

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2025
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 7:01 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 April 10, 2025.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Sean Gavaghan led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Bob Minard recited the District Mission Statement.

Roll Call

Present: Erik Peterson, Tom Grosskopf, Bob Minard, Catherine Griffin, and Sean Gavaghan. Also in attendance – Administration: Ryan Rieber, Heidi Horton, Crystal Becker, Justin Jehn, Alex Hubing, Alyssa Harlan, and Shawn Handland; Student representatives: Brennon Anderson. Recording secretary: Jennifer Larson. Excused: Caitlin Wilson, Jessa Hickey and Ben Wopat.

Approval of Agenda

S. Gavaghan moved, B. Gollnick seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Connection with the Community

Art Department Presentations – K-12 District Honors Exhibit. Winning artwork was hung and winners were presented with a Certificate.

Brennon Anderson, Student Representative, reported on:

1. The Baseball team won one and lost one in a doubleheader against Sparta on Thursday. They have games tonight in BRF, tomorrow at home, and Thursday at home.
2. The softball team also plays tonight in BRF, and Thursday at home
3. Track and field teams competed at GET last Friday, where every athlete who was healthy got a chance to compete. They have their one and only home meet tomorrow at 4 PM
4. The tennis team competed last Friday and Saturday and they have a match tomorrow at home.
5. The golf team has their first Coulee Conference meet tonight at Coulee Golf Bowl
6. The district solo and ensemble festival was on April 5th. Both bands and choirs sent a total of 36 performances to the state competition, which will be held on April 26
7. The jazz ensemble performed at Stoney Creek Hotel on Saturday.
8. The girls soccer team is 2 and 1 on the season. They have a game tomorrow at Arcadia and Thursday at home.

9. Last Thursday, the high school had a CCLR day. The freshman and sophomores took the Pre-ACT, the juniors had their job shadow day, and the seniors had various adulting sessions. The whole school had different wellness sessions put on by HOSA. Those were activities like yoga, board games, and quiet work time or reading.
10. The seniors have been presenting their panther portfolio presentations in class, with the community presentation day coming up on May 7th.

Correspondence – Proclamations April 2025

April 1-30, 2025 is **School Library Month**:

To recognize school libraries and the valuable role school librarians hold in the education of our youth in WI and encourage students and citizens to familiarize themselves with their library's available services.

April 6-12, 2025 was **National Library Week**. to encourage Wisconsinites to visit their local library and celebrate what draws them to the library.

April 5-11, 2025 was **Week of the Young Child**®. To focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs.

April 1-30, 2025 is **Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month**. Over 160 languages are spoken by WI Public School students and their families. Multilingualism is an asset that benefits students' cognitive, academic, social and career development.

April 1-30, 2025 is **Month of the Military Child**. WI is proud to be the home of approximately 10,000 school aged children of military families. Military children face numerous and unique challenges as a result of the service of their parents and families to our country. We encourage everyone to honor our military youth and families who care and support them.

April 1-30, 2025 is **National Autism Acceptance Month**. Schools, educators and families across WI strive to provide services and supports to ensure that all students with autism can fully participate and thrive in their education. Join students, families and school district staff in celebrating the unique and positive identity of students with autism.

April 3, 2025 was **National Paraprofessional Appreciation Day**. To celebrate the invaluable contributions of paraprofessionals and acknowledge the impact they have on student success. This day is to recognize and honor the dedication of paraprofessionals in shaping the future of education.

April 20-26, 2025 is **National Environmental Education Week**. April 22 is Environmental Awareness Day. Schools are encouraged to conduct a day-long program to enhance student's understanding of the environment. Every child should have the opportunity to play in the dirt, plant a tree, grow a garden and explore.

Public Comments – None.

Written and Oral Reports

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

CESA #4 Board of Control – Catherine Griffin reported from the minutes of the April Meeting.

Business Operations Committee update by Tom Grosskopf: Staffing for 25-26, CESA #4 Contract for 25-26 and 24-25 Budget Adjustments was discussed.

Policy/Communications & Engagement – Erik Peterson reported that they reviewed 35 Legal and Recommended Policies and are recommending a 1st Reading to the board.

Construction Project Update – ISG did a presentation of the status of the Elementary and High School Construction project.

Consent Agenda

B. Gollnik moved, B. Minard seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- a. minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 24, 2025;
- b. invoices to be paid;
- c. to accept the administration's Co-curricular Recommendations: Ian McBride for Middle School Track Coach;
- d. to accept the recommendation to hire Laura Johnsrude for 3rd Grade Teacher (Limited term for 25-26 school year);
- e. to accept the resignation of High School Social Studies Teacher Talia Dacquisto; to accept the retirements of William Hinmen as Middle School Spanish Teacher and David Reeck as District Accountant;
- f. to accept the Donations of \$1500 from American Red Cross for Student Scholarship award; \$64.00 from P & P Productions, Inc to the ASH Activity Account; \$20.00 from Cynthia & William Innes for the Random Acts of Kindness fund; \$1000 from an anonymous donor for the Athletic Scholarship.

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

Ryan Rieber presented the 2025-2026 CESA #4 Contract for board approval. OT/PT services have been removed.

E. Peterson moved, B. Gollnik seconded to approve the 2025-2026 CESA #4 Contract for \$213,186.

Motion carried unanimously.

College, Career and Life Ready Video Scholarship

C. Griffin reported that the CCLR Committee reviewed the videos, selected the winners and sent the winner names to J. Jehn.

T. Grosskopf moved, B. Minard seconded to approve \$2000 in funds for the College, Career and Life Ready video scholarships. Motion carried unanimously.

Budgeting/Staffing for 2025-2026

E. Peterson moved, T. Grosskopf seconded to approve to hire 1.0 FACE Teacher and .8 FTE Occupational Therapist. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Minard moved, B. Gollnik seconded to approve the first reading of legal and recommended policy updates of Vol 34 No 1 and be reissued for a second reading at the next meeting.

Legal/Recommended Vol 34 No 1

Po1100 - Copy of DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Po1130 - Copy of ETHICS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Po1241 – NON-RENEWAL OR TERMINATION OF THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR’S CONTRACT

Po2210 – Copy of CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Po2264 – Copy of NONDISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEX IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES

Po2266 NON-DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEX IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES (The Board’s Policy and Grievance Procedures for Responding to Sexual Harassment Alleged to Have Occurred Prior to 8/1/24)

Po2270 – Copy of RELIGION IN THE CURRICULUM

Po2271.01 – Copy of START COLLEGE NOW PROGRAM

Po2416 - Copy of STUDENT PRIVACY AND PARENTAL ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Po2464 – Copy of ADVANCED LEARNING INSTRUCTION (“GIFTED AND TALENTED”)

Po3230 – Copy of ETHICS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Po3281 – Copy of PERSONAL PROPERTY OF STAFF MEMBERS

Po 4124 – Copy of NOTICE OF REASONABLE ASSURANCE OF EMPLOYMENT

Po4230 – Copy of ETHICS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Po5113 – Copy of OPEN ENROLLMENT PROGRAM (INTER-DISTRICT)

Po5330 – Copy of ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION/EMERGENCY CARE

Po5341 – RESCIND Copy of EMERGENCY MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION

Po5512 – Copy of USE OF TOBACCO AND NICOTINE BY STUDENTS

Po5611 – RESCIND Copy of DUE PROCESS RIGHTS

Po5710 – RESCIND Copy of STUDENT COMPLAINTS

Po6231 – Copy of BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION

Po6235 – Copy of FUND BALANCE

Po6620 – Copy of PETTY CASH

Po7410 – Copy of MAINTENANCE

Po7430 – Copy of SAFETY STANDARDS

Po7440 – Copy of FACILITY SECURITY

Po7540.03 – Copy of STUDENT TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY

Po7540.04 – Copy of STAFF TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY

Po7540.07 – Copy of DISTRICT-ISSUED STUDENT E-MAIL ACCOUNT

Po8120 – Copy of VOLUNTEERS

Po8305 – Copy of INFORMATION SECURITY

Po8395 – Copy of STUDENT MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH SERVICES

Po8531 – Copy of FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS

Po8600 – Copy of Transportation

Po5411 – Copy of New Policy – Special Updated-Act 20 – Feb. 2025 – THIRD GRADE PROMOTION AND RETENTION: AT RISK STUDENTS

Motion carried unanimously.

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

Live Streaming of the Board Meeting ended at 8:51p.m., as noted on the Public Meeting Notice.

Closed Session

C. 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 evaluation of the superintendent.

E. Peterson moved, B. Gollnik seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 8:53 p.m. A roll call vote was taken: T. Grosskopf, Aye; E. Peterson, Aye; B. Minard, Aye; C. Griffin, Aye; B. Gollnik, Aye; S. Gavaghan, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Adjournment

B. Minard moved, C. Griffin seconded to adjourn at 9:38 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Erik Peterson, Clerk