

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
November 23, 2020
Marie Heider Meeting Room (Remotely) – 7:00 p.m.

As noted on the Public Meeting Notice: The health and safety of district employees, Board of Education and the community is our number one priority. Therefore, the district is taking precautionary measures consistent with the CDC and the La Crosse County Health Department recommendations. *Board members will be participating via remote access. The Heider Meeting Room of the District Offices, 405 East Hamlin Street, West Salem, Wisconsin, will be open to limited spectators if physical space is required for accessibility to view the meeting. Public comments can be submitted to the Superintendent/School Board Executive Assistant. Live streaming of this meeting was available on our District's YouTube page. Face coverings were required to be worn when attending the meeting and social distancing measures should be followed.

Convene

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 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, WIZM, Union State Bank, First Community Credit Union, St. Joe's Country Market, West Salem Post Office, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district web site, and district office on November 19, 2020.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

Roll Call

(Remotely) Present: Erik Peterson, Jane Halverson, Ken Schlimgen, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin (in person), Robin Fitzgerald, and Sean Gavaghan. Also (remotely) in attendance – Administrators: Ryan Rieber (in person), Ben Wopat, Eric Jensen, Mike Malott, Tami Bagstad, Deanna Wiatt, and Shawn Handland; Student representatives: Madisyn Haun and Maxwell Goetz. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr (in person). Excused: N/A.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded to approve the agenda as presented. A roll vote was taken: Mrs. Fitzgerald, Aye; Mr. Gavaghan, Aye; Mr. Peterson, Aye; Mrs. Halverson, Aye; Mrs. Griffin, Aye; Mr. Grosskopf, Aye; and Mr. Schlimgen, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Connection with the Community

Madisyn Haun, Student Representative, reported on:

1. The band had virtual auditions for concert band.
2. The senior finance class recently completed their family budget project in which they learned how to create a budget for them and their assigned family. They had to buy cars, a house, make a grocery list, buy clothes, household items, and budget for an unexpected expense that one of our high school staff members have experienced.

Maxwell Goetz, Student Representative, reported on:

1. Some winter sports have begun zoom meetings for practice.
2. Seniors have begun selecting their class motto, song, flower, and speaker for graduation.

Correspondence – None.

Public comments

As per the meeting notice, public comments could be submitted to the Superintendent/School Board Executive Assistant. There were four public comments submitted and were in regards to co-curricular activities and requesting this item be on the December 14, 2020, Board Meeting agenda. Greg Stenberg, Bill Hehli, Charlie McConkey, and Todd Jordan submitted comments which were read aloud.

Written and Oral Reports

Staff Relations Committee – Mr. Peterson reported on the agenda item, meet with members of the staff to see how things are going in the three buildings.

District Strategic Initiative updates from the Business Operations Team and the Superintendent were reviewed.

Consent Agenda

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Schlingen seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- a) the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of November 9, 2020;
- b) invoices to be paid;
- c) to accept the donation from Festival Foods-Onalaska for the middle school;
- d) to hire Aaron Bahr-middle school head wrestling coach, Caiden Buehler-middle school assistant wrestling coach, Isaiah Schmidt-assistant 8th grade boys' basketball coach, Nick Murray-high school assistant boys' basketball coach.

A roll vote was taken: Mrs. Fitzgerald, Aye; Mr. Gavaghan, Aye; Mr. Peterson, Aye; Mrs. Halverson, Aye; Mrs. Griffin, Aye; Mr. Grosskopf, Aye; and Mr. Schlingen, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to approve Neola for policy services. A roll vote was taken: Mrs. Fitzgerald, Aye; Mr. Gavaghan, Aye; Mr. Peterson, Aye; Mrs. Halverson, Aye; Mrs. Griffin, Aye; Mr. Grosskopf, Aye; and Mr. Schlingen, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Mrs. Griffin 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 the superintendent's evaluation.

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Gavaghan seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 8:00 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mrs. Fitzgerald, Aye; Mr. Gavaghan, Aye; Mr. Peterson, Aye; Mrs. Halverson, Aye; Mrs. Griffin, Aye; Mr. Grosskopf, Aye; and Mr. Schlingen, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to adjourn at 9:45 p.m. A roll call vote was taken: Mrs. Fitzgerald, Aye; Mr. Gavaghan, Aye; Mr. Peterson, Aye; Mrs. Halverson, Aye; Mrs. Griffin, Aye; Mr. Grosskopf, Aye; and Mr. Schlingen, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Halverson, Clerk