School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
October 26, 2026
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 7:00 p.m.

As noted on the Public Meeting Notice: Live streaming of this meeting was available on our District's YouTube page.

Convene
The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Catherine Griffin. The meeting was noticed to the Coulee Courier, La Crosse Tribune, WLSU Radio 89 FM, WXOW TV-19, WKBT-TV, WKTY, Union State Bank, First Community Credit Union, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district website, and district office on October 22, 2026.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag
Jen Hatz led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, and Caitlin Wilson recited the District Mission Statement.

Roll Call
Present: Bob Minard, Trish Harman, Catherine Griffin, Caitlin Wilson, Jennifer Hatz, Ben Garbers, and Nick Walters. Also in attendance – Administration: Ryan Rieber, Alex Hubing, Heidi Horton, Shawn Handland; Recording secretary: Jennifer Larson. Student representatives: Tula Mitchell and Graham Sjoquist. Excused: Alyssa Harlan, Amanda Beld and Justin Jehn.

Approval of Agenda
N. Walters moved, B. Garbers seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Written and Oral Reports
District Strategic Initiative updates from the Superintendent's Management and the Superintendent were reviewed.

Connection with the Community
Graham Sjoquist, Student Representative, reported on:

- Cross Country
  - The Cross Country team had an exciting day on Friday at sectionals. The girls' team placed 2nd, qualifying for state. On the boys' side, they raced extremely well and won the race, qualifying for state. Evan Berra won the boys' race with another school record. Amazing job to both teams and good luck at state on Saturday in Wisconsin Rapids.
- Volleyball
  - The girls' volleyball team played their first playoff game on Thursday against St. Croix Central. They won in three sets and advanced to the regional final last Saturday. There, they played Rice Lake and won in five sets and took home the regional championship. Their next game is this Thursday against Barron.
- NHS
  - The NHS has their annual Trick or Can event on Saturday, where they go through neighborhoods collecting canned goods for the local food pantry. This started this past weekend when members went around to neighborhoods and informed people about Trick or Can and handed out flyers.

Tula Mitchell, Student Representative, reported on:

- Football

    - The varsity football team played no games this past week because Viroqua forfeited the game on Friday, the 9th. Even though there was no game, the band and dance team still performed for parents and community members. The band performed some pep band tunes and the halftime show they had planned with the middle school band. The dance team performed a routine choreographed by their seniors and performed with the kids' dance camp after.
- Tennis
    - The girls' tennis team finished their season off well. They competed at sub-sectionals this past Monday, the 5th, and everyone competed very well. The 1 doubles team of Kennedy Everson and Lydia Rislow won their first match in their bracket. This sent them to the sectional matches on Thursday, the 8th. There, they played Edgewood in their first match and sadly lost. Congratulations to the girls' tennis team on their amazing season.
- CCLR Day
    - This past week on Wednesday, the high school had a CCLR day where all the grades worked on getting ready for their future whether that be college or a career. The seniors also had to take the civics test, which is a state requirement to graduate.

Correspondence
A proclamation was read for HOSA-Future Health Professionals Week, November 2-7, 2026.

Public Comments
None.

Consent Agenda
C. Wilson moved, N. Walters seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:
a. the minutes of the regular board meeting of October 12, 2026;
b. the invoices to be paid;
c. co-curricular recommendations: Boys Basketball Varsity Assistant Coaches, Boys Basketball Varsity Head Coach, Boys Basketball 7th Grade Head Coach, Boys Basketball 7th Grade Assistant Coach, Boys Basketball 7th Grade Volunteer Coach, Boys Basketball 8th Grade Head Coach, Boys Basketball 8th Grade Assistant Coaches, Girls Basketball Varsity Assistant Coaches, Dance Winter Head Coach, Dance Winter Assistant Coach, Girls Basketball 7th Grade Assistant Coach, Girls Basketball 8th Grade Head Coach, Gymnastics Varsity Assistant Coach, Gymnastics Varsity Head Coach, Girls Hockey Varsity Assistant Coaches, Girls Hockey Varsity Head Coach, Wrestling MS Head Coach, Wrestling MS Assistant Coaches, Wrestling Varsity Boys Head Coach, Wrestling Varsity Boys Assistant Coach, Wrestling Varsity Girls Head Coach, Wrestling Varsity Girls Assistant Coach [e], 26-27 Middle School non-athletic co-curricular recommendations [f], 26-27 Elementary non-athletic co-curricular recommendations;
d. to accept donations from Cynthia and William Innes, who donated $20.00 to the Random Acts of Kindness Fund;
Motion carried, unanimously (7-0).

Discussion/Action Items:
B. Garbers moved, N. Walters seconded, to set the budget for the 2026-2027 school year as presented at the Annual Meeting – proposed Fund 10 revenues of $30,265,124 and proposed Fund 10 expenses of $29,853,637. Motion carried, unanimously (7-0).

B. Garbers moved, C. Wilson seconded, to set the 2026-2027 school year Tax Levy at $14,096,182 with a mill rate of 0.00804616. Motion carried, unanimously (7-0).

J. Hatz moved, B. Garbers seconded to adopt the 2027-2028 school year calendar. Motion carried, unanimously (7-0).

The list of to do items / information requests was reviewed. No action was taken.

Adjournment
B. Garbers moved, N. Walters seconded, to adjourn at 7:20 p.m. Motion carried unanimously (7-0).

Respectfully submitted,

_____
Jennifer Hatz, Clerk