

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2021
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 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 may participate via remote access. The room will be open to limited spectators. 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 7:00 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 February 4, 2021.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

Roll Call

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

Approval of Agenda

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

Connection with the Community

Maxwell Goetz, Student Representative, reported on:

1. Students are still in person going to school 5 days a week. Precautions are still in place; students can go to LMC, commons or first hour. Having the opportunity to have lunch in the gym has been beneficial.
2. Junior Prom Committee had its first meeting last week. The committee is planning on having a junior and senior prom at an outside venue, later than normal and possibly late May.

3. This Wednesday will be the first early release of the year. Each grade at the high school is doing something different. Freshman & sophomore: exploring electives, and registering for classes. Junior: preparing for the ACT and registering for classes. Senior: completing scholarships and continuing to work on their SEP.

Madisyn Haun, Student Representative, reported on:

1. The wrestling team placed 3rd at regionals with 8 sectionals qualifiers, however no one made it onto state.
2. Hockey lost their first playoff game and is now done with their season.
3. Girls' basketball starts playoffs this Friday.
4. The snow day last Thursday was a welcome relief to the students.

Correspondence

A thank you note from the family of Janet Wolter was read.

Public Comments – None.

Written and Oral Reports

Business Operations Committee – Mr. Grosskopf reported on the agenda items: options for computer/technology lease/refresh and budgeting/staffing for 2021-2022.

Policy/Communication & Engagement Committee – Mr. Gavaghan reported on the agenda items: removing job descriptions from Board Policy.

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

Consent Agenda

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

- a) the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of January 25, 2021;
- b) the invoices to be paid;
- c) to accept the donation from 1st Community Credit Union, Sparta for the DECA program;
- d) the gymnastics coop with Bangor and Aquinas for the 2021-2022 school year, and the wrestling coop with Bangor for the 2021-2022 & 2022-2023 school years.

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

Mr. Grosskopf moved, Mr. Gavaghan seconded to accept the Business Operations Committee's recommendation to stay with Apple products for the technology refresh as proposed. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Grosskopf moved, Mr. Peterson seconded to accept the Policy/Communication & Engagement Committee's recommendation to remove the following job descriptions from School Board Policy: #902 High School Principal, #903 High School Associate Principal, #904 Middle School Principal, #905 Elementary School Principal, #906 Elementary School Associate Principal, #907 Director of Pupil Services, #911 Director of Buildings and Grounds, #913

Director of Nutrition Services, #914 Director of Finance and Business Operations, #916 Director of Transportation, #917 Director of Instruction and Technology, #926 High School Athletic Director, #942 Superintendent/School Board Administrative Assistant, and #948 Director of Human Resources. Motion carried unanimously.

The list of to do items / information requests was reviewed. 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. Gavaghan moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 7:17 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mrs. Fitzgerald, Aye; Mr. Gavaghan, Aye; Mr. Peterson, Aye; Mrs. Griffin, Aye; Mr. Grosskopf, Aye; and Mr. Schlimgen, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Adjournment

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Gavaghan seconded to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Fitzgerald, Acting Clerk