

School District of West Salem  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
September 8, 2014  
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 7:00 p.m.

**Convene**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Thomas Helgeson. 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's 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 September 4, 2014.

*Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag*

Jane Halverson led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Catherine Griffin recited the District Mission Statement.

*Roll Call*

Present: Syl Clements, Jane Halverson, Thomas Helgeson, Scott Scafe, Ken Schlimgen, Fred Perri, and Catherine Griffin. Also in attendance – Administrators: Troy Gunderson, Dean Buchanan, Eric Jensen, Mark Carlson, Mike Malott, Michael St. Pierre, and Lisa Gerke; Student representatives: Mariah Arneson and Cameron Robaczewski. Finance Director: Davita Molling, Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: John Smalley.

*Approval of Agenda*

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

**Connection with the Community**

*Cameron Robaczewski reported on:*

1. Two days this week, the high school LinkCrew will be going to the Outdoor Education Center with the freshmen. The link crew leaders will go through a number of team building activities. They will spend an entire school day at the forest, and everyone is excited to go and participate.
2. This past week has been great for West Salem sports. The volleyball team lost 3 games to 1 against Black River Falls, but bounced back with a 3-2 win over Viroqua. The tennis team beat Black River Falls 6-1. The cross country girls' team finished fourth at the Viroqua Blackhawk invite while the boys' team finished second for the second year in a row behind La Crosse Central. The football team won on Friday night against Tomah.
3. Class president elections were held this past week at West Salem High School. Primary elections were held and then each candidate gave a speech to their class. The presidential results are as follows: freshman-Nate Krien, sophomore-Aunna Carlson, junior-Allie Alumbaugh, and senior-Mariah Arneson.

*Mariah Arneson reported on:*

1. The high school band performed twice this past week. Once with the middle school band for the half time show at the Friday night football game, where over 270 students performed on the football field. The band also marched in the Kellogg, Minnesota Watermelon Festival parade on Sunday and placed first.
2. The high school homeroom representatives were elected and will attend student council and class meetings to keep homerooms informed. They will also meet with the class president to discuss homecoming details.
3. The 30+ member Pep Club is preparing for Homecoming and will approve a theme on Tuesday. Next they will plan for the winter dance week activities.

*Correspondence – None.*

*Public comments*

Steve Anderson spoke in favor of having a zero entry or graduated step when remodeling the pool.

*Written and Oral Reports*

CESA #4 Board of Control – Mrs. Halverson reported that the board met last week and viewed a YouTube video regarding getting ready for school which showed new equipment; approved the first reading of policies; the audit went well; the board outreach event on October 2, and a digital content project.

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Mr. Clements reported that the committee met earlier tonight and reviewed an outdoor athletic facility assessment summary, the proposed football practice field, and the Friends of West Salem Baseball presented information on a future stadium.

District Performance Initiative updates by Dean Buchanan, Eric Jensen, Lisa Gerke, Mark Carlson and Mike Malott, Michael St. Pierre, and Troy Gunderson were reviewed. Mr. Gunderson also added that he will meet with Mrs. Griffin and Mr. Perri to review the budget process and others are welcome to attend.

### **Consent Agenda**

Mr. Scafe moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of August 25, 2014; the invoices to be paid; and the Open Enrollment requests for the 2014-15 school year as presented. Motion carried.

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

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mrs. Griffin seconded to accept the donation from the Harry E. Pralle Estate in the amount of \$80,943.67 for the high school scholarship fund. Motion carried.

Mr. Gunderson, the board and the administrators had a discussion regarding the Strategic Performance Initiatives and Performance Goals.

The Board discussed the 2014 Referendum Survey results. The community had the opportunity to take the survey in August 2014.

Mr. Gunderson reviewed preliminary information on the 2014-15 budget and tax levy.

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Clements seconded to let the Buildings and Grounds Committee make the decision on the development of a new football practice area when the project costs are available with a cap of \$25,000. Motion carried.

Mr. Scafe moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded to accept the resignation of paraprofessional Jackie Dawson. Motion carried.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to accept the administration's recommendation to hire part-time paraprofessionals: Tammy Miller, Nicole Hirsch, Teressa Kerrigan, Cathy Nuttelman, Diana Swim, and Jason Koeth. Motion carried.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to accept the administration's recommendation to contract with Eric Borre, varsity hockey coach and Ryan Huebsch, volunteer high school soccer coach. Motion carried.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Griffin seconded to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jane Halverson, Clerk