

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2025
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 6:00 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 6:00 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, Union State Bank, First Community Credit Union, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district website, and district office on July 10, 2025.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

Roll Call

Present: Erik Peterson, Catherine Griffin, Caitlin Wilson, Bob Gollnik, Ben Garbers and Bob Minard. Also in attendance – Administration: Ryan Rieber, Justin Jehn, Alex Hubing, Crystal Becker, Heidi Horton, Emily Klunk and Shawn Handland; Student representatives: Lydia Jothan and Zeke Hyer. Recording secretary: Jennifer Larson. Excused: Trish Harman, Ben Wopat, Alyssa Harlan.

Approval of Agenda

B. Minard moved, B. Gollnik seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

C. Griffin stated that a motion was in order to move into 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 salaries for individual district and administrative staff member(s) for the 25-26 school year; and Wis. Stats §19.85(1) (e) deliberating or negotiating or bargaining reasons require a closed session; for the purposes of discussing the employee compensation with the West Salem Education Association for the 2025-2026 school year.

E. Peterson moved, B. Minard seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 6:02 p.m. A roll call vote was taken: C. Wilson, Aye; B. Garbers, Aye; C. Griffin, Aye; E. Peterson, Aye; B. Gollnik, Aye; and B. Minard, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Reconvene in Open Session

B. Garbers moved, B. Gollnik seconded to reconvene into Open Session at 6:37 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Live Stream Starts

Discussion/Action Items:

E. Peterson moved, B. Gollnik seconded to approve the following:

- a. setting the wages for the support staff for the 25-26 school year;
- b. setting the wage for the co-curricular salary schedule for the 25-26 school year;
- c. adopting the agreement with the West Salem Education Association for the 25-26 school year.

Written and Oral Reports

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

Workforce Engagement & Development Committee— Bob Gollnik reported that the committee and the West Salem Education Association had 3 productive meetings and have come to an agreement regarding 25-26 school year.

Construction Project Update — An Update was given on projects that were completed at the Elementary and High School and what is upcoming for the design and construction at the Elementary and High school.

Connection with the Community

Lydia Johnson, Student Representative, reported on:

Continuing with summer sports, both the Girls and boys' basketball teams are playing in a summer league and practicing multiple days a week during the open gym times.

The volleyball team is also getting a jump start on the season by playing in a competitive league and joining several tournaments and scrimmages with the surrounding area teams.

Not only have the athletes been hard at work, but the students involved in FFA and 4H have been preparing their animals, projects and baked goods to be judged at the fair this week.

And lastly, many incoming seniors have been dedicating their summer free time to complete their Panther Portfolio and get ahead.

Zeke Hyer, Student Representative, reported on:

Summer is just about halfway done, and students are staying involved

Summer school has started for elementary school and middle school with school starting in about 6 short weeks. One way for students to get involved is with Ms. Maxwell and the Spanish classes. High school students were able to help Spanish summer school classes for elementary summer school students.

The football team is having 7 on 7s with camp starting in August to get ready for the season

Also with football Carter Pontious is playing in the all-star game this Saturday along with Coach Olshon as the head coach. Trevor Arntz was also invited to play but he can't play due to injury.

Correspondence – Thank You card from Kennedy Garbers was read.

Public Comments – None.

Consent Agenda

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

- a. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of June 23, 2025;
- b. Invoices to be paid;
- c. To accept the administration's co-curricular recommendation to hire Brianna Kruser as Head Fall Dance Coach and Assistant Winter dance coach, Kaylea Midthun as Assistant Fall Dance Coach and Head Winter Dance coach, Mike Sanford as MS Assistant Cross Country Coach, Becki Buisman, Cameron Robaczewski, Avery Duffy as Assistant Cross Country coach, Amy McLean, Kathryn Yaeggi as Assistant Volleyball coach;
- d. To hire Kathryn Yaeggi as a 1.0 FTE High School Social Studies Teacher;
- e. To accept the resignation of elementary teacher Anne Skaar
- f. To accept the donations from Andrew Labus to the Angela Labus Memorial Scholarship, RSM US Foundation to the Baseball program and Cynthia & William Innes to the Random Acts of Kindness Fund.

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

E. Peterson moved, B. Garbers seconded to approve the adoption of the Academic Standards for the 2025-2026 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Director of School Nutrition Emily Klunk provided a Nutrition Services report for the 24-25 school year. B. Garbers moved, C. Wilson seconded to approve increasing Student Breakfast by \$0.20 and lunch by \$0.25, morning milk to \$0.45 for the 25-26 school year and Adult Breakfast to \$3.00 and Adult Lunch to \$4.75 for the 25-26 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Peterson moved, B. Gollnik seconded to approve the following handbooks for the 25-26 school year with the addition of a Notice Regarding Policy Updates to each Table of Contents: Employee Handbook, Elementary Student & Parent Handbook (with removal of School Board names from School Directory on page 8), Middle School Student & Athletic Handbook, High School Student Handbook, and Technology Handbook. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Live Stream Ends at 7:50 p.m.

Board Development/Board Retreat

- Collaborative Commitments (Board and District)

Adjournment

C. Griffin moved, B. Minard seconded to adjourn at 9:19 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Caitlin Wilson, Clerk