

School District of West Salem  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
September 28, 2020  
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 6:00 p.m.

As noted on the Public Meeting Notice: The health and safety of district employees, Board of Education and the community is our number one priority. Therefore, the district is taking precautionary measures consistent with the CDC and the La Crosse County Health Department recommendations. \*Board members may participate via remote access. The room will be open to limited spectators. Live streaming of this meeting was available on our District's YouTube page. Face coverings were required to be worn when attending the meeting and social distancing measures should be followed.

**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, 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 web site, and district office on September 24, 2020.

*Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag*

Shawn Handland led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Jane Halverson 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, Mike Malott, Tami Bagstad, Deanna Wiatt, and Shawn Handland; Student representatives: Madisyn Haun (remote access) and Maxwell Goetz (remote access). Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Eric Jensen.

*Approval of Agenda*

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

**Connection with the Community**

*Maxwell Goetz, Student Representative, reported on:*

1. This morning the high school had some technical issues this morning, but they were able to solve that problem within 20 minutes.
2. Mid-quarter is this Friday.

*Madisyn Haun, Student Representative, reported on:*

1. Off to a slow start on the SEP, but we're starting to dive into it and really get started.
2. All sports are on pause, but many are having scheduled remote meetings to talk about workouts, game tape, or anything else

*Correspondence*

A thank you note from Our Savior's Lutheran Church/Feed Our Children was read.  
A thank you note from the family of Conrad Miller was read.

*Public comments*

Tricia Johnson spoke on virtual learning.

Jennifer Black spoke on virtual learning.

*Written and Oral Reports*

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

Human Resource updates: the resignation of Kenny DeRossiers as the assistant boys' basketball coach; the hiring of Emily Rogge as a 4K paraprofessional, Gerald Every as a van/bus driver, Sandy Carlson as a bus paraprofessional.

**Consent Agenda**

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- a) minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 14, 2020;
- b) invoices to be paid;
- c) to accept the donation from Callie Helgeson for the high school;
- d) elementary council of kids-Kayla Wegner, elementary after school art-Kaylin Lotspaih, elementary yearbook-Krista Mead, color guard-Kelli Martin, jazz band & pep band-Dave Kies, show choir-Amy Hanson, show choir assistant-Kelli Martin, drama club-Amy Hanson & Rhonda Andres, play director 1st and 2nd semester-Rhonda Andres, assistant one-act play 1st semester-Amy Hanson, Assistant one-act play 2nd semester-Elle Nimm, stage manager 1st and 2nd semester-Dan Heerts, forensics-Kim Volden, forensics assistant-Andrea Armstrong, summer theatre director-Amy Hanson, summer theatre instrumental-Dave Kies, summer theatre vocal-Rhonda Andres, summer theater stage-Dan Heerts, student council-Darren Fruit, Neshonoc Yearbook-Andrea Armstrong, Link Crew-Missy Haas & Jamie Olson, Visual Arts Classic-Quenten Brown, quiz bowl-Jim Klos, ecology club-Kelly Rueckheim, math club-Chris Milne, FFA-Kelly Rueckheim, Skills USA-Carrie Wilson-Smith, DECA-Jason Holter, DECA assistant-Brittney Hodgson, robotics-Erik Mathison, robotics assistant-Dave Halverson, pep club-Rhonda Andres, NHS-Jenny Stenberg, diversity club-Kim Volden, trapshooting club-Paul Liethen, Youth Frontiers-Ryan Nelson, homecoming supervisor windows-Quenten Brown, homecoming supervisor parade-Eric Borre, homecoming supervisor Mr/Mrs WS-Amy Hanson, homecoming supervisor floats-Laura Deal, homecoming supervisor dance-Rhonda Andres, freshman class-Eric Borre, sophomore class-Jim Klos, junior class-Kim Volden & Sydney Prom, senior class-Rhonda Andres, Laura Deal, Julie Arentz, Jessica Tripp, volunteer Health Occupation Student of America-Toni Key, volunteer interact club-Julie Arentz, volunteer fishing club-Darren Fruit & Brian Baker, volunteer Spanish club-Becky Tower & Shelly Helland, volunteer DECA-Josh Maliszewski, volunteer trapshooting-Patrick Burchell, James Schmitz, Terry Loging, Michael Larson, Lucas Miholovic, Kyle Helgeson, Ryan Rasmussen, Bryce Perrett, David Komay, Barry Loging, Dale Hewitt, Andrea Modlin, Chris Modlin, Dave Bohnsack, Tom Garbers, Erik Mathison, Bob Schuppel, & Jeff Busse, middle school band assistant-Mardeana Glasel, middle school jazz band-Ryan Waldhart, grades 5/6 choir-Elle Nimm, middle school show choir-Elle Nimm, middle school show choir assistant-Alexandra Burch, WEB Leader Heather Jehn, Alyssa Jarosh & Ben Tashner, middle school student council-Ben Tashner, middle school yearbook-Jenny Morgan & Nicole Friell, middle school forensics-Nicole Friell, middle school forensics

assistant-Mary Czajka, Mathcounts-Tammy Bentzen & Sarah Weber, and middle school council of kids-Martha Burdick;

e) hire Kathleen Richardson as a limited-term registered nurse.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion/Action Items:**

School Board Grants will continue as normal. Jane Halverson, Robin Fitzgerald and Erik Peterson will review grant applications and make a recommendation at the November 9, 2020, Regular Board Meeting.

Mr. Handland provided an update on the proposed 20-21 budget, mill rate and tax levy.

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to accept the administrations recommendation to eliminate the early release day on Wednesday, October 14, 2020, and make it a full-day of school. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved to adopt the matrix based on municipality numbers (7-day look) with the caveat, would not to exceed the higher of 8 persons or 4 households, and with the approval of our insurance carrier and our legal counsel. Mr. Schlimgen rescinded his motion. Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to use the municipality numbers on the West Salem Decision Matrix. 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.

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

**Board Development Session**

Mr. Rieber led the Board and administrators through the review of the Board Development Tool Report.

Mrs. Griffin assigned the Board and administration to the Intro and Chapter 1 of *The Governance Core: School Boards, Superintendents and Schools Working Together* for the next Board Development Sessions.

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

**Adjournment**

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to adjourn at 8:37 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jane Halverson, Clerk