

School District of West Salem  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
February 23, 2015  
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 7:00 p.m.

**Convene**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 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 February 19, 2015.

*Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag*

Syl Clements led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Troy Gunderson 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, John Smalley, Michael St. Pierre, and Lisa Gerke; Student representatives: Mariah Arneson and Cameron Robaczewski. Finance Director: Davita Molling, Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: None.

*Approval of Agenda*

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

**Connection with the Community**

*Mariah Arneson reported on:*

1. A five member team from the high school, Mariah Arneson, Ghofrane Chaabene, Brandon Schran, Katelyn Sikyta, and Andre Johnson participated in a Math Competition at UW-Eau Claire. The team competed in the middle sized school division, consisting of 18 teams. Individually, Brandon Schran placed 5th in our division for the second year in a row.
2. Winter sports and activities season summary:
  - a. Girls basketball-record 19-3 and will start playoffs.
  - b. Boys basketball-record 11-9 and will start playoffs next week.
  - c. Wrestling-had a good season individually. Aaron Broer will compete at state this week and is ranked in the top 5.
  - d. Gymnastics Co-op - the team is ranked 10th in the state for Division 2 (68 teams) and will compete in Sectionals on Saturday.
  - e. Hockey-record 18-6 and unfortunately lost their playoff game last Thursday against Baraboo.
  - f. Winter Dance Team-competed 3 times - 2nd place in poms, 3rd in poms and 5th in Jazz .

- g. Power Lifting - 5 members competed and Jimmy Christiansen went to 3 regional events to qualify for state and lifted 1050 lbs to qualify for nationals in Milwaukee on March 27-29.
  - h. Bowling-9 West Salem students competed against local schools' teams. Members include Amber Holcomb, Krystal Burrows, Sam Fellom, Damian Ostrem, Austin Kiesling, Kenny Moquin, Mason Holcomb, Cole Brenstein, and Andre Johnson. Amber Holcomb will compete at state as part of the All-Star Team.
3. The middle school Winter Wellness event was rescheduled for Friday, February 27. Students could go to Features, Shenanigans, Mt. Olympus, Mt. La Crosse, or Fort McCoy.
  4. The middle school girls' basketball teams have 2 games left this week for each grade level.
  5. Middle school Forensics has their Level 2 competition tomorrow.
  6. The middle school is participating in *Pennies for Patience*, a fundraiser that the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society started. The Student Council initiated the fundraiser in the middle school.

*Cameron Robaczewski reported on:*

1. On Saturday, the West Salem quiz bowl team hosted a tournament at the high school. West Salem had two teams, and so did the other schools in attendance, making a total of 12 teams. West Salem's A team finished 4th, going 5-3. Stoughton A was the winner of the tournament.
2. Last month, the high school student council had each student, and even some faculty members, fill out a matchmaker survey. The survey measures your compatibility with other students and makes lists of your best matches, friends, and most opposite matches. The student council sold the results last week for \$2 each and had students and faculty take pictures with their number one matches and post them on Twitter for other students to vote on.
3. The Diversity Club spread Valentines cheer with Valentine's Day kindness notes.
4. On last Wednesday's early release day, the high school had another learn day with students taking part in various activities and sessions. After the morning sessions, the school went to the Heider Center where the jazz band and show choir performed before the winter festival ceremonies. Similar to homecoming day, a number of club advisors talked about what their clubs, and winners of different club awards were announced. These senior "Misters and Misses" were from a number of different activities, including basketball, hockey, wrestling, mock trial, robotics, math club, quiz bowl, gymnastics, and band. In addition, two staff members were given the honor of outstanding faculty. After the ceremony, it was announced that the class winner of last weeks dress-up days would win the spirit stick, which will be displayed next to the senior key that is handed down at graduation.

*Correspondence*

A School Breakfast Week – March 2-6, 2015, proclamation from Tony Evers, Wisconsin State Superintendent of Public Instruction was read.

A letter from the Boys and Girls Club was read regarding their intent enter into an agreement to use the current middle school, contingent on passing of the referendum in April 2015.

*Public comments* – None.

*Written and Oral Reports*

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Mr. Clements reported that the committee met on February 15 and February 23. Agenda items included: Boys & Girls Club commitment, construction management/referendum/building project, and Coulee Christian School.

Reports by Scott Johnson, Kerri Feyen, Rick Kline, Davita Molling and Troy Gunderson were reviewed.

**Consent Agenda**

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mrs. Griffin seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 9, 2015 and the invoices to be paid. Motion carried.

**Discussion/Action Items:**

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Perri seconded to accept donations from the West Salem Hoops Club for the boys basketball team and from Gundersen Lutheran for the high school lounge and the district office. Motion carried.

West Salem High School Softball Coach, Brian Babiash, presented the request for the team to take a trip to Florida for a 2016 spring training trip. Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Perri seconded to approve the softball team's request for a 2016 spring training trip. Motion carried.

West Salem High School teachers Dave Kies and Amy Hanson gave a summary of the fall 2014 music trip to New York City and presented their request for a fall of 2016 or spring 2017 trip to Florida. Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Griffin seconded to approve the request for a music trip for the fall of 2016 or spring 2017. Motion carried.

Mike Malott left the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve the additional high school course offerings for the 2015-2016 school year as presented. Motion carried.

Mark Carlson left the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Mr. Gunderson reviewed the current agreements with the Four-Year-Old Kindergarten providers. No action was taken by the board.

Mr. Gunderson presented information on Strategic Planning, which included options available and a possible contract with the Studer Group for services. No action was taken by the board.

Mr. Gunderson and Mrs. Molling provided a state and local budget update, and summarized the WASB's selected provisions in the Governor's Proposed 2015-2017 State Budget Bill Affecting K-12 Education. No action was taken by the board.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve the 2014-2015 Employee Handbook amendment – pay for summer school as presented. Motion carried.

Discussion on campus, facility planning and referendum preparation was held.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to accept the administration's recommendation to hire Jacob Pedretti as an assistant high school track coach and Brad Skaer as the JV golf coach. Motion carried.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Scafe seconded to accept the resignations of elementary teachers Julie Brudos and Mindy Court, and the retirement of Middle School Principal Dean Buchanan. Motion carried.

### **Adjournment**

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mrs. Griffin seconded to adjourn at 8:58 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jane Halverson, Clerk