

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
September 13, 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 September 9, 2021.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Tom Grosskopf led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Tami Bagstad 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, and Deanna Wiatt; Student representatives: Krish Patel and Rachel Stein. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Shawn Handland.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Connection with the Community

Krish Patel, Student Representative, reported on:

1. The freshman class was at the Forest on the first day of school.
2. High school classes officially started on September 2.
3. The National Honor Society volunteered to help with the Flags of Honor in the Village Park. Over 600 flags were displayed. Each flag has a sponsor in honor of someone throughout the American Legion.

Rachel Stein, Student Representative, reported on:

1. A preliminary class president election was held at the high school. The final election for class presidents will happen this week.
2. The high school football team won against Central and Logan.
3. The swim team beat Wisconsin Rapids 95-70.
4. The high school cross country team raced at Colby on Saturday with the boys' team taking 1st and the girls' team taking 2nd.

Correspondence

A letter from Shannon Torrance was provide to the Board.

Public Comments

The following citizens commented on COVID-19 related components: Erica Boland, Kortney Getter, Shannon Torrance, Lori Szymanski, Shayna Arndt, Mike Mesmer, Rachel Pierce, and Karla Schams.

Written and Oral Reports

Policy/Communication and Engagement Committee – Mr. Schlimgen reported on the agenda item – Neola policy updates.

CESA #4 Board of Control – Mrs. Griffin reported on the Board’s September 1 meeting.

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

Mr. Rieber shared pictures of campus updates during the summer break.

Mr. Rieber shared information on the start of school.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mr. Schlimgen to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- a) Regular Board Meeting Minutes of August 23, 2021;
- b) invoices to be paid;
- c) to accept donations from Max Yahnke for the high school soccer program, from 1st Community Credit Union for the elementary school; from Brenengen Auto and Morris Auto for the elementary school; from the West Salem Lions Club for students of the district, from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Cooperating Teacher Appreciation Grant for Angie Hemker/Middle School Art Department, from The La Crosse Community Foundation-Jim’s Grocery Bag-Schroeder Fund;
- d) to hire Allen Schroeder as a .25 FTE elementary school art teacher; and
- e) to accept the administration’s co-curricular recommendations, for Brian Baker and Dennis Kreuser-tennis assistant coach, Richie Brown-volunteer soccer coach, Aaron Bahr-middle school assistant coach, Charlie McConkey-7th grade head football coach, and Josh Laack-volunteer middle school football coach.

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. C. Peterson seconded to approve for a second reading of Neola Policies #2260-Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Education Opportunity, and #2260.01-Section 504/ADA prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. E. Peterson moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to accept the Outdoor Education Center timber bid from Lambert Forest Products LLC. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Board Development

The Governance Core: School Boards, Superintendent and Schools Working Together (Chapter 5) discussion in accordance to our Strategic Plan.

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

Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk