

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2020
Marie Heider Auditorium – 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 April 23, 2020.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

Roll Call

Present: Erik Peterson, Jane Halverson, Ken Schlimgen, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin, Robin Fitzgerald, and Sean Gavaghan. Also in attendance – Administrators: Troy Gunderson, Mike Malott (remote participation), Ryan Rieber, and Shawn Handland; Student representatives: None selected yet because of COVID-19. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Ben Wopat and Eric Jensen.

Approval of Agenda

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

Organization of the 2020-2021 School Board

Mrs. Halverson moved to nominate Mrs. Griffin for the office of President. Mr. Schlimgen moved and Mr. Gavaghan seconded to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Catherine Griffin for the office of President. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved to nominate Mr. Grosskopf for the office of Vice President. Mrs. Halverson moved and Mr. Gavaghan seconded to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Tom Grosskopf for the office of Vice President. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved to nominate Mrs. Fitzgerald for the office of Clerk. Mrs. Fitzgerald moved to nominate Mrs. Halverson for the office of Clerk. Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded to close nominations. Paper ballots were used. Mrs. Fitzgerald received one vote, Mrs. Halverson received six votes.

Mrs. Halverson moved to nominate Mr. Gavaghan for the office of Treasurer. Mrs. Halverson moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Sean Gavaghan for the office of Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

Introduction of the new student board representatives. Due to Covid-19, student representatives haven't been selected yet.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded a resolution to authorize the Board officers to borrow money for the 2019-2020 and the 2020-2021 school years per Wisconsin State Statutes 67.12(3). Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Fitzgerald moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to select the Union State Bank of West Salem as the bank depository. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to authorize the use of facsimile signatures per Wisconsin State Statute 66.042(3). Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to authorize the Board officers to invest surplus funds per Wisconsin State Statute 66.042(3). Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Grosskopf moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to continue with the current schedule to select the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. for regular school board meetings and one meeting in December. Also moving the second meeting in May to May 26, and to set the December date as December 14. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to appoint Patrick Bahr as the Deputy Clerk. Motion carried unanimously.

Board members should provide their input to the Board President regarding committee assignments in the next few days.

Mrs. Fitzgerald moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to select Jane Halverson as the CESA #4 Representative. Motion carried unanimously.

Connection with the Community

Correspondence – None.

Public comments – None.

Written and Oral Reports

Workforce Engagement and Development – Mr. Gavaghan reported on the following agenda item: wages for the support staff, district staff and administration.

District Strategic Initiative updates from the Business Operations Team and the Superintendent were reviewed.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve the following consent agenda items:
a) the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of April 13, 2020, the Special Board Meeting Minutes of April 16, 2020, the Special Board Meeting Minutes of April 21, 2020, the Special Board Meeting Minutes of April 22, 2020;

b) the invoices to be paid

c) the resignation of recently hired Speech and Language Teacher Laura Imming;

d) hire Christine Crouse as the middle school special education teacher and Maggie Bishop as the high school English teacher. Motion carried unanimously.

Co-curricular recommendations for high school football, boys' soccer, girls' tennis, cheer team, fall & winter dance team, and fall & winter dance team volunteer – No action was taken.

Discussion/Action Items:

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to approve for a second reading of Policy #186 Citizen Participation at Board Meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Grosskopf moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded to accept the Workforce Engagement and Development Committee's recommendation to approve setting the wages for the support staff, district staff and administration for the 20-21 school year as presented. Motion carried. Erik Peterson abstained

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve the issuance of teacher contracts to the two psychologists and the list of teachers provided. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to issue contracts to bus drivers for the 20-21 school year per the list provided, pending Board review of the actual contract. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve the following **Resolution:**
Be It Resolved that the School District of West Salem will borrow on a short-term basis the sum of \$2,500,000 for the operation of the schools of the district from May 1, 2020 until June 19, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to approve the budget adjustments for the 19-20 school year as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

CESA contracts for the 20-21 school year. No action was taken.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to postpone the school trip to Panama, with the condition that we have a minimum number of participants/students to cover the cost of the chaperone(s). Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to reschedule high school graduation for Saturday, July 25, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

SEP fundraising. No action was taken.

Student/Teacher online learning. No action was taken.

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 employment of a new superintendent.

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mr. Peterson seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 9:34 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mrs. Fitzgerald, Aye; Mr. Gavaghan, Aye; Mr. Peterson, Aye; Mrs. Halverson, Aye; Mrs. Griffin, Aye; Mr. Grosskopf, Aye; and Mr. Schlingen, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Adjournment

Mr. Schlingen moved, Mr. Peterson seconded to adjourn at 10:20 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Halverson, Clerk