

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
December 13, 2021
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.

**Note: Due to technical difficulties and a power outage, only two minutes and 37 seconds were streamed.

Convene

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 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 December 9, 2021.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

Roll Call

Present: Erik Peterson, Chris Peterson, Ken Schlimgen, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin, Robin Fitzgerald, and Sean Gavaghan (remote access until 7:17 p.m. because of power outage). Also in attendance – Administrators: Ryan Rieber, Ben Wopat, Heidi Horton, Tami Bagstad, Deanna Wiatt, and Shawn Handland; Student representatives: Krish Patel and Rachel Stein. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Mike Malott

Approval of Agenda

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

Written and Oral Reports

CESA #4 Board of Control – Mrs. Griffin reported on the events of the Board of Control's meeting.

Teaching & Learning Committee – Mrs. Fitzgerald reported on the agenda items: report card and Strategic Plan.

Business Operations Committee – Mr. Grosskopf reported on the agenda items: adult meal price, defeasance scenario, ESSER Funding, and referendum and sample resolution.

District Strategic Initiative updates from the Business Operations Team, the Superintendent's Cabinet Team and the Superintendent were reviewed.

Mr. Rieber provided a district update

Human Resource updates: resignations from Emily Rasmussen-paraprofessional, Jessica Tomten-nurse assistant, Stephanie Williams-Administrative Assistant; the retirement of George Villarreal-custodian.

The power went out at 7:17 p.m. and returned about 7:29 p.m. At this time, Board Member Sean Gavaghan was disconnected and didn't rejoin the meeting.

Connection with the Community

Krish Patel, Student Representative, reported on:

1. Giving tree - An event put on by the members of The National Honors Society. Money is raised to help families through the holiday season. There are tags on Christmas trees corresponding to different stores with an amount between \$20-30 in the library. Clubs, sports teams, friends groups, or families can come together and help raise money.
2. Wednesday, December 8 – high school only early release: Seniors-Learned about scholarships and financial aid, Jason Lassen-Insurance Speaker, SEP work time; Juniors-Class Registration for next year, learned more about being College & Career Readiness, More things with digital citizenship; Sophomores-Class Registration for next year; Freshman-Tours of Western Technical College and UW-La Crosse.

Rachel Stein, Student Representative, reported on:

1. Gymnastics-Invitational at home on Saturday. West Salem placed second by less than a point.
2. Wrestling at La Crosse. The team placed first as an overall team and had four individual champions.
3. The high school band concert yesterday.
4. The high school choir concert was last Sunday.
5. The high school band performing at rotary lights tonight.

Correspondence

A thank you note from Amy Hanson and family was read.

Public Comments – None.

Citizen Participation at Board Meetings speakers were

Consent Agenda

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. C. Peterson seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- a. the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of November 22, 2021;
- b. invoices to be paid;
- c. to accept donations from Marilyn Bahr for the high school drama department and from the La Crosse Community Foundation/Scholarship for the Adapted Sports League Team;
- d. to accept administration's co-curricular recommendations, Jason Holter-Esports, Heather Jehn-8th grade head girls' basketball coach, Tanner Davis-8th grade girls' assistant basketball coach;

- e. to accept the administration’s recommendation to hire Nicole Shrake and Lionel Karyea as Middle School Resource Teachers for the remainder of the 21-22 school year;
- f. to accept the resignation from Resource Teacher Mari Hendershot and Carrie Wilson-smith as the SkillsUSA advisor.

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

Mrs. Fitzgerald and Mr. C. Peterson seconded to approve the following new high school course offerings for the 2022-2023 school year: The Science of Well Being, Jazz Ensemble and Math for the Trades. Motion carried. (5 Aye, 1 Nay – Mr. Schlimgen)

The Board reviewed a draft of a proposed Operational Referendum Resolution. No action was taken.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to rescind the previous action to change the adult meal prices. Motion carried unanimously. The adult breakfast price will be \$2.50 and the adult lunch price will be \$4.25.

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

Board Development

The Board and Administration discussed referendum planning. No action was taken.

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.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 9:09 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mrs. Fitzgerald, Aye; Mr. E. Peterson, Aye; Mr. C. Peterson, Aye; Mrs. Griffin, Aye; Mr. Grosskopf, Aye; and Mr. Schlimgen, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Adjournment

Mrs. Fitzgerald moved, Mr. C. Peterson seconded to adjourn at 9:44 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk