

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2020
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 7:00 p.m.

Convene

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Jane Halverson. 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, River Bank-Barre Mills, West Salem Post Office, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district web site, and district office on January 13, 2020.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Ken Schlimgen led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Catherine Griffin recited the District Mission Statement.

Roll Call

Present: Syl Clements, Jane Halverson, Ken Schlimgen, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin, Robin Fitzgerald, and Sean Gavaghan. Also in attendance – Administrators: Troy Gunderson, Ben Wopat, Eric Jensen, Mike Malott, Ryan Rieber, and Deanna Wiatt; Student representative: Summer Houck. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Liam Sjoquist and Shawn Handland.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Gavaghan seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Connection with the Community

Summer Houck, Student Representative, reported on:

1. DECA had a successful weekend at their district's competition at UW-Stout. 34 students have moved onto the state competition in Lake Geneva from March 10-12.
2. Finals start on Wednesday with the senior class is trying something new with their finals time in finance and seminar by doing 45 minutes in one class and 45 minutes in the other. Neither of the two classes will be having an exam during that time.
3. The dance team had a rough competition this weekend placing 5th for D2 Jazz and 9th for D4 Pom. Regionals are January 25th.

Correspondence

A thank you card from Gary Trudeau was read.

A thank you card from Mary Meyer was read.

A Proclamation by Carolyn Stanford Taylor, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Adult School Crossing Guard Recognition Week, January 13-17, 2020, was read.

Public comments

Tanner Holst, parent, expressed his thoughts on the events of the resignation of Susan Holm. Susan Holm, high school math teacher, expressed her thoughts around her resignation.

Terri Martinson signed up, but passed on her chance to speak. Ryan Waldhart and Heather Jehn, West Salem Education Association Co-Presidents, expressed their thoughts on Susan Holm's resignation.

Written and Oral Reports

Business Operations Committee – Mrs. Griffin reported on the agenda items: 5-year facility plan, specific look at work for 2020, selection of contractor(s).

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

Mr. Gunderson included in his report the resignations of Christina Keller and Kristen Trautsch-paraprofessionals and Vicki McVey-bus driver.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of December 16, 2019. Motion carried. (Jane Halverson and Catherine Griffin abstained)

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Griffin seconded to approve the following consent agenda items:

- a) invoices to be paid;
- b) donations from the La Crosse County Dairy Promotions-Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin for the High School Family and Consumer Education class, from Mississippi Welders, Coulee Region RV and NAPA and Wisconsin Building Supply for the Skills USA Club, from Duane and Ana Schaper for the Angela Labus Memorial Scholarship Fund, from Dynamic Lifecycle Innovations for the middle school computer science students, from Altra Federal Credit Union, Our Savior's Lutheran Church and La Crosse County Jeans Day Committee for the Nutrition Services Jane Doe Fund, from Stephen and Deborah Kraus for the Horace Moran Memorial Fund, from Ken Schlimgen for an SEP, from the La Crosse County Jeans Day Committee for the Middle School Random Acts of Kindness Fund, from Walmart Tomah Distributing Center for the school district, and from Shelly Gentry for the high school band department.
- c) co-curricular recommendation, Justin Running-7th grade basketball head coach
- d) the resignation of high school math teacher, Susan Holm.

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

Mr. Gunderson outlined a proposed timeline for the Strategic Planning process for 2020.

Board members should communicate their thoughts with Mrs. Fitzgerald. Consensus was given that WASB Delegate Assembly Representative Robin Fitzgerald be able to vote her conscience at the Delegate Assembly during the 2020 Education Convention in Milwaukee.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to adopt the School District of West Salem Unusual Hazardous Area Transportation Plan as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gunderson reviewed preliminary enrollment, staffing and budget information for the 2020-2021 school year.

Mrs. Fitzgerald moved, Mr. Clements seconded to approve the designation of regular and special education Open Enrollment spaces for the 2020-2021 school year as follows:

Elementary School Cross Categorical: 2
Middle & High Schools Cross Categorical: 0
Elementary, Middle & High Schools Emotional Behavioral Disability: 0
Elementary, Middle & High Schools Intellectual Disability/Autism: 0
Elementary, Middle School Specific Learning Disabilities: NA
High Schools Specific Learning Disabilities: 0
Elementary Early Childhood: 1
Speech and Language: 0
4K: 12
Kindergarten: 13
Grade 1: 6
Grade 2: 0
Grade 3: 0
Grade 4: 12

Motion carried unanimously.

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

Mrs. Halverson 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 a professional staff employee.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Gavaghan seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 8:19 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mrs. Fitzgerald, Aye; Mr. Gavaghan, Aye; Mr. Clements, Aye; Mrs. Halverson, Aye; Mrs. Griffin, Aye; Mr. Grosskopf, Aye; and Mr. Schlimgen, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Adjournment

Mr. Grosskopf moved, Mrs. Griffin seconded to adjourn at 8:52 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk