

School District of West Salem  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
March 9, 2020  
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 7:00 p.m.

**Convene**

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 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 March 5, 2020.

*Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag*

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

*Roll Call*

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

*Approval of Agenda*

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

**Connection with the Community**

*There were no Board reports by high school student representative.*

*Correspondence*

A thank you note from Kathy Beshensky was read.

*Public comments –*

Steve Martin inquired about being able to participate on a citizen committee for during the superintendent search.

*Written and Oral Reports*

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

Business Operations Committee – Mrs. Griffin reported on the agenda items: high school/district office renovations, solar grant, lighting project, negotiations, and staffing.

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

Mr. Gunderson announced: the resignations of Stuart Hass-part-time custodian.

Quenten Brown, Angie Hemker, Kaylin Lotspaih, and Nicole Finch from the district's Art Department invited the board to select artwork from the gallery to be displayed in the Heider Meeting Room for the following year.

### **Consent Agenda**

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

- a) the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 24, 2020;
- b) the invoices to be paid;
- c) from the UW-L Cooperating Teacher Appreciation Mini Grant for Lisa Jones-elementary music teacher, from the La Crosse Community Foundation/Zielke Fund Grant for the high school baseball program, and from Taylor Feyen and her SEP for the district flag display at the Panther Den;
- d) the hiring of Robyn Ferrian as a high school math teacher for the remainder of the 19-20 school year;
- e) co-curricular recommendations: high school assistant tennis coach-Lisa Hehli, high school baseball volunteer assistant coach-Adam Krause, Rick Schultz, Ryan Rieber, Dan Schneider, Randy Schultz, Kyle Helgeson; middle school softball head coach-Ethan Ringlien; middle school softball assistant coach-Katie Fink and Makenzie Becker; middle school track and field head coach-Sarah Weber, Nicole Friell, Amber Coe, and Bill Jensen; and
- f) the resignation of Speech and Language Pathologist Lisa Ruddock and the resignation of middle school special education teacher Andrea Alvin.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Discussion/Action Items:**

Mrs. Griffin left the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Mr. Grosskopf moved, Mr. Clements seconded to approve the staffing requests for the 2021 school year as presented, which includes: paraprofessional support for kindergarten, additional 1.0 FTE middle school math teacher, reduction of .55 FTE middle school social studies teacher, reduction in paraprofessional support in the success center, additional 1.0 FTE high school English Teacher, additional 1.0 FTE high school social studies teacher, .67 FTE additional high school physical education; additional time of approximately four hours for nursing coverage (estimated \$20,000), maintenance/custodial (pending employee return-\$60,000), building secretaries to full-time; and adding a Lead Teacher Support in Special Education (\$3,500). Motion carried. 3-Aye, 1-Nay (Schlimgen)

**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," and e) Deliberating or negotiating....conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining

reasons require a closed session” regarding the contract and planning for the employment of a new superintendent.

Mr. Schlingen moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 7:23 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Clements, Aye; Mrs. Halverson, Aye; Mr. Grosskopf, Aye; and Mr. Schlingen, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Closed Session**

Mrs. Griffin returned to the meeting which was in closed session at 7:45 p.m.

In Closed Session, the Board took action on the agenda item “Contract with superintendent search firm.” Mr. Schlingen moved, Mrs. Griffin seconded to approve a contract with Wisconsin Association of School Boards (WASB) for superintendent Search Services. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Schlingen moved, Mrs. Griffin seconded to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Ken Schlingen, Acting Clerk