

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
November 10, 2025
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 7:02 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 November 6, 2025.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Bob Minard led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Ryan Rieber recited the District Mission Statement.

Roll Call

Present: Jennifer Hatz, Bob Minard, Catherine Griffin, Erik Peterson, Caitlin Wilson, and Ben Garber. Also in attendance – Administration: Ryan Rieber, Justin Jehn, Alex Hubing, Alyssa Harlan, Heidi Horton, Ben Wopat and Shawn Handland; Student representative: Lydia Jothen. Recording secretary: Jennifer Larson. Excused: Trish Harman, and Zeke Hyer.

Approval of Agenda

B. Garbers moved, B. Minard seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Written and Oral Reports

District Strategic Initiative updates from the Superintendent's Collaborative Team and the Superintendent were reviewed.

Connection with the Community

Lydia Jothen, Student Representative, reported on:

The Adaptive sports league team just finished up their indoor soccer season. They had a very successful season and made their way to the championship game. They played against Holmen at Holmen and won! Next, they will begin their floor hockey season!

Winter Sports are just starting up! Girls' basketball, and both girls and boys' hockey started practice tonight, then wrestling and boys' basketball starts next weekend. And the ski and snowboard time won't begin competing until after Christmas.

Veterans day tomorrow and the high school is honoring our veterans during an assembly. There the choir and band will perform, we will hear from a guest speaker and take time to honor and remember those who have served and are currently serving our country.

Interact recently held a food drive at Hanson's as part of their IFEED program. They collected over 350 canned goods and hundreds of dollars in cash donations. Half of the donations went to the food pantry, and the other half went to Wafer.

The math team had their annual competition last Wednesday. A few students from each grade headed to Platteville to take 2 math tests. 1st an individual test, and then they got to work together as a team on a test. These tests are extremely hard, in fact Mr. Milne, the coach said if you can get even 3 problems right, you're doing pretty well. THEY TOOK 3RD!

This past month West Salem's DECA Chapter has been very busy fundraising, volunteering, and preparing for our competition season. They kicked off October with local police and fire departments for cops in the corn. DECA members helped guide trick-or-treaters through the nearby corn maze to grab candy from officers and firefighters. they continued with the fun activities as we began our coloring competition at the elementary school. Students had 2 weeks to color sheets with the winners of each grade receiving ice cream as a reward. In total they completed 814 coloring sheets which will go to active service members and senior citizens in need of a smile. Following this, they hosted their first ever DECA movie night to raise funds for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Through concessions and raffle ticket sales, they raised \$265.00 for the cause. Ending off the month, West Salem DECA partnered with our National Honor Society to participate in Trick-or-Can and the Haunted Trail. We collected a total of 2350 canned goods for our local food pantry the day before Halloween and guided kids through scary and non-scary haunted house experiences at the school forest the following Saturday. In this first week of November, they have already begun to work as they hosted our regional DECA competition. With 5 schools and 60 plus participants, it gave a chance for new members to experience the competitive side of DECA and they said it was a super fun night overall!

Correspondence

- A thank you letter was read from Our Savior's Lutheran Church in regards to the districts assistance with the summers "Feed our Children".
- A Department of Public Instruction Proclamation, Homeless Awareness Month, November 1-30, 2025, was read.

Public Comments – None.

Consent Agenda

E. Peterson moved, C. Wilson seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- a. the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 27, 2025;
- b. the invoices to be paid;
- c. to accept the administration's co-curricular recommendations for Head MS 7th grade basketball coach-Nick Wagner; Resignations from Mark Wagner & Brennan Kennedy; Volunteer assistant MS basketball coach-Nancy Wagner; Volunteer assistant boys basketball coach-Joe Stekel; Assistant boys basketball coach-Jaxon Beck; Assistant boys basketball coach-Tucker Wildes; Volunteer gymnastics coach-Ellie Loughan; Volunteer gymnastics coach-Mya Tepp; Assistant gymnastics coach-Brittney Hodgson; Volunteer assistant gymnastic coach-Evan Moe; Volunteer girls hockey coach-Charles Streeter;
- d. to accept the donations from Brenda Skittone for 75 binders to the West Salem High School, Julie Baginski and Curtis Deboer donated to the Random Acts of Kindness Fund and Rosalie O'Connell donated a snare drum with case to the High School music program.

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

C. Wilson moved, B. Garbers seconded to approve the first reading of Po 6236 Community Services Fund (Fund 80). Motion carried unanimously.

E. Peterson moved, J. Hatz seconded to approve the 4K Full Time Full Day program proposal with the Option 1 transportation. 5-Aye, 1-Nay (Minard). Motion carried.

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

*Live Streaming of the Board Meeting ended, as noted on the Public Meeting Notice. **Live Stream Ends at 8:12 p.m.***

Student Representatives L. Jothan dismissed. B. Wopat, A. Harlan and H. Horton leave the meeting.

Board Development

The Sponsorship Agreement and advertising materials were review and discussed.

Policy 7510 Use of District Facilities Excluding Center of the Arts was reviewed and discussed.

Adjournment

E. Peterson moved, B. Garbers seconded to adjourn at 8:59 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Caitlin Wilson, Clerk