are invited to attend a reading or math intervention class.
- Incoming kindergartners will attend ONE of the three weeks.
- Swimming lessons will be held during this summer school session AND there will also be swimming lessons offered in June. Students take only one session of swimming lessons. Schedules to be announced later.
- Busing will be available on main roads only.

Summer school booklets with class choices will be sent home with students mid March.

If you have any questions please contact:

Lisa Gerke  
Summer School Administrator  
786-1662  
[gerke.lisa@wsalem.k12.wi.us](mailto:gerke.lisa@wsalem.k12.wi.us)

## West Salem School District Family Engagement Liaison Project

As a part of a Wisconsin Statewide Parent-Educator Initiative (WSPEI), West Salem introduces its District Family Engagement Liaison Project. The purpose of this project is to build positive partnerships between parents and schools on behalf of children and youth with disabilities. Parents and families of children with disabilities are supported and encouraged to participate meaningfully and equally on Individual Education Plan (IEP) teams and in the education of their children. Family Engagement Liaisons, who themselves are parents of children with disabilities; know firsthand the challenges of parenting and educating children with disabilities. Their role is to support and empower parents and educators throughout the special education process. Their role is not to provide legal advice or services. The services provided by the liaison are free to parents and educators.

### What can the liaison do for families?

- Listen to parent concerns and answer questions
- Assist and support families throughout the Individual Education Plan (IEP) process
- Connect families with other agencies, programs, or informational resources
- Offer parent education workshops, conferences, and other learning opportunities
- Help problem-solve

District Family Engagement Liaison for West Salem:

Tiffany Lisk

Call 608-786-1662 or

e-mail: [lisk.tiffany@wsalem.k12.wi.us](mailto:lisk.tiffany@wsalem.k12.wi.us)

If you are a parent of a child receiving special education services you are encouraged to contact Tiffany. She can e-mail you links to on-line resources for children ages 3 to 21 related to different disabilities or special education in general. You may know Tiffany from the nurse's office. You are welcome to stop in and speak to her in person as well.



Mrs. Beehive,  
elementary teacher Mrs.  
Wizner, modeling &  
promoting employee  
wellness activities  
during teacher inservice.

Check  
It  
Out

From the Superintendent  
Summer School  
Mathcounts  
Relay For Life - 4/4/13  
Celebrate West Salem - 3/17/13  
Mayfair - 5/5/13  
Taco & Nacho Night - 4/12/13  
Heider Center Events & Gallery Display  
Calendar of Events  
School Board Minutes  
Community Fitness Center  
School Board Election Notice  
Spring Band Extravaganza  
Youth Art On Display  
Substitutes Wanted  
Open Enrollment  
Summer Musical  
WSHS Blood Drive  
Wintertime Fun at ES LMC  
Student Presentations at Board Meeting  
A Prescription for Safe Communities  
Engagement Liaison Project

Celebrate *YOUTH ART MONTH*  
with the West Salem  
Art Department  
*Featuring*  
**K-12 DISTRICT HONORS**  
**ART SHOW**

Marie W. Heider Center for the Arts  
Gallery — March 1-31st, 2013

There will be a reception on  
Thursday, March 14, 6:00-7:30 p.m.  
Refreshments will be provided!  
Public is welcome!

**COME AND CHECK OUT  
THE SHOW!**

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

**March Is  
Youth Art Month**

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