

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
April 28, 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 24, 2025.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Caitlin Wilson led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Bob Gollnik recited the District Mission Statement.

Roll Call

Present: Erik Peterson, Trish Harman, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin, Caitlin Wilson, Bob Gollnick and Ben Garbers. Also in attendance – Administration: Ryan Rieber, Heidi Horton, Crystal Becker, Justin Jehn, Alex Hubing, Alyssa Harlan, Ben Wopat, Scott Johnson and Shawn Handland; Student representatives: Zeke Hyer. Recording secretary: Jennifer Larson. Excused: Cody Braun and Lydia Jochen.

Approval of Agenda

E. Peterson moved, B. Gollnick seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Reorganization of the 2025-2026 School Board

Election of 2025-2026 School Board Officers

E. Peterson moved to nominate Catherine Griffin for the office of President. E. Peterson moved, B. Gollnik seconded to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Catherine Griffin as the President of the West Salem School Board. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Griffin moved to nominate Tom Grosskopf for the office of Vice President. C. Griffin moved, C. Wilson seconded to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Tom Grosskopf as the Vice President of the West Salem School Board. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Griffin moved to nominate Caitlin Wilson for the office of Clerk. B. Gollnik moved, C. Griffin seconded to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Caitlin Wilson as the Clerk of the West Salem Board of Education. Motion carried unanimously.

T. Grosskopf moved to nominate Bob Gollnik for the office of Treasurer. T. Grosskopf moved, E. Peterson seconded to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Bob Gollnik as the Treasurer of the West Salem School Board. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Wilson moved, B. Gollnik seconded a resolution to authorize the Board officers to borrow money for the 2024-2025 and the 2025-2026 school years per Wisconsin state Statutes 67.12(3). Motion carried unanimously.

B. Gollnik moved, E. Peterson seconded to select the Union State Bank of West Salem as the bank depository. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Peterson moved, B. Gollnik seconded to authorize the use of facsimile and digitized signatures. Motion carried unanimously.

T. Grosskopf moved, B. Gollnik seconded to authorize the Board officers to invest surplus funds. Motion carried unanimously.

T. Grosskopf moved, E. Peterson seconded to continue with the current schedule to select the second and fourth Monday of each month for Regular School Board Meetings; and to set only one meeting for December 8, 2025 and May 11, 2026. T. Grosskopf moved, E. Peterson seconded to amend the motion to add the start time of all Regular School Board Meetings at 7:00pm. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Peterson moved, T. Grosskopf seconded to appoint Jennifer Larson as the Deputy Clerk and Shawn Handland as the Deputy Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

Board members should provide their input to the Board President regarding committee assignments by May 12, 2025.

T. Grosskopf moved, B. Gollnik seconded to select Catherine Griffin as the CESA #4 Representative. Motion carried unanimously.

Written and Oral Reports

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

Construction Project Update – ISG did a presentation of design and layout of the High School Construction project with input provided from user groups.

Join Administrative/School Board Sub Committee report was given by Catherine Griffin. Layout collaboration and brainstorming with ISG, Staff and Board Members.

Connection with the Community

Zeke Hyer, Student Representative, reported on:

1. On Thursday, April 10th the junior class went on job shadows of their choice. Many found job shadows on their own regarding the career fields they are interested in, but some students went on job shadows through the school.

2. Seniors are finishing up their class Panther Portfolio presentations, now the only thing they have left is their presentations to get judged on May 7th.
3. The DECA team is competing at Nationals this week, with the group leaving this past Friday and coming back this Wednesday. Various students from all grade levels are competing including Lydia Jothen my co-representative
4. Prom is coming up this coming Saturday May 3rd! Juniors from the prom committee have been meeting since December to put everything together! One interesting change that the committee has made is opening up the gym for yard games while the dance is going!
5. The baseball team is having a solid start to their season with a 4-6 record
6. Softball is having a great start to their season with a 9-1 record. Junior Josie Brudos breaking school records. Josie broke the school record for most home runs in a game with 3, and she is aiming to beat the school record for most home runs in a season. Josie currently has 7, and she has 9 more games to break 10 home runs for the season.
7. In summer of 2026 Mr. Rueckheim will be taking a group of students to Peru for the biyearly Ecology club and Spanish club trip. This is an 8-day long trip with stops all over the country!
8. The track team has had 3 varsity meets so far.
9. Finally, the soccer team has a 6-1 with leading scorer Emily Graham.

Correspondence

A thank you note from Angie Hemker was read.

Proclamations April/May 2025

May 7, 2025 is **National School Nurse Day**:

To celebrate and acknowledge the accomplishments and efforts of Wisconsin school nurses in meeting the needs of today's students. School nurses support the physical and mental health and educational success of children by providing a link between health and learning. They make a positive difference in children every day.

May 7, 2025 is **National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day** and May 1-31, 2025 is **Mental Health Awareness Month**. Schools can create safe and inclusive spaces where students can access a continuum of mental health supports.

May 1-31, 2025 is **National Speech-Language-Hearing Month**. This provides an opportunity to raise awareness about speech, language and hearing disorders and to recognize the invaluable contributions of speech-language pathologists, audiologists and related professionals.

Public Comments – None.

Consent Agenda

E. Peterson moved, T. Grosskopf seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- a. minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of April 14, 2025;
- b. invoices to be paid;
- c. to accept the recommendation to hire Faith Moser as the District School Psychologist and Megan Bagniefski as the Occupational Therapist (.8 FTE)
- d. to accept the Donations of \$20.00 from Cynthia & William Innes for the Random Acts of Kindness fund; \$10,000 from West Salem Elementary PTO for the Elementary Playground.

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

B. Gollnik moved, C. Wilson seconded to approve the teacher and school psychologist contracts for the 25-26 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Gollnik moved, T. Grosskopf seconded to approve the contracts for vehicle drivers for the 25-26 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Wilson moved, E. Peterson seconded to approve planting 2 trees and placing a plaque in Loving Memory of Ros Krajewski at the Elementary School. Motion carried unanimously.

T. Grosskopf moved, C. Wilson seconded to approve the second reading of legal and recommended policy updates of Vol 34 No 1. Motion carried unanimously.

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 8:23p.m., as noted on the Public Meeting Notice.

Board Development

Superintendent Rieber provided a new Board Member welcome and orientation to all the Board Members.

Adjournment

B. Garbers moved, C. Griffin seconded to adjourn at 9:01 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Caitlin Wilson, Clerk