April 2018

Newsletter

School District of West Salem

Contents

- Letter from Superintendent Troy Gunderson 1-2
- Calendar of Events..... 3-6
- Community Events 7
- Announcements..... 8-9
- School Board Minutes..... 10-12
- District News..... 13

Letter from Superintendent Troy Gunderson

Benefits Planning and Update

During a recent discussion with area school superintendents about school funding, the conversation turned to the impact of employee health insurance benefits on district budgets. Like all sectors of our economy, providing health benefits to employees is a major cost factor in the operational budget of a school district. Coincidently, the School District of West Salem has recently let its employee health insurance out for bid. The district plans to review bids in April and subsequently make a recommendation to the school board in preparation for the next school year.

The recent conversations about health insurance proved cause for an update regarding the district's health insurance program and related costs. Prior to the 2010 – 2011 school year, the district approach to health insurance was primarily focused on providing a richer benefit offset by lower wages.

The employment and funding changes ushered in following the 2010 state election cycle resulted in a dramatic change in benefits. The district bid out the health insurance program with dramatically reduced coverage, and increased the employee share of the premium. The result was approximately a 25% reduction in cost to the district. In the years since this change, the district continued to manage costs by increasing the employee share of the premium and reducing the benefit level of the plan. Despite the many changes in plan design, and increased employee contributions, the cost of health care to the district is nearly back to the 2010 level. In summary, we now offer a much leaner insurance program to our employees, our employees have dramatically increased out of pocket costs, and the cost to the district has risen back to the 2010 level.

For those reading this newsletter, I suspect the story is similar to the situation at your workplace, with respect to your health insurance, or at your business with respect to your employees. The cost of providing adequate health insurance to employees is taxing business owners and reducing the take home pay of employees.

The soon to be completed School District of West Salem bid process included a team of employees who attended a series of meetings to learn more about the health

Letter continues on next page...

insurance industry, a survey of district employees, a review of regional comparisons, and the guidance of a consultant. The district is balancing the need to offer a regionally competitive benefit with the need to contain costs. This is an especially difficult task for all employers including school districts.

The "school business" is a labor-intensive endeavor. Schools do not produce "widgets," they provide a service. The critical service takes place when an employee interacts with a student. The School District of West Salem is fortunate to have a team of highly skilled, dedicated employees who are passionate about serving our children. Maintaining competitive wages and benefits in a tight labor market is critical to both retaining our current employees and attracting new employees to our school district. We pledge to "serve with passion" to offer an attractive benefit at a reasonable price because the students, employees and taxpayers are all counting on us!

Mike Malott Selected as WSHS Principal

The West Salem School Board has selected Mike Malott to serve as the newest principal of West Salem High School. On March 22, Malott was appointed as high school principal after serving as interim principal since August of 2017. The district received 36 applicants for the position, and after an extensive interview process, the school board selected Malott to remain in the position.

Mr. Malott is a familiar face to many in the high school. He joined West Salem in 1994 as a high school physical education teacher after teaching elementary physical education at Waterford High School for one year. He taught until 2012, with a brief stint as Dean of Students in 2003 and Associate Principal from 2007-2008. In addition, he was the 1998 Teacher of the Year for WSHS. He was named High School Associate Principal in March 2012, and served in this position until August of 2017.

In addition to his teaching and administrative responsibilities, Malott also coached girl's basketball for 22 years, from 1996-2017, and served as the varsity assistant football coach and offensive coordinator for 13 years. During his time coaching, he was named Coulee Region Girls Basketball Coach of the Year in 2001 and 2003, the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association All-Star Team Coach in 2008 and the Wisconsin Football Coaches Association Staff of the Year in 2007, the same year the Panthers won the State Title.

He earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and Principal Licensure and a master's degree in Educational Leadership from Viterbo University. He came to West Salem because he wanted to get back to the La Crosse area, and he hasn't left since because he enjoys the great students and staff he gets to work with, as well as the community. We wish him the best of luck in his new position, and thank him for all he does for our students and district!

The district will now begin looking for applicants to fill the Associate Principal role, which has been filled on an interim basis by Justin Jehn since Malott's appointment in August.

Calendar of Events April

Athletic Events

Tuesday, April 3, 2018

4:00pm Golf: Boys JV Match vs. Arcadia, Black River Falls, G-E-T, Luther, Viroqua & Westby Area High School @ Coulee Golf Bowl School

4:00pm Track: Varsity Triangular vs. Alma/ Pepin, Cochrane Fountain City @ Cochrane-Fountain City High School

4:30pm Soccer: Girls JV Game vs. Arcadia @ Arcadia High School

5:00pm Baseball: JV Game vs. Viroqua @ Viroqua High School

5:00pm Baseball: Varsity Game vs. Viroqua @ Viroqua High School

5:00pm Softball: JV Game vs. Viroqua @ West Salem High School

5:00pm Softball: Varsity Game vs. Viroqua @ West Salem High School

6:00pm Soccer: Girls Varsity Game vs. Arcadia @ Arcadia High School

Thursday, April 5, 2018

4:30pm Softball: Girls JV Game vs. Onalaska @ Onalaska High School

4:30pm Softball: Varsity Game vs. Onalaska @ Onalaska High School

5:00pm Baseball: C-Team Doubleheader vs. Westby Area High School @ Riverview Park

Friday, April 6, 2018

1:00pm Golf: Boys Varsity Tournament vs. Arcadia, Black River Falls, Coulee Christian, G-E-T, Holmen, La Crescent, Logan, Luther & Westby Area High School @ Fox Hollow Golf Course

4:30pm Track: Varsity Triangular vs. Cashton & Melrose-Mindoro @ Melrose-Mindoro High School

5:00pm Baseball: JV Game vs. Osseo-Fairchild @ Riverview Park

5:00pm Baseball: Varsity Game vs. Osseo-Fair child @ West Salem High School

5:00pm Softball: JV Game vs. Luther @ Luther High School

5:00pm Softball: Varsity Game vs. Luther @ Luther High School

Saturday, April 7, 2018

12:00pm Baseball: C-Team Doubleheader vs. Viroqua @West Salem High School

Monday, April 9, 2018

5:00pm Baseball: JV Game vs. Prairie du Chien @ Riverview Park

5:00pm Baseball: JV Game vs. Prairie du Chien @ Riverview Park

5:00pm Baseball: Varsity Game vs. Prairie du Chien @West Salem High School

Tuesday, April 10, 2018

12:00pm Golf: Boys JV Match vs. Arcadia, Black River Falls, G-E-T, Luther, Viroqua, & Westby Area High School @ Arcadia Country Club

3:00pm Golf: Boys Varsity Match vs. Arcadia, Black River Falls, G-E-T, Luther, Viroqua, & Westby Area High School @ Ettrick Golf Course

5:00pm Baseball: C-Team Game vs. Westby Area High School @ Westby City Field - Downtown Westby

5:00pm Soccer: Girls JV Game vs. La Crosse Central @ La Crosse Central High School

7:00pm Soccer: Girls Varsity Game vs. La Crosse Central @ Fields For Kids

Thursday, April 12, 2018

5:00pm Soccer: Girls JV Game vs. Tomah @ Tomah High School

5:00pm Soccer: Girls Varsity Game vs. Tomah @Tomah - Veteran's Park Field

5:00pm Softball: JV Game vs. Arcadia @ Arcadia High School

5:00pm Softball: Varsity Game vs. Arcadia @Arcadia High School

Friday, April 13, 2018

4:30pm Softball: Girls JV Game vs. Sparta @ Sparta High School

4:30pm Softball: Varsity Game vs. Sparta @ Sparta High School

5:00pm Baseball: C-Team Game vs. Arcadia @ West Salem High School

5:00pm Baseball: JV Game vs. Arcadia @ Riverview Park

5:00pm Baseball: Varsity Game vs. Arcadia @West Salem High School

Calendar of events continues on next page...

School District of West Salem

Saturday, April 14, 2018

10:00am Softball: Varsity Game vs. Iola-Scandinavia @Woodside Sports Complex

12:00pm Baseball: JV Game vs. DeSoto @ Stoddard Park

2:00pm Baseball: Varsity Game vs. DeSoto @ Stoddard Park

Monday, April 16, 2018

1:00pm Golf: Boys JV Match vs. Arcadia, Black River Falls, G-E-T, Luther, Viroqua, Westby Area High School @ Viroqua Hills Golf Course

3:30pm Golf: Boys Varsity Match vs. Arcadia, Black River Falls, G-E-T, Luther, Viroqua, Westby Area High School @ Viroqua Hills Golf Course

5:00pm Baseball: JV Game vs. Westby Area High School @ Westby High School

5:00pm Baseball: Varsity Game vs. Westby Area High School @ Westby High School

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

4:30pm Baseball: C-Team Game vs. Bangor @ Veterans Park Field

4:30pm Golf: Boys JV Match vs. Arcadia, Black River Falls, G-E-T, Luther, Viroqua, Westby Area High School @ Fox Hollow Golf Course

5:00pm Baseball: Varsity Game vs. Cochrane Fountain City @ West Salem High School

5:00pm Softball: JV Game vs. Westby Area High School @ West Salem High School

5:00pm Softball: Varsity Game vs. Westby Area High School @ West Salem High School

5:45pm Soccer: Girls JV Game vs. Holmen @ West Salem Elementary School

6:45pm Baseball: JV Game vs. Cochrane Fountain City @ West Salem High School

7:00pm Soccer: Girls Varsity Game vs. Holmen @West Salem Elementary School

Thursday, April 19, 2018

4:00pm Golf: Boys Varsity Match vs. Arcadia, Black River Falls, G-E-T, Luther, Viroqua, Westby Area High School @ Coulee Golf Bowl School

4:00pm Track: Varsity Invitational vs. Black River Falls, Brookwood, Mauston, Sparta, Wonewoc-Center @ Sparta High School

5:00pm Soccer: Girls JV Game vs. Aquinas @ Fields For Kids

7:00pm Soccer: Girls Varsity Game vs. Aquinas @ Fields For Kids

Friday, April 20, 2018

4:30pm Golf: Boys JV Match vs. Arcadia, Black Falls, G-E-T, Luther, Viroqua, Westby Area High School @ Skyline Golf Club

5:00pm Baseball: JV Game vs. Mauston @ Riverview Park

5:00pm Baseball: Varsity Game vs. Mauston @ West Salem High School

5:00pm Softball: JV Game vs. G-E-T @Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau Middle School

5:00pm Softball: Varsity Game vs. G-E-T @Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau Middle School

Saturday, April 21, 2018

11:00am Softball: Girls JV Game vs. Logan @ West Salem High School

11:00am Softball: Varsity Game vs. Logan @ West Salem High School

11:00am Track: Varsity Invitational vs. Boyceville, Cochrane Fountain City, Colfax, Fall Creek, Luther, Riverdale & Whitehall @ St. Mary's University

Monday, April 23, 2018

5:00pm Softball: JV Game vs. Black River Falls @ West Salem High School

5:00pm Softball: Varsity Game vs. Black River Falls @ West Salem High School

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

4:00pm Golf: Boys Varsity Match vs. Arcadia, Black River Falls, G-E-T, Luther, Viroqua, Westby Area High School @ Fox Hollow Golf Course

4:00pm Track: Varsity Invitational vs. Alma/Pepin, Augusta, Blair-Taylor, Cochrane Fountain City, Durand, Independence /Gilmanton, Mondovi, Tomah, Waba sha-Kellogg, Whitehall @ Cochrane-Fountain City High School

5:00pm Baseball: C-Team Game vs. G-E-T @ West Salem High School

5:00pm Baseball: JV Game vs. G-E-T @ West Salem High School

5:00pm Baseball: Varsity Game vs. G-E-T @West Salem High School

5:00pm Soccer: Girls JV Game vs. Logan @ West Salem Elementary School

5:00pm Softball: Girls JV Game vs. Mauston @ West Salem High School

5:00pm Softball: Varsity Game vs. Mauston @ West Salem High School

7:00pm Soccer: Girls Varsity Game vs. Logan @ West Salem Elementary School

Thursday, April 26, 2018

4:00pm Soccer: Girls Varsity Game vs. Sparta @ Sparta High School

4:30pm Baseball: JV Game vs. Sparta @ Sparta High School

4:30pm Baseball: Varsity Game vs. Sparta @ Sparta High School

5:00pm Soccer: Girls JV Gamevs. Sparta @ Sparta High School

5:00pm Softball: JV Game vs. Viroqua @ Viroqua High School

5:00pm Softball: Varsity Gamevs. Viroqua @Viroqua High School

Friday, April 27, 2018

3:00pm Golf: Boys Varsity Match vs. Arcadia, Black River Falls, G-E-T, Luther, Viroqua, Westby Area High School @ Skyline Golf Club School

5:00pm Baseball: JV Game vs. Viroqua @ West Salem High School

5:00pm Baseball: Varsity Game vs. Viroqua @ West Salem High School

Saturday, April 28, 2018

9:00am Golf: Boys Varsity Invitational vs. Arcadia, Baraboo, Central, Cochrane Fountain City, Coulee Christian, DC Everest, Holmen, Logan, Luther, Marshfield, Mauston, Middleton, Osseo-Fairchild, Reedsburg, Sparta, Tomah & Wonewoc-Center @ Sparta-River Run Golf Course

10:00am Track: Varsity Invitational vs. Adams/ Friendship, Aquinas, Arcadia, Bangor, Boscobel, Brookwood, Cashton, Central, Colfax, Eau Claire Memorial, Fall Creek, Fennimore, Franklin, Hayward Community Schools, Holmen, Lodi, Logan, Mauston, Mosinee, Onalaska, Rochester Century, Viroqua, Winona Senior @ UW-La Crosse

Monday, April 30, 2018

12:00pm Golf: Boys JV Match vs. Arcadia, Black River Falls, G-E-T, Luther, Viroqua, Westby Area High School @ Viroqua Hills Golf Course

3:00pm Golf: Boys JV Match vs. Arcadia, Black River Falls, G-E-T, Luther, Viroqua, Westby Area High School @Viroqua Hills Golf Course

5:00pm Soccer: Girls JV Game vs. Mauston @West Salem Elementary School

7:00pm Soccer: Girls Varsity Game vs. Mauston @ West Salem Elementary School

Band Events

Saturday, April 7, 2018

TBA District Solo & Ensemble @ West Salem High School Concert Band, Wind Symphony & Jazz Ensembles

Elementary School Events

Monday, April 2, 2018

All Day No School

Tuesday, April 3, 2018

All Day Spring Pictures @ ES Assembly Room

Wednesday, April 4, 2018

All Day Environment Day

Thursday, April 5, 2018

6:30pm Kindergarten and 1st Grade Rhythms Program @ ES Gym & ES Multi-Purpose Room

Friday, April 6, 2018

7:25am Walking School Bus Meet at the corner of N. Tilson & W. Hamlin Streets

Friday, April 13, 2018

7:25am Walking School Bus Meet at the corner of N. Tilson & W. Hamlin Streets

Tuesday, April 17, 2018

All Day 1st Grade to the School Forest (Reedy & Perz)

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

All Day 1st Grade to the School Forest (Chambers & Antony)

Thursday, April 19, 2018

All Day 1st Grade to the School Forest (Christianson & Brodsky)

Friday, April 20, 2018

7:25am Walking School Bus Meet at the corner of N. Tilson & W. Hamlin Streets

All Day 3rd Grade to the School Forest (Weber, Deml & Schwartz)

Monday, April 23, 2018

All Day 3rd Grade to the School Forest (Allind, Mathison, & LaFleur)

Elementary School Events continued...

Tuesday, April 24, 2018
All Day 4th Grade to the School Forest (Wegner & Hoff)
Wednesday, April 25, 2018
All Day 4th Grade to the School Forest (McKinney, Thorton & Ihle)
Thursday, April 26, 2018
All Day 4th Grade to the School Forest (All Classes)
Friday, April 27, 2018
All Day No School

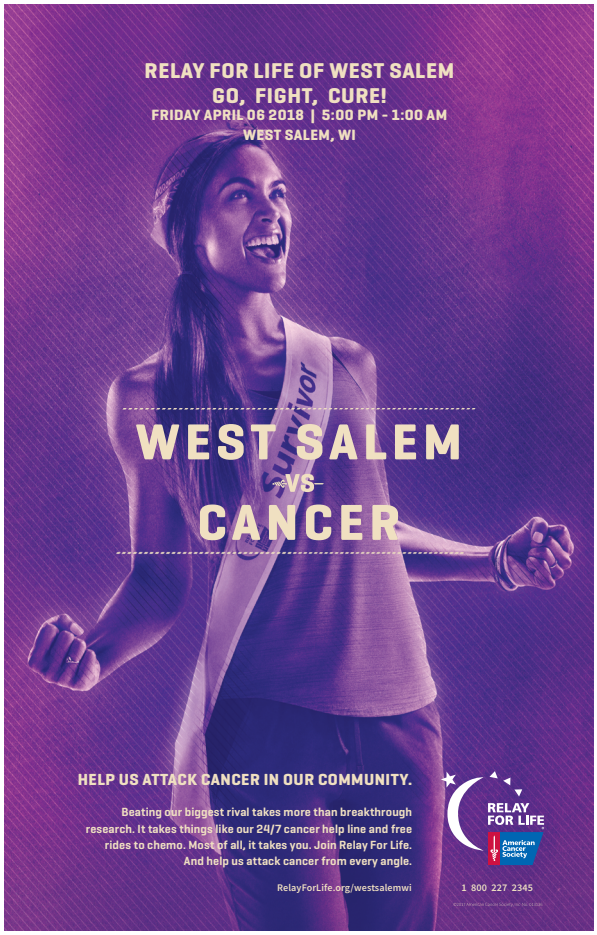
Middle School Events

Monday, April 2, 2018
All Day No School
Tuesday, April 3, 2018
All Day First Day of Classes in the New Building
Remember to use the East Ave. Entrance
Tuesday, April 10, 2018
4:00pm-8:30 pm Middle School Solo & Ensemble @ MS Commons
Monday, April 23, 2018
3:30pm-7:30pm Parent Teacher Conferences Drop-In Style
Friday, April 27, 2018
All Day No School

High School Events

Monday, April 2, 2018
All Day No School
Wednesday, April 4, 2018
All Day Grades Submitted for 3rd Quarter
Saturday, April 7, 2018
All Day District Band and Choir Solo & Ensemble Competition @ WSHS and the Heider Center
Thursday, April 12, 2018
All Day Forward Testing
Friday, April 27, 2018
All Day No School
Sunday, April 29, 2018
6:00pm NHS Induction Ceremony & Reception @ HS Gym and Commons

Community Events



AMERICAN RED CROSS BABYSITTING TRAINING

June 11-12, 2018
8 a.m.-12 p.m.
High School Conference Room

In order to participate, students must be 10 years old by September 2018. They will receive a handbook and CD filled with information, step-by-step instructions to handle common emergencies, as well as tools to run a babysitting business including a resume template, business card templates and more.

They will also learn how to supervise children and infants, perform basic child care skills such as diapering and feeding, choose age appropriate games and toys, handle bedtime and discipline issues, identify safety hazards and prevent injuries, care for common injuries and emergencies, and communicate effectively with parents. Registration forms will be available in the elementary and middle school offices beginning April 9th.

Friday, April 13
from 3:30pm-6:00pm
Saturday, April 14
from 7:00am to 12:00pm
Heider Center
Sponsored by WSHS
Show Choirs

SEP Spotlight

Every year, WSHS seniors participate in a Senior Exit Project, also known as an SEP. These projects are meant to teach students how to display creativity, innovation and excellence in their everyday lives, while often helping out others in the process.

Senior Bailey Sevier chose to make baskets for mothers and newborns in the NICU at Mayo Clinic. They included crocheted octopi and preemie project hearts that she made herself, and a Walgreen's gift card. The octopi are said to comfort babies, as they are similar to the shape of an umbilical cord, and the project hearts are kept near the mother to absorb her scent and then can be left with the baby to comfort them. She also raised over $500 for the NICU through a raffle at the restaurant where she works. Great work Bailey!

Senior Recognized by Bassmaster

WSHS Senior Mitchell Hammes, a member of the Fishing Club, was recently named an Honorable Mention in the Bassmaster High School All-American program for the state of Wisconsin. This recognition is given to student anglers with high tournament success rates, who also participate in community service, and demonstrate academic excellence. Congrats Mitchell! West Salem is proud of you!

District Announcements

WSMS MATHCOUNTS Competes at State!

The State Mathcounts Competition was held in Sheboygan on Saturday, March 3, 2018. There were 134 total students competing, representing 38 different schools from across the state of Wisconsin. There were 23 official teams competing. West Salem's team competitors were pictured L-R, Chase Jones, Brennan Holst, Calista Robaczewski, and Elsa Mitchell. They placed 12th as a team. Mitchell placed 36th, Holst placed 47th, Jones placed 102nd, and Robaczewski placed 103rd. Mathcounts is a national program designed to promote excellence in math and science in grades 6 through 8. West Salem's Mathcounts program is coached by Tammy Bentzen and Jon Jones. The National Competition will be held in May in Orlando, Florida. The top four individuals from the State competition will represent Wisconsin at the National Competition.

Transcript Information

Are you transferring to a different college or do you need a copy of your high school transcript?

WSHS graduates that need a transcript can request one online, or print out an official transcript request form by going to the Student Services page on the district website at www.wsalem.k12.wi.us

Open Enrollment

Open Enrollment into the School District of West Salem runs February 5-April 30, 2018. To access the application, and for more information, go to the DPI website at https://dpi.wi.gov/open-enrollment. Students that are currently open-enrolled do not need to reapply.

The West Salem School District prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the Pupil Services Director at (608) 786-0700. To file a complaint of discrimination write to: Eric Jensen, Pupil Services Director at 405 East Hamlin Street, West Salem, WI 54669 or call 608-786-0700. The West Salem School District is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

School Board Members

Melinda Kopnisky-Bloomfield~~~~~~~~~~799-5313
Syl Clements~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ 786-1491
Jane Halverson ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ 786-1067
Ken Schlimgen ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ 786-4382
Catherine Griffin ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ 769-1714
Tom Grosskopf ~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ 386-0168

Board meetings are held the second and fourth Monday of every month

District Announcements

Heider Center

Letter's Aloud "Fame"
Thursday, April 5, 2018
7:30 p.m.
Tickets: $24/$22

The 3 Redneck Tenors
Sunday, April 22, 2018
4:00pm
Tickets: $24/$22

Art Gallery
WSHS Senior Art Show
Runs April 1-30, 2018

Art Reception
Thursday, April 26, 2018
6:00-7:30 p.m.

Box Office (608) 786-2550
Monday: Noon to 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday: Noon to 4:00 p.m.
Friday: Noon to 4:00 p.m.
www.heidercenter.org

Ryan Nelson Named Kohl Educational Foundation Teacher Fellow

We are proud to announce that Mr. Ryan Nelson, a Social Studies teacher at WSHS, has been named a 2018 Herb Kohl Educational Foundation Teacher Fellow! Mr. Nelson is just one of 100 teachers throughout the state of Wisconsin to receive this award, and is also a nominee for Wisconsin Teacher of the Year. In addition to teaching Social Studies, Mr. Nelson also advises our Youth Frontiers Leadership Council, and heads our SEP program. This is the sixth year in a row an educator from our district has won this award, which is a testament to their hard work, dedication and passion for serving students. Our past recipients include Jennifer Wheeler, Wayne Sackett, Laura Wagner, Heather Jehn, and Mary Czajka. This award recognizes exceptional educators for their innovation and teaching excellence. Each recipient, as well as their respective school, receives a $6,000 grant to use towards classroom goals or professional development.

Mr. Nelson will be recognized by his peers and Herb Kohl at a luncheon on Sunday, April 22 at Chippewa Falls High School. Please join us in congratulating Mr. Nelson and thanking him for all he does for our students and school!

WSHS 2018 Senior Art Show

The Senior Art Show will be on display at the Heider Center from April 1-April 30, 2018.

This show features the artwork of our graduating seniors. A reception will be held on Thursday, April 26 from 6:00-7:30p.m. Please join us to recognize our seniors for all of their hard work!

Solo & Ensemble

Attention all WSHS band parents!
We will again be hosting the annual Solo & Ensemble festival here at WSHS on Saturday, April 7, 2018! We are in need of parent volunteers to serve as room monitors.

Please email Kelli Martin at martin.kelli@wsalem.k12.wi.us if you are interested in helping out.
Thanks!

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2018
Marie Heider Meeting Room
7:00 p.m.

Convene
The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Syl Clements. 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, River Bank-Barre Mills, West Salem Post Office, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district web site, and district office on March 8, 2018.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag
Nate Krien led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Melinda Kopnisky-Bloomfield recited the District Mission Statement.

Roll Call
Present: Syl Clements, Jane Halverson, Ken Schlimgen, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin, and Melinda Kopnisky-Bloomfield. Also in attendance – Administrators: Troy Gunderson, Ben Wopat, Eric Jensen, Ryan Rieber, Michael St. Pierre, and Shawn Handland; Student representatives: Nate Krien and Alexis Brueggen. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Mike Malott and Lisa Gerke.

Approval of Agenda
Mrs. Halverson moved, Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Connection with the Community
Alexis Brueggen reported on:
1. Spring sports are starting.
2. National Honor Society is hosting a blood drive tomorrow during the day and our goal is to have about 50 donors.
3. High school will be having a school wide March Madness Bracket Challenge.

Nate Krien reported on:
1. DECA students participated at the State DECA Conference (March 4th-7th).
2. The high school will be taking 16 students to the International DECA Conference. The students that qualified are: Kendra Ames, Abigail Sharp, Julia Stoleson, Danielle Miller, Ryan Schlimgen, Jonathan Glassmaker, Jacob Whitbeck, Ryan Berger, Rebecca Michael, Sierra Schwier, Aleshia Furlano, Nate Krien, Grady LaJeunesse, Max Schumacher, Tayler Jones, and Brittany Kothari. International Career Development Conference begins April 20th, lasts 5 days plus travel time, held in Atlanta GA.
3. The high school band and choir performed for their concert on Saturday with alumni members.

Correspondence
A thank you note from Jeanne Ledman was read.

Public comments – None.

Written and Oral Reports
Selection of Art Work – Elementary School Art Teacher Angie Hemker invited board, administrators and district staff to select work from the K-12 Honors Art Exhibit in the Heider Gallery to be displayed in the Heider Meeting Room for a year. District Art Teachers Kaylin Lotspaih and Stephanie Sharp were also present.

CESA #4 Board of Control – Mrs. Halverson reported on the events of the recent Board of Control meeting.

Finance Committee – Mr. Schlimgen reported on the events of tonight's meeting.

District Performance reports by Ryan Rieber and Lisa Gerke, Ben Wopat, Mike Malott, Eric Jensen, Michael St. Pierre, and Troy Gunderson were reviewed.

Mr. Gunderson announced: the resignation of Amy Browne from the school nutrition program.

Middle School Principal Ben Wopat shared an update of the construction and transition plan for the middle school.

Consent Agenda
Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 26, 2018; invoices to be paid; accept the resignation of Elementary Teacher Sherri Wizner; accept administration's recommendation for co-curricular – golf-Eric Borre and Jim Klos, baseball-Chuck Ihle, Damian Wiblin, Jason Holter, and Skyler Anderson; softball-Brian Babiash and Brittney Hodgson, girls' soccer-Chris Jandt, Lionel Karyea, and Emily Healy, Track-Ryan Carroll, Stacy Mitchell, Brett Miller, LeRoy Krall, Cole Murray, Noah Reedy, and Mallory Hall, volunteer trap shoot league-Paul Liethen and Tom Garbers (co-coaches), Bob Schupel, Tristen Jonsrud, Dave Nelson, Bill Tranberg, Bob Benedict, Ryan Buisman, and Gilman Bolstad; and Open Enrollment requests for the 17-18 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:
Mrs. Halverson moved, Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield seconded to accept donations from Barre Co-Ed Lions and the West Salem Lions Clubs for the Random Acts of Kindness Fund, and from Errol Kindschy for the schools' libraries. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Jensen presented the current special education staffing and programming, and the proposed staffing and programming for the 18-19 school year. No action was taken.

Director of Buildings and Grounds David McPheeters presented the current custodial staffing, and proposed staffing for the 18-19 school year. No action was taken.

Mr. Gunderson reviewed the current staffing, and the proposed staffing for the 18-19 school year. No action was taken.

Mr. Gunderson reviewed the co-curricular compensation model for the 18-19 school year. No action was taken.

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to approve the lease agreement with Apple Computers for the technology refresh. Motion carried. 5-Aye, 1-Nay (Mr. Schlimgen)

Mrs. Griffin moved, Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield seconded to approve for a first reading of policies: #222 Administrative Contracts, #425 Public Open Enrollment, #425-Rule West Salem School District Procedures for Dealing with Public School Open Enrollment Applications, #901 Superintendent, #904 Middle School Principal, #905 Elementary School Principal, #907 Director of Pupil Services, #911 Director of Buildings and Grounds, #914 Director of Finance and Business Operations, #916 Director of Transportation, #917 Director of Instruction and Technology, #942 Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/School Board, #948 Director of Human Resources, #954 District Accountant. Motion carried unanimously.

No action was on policies #527 Family and Medical Leave Policy, #902 High School Principal and #913 Director of Nutrition Services.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to permanently eliminate policy #918 Director of Technology. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield seconded to remove the following policies (job descriptions) from the policy book and add to a Job Description Manual: #912 Second Shift Maintenance/Custodian Supervisor, #915 Safety Coordinator, #919 School Social Worker/AODA Coordinator, #920 School Psychologist, #921 Teacher, #922 School Nurse, #923 Environmental Education Coordinator #925 Reading Coordinator, #927 Middle School Athletic Director, #928 Instructional Coach, #929 Building Leadership Team Leader, #930 Library Media Center Assistant, #931 School Vehicle Driver, #932 Transportation Mechanic/ Maintenance, #933 Educational Interpreter, #934 School Nurse Assistant,

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes continued...
March 12, 2018
Marie Heider Meeting Room
7:00 p.m.

#935 Paraprofessional I, #937 Production/Copy Center Specialist, #938 District Office Receptionist/Transportation Administrative Assistant, #939 High School Secretary, #940 Middle School Secretary
#941 Elementary Administrative Assistant, #943 Secretary to the Director of Special Education and Pupil Services, #944 Custodian, #945 Cook Manager, #946 Cook, #949 Administrative Assistant to the High School Assistant Principal/Activities Director, #950 Third Party Examiner, #951 Library Media Center Specialist, #953 Computer Technician, #955 School Counselor, #956 Maintenance Worker, #961 Fitness Center Director, #962 Head Coach, #963 Assistant Coach, #964 Co-curricular Non-athletic Activity Advisor, #965 Fitness Center Worker, and #966 Pool Director. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Griffin seconded to approve the high school sports co-ops for gymnastics, 2018-2019 and 2019-2020; boys' hockey, 2018-2019 and 2019-2020; and girls' hockey for 1 year as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Clements welcomed the motion for 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 the performance evaluation of the superintendent.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 9:04 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield, Aye; Mr. Clements, Aye; Mrs. Halverson, Aye; Mrs. Griffin, Aye; Mr. Grosskopf, Aye; and Mr. Schlimgen, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Adjournment
Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield moved, Mrs. Griffin seconded to adjourn at 9:27 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Halverson, Clerk

School District of West Salem
Special Board Meeting Minutes
March 22, 2018
Marie Heider Meeting Room
6:00 p.m.

Convene
The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Syl Clements. 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, River Bank-Barre Mills, West Salem Post Office, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district web site, and district office on March 15, 2018. This meeting was set at the February 12, 2018 Regular Board Meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag
Catherine Griffin led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Troy Gunderson recited the District Mission Statement.

Roll Call
Present: Syl Clements, Jane Halverson, Ken Schlimgen, Tom Grosskopf, and Catherine Griffin. Also in attendance – Administrator: Troy Gunderson. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Melinda Kopnisky-Bloomfield.

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

Closed Session

Mr. Clements welcomed the motion for closed session: The Board will discuss, consider and, if appropriate, take action in closed session to interview candidates and possibly make an offer to a candidate or hire for the position of high school principal 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."

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 6:03 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mr. Clements, Aye; Mrs. Halverson, Aye; Mrs. Griffin, Aye; Mr. Grosskopf, Aye; and Mr. Schlimgen, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Adjournment
Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Griffin seconded to adjourn at 9:16 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Halverson, Clerk

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
March 26, 2018
Marie Heider Meeting Room
7:00 p.m.

Convene
The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Syl Clements. 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, River Bank-Barre Mills, West Salem Post Office, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district web site, and district office on March 22, 2018.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag
Shawn Handland led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Lisa Gerke recited the District Mission Statement.

Roll Call
Present: Syl Clements, Jane Halverson, Ken Schlimgen, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin, and Melinda Kopnisky-Bloomfield. Also in attendance – Administrators: Troy Gunderson, Ben Wopat, Eric Jensen, Mike Malott, Ryan Rieber, Michael St. Pierre, Shawn Handland, and Lisa Gerke; Student representative: Alexis Brueggen. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Nate Krien.
Approval of Agenda
Mrs. Halverson moved, Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Connection with the Community
Alexis Brueggen reported on:
1. The National Honor Society had a pork chop fundraiser this past Sunday at Hansen's to raise money for Relay for Life which is next week Friday. It was successful and raised about $450.
2. Youth Frontiers Leadership Council which is a senior club that helps the school and community, organized a Penny War competition that started today between the grades and staff and will go through next week Friday to also raise money for Relay For Life. There will be different incentives along the way.

School District of West Salem
Regular Board Meeting Minutes continued...
March 26, 2018
Marie Heider Meeting Room
7:00 p.m.

3. The high school sports teams' competition season has begun.
4. The softball team is leaving for Orlando, Florida on Wednesday morning for their spring training at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex. They are there until Monday and we get to play teams from all across the US, so it will be a really cool experience.

Correspondence
A thank you note from the middle school MathCounts team was read.

Public comments – None.

Written and Oral Reports
Staff Relations Committee – Mrs. Halverson reported on the events of tonight's meeting.

Finance Committee – Mr. Schlimgen reported on the events of their last meeting.

Bearing Wall Committee – Mrs. Halverson announced that Mark Ledman and Verda Drecktrah have been selected as the 2018 LaVerne Nuttelman Distinguished Service Award recipients, and John Goodwin was selected as the Bearing Wall recipient for 2018.

District Performance reports by David McPheeters, Shawn Handland, Rick Kline, Kerri Feyen, Barb Buswell, and Troy Gunderson were reviewed.

Mr. Gunderson had no non-certified staff hiring or resignations to report on.

Aquaponics Teacher Kelly Rueckheim and students Gracie Larson and Erin Paddy gave a presentation on the new Aquaponics Class and system.

Dean of Students Justin Jehn gave an update on Redefining Readiness.

Consent Agenda
Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Griffin seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes of March 12, 2018 and the Special Board Meeting Minutes of March 22, 2018; invoices to be paid; the resignations of English Language Learner provider (.2 FTE) Elle Nimm, Director of Instruction and Technology Michael St. Pierre pending approval by the La Crosse Board of Education and assistant girls' basketball coach Makenzie Becker; accept the administration's co-curricular recommendations for middle school track-Nicole Friell, Sarah Weber, Bill Jensen, and Ben Tashner, 8th grade softball head coach-Katie Fink, 7th grade softball co-head coaches Ethan Ringlien and Makenzie Becker, high school dance coach-Kristi Herman, volunteer track coach-Teesha Willinger, volunteer soccer coaches-Sydney Dunham, Dave Hemker, and Joe LaMere. Motion carried unanimously. There were no hires to act upon.

Discussion/Action Items:
Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield seconded to accept donations from the Friends of West Salem Baseball and Corrine Zielke Fund of the La Crosse Community Foundation for batting cages, and from Corrine Zielke Fund of the La Crosse Community Foundation for the baseball field media and disabled spectator viewing deck. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to waive policy #751 Student Transportation Services, for the Seven Rivers Regional FIRST Robotics Competition in La Crosse and in the future, authorize the Superintendent to grant permission to the robotics team for the same competition. Motion carried unanimously.

18-19 budget update and financial planning. Mr. Gunderson provided a summary. No action was taken.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to accept the rate of 3.25% offered by Union State Bank of West Salem when borrowing the 1.5 million per the approved referendum. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Griffin moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded to authorize the purchase of three school buses as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve the following staffing requests for the 18-19 school year: .5 FTE 4-year-old kindergarten teacher, 1.0 FTE grade 1 teacher, 1.0 FTE grade 4 teacher, 1.0 FTE middle math teacher, 2.0 FTE special education teachers, 1.0 FTE high school math/computer teacher. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Griffin moved, Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield seconded to adopt the co-curricular compensation model for the 18-19 school year as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield seconded to approve the CESA #4 contracts for services for the 18-19 school year as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Griffin seconded to approve for a second reading of policies: #222 Administrative Contracts, #425 Public Open Enrollment, #425-Rule West Salem School District Procedures for Dealing with Public School Open Enrollment Applications, #901 Superintendent, #904 Middle School Principal, #905 Elementary School Principal, #907 Director of Pupil Services, #911 Director of Buildings and Grounds, #914 Director of Finance and Business Operations, #916 Director of Transportation, #917 Director of Instruction and Technology, and #942 Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/School Board. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve for a first reading of policies: #527 Family and Medical Leave Policy, #902 High School Principal and #913 Director of Nutrition Services, #948 Director of Human Resources, and #954 District Accountant. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Clements welcomed the motion for 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 issuing preliminary notice(s) of nonrenewal, in accordance with Wis. § Stat 118.22.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 9:05 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield, Aye; Mr. Clements, Aye; Mrs. Halverson, Aye; Mrs. Griffin, Aye; Mr. Grosskopf, Aye; and Mr. Schlimgen, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Adjournment
Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield seconded to adjourn at 9:09 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Halverson, Clerk

Youth Frontiers visits Springbrook Assisted Living

On Friday, March 16, thirteen students from our Youth Frontiers Leadership Council visited Springbrook Assisted Living in Onalaska for a fun-filled day of participating in intergenerational activities. The students got a chance to see the many services Springbrook offers to its residents, and they even participated in some of their day-to-day activities with them. These included aerobics, board games, pet therapy, Wii bowling in the theater, and even swimming! One of our students is also making a video to showcase the day's activities. The students enjoyed their time there and learned a great deal from the residents. We are proud to be able to collaborate with others in our community to give our students unique opportunities to display their creativity and innovation and serve with passion. Stay tuned to our Facebook page "@SchoolDistrictofWestSalem" for a chance to see our video. A special thanks to Springbrook for letting our students visit for the day, and Mr. Nelson for advising and chaperoning.

Harvest of the Month

April — Kale

Did You Know?
Kale tastes sweeter after it is frozen or exposed to frost!

Check out videos and photos of the innovative things happening in your student's classroom at our district Facebook page and Twitter page. Our social media features videos of student activities, teacher features, classroom selfie photos, etc...

Check out our Facebook page
@SchoolDistrictofWestSalem
and
Follow us on Twitter
@WestSalemSD

For WSHS athletic events, visit our website:
*click Calendars and then
*click Coulee Conference
You can also set yourself up to receive automatic text or e-mail notifications for any of the activities listed OR subscribe to RSS.

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Serve With Passion To
Ignite Creativity,
Innovation, and
Excellence