

School District of West Salem  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
April 24, 2017  
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 7:00 p.m.

**Convene**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Syl Clements. 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 April 20, 2017.

*Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag*

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

*Roll Call*

Present: Syl Clements, Jane Halverson, Ken Schlimgen, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin, and Melinda Kopnisky-Bloomfield. Also in attendance – Administrators: Troy Gunderson, Ben Wopat (7:11), Eric Jensen, Josh Mallicoat, Mike Malott, Ryan Rieber, Davita Molling (7:01), and Lisa Gerke. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Michael St. Pierre, Nate Krien, and Alexis Brueggen.

*Approval of Agenda*

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Organization of the 2016-2017 School Board**

Mr. Grosskopf moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to nominate Syl Clements for the office of President. Mrs. Halverson moved, Mrs. Griffin seconded to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Syl Clements as President of the West Salem School Board. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded to nominate Tom Grosskopf for the position of Vice President. Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield moved to nominate Catherine Griffin for the position of Vice President. Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to close nominations. Paper ballots were used. Mr. Grosskopf received three votes and Mrs. Griffin received three votes. Both Mr. Grosskopf and Mrs. Griffin agreed to use a coin toss to select the Vice President. Mr. Mallicoat performed the coin toss and Mr. Grosskopf won the coin toss and will serve as the Vice President of the West Salem School Board.

Mrs. Griffin moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to nominate Jane Halverson for the office of Clerk. Mrs. Griffin moved, Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield seconded to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Jane Halverson as the Clerk of the West Salem School Board. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Grosskopf moved, Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield to nominate Ken Schlimgen for the office of Treasurer. Mrs. Halverson moved, Mrs. Griffin seconded to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Ken Schlimgen as the Treasurer of the West Salem School Board. Motion carried unanimously.

Introduction of new student board representatives: Both Nate Krien and Alexis Brueggen were not in attendance. They were on their way to the DECA national competition

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Grosskopf seconded the following:

1. resolution authorizing the Board officers to borrow money for the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school years per Wisconsin State Statutes 67.12(3);
2. select the Union State Bank of West Salem as the bank depository;
3. authorization of facsimile signatures per Wisconsin State Statutes 66.042(3);
4. authorization of the Board officers to invest surplus funds;
5. to continue with the current schedule to select the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. for Regular School Board Meetings and one meeting in December;
6. appoint Patrick Bahr as the Deputy Clerk;
7. to have members provide input to the Board President on committees interested in by Monday, May 1, 2017;
8. select Jane Halverson as the CESA #4 Representative.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Connection with the Community**

*No students were in attendance to provide a report.*

### *Correspondence*

A thank you note from the Ron Schroeder family was read.

A thank you note from Simon Buchanan was read.

The following Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction proclamations were read: Money Smart Week Wisconsin, April 22-29, 2017, and School Nutrition Employee Week, May 1-5, 2017.

### *Public comments*

Scott Scafe presented a letter to express his interest in filling the vacancy on the board.

### *Written and Oral Reports*

Staff Relations Committee – Mrs. Halverson reported on the negotiating sessions the committee held with the West Salem School Employees Association and the West Salem Education Association.

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

### **Consent Agenda**

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Griffin seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of March 27, 2017, and the invoices to be paid. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Grosskopf moved, Mrs. Griffin seconded to deny the Open Enrollment request presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion/Action Items:**

ILA (Independent Learning Academy) – High School Teachers Jennifer Stenberg and Laura Skemp-Deal along with students Megan Lassig, Emma Deal and Joslyn Hanson were present and updated the board on the ILA course offering.

Health Careers Pathways – High School Principal Josh Mallicoat, High School Teachers Pam Hansen, Jennifer Stenberg and Amy Hanson, and School Nurse Beth Clements were present to provide information on a Health Careers Pathway course offering. Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to approve the Health Careers Pathway as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Suzie Kaiser and Bill Heinz from Associated Financial Group and members of an insurance committee were present and explained the various health insurance proposals for the 2017-2018 school year

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to set the maximum deficit, out of fund balance as \$380,000 for the 2017-18 budget year. Motion carried unanimously.

There were no resignations/retirements for the Board to act upon.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to hire Marina Tofstad as the 1.0 FTE Middle School Spanish Teacher for the 17-18 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Grosskopf moved to fill the School Board vacancy. Motion failed due to lack of a second. Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded not to fill the School Board vacancy made vacant by the resignation of Greg Brickl. Motion carried. 4-Aye, 1-Nay (Grosskopf), and 1-Abstained (Clements)

Mr. Clements 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 issuing preliminary notice(s) of nonrenewal, in accordance with Wis. § Stat 118.22.

And (e) deliberating or negotiating or bargaining reasons require a closed session; regarding the base wages with the West Salem Education Association and West Salem School Employee Association for the 2017-2018 school year.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 9:41 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield, Aye; Mr. Clements, Aye; Mrs. Halverson, Aye; Mrs. Griffin, Aye; Mr. Grosskopf, Aye; and Mr. Schlimgen, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

*Closed Session*

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield seconded to reconvene into Open Session at 9:58 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

*Open Session*

Issue preliminary notice(s) of non-renewal to teachers. No action was taken in open session.

Mrs. Griffin moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded to approve the West Salem School Employees Association (WSSEA) and the West Salem Education Association (WSEA) wage agreements, and to issue contracts to the school psychologist and teachers for the 17-18 school year as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Adjournment**

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield seconded to adjourn at 9:59 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jane Halverson, Clerk