

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
August 23, 2021
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 7:00 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, West Salem Post Office, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district website, and district office on August 19, 2021.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

Roll Call

Present: Erik Peterson, Chris Peterson, Ken Schlimgen, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin, Robin Fitzgerald, and Sean Gavaghan. Also in attendance – Administrators: Ryan Rieber, Ben Wopat, Heidi Horton, Mike Malott, Tami Bagstad, Deanna Wiatt, and Shawn Handland; Student representative: Rachel Stein. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Krish Patel.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to approve the agenda with the removal of item IV., e. line of credit/short-term borrowing options. Motion carried unanimously.

Connection with the Community

Rachel Stein, Student Representative, reported on:

1. Freshmen orientation with LinkCrew
2. School starts next week on September 1
3. September 1 will be Freshman Forest Day
4. There is a home varsity football game this Friday night
5. Varsity football won 48-0 last Friday night
6. NHS Blood Drive met its goal of units
7. Girls' swimming had their first meet last weekend in Menomonie
8. West Salem has the highest number of swimmers in the co-op for the first time

Correspondence – None.

Public Comments

The following citizens commented on COVID-19 related components: Mike Mesmer, Courtney Getter, Karla Schams, Brandon Wright, Sara Steien, and Jennifer Wright.

Written and Oral Reports

Business Operations Committee – Mr. Grosskopf reported on the agenda items: request for a part-time school nutrition employee, line of credit/short-term borrowing options, revenue limit worksheet, and solar in the district.

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

Human Resource updates: the resignations of speech and language paraprofessional Morgan Hyatt and paraprofessional Cassy Lueck; and the hiring of transportation administrative assistant Amanda Payne, bus drivers Amber Bakke and Ferdinand Jaworski; cooks Elizabeth Gritt and Renee Jandt; and paraprofessionals Keauna Bjorkman, Sydney Bodendorfer, Gina Dietrich, Bridget Eng, Tara Erickson, Erin Johnson, Jennifer Maliszewski, Kelsey Novak, Lorie Proksch, and Julie Smith.

Mr. Rieber provided an update of a draft of the Strategic Plan.

Mr. Rieber reviewed the Reopening Plan for the 2021-2022 school year.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to approve the Consent Agenda items:

- a) the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of August 9, 2021;
- b) the invoices to be paid;
- c) to accept donations from the West Salem Panther Booster Club for a Senior Exit Project at the tennis courts and for the high school baseball program, and from Lewis Construction for the high school football program;
- d) the resignation of art teacher Nicole Finch
- e) to hire Tanner Gibbons as a 1.0 FTE biology teacher and Ann Garrity as a 1.0 FTE special education teacher on a 1-year contract.;
- f) to accept the administration's co-curricular recommendations, Jenna Piersma-head middle school cross country coach, Nicole Friell-assistant middle school cross country coach, Jamie Greer-volunteer dance coach, Breezy Hofmeister and Joshua Iliff as volunteer soccer coaches, Cody Risch-middle school football assistant coach.

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

Mr. Grosskopf moved, Mr. Gavaghan seconded to approve the request for a part-time school nutrition employee. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to approve the 2021-2022 Employee Handbook. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Fitzgerald moved, Mr. Gavaghan seconded to adopt the following resolution:
RESOLUTION: Whereas the following school districts have student with a disability, and whereas it appears that the educational interests of all children in these school districts will be served best by the districts joining together to offer special services, as authorized by the

Department of Public Instruction, to meet the needs of the students with a disability. Be it, and it is hereby resolved that the school boards of the School District of West Salem and the Bangor School District, and the School District of West Salem and the School District of Holmen agree to establish and maintain, on a cooperative basis, a handicapped children's special education program(s) pursuant to Section 66.0301 of the Wisconsin Statutes.
Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mr. E. Peterson seconded to adopt the following resolution:
RESOLUTION: To improve traffic congestion and enforcement, and parking on and around the campus.
Motion carried unanimously.

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) (f) Considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations. regarding professional staff employee(s).

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Gavaghan seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 8:04 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mrs. Fitzgerald, Aye; Mr. Gavaghan, Aye; Mr. E. Peterson, Aye; Mr. C. Peterson, Aye; Mrs. Griffin, Aye; Mr. Grosskopf, Aye; and Mr. Schlimgen, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Adjournment

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mr. E. Peterson seconded to adjourn at 8:41 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk