

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2020
High School LMC – 7:00 p.m.

(Because of safety, COVID-19 and possible extra spectators, the meeting is held in the High School LMC, and was noted on the Public Meeting Notice.)

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, River Bank-Barre Mills, West Salem Post Office, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district web site, and district office on July 9, 2020.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Maxwell Goetz led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Deanna Wiatt 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: Ryan Rieber, Ben Wopat (remote access), Eric Jensen (remote access), Mike Malott (remote access), Tami Bagstad (remote access), Deanna Wiatt, and Shawn Handland; Student representatives: Madisyn Haun 5:05 and Maxwell Goetz. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: N/A.

Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Connection with the Community

Maxwell Goetz, Student Representative, reported on:

1. The weight room opened today and there is a plan in place for its use.
2. The prom committee is exploring options to still hold prom on August 8
3. The NHS blood drive has been approved by Mr. Malott, and will need to find alternate location if in “red” zone on the Coulee COVID-19 Compass Dashboard. (Maxwell presented in Madisyn’s absence)

Correspondence

A thank you note from Syl and Pat Clements was read.

A retirement note from special education vehicle driver, Betty Hanson, was shared.

Public comments

Ryan Waldhart signed up and spoke. Tammy Larson signed up but did not speak. Megan Weibel signed up, but did not speak. Brian Gross signed up, but did not speak. Karla Schams asked clarification questions. Matt Goetz signed up, but did not speak.

Written and Oral Reports

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Report – Mr. Schlimgen provided information on the TIF’s recent meeting.

CESA #4 Board of Control – Mrs. Halverson reported on the Board of Control’s July meeting.

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

Mr. Rieber announced: the retirement of vehicle driver Betty Hanson.

Consent Agenda

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

- a) the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of June 22, 2020, and the Special Board Meeting Minutes of June 18, 2020;
- b) invoices to be paid;
- c) hire Special Education Teacher Andrea Muller, pending release from her current contract;
- d) to accept the resignation from Elementary School Teacher Nic Schmidt;
- e) to accept the administration’s co-curricular recommendation, head cross country coach-Justin Stakston, assistant football coach-Dieter Antony, Bob Gorniak, Jamie Olson, Mark Byom, Ethan Ringlien, volunteer football coach-Craig Reid, Scott Johnson, Ben Wopat, assistant soccer coach-Thomas Fell, volunteer soccer coach-Steve Averbek.

Motion carried unanimously. No action was taken on Deb Miller’s retirement letter.

Discussion/Action Items:

Director of School Nutrition Emily Klunk presented information on the school nutrition program. Mrs. Fitzgerald moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve the breakfast/lunch prices and the school day milk program.

Breakfast: Elementary School-\$1.70, Middle School-\$1.90, High School-\$2.05, Adult-\$2.50

Student Free/Reduced-Free

Lunch: Elementary School-\$2.85, Middle School-\$3.05, High School-\$3.20, Adult-\$4.25

Student Free/Reduced-\$0.40

Elementary Milk Break: \$0.35

Ala Carte Milk or Juice: \$0.50

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Peterson seconded to approve the Elementary School Student and Parent Handbook as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve the Middle School Student and Parent Handbook, and the Athletic Handbook as amended by defining STEM and alphabetizing staff names. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve the High School Student Handbook as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Fitzgerald moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve increasing the cash in-lieu for support staff from \$1,600 to \$3,500 starting with the 2020-2021 school year. Motion carried. 6-Aye, 1-Abstained (Mr. Peterson)

Mr. Schlingen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to adopt the Academic Standards for the 2020-2021 school year by following the Wisconsin Academic Standards and the Next Generation Science Standards. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malott provided an update on the July 25, 2020, high school graduation ceremony. No action was taken.

Coulee Region Virtual School Memorandum of Understanding. No action was taken.

Mrs. Fitzgerald moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to adopt the following resolution: For the Purpose of Entering into an Agreement Between the School Districts of Bangor, Holmen, La Crosse, Onalaska, and West Salem for the Purpose of Establishing and Operating a Virtual Learning Program Pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 66.0301

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the School Districts of Bangor, Holmen, La Crosse, West Salem, and West Salem to create and operate a virtual academy that provides a fully on-line educational option for students; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Wis. Stat § 66.0301 and Wis. Admin. Code § PI 14.02, school districts are authorized to enter into such an agreement for intergovernmental cooperation in connection with the receipt and furnishing of services; and

WHEREAS, the parties believe that entry into this Agreement is in the public's interest; and

WHEREAS, the School Districts of Bangor, Holmen, La Crosse, Onalaska, and West Salem desire to set forth in writing the terms and conditions for the sharing of services related to the operation of a virtual learning program.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that:

The School Boards Representing the School Districts of Bangor, Holmen, La Crosse, Onalaska, and West Salem agree to establish and maintain, on a cooperative basis, a virtual learning program pursuant to Section 66.0301 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

Mr. Rieber shared a draft of the school opening plan for the 20-21 school year. 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 retirement and post-employment benefits for professional staff.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 9:20 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. Schlimgen, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Adjournment

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded to adjourn at 9:54 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Halverson, Clerk