

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2015
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 7:00 p.m.

Convene

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Treasurer Ken Schlimgen. 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 March 5, 2015.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Jane Halverson 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, Ken Schlimgen, Fred Perri, and Catherine Griffin (7:20). 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: Thomas Helgeson, Scott Scafe, and Eric Jensen.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Perri moved, Mr. Clements seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Connection with the Community

Mariah Arneson reported on:

1. Ethan Severson's SEP - Collected and donated used sports equipment for children and teens in need through four drives set up at sporting events.
2. March is Youth Art Month. Nine students artwork was exhibited at the capitol building in Madison: Ashley Arndt, Sabrina McRogers, Kalia Xiong, Madison MacRogers, Adelaid Schwarz, Julia Barney, Keahna Littlejohn, Drew Anderson, and Gabby Bauer.
3. NHS will be hosting an American Red cross Blood Drive on Friday, March 13, in the high school LMC. Donors will be entered to win prizes from local businesses. The goal is to collect 63 units.
4. Both the Boys and Girls teams defeated GET and are Regional Champions. Unfortunately, the girls lost at sectionals in Osseo. The boys play in Osseo against Arcadia.
5. The 8th grade band played at the capitol for the Youth Art exhibit on March 6.
6. Three individuals from the middle school competed at Mathcounts State on Friday, March 6: Andrew Murphy, Ian Knudson, and Trygve Lebakken. Andrew placed the highest with 37th place out of about 150 competitors.
7. Middle and high school students recently took the Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

Cameron Robaczewski reported on:

1. Last week on Tuesday and Wednesday the juniors took the ACT and the Work Keys Test. The Work Keys is a test that applies more life skills than the ACT, such as reading a receipt. Students could get awarded different levels, platinum being the highest, for having good scores. In the future, employers may look at those scores to see how well an applicant can function in a job.
2. On Saturday, the high school band and choir hosted the Heider Center Anniversary Concert. Both school choirs and both bands performed, concluding with the alumni and community portion of the concert. The two hour concert was just as spectacular as last years, and the music department looks forward to inviting alumni back every March for this concert, a new tradition that started last year.
3. Two weeks ago the robotics team headed to Duluth to compete in their regional competition. They did not end up qualifying for internationals this year, placing 42 out of 62 teams. The game for this year was called recycle rush, which involved creating a robot that looked like a forklift which could lift and stack totes and bins. Even though they didn't finish highly, the team competed very well the first day, even holding the number one spot after the first round. They ran into some trouble on the second day, however, when one of their robots arms broke off at the weld and had to be repaired over lunch.

Correspondence – None.

Public comments –Laurie Carlson and Garrett Carlson had an employee concern and will be scheduled during closed session on March 23, 2015. Chase Miller reserved the right to comment during the agenda item – practice and meet location for gymnastics.

Written and Oral Reports

Finance Committee – The committee met tonight and discussed the proposed 15-16 budget. The committee will meet again before the next board meeting.

District Performance Initiative updates by Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Jensen, Mr. Smalley and Mrs. Gerke, Mr. Carlson and Mr. Malott, Mr. St. Pierre, and Mr. Gunderson.

Consent Agenda

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Clements seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 23, 2015, and the invoices to be paid. Motion carried.

Discussion/Action Items:

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Perri seconded to accept donations from Altra Federal Credit Union for the High School Family & Consumer Science Education classes, from Corinne Zielke Fund for the high school baseball team, from Adam Storey for the Nutrition Services Jane Doe fund, from Darrel & Renee Servais for a high school agriculture scholarship, and from Jason Breier/Syl's Supper Club for the high school gymnastics team. Motion carried.

High School Art Teacher Quenten Brown invited board, administrators and district staff to select work from the Heider Gallery to be displayed in the Heider Meeting Room for a year.

High School Technology Education Teacher and Robotics Team Advisor Erik Mathison introduced Advisor Cole Andres and robotics team members present: Ted Tiber, Janna Seeger, Michael Anderson, Evan Modlin, Gabe Sweeney, Abby Johnson, Drew Lassig, Duncan Thorn, Bronson Tamke, and Matt Schams. The Gearbox Heroes 5019 team provided a demonstration, summarized the season and answered questions.

Catherine Griffin arrived at 7:20 p.m.

High School Athletic Director Jordan Gilge introduced the Mississippi Valley Conference request for the high school boys' and girls' soccer teams to join their conference starting with the 2016-2017 school year. Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Perri seconded to approve the boys' and girls' soccer teams to join the Mississippi Valley Conference. Motion carried.

High School Athletic Director Jordan Gilge presented information to the board regarding a proposed practice and meet location for gymnastics. Performance Elite Gymnastics has proposed their new facility for gymnastics practice and meets. No action was taken.

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mrs. Griffin seconded to approve athletic cooperatives: gymnastics with Bangor and Aquinas, and wrestling with Bangor. Motion carried.

Mr. Gunderson gave an update on the state and local budget. No action was taken.

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Perri seconded to approve the following:

Resolution - The West Salem Board of Education calls upon Senator Jennifer Schilling and Representative Steve Doyle to work with their legislative colleagues to support increased funding for public education in the current budget for the benefit of Wisconsin's future and for the benefit of all public school students. Motion carried.

Campus, facility planning and referendum preparation – No action was taken.

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Clements seconded to accept the administration's high school co-curricular recommendations: Eric Borre, head golf coach; Marc Anderson, head girls' soccer coach; Ammar Sabar, JV girls' soccer coach; Brian Babiash, head softball coach; Julie Kamla, JV softball coach; Jim Klug and Stacy Mitchell, assistant track, Bret Miller, head boys' track; and Leroy Krall, head girls' track. Motion carried.

Mrs. Griffin moved, Mr. Perri seconded to accept the resignations of Elementary Teacher Anna Jarvis and volleyball coach Becki Murphy, and retirements of Elementary Teacher Kathy Stachowski, Middle and High School Librarian Gwen Treu and High School Guidance Counselor Lynne Brown. Motion carried.

Mr. Schlimgen welcomed the motion for closed session: The Board will discuss, consider and, if appropriate, take action pursuant to Wis. Stats §19.85(1) (c) performance evaluation of teachers, and 19.85 (1) (e) preparations for negotiations with new principals regarding contract and benefits.

Mrs. Griffin moved, Mr. Perri seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 8:16 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Clements, Aye; Mrs. Halverson, Aye; Mrs. Griffin, Aye; and Mr. Perri, Aye. Motion carried.

Closed Session

Adjournment

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Perri seconded to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Halverson, Clerk