

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
July 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 7:02 p.m. by Vice President Erik Peterson. 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 24, 2025.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

Roll Call

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

Approval of Agenda

C. Wilson moved, B. Garbers seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Written and Oral Reports

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

Connection with the Community

Zeke Hyer, Student Representative, reported on:

With the start of the school year just 28 days away students are starting to look at the schedules!

Football camp ended this past week, and now their practice starts next week with the home opener just around the corner on August 22 against Onalaska.

The legion baseball season came to a close with a rough July but had some wins in regionals and the team was one win away from making the state tournament.

The National Honors Society has their blood drive coming up on August 12th. A single blood donation can potentially save up to three lives. With this in mind, NHS tries to collect as many units of blood from the community as possible to donate to the Red Cross, and those in need.

Correspondence – Thank You card from the Coronas Family was read.

Public Comments – None.

Start of School Report from Superintendent Ryan Rieber.

Public Hearing

Public hearing to consider a request for early start of the 2026-2027 school year per WI State Statute 118.045 (3) – request a waiver for early start of school year due to excessive costs associated with the transportation of pupils who attend private schools that start prior to September 1.

E. Peterson called the hearing to order at 7:10 p.m. There wasn't a person who wished to speak.
E. Peterson ended the hearing at 7:11 p.m.

Consent Agenda

T. Harman moved, C. Wilson seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- a. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of July 14, 2025
- b. Invoices to be paid
- c. Hiring: 1.0 FTE School Psychologist, 1.0 FTE 2nd Grade Teacher
- d. Donations

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

T. Harman moved, B. Garbers seconded to approve the request to submit a waiver for an Early Start of the 2026-2027 school year due to excessive costs associated with the transportation of pupils who attend private schools that start prior to September 1. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Wilson moved, B. Garbers seconded to approve the 2024-2025 Annual Crime Statistic Report to be submitted to DPI. Motion Carried unanimously.

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

Live Streaming of the Board Meeting ended, as noted on the Public Meeting Notice.

Closed Session

The Board will discuss, consider and, if appropriate, take action pursuant to Wis. Stats §19.85(1) (d) Except as provided in s. 304.06 (1) (eg) and by rule promulgated under s. 304.06 (1) (em), considering specific applications of probation, extended supervision or parole, or considering strategy for crime detection or prevention, for the purpose of reviewing and adopting the district safety plan.

T. Harman moved, C. Wison seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 7:22 p.m. A roll call vote was taken: C. Wilson, Aye; B. Garbers, Aye; E. Peterson, Aye; and T. Harman, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Adjournment

B. Garbers moved, T. Harman seconded to adjourn at 7:43 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Caitlin Wilson, Clerk