

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2022
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 Vice President Tom Grosskopf. 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 January 6, 2022.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Heidi Horton led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Chris Peterson recited the District Mission Statement.

Roll Call

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

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald 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.

Policy/Communication and Engagement Committee – Mr. Schlimgen reported on the agenda item Neola Policy review.

Business Operations Committee – Mr. Grosskopf reported on the agenda items: defeasance scenario, referendum planning and regular and special education Open Enrollment spaces.

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

Mr. Rieber provided a district update.

Connection with the Community

Krish Patel, Student Representative, reported on:

1. Senior Matilda Vidal held a blood drive on December 15, 2021, as part of her Senior Exit Project.
2. The DECA team participated at Districts this past weekend and seven students qualified for the state competition in February at Lake Geneva.
3. The high school show choir competed at Viterbo University this past weekend. Vivace took 1st runner up in the prep division.
4. The high school dance team competed at Onalaska High School on January 8. The team took third out of seven teams for pom and fourth out of five teams for jazz.
5. A high school Winter Dance will be held on February 19. All grades are welcome to attend this semi-formal event.

Rachel Stein, Student Representative, reported on:

1. High school semester one finals will be held on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week.
2. The LINK Crew will be hosting a hot cocoa Q & A after school tomorrow for freshman and sophomores who haven't had finals before.
3. Senior Noah LaFleur hosted a hockey tournament as part of his Senior Exit Project, the Panthers placed second at the tournament.
4. The high school girls' basketball team are 1-2 and undefeated in the conference, and ranked #5 in Division III.
5. The high school boys' basketball team are 9-0 and are undefeated in conference, and are ranked #2 in Division III.

Correspondence

A letter was read from the Wisconsin Association of School Boards, that Alyssa Cvikota's art work that was submitted placed 8th in the Student Art Exhibit and Awards. Alyssa's art will be on display at the 101st State Education Convention January 19 and 20, 2022 at the Wisconsin Center in Milwaukee.

Public Comments – None.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Schlingens moved, Mr. E. Peterson seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- a. the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of December 13, 2021;
- b. the invoices to be paid;
- c. to accept donations from the Knights of Columbus for the Special Education Department, from Craig M. Hanson & Associates for the elementary school Random Acts of Kindness fund, from an anonymous donor for the middle school solar project, from Tricor, Inc and an anonymous donor for Mrs. Hesse's 2nd grade class, and from Stephen and Deborah Kraus for the Horace Moran Memorial Fund;
- d. to accept the administration's co-curricular recommendations for Lauren Lovely-7th grade girls' head basketball coach, Heidi Propson-7th grade girls' assistant basketball coach and Madelynn Delaney-volunteer gymnastics coach;

- e. to approve an increase of .33FTE to the contract of Allen Schroeder's art teacher contract for the second semester at the high school.

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.

Discussion/Action Items:

Mr. Rieber provided information from the Business Operations Committee's referendum recommendation to the full board.

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mrs. Griffin seconded to approve a Resolution Authorizing the school District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit for Three Years for Non-Recurring Purposes.

WHEREAS, the School Board of the School District of West Salem, La Crosse County, Wisconsin (the "District"), has heretofore duly adopted a resolution entitled: "Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue Limit for Three Years for Non-Recurring Purposes" (the "Revenue Limit Resolution"); and

WHEREAS, the School Board deems it to be desirable and in the best interest of the District to direct the District Clerk to submit the Revenue Limit Resolution to the electors for approval or rejection at the regularly scheduled election to be held on April 5, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of the District as follows:

Section 1. Referendum Election Date. The District Clerk is hereby directed to call a referendum election to be held in the District at the regularly scheduled election to be held on April 5, 2022 for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of the District the proposition of whether the Revenue Limit Resolution shall be approved.

Section 2. Notice to Electors. The District Clerk is directed to give notice by:

- (a) causing a Notice of Election in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit A to be published in The La Crosse Tribune in the issue published on the fourth Tuesday before the referendum election.

- (b) causing a Notice of Referendum (which includes the facsimile of the sample ballot) in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit B to be published in The La Crosse Tribune in the issue published immediately preceding the referendum election. This Notice shall also be posted in each polling place on election day.

If any of the municipalities within the District use an electronic voting system employing a ballot label and ballot card, the Notice of Referendum set forth in Exhibit B shall also include a true, actual-size copy of the ballot label and ballot card in the form in which they will appear on election day.

Section 3. Polling Places and Hours. The District electors must vote at the referendum election at the times and polling places at which they cast their ballots in regularly scheduled elections.

Section 4. Referendum Election Officials. The election officials appointed in each of the municipalities within the District shall conduct the election.

Section 5. Official Referendum Ballot Form. The ballot to be used at the referendum election shall be prepared in accordance with the provisions of Sections 5.64(2) and 7.08(1)(a), Wisconsin Statutes. The ballot shall be substantially in the form attached hereto as Exhibit C.

The District Clerk shall cause to be printed sufficient ballots for use at said referendum election, both as actual ballots in those polling places which do not use voting machines and as absentee ballots where voting machines are used and as specimen ballots (the latter to be of a different and easily identifiable color from the actual ballot). The form of the ballot shall be filed with the official responsible for providing the ballots for the election, and the District Clerk shall file a copy of the ballot with the clerk of each county having territory within the District, as soon as possible after the date hereof but in no event later than 70 days prior to the election, as provided in Section 8.37, Wisconsin Statutes. If the District prepares the ballots, they should be delivered to the municipal clerks running the election at least 25 days prior to the election, to allow the municipal clerks to comply with their obligation to provide absentee ballots under Section 7.15, Wisconsin Statutes.

The municipal clerks of the municipalities within the District shall receive applications for absentee ballots and initial the same when issued to qualified absentee voters.

Section 6. Canvass. The returns of the referendum election shall be canvassed by the Board of Canvassers of each municipality within the District. Each Board of Canvassers shall certify the returns of the referendum election to the District Clerk. The District Clerk and two other reputable citizens appointed by the District Clerk prior to the date of the referendum election shall act as the District's Board of Canvassers for this referendum election. This Board of Canvassers shall meet in open session no later than 9:00 a.m. on the Tuesday after the election to determine the result of the referendum election. The canvass shall be open to the public and the District Clerk is directed to give due notice of said meeting.

Section 7. DPI Notice. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 121.91(3), Wisconsin Statutes, the District Clerk shall notify the Department of Public Instruction of the date of the referendum election and shall provide the Department with copies of the Revenue Limit Resolution within 10 days after the adoption of the Revenue Limit Resolution and shall further notify the Department of the results of the referendum within 10 days following the election using the method prescribed by the Department.

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.

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mr. E. Peterson seconded to approve a Resolution Providing for a Referendum Election on the Question of the Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the School District Budget to Exceed Revenue limit for Three Years for Non-Recurring Purposes.

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of the School District of West Salem, La Crosse County, Wisconsin that the revenues included in the School District budget be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$2,500,000 for the 2022-2023 school year, by \$2,500,000 for the 2023-2024 school year and by \$2,750,000 for the 2024-2025 school year, for non-recurring purposes consisting of maintaining educational programming, facilities and buses and paying salary and other operational expenses.

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.

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mr. E. Peterson seconded to authorize Mrs. Griffin to vote as she sees fit with the proposals in the 2022 delegate assembly at the Education Convention. 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.

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.

Mr. Grosskopf 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 nonrenewal/renewal, nonextension/extension, and employment of administrators.

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 7:32 p.m. 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.

Mrs. Griffin left the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Closed Session

Adjournment

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mr. C. Peterson seconded to adjourn at 7:36 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk