

April 2022



# Newsletter

School District of West Salem

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## Letter from Superintendent Ryan Rieber

### Dedication and Determination

The musician Usher said, “Success is about dedication... you’ve got to be willing to have vision and foresight that leads you to an incredible end.” As we turn the calendar to April, this is a crucial month for the School District of West Salem. There is a referendum question on the ballot that will determine the financial path for the district for the next three years. The ballot will include a non-recurring referendum question seeking permission to exceed the revenue limit by \$2.5 million in 2023, \$2.5 million in 2024, and \$2.75 million in 2025. If this referendum question were to pass, the mill rate for our district residents would decrease from the current rate of \$9.15 to \$8.32. This would be the lowest mill rate in the School District of West Salem in over 20 years. The average mill rate in West Salem over the past 20 years has been \$9.68. We are dedicated to continuing the high level of education and maintenance of our facilities for a low cost to our community, and decreasing your school portion of your taxes in the process. Over the past three years, the West Salem School Board

was successful in keeping promises and met the goals presented leading up to the question that is on the ballot on April 5th. The School Board is determined to do the same thing over the course of the next three years. The focus will continue to be in the following areas:

- 1) Maintain “The West Salem Way” with quality programming that sets us apart from all other area districts. This funding is necessary to maintain our current program offerings for our students. If the referendum fails, some of these programs will need to be reduced.
- 2) Keep and maintain competitive wages and benefits for our staff, continue funding our transportation department and provide upkeep of our bus fleet, complete the roof replacement at our elementary school and high school, fund additional maintenance and upkeep at the elementary and middle school, add additional parking around the Panther Den and athletic facilities, as well as make repairs and updates at our Outdoor Education Center (OEC).
- 3) The current non-recurring operational referendum expires on June 30, 2022, which is the end of the current fiscal year. We are essentially seeking an additional \$600,000 from what was asked in 2019 while also reducing your school taxes.

Letter continues on next page...

## School District of West Salem

If this referendum passes, we will continue to offer top notch program offerings for our students, and our per pupil expenditures will continue to be less than the state average, all while providing tax relief to our community. Our community has been dedicated and determined to provide the highest quality education for our students, and the School District of West Salem has the same vision. We, too, are dedicated and determined to continue to provide the highest quality of education for our children, but we need your continued help and support. Please reach out to me if you have any questions about the referendum before the upcoming vote on April 5, or visit our school website at [bit.ly/WSalemReferendum](http://bit.ly/WSalemReferendum).

Speaking of dedication and determination, the upcoming school board election will mark the end of Mr. Ken Schlingen's time in serving our students, schools, and community on our school board. I would like to thank Ken for his time on our board and for helping to partner to make our school district second to none around the area. Thank you for your service, Ken, and we wish you the best in your future endeavors.

Thank you for taking the time to read and for your consideration of the big referendum decision ahead. Please mark your calendars now to vote on April 5th.

Ryan G. Rieber  
Superintendent

# A Successful Winter Sports Season at West Salem High School

Our boys basketball team wasn't the only group to make it to the state tournament this year! In fact, our dance team, gymnastics team, and girls hockey co-op all made it to their respective state tournaments, and all of our winter sports teams were named Coulee Conference Champions, something that has never been done by one school before! In addition, wrestler Evan Wolfe placed 2nd at the individual state wrestling tournament, our girls basketball team was one win away from qualifying for the state tournament and our boys hockey team finished as a #4 seed and made it to the first round of the playoffs. Congratulations to all of our student-athletes on your excellent seasons!

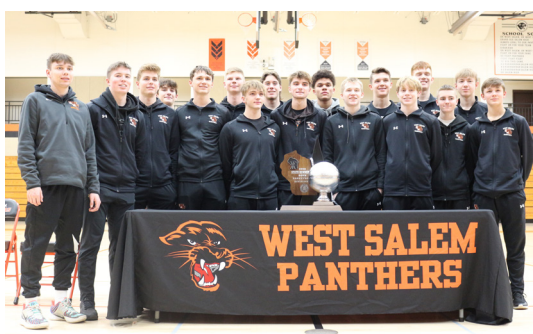


# West Salem Boys Basketball Makes History with First Ever Trip to State Tournament

After an outstanding regular season in which they finished with a record of 26-1 and took home the Coulee Conference title along with a #1 Seed in the Division 3 playoffs, the West Salem Boys Basketball team battled their way through the regional and sectional semifinals to make it to the state tournament for the first time in program history with first year coach Mark Wagner. The Panthers headed to the Kohl Center in Madison on March 17 for the first game of the tournament. Panther pride was on full display as students, parents, and community members filled the stands to cheer them on. They worked hard all game and finished on top against Brillion to qualify for the Division 3 Championship.

Junior Carson Koepnick led the team with 26 points, followed by junior Brett McConkey with 14 points and senior Brennan Kennedy with 9 points. Both offensive and defensive rebounds helped the team pull out the win, with McConkey pulling down 14 and junior Peter Lattos coming up with 12.

The Panthers took on Lake Country Lutheran in Saturday's Division 3 Championship game. While they started out strong with 9 points in the first three minutes and up two points at halftime, shots weren't falling in the second half and they fell to LCL with a final score of 56-67. Lattos led the team with 23 points, including five 3-pointers, followed by sophomore Tamarrein Henderson with 14 points. Regardless of the final result, we are so proud of them for making school history, bringing home the silver ball, and representing West Salem in first class fashion at the state



# Calendar of Events April

## Athletic Events

### Friday, April 1, 2022

- 5:00pm Baseball: JV/Varsity Game vs. Central @ West Salem High School
- 7:00pm Soccer: Girls Varsity Game vs. Edgewood @ West Salem High School

### Saturday, April 2, 2022

- 1:00pm Softball: JV/Varsity Game vs. Westby Area High School @ West Salem High School Softball Fields
- 4:00pm Baseball: Varsity Game vs. Holmen @ West Salem High School

### Monday, April 4, 2022

- 4:00pm Tennis: Boys Varsity Scrimmage vs. Tomah @ Tomah La Grange Elementary
- 5:00pm Baseball: Varsity Game vs. Altoona @ West Salem High School
- 5:00pm Softball: Varsity Game vs. Altoona @ West Salem High School Softball Fields
- 5:00pm Tennis: Boys JV Scrimmage vs. Tomah @ Tomah La Grange Elementary

### Tuesday, April 5, 2022

- 3:30pm Track: Boys and Girls Varsity Invitational vs. Cashton, De Soto, Holmen, Luther, Mauston, New Lisbon, Prairie du Chien, Tomah & Westby @ Holmen High School
- 5:00pm Baseball: JV/Varsity Game vs. Viroqua @ Viroqua High School
- 5:00pm Softball: JV Game vs. Black River Falls @ Black River Falls High School
- 5:00pm Softball: Varsity Game vs. Black River Falls @ Black River Falls High School Red Creek Softball Fields

### Thursday, April 7, 2022

- 4:30pm Soccer: Girls Varsity Game vs. Coulee Christian @ Coulee Christian School
- 5:00pm Softball: JV/Varsity Game vs. G-E-T @ West Salem High School Softball Fields

### Friday, April 8, 2022

- 5:00pm Baseball: JV/Varsity Game vs. De Soto @ West Salem High School

### Saturday, April 9, 2022

- 9:00am Softball: JV Tournament vs. Bangor, Belmont, Darlington, Iowa-Grant, Central, Lancaster, Onalaska, Prairie du Chien, River Valley & Seneca @ Bluff View Middle School
- 9:00am Tennis: Boys Varsity Quad vs. Baraboo, Onalaska & Sparta @ West Salem High School Tennis Courts
- 1:00pm Softball: JV/Varsity Doubleheaders vs. Waupun @ Jerry Medema Fields

### Monday, April 11, 2022

- 5:00pm Baseball: JV/Varsity Game vs. Mauston @ West Salem High School
- 5:00pm Softball: JV/Varsity Game vs. Luther @ West Salem High School Softball Fields
- 6:00pm Soccer: Girls Varsity Game vs. Driftless United @ Viroqua HS-Main Gym

### Tuesday, April 12, 2022

- 3:30pm Track: Boys and Girls Varsity Invitational vs. Aquinas, Arcadia, Black River Falls, Central, G-E-T, Holmen, Logan, Luther, Onalaska, Sparta, Tomah, Viroqua & Westby @ Holmen High School
- 4:00pm Golf: Boys JV Match vs. Arcadia, Black River Falls, G-E-T, Luther, Viroqua, & Westby @ Arcadia Country Club
- 4:00pm Golf: Boys Varsity Match vs. Arcadia, Black River Falls, G-E-T, Luther, Viroqua & Westby @ Coulee Golf Bowl
- 4:30pm Baseball: JV Game vs. Logan @ West Salem High School
- 4:30pm Baseball: Varsity Game vs. Logan @ Logan High School
- 4:30pm Tennis: Boys Varsity Match vs. Mauston @ West Salem High School Tennis Courts
- 5:00pm Softball: JV/Varsity Game vs. Arcadia @ Arcadia High School
- 5:00pm Soccer: Girls JV Match vs. Central High School @ West Salem High School
- 7:00pm Soccer: Girls Varsity Match vs. Central High School @ West Salem High School

### Thursday, April 14, 2022

- 4:30pm Tennis: Boys Varsity Match vs. Viroqua @ Viroqua High School Tennis Courts

Calendar of events continues on next page...

## School District of West Salem

- 5:00pm Soccer: Girls JV Match vs. Logan  
@ Logan High School Swanson Field
- 7:00pm Soccer: Girls Varsity Match vs. Logan  
@ Logan High School Swanson Field

### Saturday, April 16, 2022

- 11:00am Baseball: Varsity Game vs. Prescott  
@ Fire Hall Field- Prescott

### Monday, April 18, 2022

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

### Tuesday, April 19, 2022

- 4:00pm Golf: Boys Varsity Match vs. Arcadia,  
Black River Falls, G-E-T, Luther,  
Viroqua, & Westby @ Fox Hollow  
Golf Course
- 4:00pm Soccer: Girls Varsity Match vs. Sparta  
@ Sparta High School
- 4:30pm Tennis: Boys Varsity Match vs. Black  
River Falls @ Black River Falls  
High School
- 5:00pm Baseball: JV/Varsity Game vs. G-E-T  
@ West Salem High School
- 5:45pm Soccer: Girls JV Match vs. Sparta  
@ Sparta High School

### Thursday, April 21, 2022

- 4:00pm Tennis: Boys Varsity Match vs. Logan  
@ Logan High School
- 4:00pm Track: Girls Varsity Invite vs. Altoona,  
Aquinas, Arcadia, Bloomer, Central, Elk  
Mound, Fall Creek, G-E-T, Mondovi &  
Whitehall @ Arcadia High School
- 5:00pm Softball: JV/Varsity Game vs. Viroqua  
@ West Salem High School  
Softball Fields
- 5:00pm Soccer: Girls JV Match vs. Onalaska  
@ West Salem High School
- 7:00pm Soccer: Girls Varsity Match vs. Onalaska  
@ West Salem High School

### Friday, April 22, 2022

- 4:00pm Baseball: JV Game vs. Arcadia  
@ Arcadia Elementary School
- 4:00pm Baseball: Varsity Game vs. Arcadia  
@ Arcadia High School

### Saturday, April 23, 2022

- 2:00pm Baseball: Varsity Doubleheader vs.  
Belleville @ West Salem High School
- 5:00pm Softball: JV/Varsity Game vs. Sparta  
@ West Salem High School  
Softball Fields

### Monday, April 25, 2022

- 4:00pm Golf: Boys Varsity Match vs. Arcadia,  
Black River Falls, G-E-T, Luther,

Viroqua & Westby @ Viroqua Hills  
Golf Course

### Tuesday, April 26, 2022

- 4:00pm Golf: Boys JV Match vs. Arcadia, Black  
River Falls, G-E-T, Luther, Viroqua &  
Westby @ Fox Hollow Golf Course
- 4:00pm Track: Boys Varsity Invitational vs.  
Aquinas, Central, Holmen, Luther,  
Onalaska, Providence Academy  
& Tomah @ Onalaska High School
- 4:30pm Tennis: Boys Varsity Match vs. Viroqua  
@ West Salem High School  
Tennis Courts
- 5:00pm Softball: Varsity Game vs. Bangor  
@ Bangor High School
- 5:00pm Soccer: Girls JV Match vs. Aquinas  
@ Field for Kids
- 7:00pm Soccer: Girls Varsity Match vs. Aquinas  
@ Field for Kids

### Thursday, April 28, 2022

- 4:00pm Baseball: JV/Varsity Doubleheader  
vs. Luther @ West Salem High School
- 4:00pm Golf: Boys Varsity Match vs. Arcadia,  
Black River Falls, G-E-T, Luther,  
Viroqua & Westby @ Ettrick Golf  
Course
- 5:00pm Softball: JV Game vs. Viroqua  
@ Viroqua High School Roou (SB) Field
- 5:00pm Softball: Varsity Game vs. Viroqua  
@ Viroqua High School Park Bowl
- 5:00pm Soccer: Girls JV Match vs. Tomah  
@ West Salem High School
- 7:00pm Soccer: Girls Varsity Match vs. Tomah  
@ West Salem High School

### Friday, April 29, 2022

- 4:15pm Track: Boys Varsity Invitational vs.  
Arcadia, Black River Falls,  
Cochrane-Fountain City, G-E-T, Logan,  
Luther, Melrose-Mindoro, Sparta,  
Viroqua & Westby @ G-E-T High  
School
- 5:00pm Softball: JV/Varsity Game vs. Black  
River Falls @ West Salem High School  
Softball Fields

## School District of West Salem

### Saturday, April 30, 2022

- 9:00am Tennis: Boys Varsity Quad vs. Altoona, Aquinas & Baldwin-Woodville @ Baldwin-Woodville High School
- 9:00am Track: Boys and Girls Varsity Invitational vs. Adams-Friendship, Aquinas, Arcadia, Bangor, Cashton, Central, Colfax, Franklin, Hayward, Holmen, Logan, Mauston, Mosinee, Newman Catholic, Onalaska, Rice Lake, Rochester Century, Tomah, Viroqua & Winona @ University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

### Band Events

### Saturday, April 2, 2022

- TBA District Solo & Ensemble @ TBA Concert Band, Wind Symphony & Jazz Ensembles

### Saturday, April 30, 2022

- TBA State Solo & Ensemble @ Viterbo University  
Qualifying Groups from Districts

### Elementary School Events

### Wednesday, April 6, 2022

- All Day Environment Day

### Friday, April 15, 2022

- All Day No School-Easter Break

### Monday, April 18, 2022

- All Day No School-Easter Break

### Tuesday, April 19, 2022

- All Day No School-Snow Day Make-Up Day if Needed

### Middle School Events

### Monday, April 4-Friday, April 8, 2022

- All Day 6th & 7th Grade Forward Testing

### Monday, April 11-Thursday, April 14, 2022

- All Day 5th & 8th Grade Forward Testing

### Friday, April 15, 2022

- All Day No School-Easter Break

### Monday, April 18, 2022

- All Day No School-Easter Break

### Tuesday, April 19, 2022

- All Day No School-Snow Day Make-Up Day if Needed

### Thursday, April 21, 2022

- All Day Trimester 3 Mid-Term  
3:30pm- Parent-Teacher Conferences  
7:00pm

### High School Events

### Wednesday, April 6, 2022

- 8:00am Forward Assessment for Sophomores  
12:00pm Early Release - HS Only  
Students dismissed at 12:00 p.m.

### Friday, April 15, 2022

- All Day No School-Easter Break

### Monday, April 18, 2022

- All Day No School-Easter Break

### Tuesday, April 19, 2022

- All Day No School-Snow Day Make-Up Day if Needed

### Thursday, April 21, 2022

- 8:00am ACT Aspire Assessment for Sophomores

### Friday, April 22, 2022

- 8:00am ACT Aspire Assessment for Freshmen

### Friday, April 29, 2022

- All Day 4th Quarter Mid-Term



**2022 ASL BASEBALL**

<b>4/7 vs Onalaska</b> 4:15 @ West Salem Middle	<b>4/12 at Logan</b> 4:00 @ Logan High
<b>4/19 at Holmen</b> 4:15 @ Holmen High	<b>4/21 vs Central</b> 4:15 @ West Salem Middle
<b>4/28 at Onalaska</b> 4:15 @ Onalaska High	<b>5/3 vs Logan</b> 4:15 @ West Salem Middle
<b>5/5 vs Holmen</b> 4:15 @ West Salem Middle	<b>5/10 at Central</b> 4:15 @ Central High

Includes logos for a tiger and a baseball.

NOTICE OF ELECTION  
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WEST SALEM  
APRIL 5, 2022

**Referendum Details**

At an election in the School District of West Salem on Tuesday, April 5, 2022, the following question will be submitted to a vote of the people:

"Shall the School District of West Salem, La Crosse County, Wisconsin be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$2,500,000 for the 2022-2023 school year, by \$2,500,000 for the 2023-2024 school year and by \$2,750,000 for the 2024-2025 school year, for non-recurring purposes consisting of maintaining educational programming, facilities and buses and paying salary and other operational expenses?"

A copy of the entire text of the resolution directing submission of the question set forth above to the electorate and information concerning District boundaries can be obtained from the District Clerk at the School District offices located at 405 East Hamlin Street, West Salem, Wisconsin.

**Additional Information**

Acceptable photo ID will be required to vote at this election. If you do not have a photo ID you may obtain a free ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles.

Persons with questions regarding the referendum election should contact Ryan Rieber, District Administrator.

Done in the School District of West Salem  
on March 8, 2022  
Robin Fitzgerald  
District Clerk

**School District of West Salem  
Location and Hours of Polling Place  
ALL POLLS OPEN AT 7:00 A.M. AND CLOSE AT 8:00 P.M.**

At the Spring Election to be held on April 5, 2022, in the County of La Crosse, the following polling place locations will be used for the Municipalities and Districts

<b>MUNICIPALITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
BANGOR	Town Hall – N4400 State Rd 162
BARRE	Town Hall – W3541 County Road M, La Crosse
BURNS	Town Hall – W1313 Jewett Rd, Bangor
FARMINGTON	Town Hall – N8309 County Road C, Mindoro
GREENFIELD	Town Hall – N1800 Town Hall Rd, La Crosse ( St. Joseph’s Ridge)
HAMILTON	Town Hall – N5105 N Leonard St, West Salem
MEDARY	Town Hall – N3393 Smith Valley Rd, La Crosse
SHELBY	Town Hall – Annex – 2801 Ward Ave, La Crosse
WASHINGTON	Town Hall – W1430 County Road H, Newburgs Corner
VILLAGE OF WEST SALEM	Community Center – 175 South Leonard St, West Salem

The School District of West Salem Board of Education Candidates are Tom Grosskopf, Bob Minard and Sean Gavaghan.

**ALL POLLING PLACES WILL OPEN AT 7:00 A.M. AND WILL CLOSE AT 8:00 P.M.**

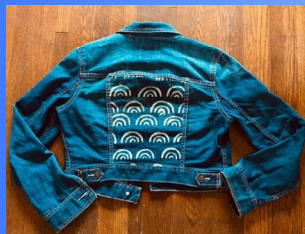
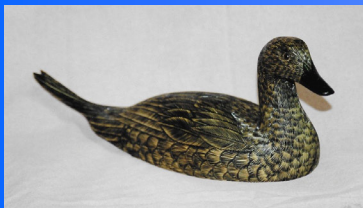
**All polling places are accessible to elderly and disabled voters.**

<https://myvote.wi.gov/> to see if you are registered to vote, locate your polling place, and to find your district.

**At the close of voting on Election Day**, pursuant to the provisions of Wis. Stat. § 19.84, the Election Inspectors at each polling place will convene as the Local Canvassing Board for the purpose of conducting the local canvass pursuant to Wis. Stat. §7.51. This meeting will be open to the public pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 19.81-89.



# Mayfair 2022 ART FAIR



Saturday,  
May 21st  
10:00 AM—2:00 PM  
West Salem  
Lion's Shelter  
240 East Avenue

**A celebration of the Arts**

Art Fair  
Silent Auction  
Pulled Pork Dinner

**Pulled Pork  
Sandwich Dinner**

11:00 AM—1:00 PM

Tickets—\$10.00  
(beverage included)

**Advanced Tickets available on  
Heider Center website at:  
[www.heidercenter.org](http://www.heidercenter.org)**

**Sponsored by: Heider Center Arts Board**

# District Announcements

## Student Artwork Selected for Display at State

Congratulations to our students whose artwork was selected to be on display at the East Towne Mall in Madison as part of the Wisconsin Art Education Association's Youth Art Month Celebration!

The following students from each school will have artwork on display:

West Salem Elementary School: Finn Nagy, Hayden Rose, and Hailey Klonecki

West Salem Middle School: Ava Jambois, Tula Mitchell, and Angel Kendhammer

West Salem High School: Kaylee Blatz, Peter Dressel, and Izzy Dewester.

In addition, Ava Jambois was selected to receive the BLICK Middle School Award, which is only awarded to one middle school student in the state! WSMS student Danielle Christianson also received Honorable Mention in the Youth Art Month Flag contest. Congrats, artists!



## West Salem Middle School Teacher Tammy Bentzen Named "Top Notch Teacher"

We are so fortunate to have excellent staff members that live out our mission of serving with passion every day. Tammy Bentzen, one of our 8th grade math teachers at West Salem

Middle School was recently selected by News 8 Now as their "Top Notch Teacher" for March. Bentzen currently teaches 8th grade math and algebra and has been teaching in West Salem for 30 years. She will retire at the end of this school year, but has undoubtedly left a positive mark on her students for years to come. When asked what makes Mrs. Bentzen special, student Josie Brudos said, "She's always had that really fun energy and it's always fun being in her class. Her comics are a great way to get going in class and they always make us laugh." When asked what she thinks her students would remember about her and her class she says, "I hope they would be like 'I learned my math and she cared about me. And she was fun. I hope!'" Thank you Tammy for your dedication and passion for teaching and serving our students!



## School Board Members

- Catherine Griffin, President ~~~~~ 769-1714
- Tom Grosskopf, Vice President ~~~~~ 386-0168
- Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk ~~~~~ 792-4130
- Sean Gavaghan, Treasurer ~~~~~ 797-3585
- Ken Schlingen, Director ~~~~~ 786-4382
- Erik Peterson, Director ~~~~~ 792-5370
- Chris Peterson, Director ~~~~~ 385-3103

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

# District Announcements

## Heider Center



### Tribute to Frank Sinatra Saturday, April 9, 2022 7:30 p.m.

One of the Most Recognizable voices of all time, Frank Sinatra. Join Andrew Walesch and his big band, filled with many Twin Cities' big band and jazz legends, as they take you through this musical journey in time.



### Art Gallery & Display Cases WSHS Senior Art Show Runs April 1-29, 2022

**Art Reception**  
Thursday, April 28, 2022  
6:00-7:30 p.m.

Box Office Hours  
(608) 786-2550  
Monday, Wednesday &  
Friday: 1:30 to 4:00 p.m.  
[www.heidercenter.org](http://www.heidercenter.org)

## WSMS Mathcounts Back at State!

West Salem Middle School students recently competed at the Wisconsin State Mathcounts Competition in Sheboygan on Saturday, March 12. There were 102 total students competing, representing 38 different schools from across the state of Wisconsin. There were 16 official teams competing.

West Salem's team competitors were Sammy Adams, Izzy Krueger, Lydia Jochen, and Elliot Wolf. They placed 12th as a team. Krueger placed 40th, Adams placed 48th, Jochen placed 69th, and Wolf placed 76th. West Salem also had one individual, Breanna Smith, competing. She placed 80th overall.

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 Sarah Weber. The National Competition will be held in early 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](http://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us). Navigate by going to 'Schools' > 'High School' > 'Students' > 'Student Services' > 'Transcripts.'

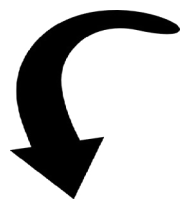
If you have questions, please call the High School Student Services Office at (608) 786-1220.

## Open Enrollment for 2022-2023

Open Enrollment into the School District of West Salem runs February 7-April 29, 2022. Open Enrollment is for any nonresident student that wishes to attend our schools. Students that are currently open enrolled do not need to reapply.

All open enrollment information can be found by going to our website [www.wsalem.k12.wi.us](http://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us) and clicking on "Enrollment" at the top of the page and then "Open Enrollment" on the right hand side. If you have questions, please call the District Office at (608)-786-0700.

## Looking for Important Dates?



The district school year calendar, as well as individual building events and athletic events can all be found on our district website. Go to [www.wsalem.k12.wi.us](http://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us) and navigate to the top right corner and click on the calendar icon. From here, you can view the school year calendar, Coulee Conference Athletic calendar, Mississippi Valley Athletic calendar, and individual building events.



# School District of West Salem

## School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes February 28, 2022 Marie Heider Meeting Room 7:00 p.m.

### 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, Union State Bank, First Community Credit Union, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district website, and district office on February 24, 2022.

### Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Krish Patel led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance while Elsa Mitchell signed. Rachel Stein recited the District Mission Statement. Part of Ms. Mitchell's Senior Exit Project was to sign the Pledge of Allegiance at a School Board Meeting.

### Roll Call

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

### Approval of Agenda

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

### Written and Oral Reports

Policy/Communication and Engagement Committee – Mr. Schlimgen reported on the Neola policy review.

Teaching and Learning Committee – Mrs. Fitzgerald reported on the agenda items: revised district scorecards, updated FastBridge data for the year, revised CCR report with descriptions, and 2022-2023 improvement plan.

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

Human Resource updates: the hirings of Kelly Bringe as a paraprofessional, Jessica Hendrickson, as a custodian, Amy Jorstad's hours were updated, Michelle Lawrynk as the transportation administrative assistant, and James Rasmussen as a technology support specialist; the resignations of Jessica Kasten as a paraprofessional limited-term employee, Maribeth Norcross as a part-time custodian, Amanda Payne as the transportation administrative assistant, and Roxanne Whitehead as a 4k paraprofessional.

Mr. Rieber provided a district update which included information on the referendum.

### Connection with the Community

Krish Patel, Student Representative, reported on:

1. The National Honor Society (NHS) will be hosting a Blood Drive tomorrow from 8:45 am until 2:00 p.m. in the high school LMC.
2. The high school will have an Early Release this Wednesday. Seniors will have adulting sessions (examples: cooking for one, basic auto, finance).
3. The Juniors will take their ACTs on March 8.
4. The Band and choir leave for Disney on March 16.
5. Senior Exit Projects are due on March 23 and the display boards are due on March 30.

Rachel Stein, Student Representative, reported on:

1. Girls' Hockey team going on to state in Madison on Thursday.
2. Girls' Basketball are Regional Champions.

3. Boys' basketball will be playing Friday night; still ranked #1 in the state.
4. Girls' gymnastics team got Sectional Runner-up and are headed to the state tournament on Friday in Wisconsin Rapids.
5. West Salem-Bangor's Evan Wolf took 2nd at state wrestling.
6. Spring sports will starting in March as well.
7. Vivace placed third at the Hastings Invite on Saturday.
8. DECA State in Lake Geneva last week

- 3 students medaled in their event and 3 students got top 6, earning a spot for the International Career Development Conference (ICDC)

- 8 competitors going to ICDC in Atlanta, Georgia
  - Krish P, Alyssa K, Morgan Q, (school store)
  - Max Y (financial consulting),
  - Abi K, Calista R, (Restaurant VBC)
  - Marina T, and Kate F (financial literacy project)

Correspondence – None.

Public Comments – None.

### Consent Agenda

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. E. Peterson seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- a. the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 14, 2022;
- b. the invoices to be paid;
- c. to accept the donation from Emily Boland for the Elementary School Art Department, and from Doctors Gary and Amy Wiegel for the high school special education IDS classroom;
- d. to accept the administration's co-curricular recommendation Lisa Hehli-assistant tennis coach, Dennis Kreuser-volunteer tennis coach, Katie Fink-head middle school softball coach, Lauren Lovely-head middle school softball coach, Brittney Hodgson-assistant high school softball coach, Rod Hamilton-volunteer softball coach, and Talia Dacquisto-volunteer soccer coach.

Motion carried unanimously.

### Discussion/Action Items:

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REDEMPTION OF CERTAIN OF THE GENERAL OBLIGATION PROMISSORY NOTES, DATED JANUARY 8, 2018

WHEREAS, the School District of West Salem, La Crosse County, Wisconsin (the "District") has outstanding its General Obligation Promissory Notes, dated January 8, 2018 (the "2018 Notes");

WHEREAS, the School Board has determined that it is necessary and desirable to call \$295,000 of the 2025 maturity and all of the 2026 and 2027 maturities of the 2018 Notes for redemption on April 1, 2022 with funds of the District on hand;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of the School District of West Salem, La Crosse County, Wisconsin, that \$295,000 of the 2025 maturity and all of the 2026 and 2027 maturities of the 2018 Notes are called for prior payment on April 1, 2022 at the price of par plus accrued interest to the date of redemption.

The District hereby directs the District Clerk to work with Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated to cause timely notice of redemption, in substantially the form attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by this reference (the "Notice"), to be provided at the times, to the parties and in the manner set forth on the Notice.

### EXHIBIT A

#### NOTICE OF PARTIAL CALL\*

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WEST SALEM  
LA CROSSE COUNTY, WISCONSIN  
GENERAL OBLIGATION PROMISSORY NOTES  
DATED JANUARY 8, 2018

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Notes of the above referenced issue which mature on the dates and in the amounts; bear interest at the rates;

# School District of West Salem

## School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes continued... February 28, 2022 Marie Heider Meeting Room 7:00 p.m.

and have CUSIP Nos. as set forth below have been called for prior payment on April 1, 2022 at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount thereof plus accrued interest to the date of prepayment:

Maturity Date	Principal Amount	Interest Rate	CUSIP No.
04/01/2025	\$295,000	**2.15%	955728GF1
04/01/2026	405,000	2.25	955728GG9
04/01/2027	315,000	2.35	955728GH7

Upon presentation and surrender of said Notes to Associated Trust Company, National Association, Green Bay, Wisconsin, the registrar and fiscal agent for said Notes, the registered owners thereof will be paid the principal amount of the Notes plus accrued interest to the date of prepayment.

Said Notes will cease to bear interest on April 1, 2022.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. E. Peterson seconded to approve for a first reading of Neola Policy #2431 Co-Curricular Activities and #2340 District-Sponsored Trips as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

CCLR Scholarship – Chris Peterson, Ken Schlimgen and Catherine Griffin will review the videos and select the recipients. No action was taken.

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.

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) (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 of a support staff employee.

Mrs. Fitzgerald moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 7:28 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mrs. Fitzgerald, 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. C. Peterson moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk

## School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes March 14, 2022 Marie Heider Meeting Room 7:00 p.m.

### Convene

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 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, Union State Bank, First Community Credit Union, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district website, and district office on March 10, 2022.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Chris Peterson led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Ken Schlimgen 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 representatives: Krish Patel and Rachel Stein. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: N/A.

### Approval of Agenda

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. E. Peterson seconded to approve the agenda with the removal of the second reading of Neola Policy #2340 District-Sponsored Trips. Motion carried unanimously.

### Written and Oral Reports

Policy/Communication and Engagement Committee – Mr. Schlimgen reported on the Neola policy review.

Workforce Engagement and Development Committee – Mr. Gavaghan reported on the agenda items: preparations for negotiations with the West Salem Education Association.

CESA #4 Board of Control – Mrs. Griffin reported on the events of the Board of Control's meeting.

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

Mr. Rieber provided a district update.

The District Art Department representatives Kaylin Staebell, Quenten Brown and Angie Hemker, invited the Board and administration to select artwork from the K-12 Honors Art Show for display in the Heider Meeting Room.

Adaptive Sports League coaches Ashly Serres and Jack Reader provided an overview of the League and shared how the students are actively participating.

### Connection with the Community

Rachel Stein, Student Representative, reported on:

1. The high school boys' basketball team are headed to state and will play Brillion at the Kohl Center.
2. The high girls' hockey team played in Madison and placed second in the state tournament.
3. Most spring sports are underway.

Krish Patel, Student Representative, reported on:

1. The NHS blood drive was very successful and saved many lives.
2. The juniors took their ACTs last Tuesday.
3. The high school band and choir are leaving for their trip on Wednesday.
4. Senior SEP deadlines; Portfolio-March 23, Board-March 30 and their Presentation is due April 4.

### Correspondence

A thank you note from the family of Francis Schmidt was read.

Public Comments – None.

### Consent Agenda

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- a. the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 28, 2022;
- b. the invoices to be paid;
- c. to accept donations from Jonathan and Amy Eckelberg for the Chloe Kay Eckelberg Memorial Scholarship, from The Parenting Place for the District; from the Mauston School District for the Nutrition Services Department; from an anonymous donor for the Scholar Athlete Scholarship Fund; and from Quinnvestment LLP for the JoAnn Quinn Nursing Scholarship Fund;

## School District of West Salem

### School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes continued... March 14, 2022 Marie Heider Meeting Room 7:00 p.m.

- d. to accept the Administration's co-curricular recommendation for volunteer softball coach-Jeanne Babiash, Michelle Babiash, Mariah Wick, Jamee Houchins, middle school track coach-Bill Jensen, Nicole Friell, Jenna Piersma, Sarah Weber, head golf coach-Alex MacRogers, and assistant golf coach-Shaun Borre;
- e. hiring Sally Bowman as the Pool Director;
- f. accepting the retirement of Technology Education Teacher Paul Liethen;
- g. the boys' hockey, girls' hockey and gymnastics WIAA Cooperative Agreements.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### Discussion/Action Items:

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. E. Peterson seconded to approve for a first reading of Neola Policy #1400 Job Descriptions and #1400.01 Superintendent Job Description. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded to approve for a second reading of Neola Policy #2431 Co-Curricular Activities. Motion carried unanimously.

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

#### Adjournment

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. C. Peterson seconded to adjourn at 7:43 p.m.  
Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk

## WSHS DECA Competes at State Conference

Several of our DECA students had the opportunity to compete at the Wisconsin State DECA Career Development Conference in Lake Geneva recently, and they did a great job representing West Salem! They worked hard all year to earn their spot at State, and several will also be moving on to the International Career Development Conference in April in Atlanta! The following students qualified to participate in the Inter-

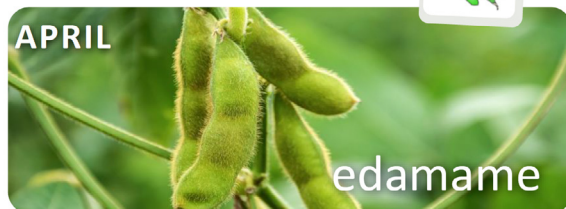
national Conference: Kate Fitzgerald, Marina Thompson, Krish Patel, Alyssa Kruse, Morgan Quackenbush, Calista Robaczewski and Abi Koch, and Max Yahnke. In addition, senior Kate Fitzgerald wrapped up her term as State DECA President and Principal Mike Malott received the School Official Excellence Award for his support of our DECA chapter. Congratulations to all!



HARVEST OF THE MONTH  
NEWSLETTER 04/2022



APRIL



edamame

### Did You Know?

Edamame is considered both a protein food and a vegetable by the USDA

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  
and Instagram

@schooldistrictofwestsalem



For WSHS athletic events, visit our website:

\*click Calendars and then  
\*click Coulee Conference/Mississippi Valley 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.

# Vote April 5

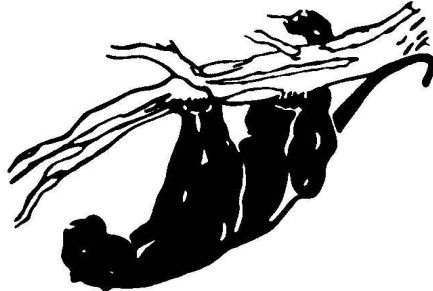
The School District of West Salem will hold a referendum on April 5, 2022, seeking permission to exceed the state-imposed revenue limit for non-recurring purposes consisting of maintaining educational programming, facilities and buses, and paying salary and other operational expenses. The Board of Education is seeking permission to exceed the revenue limit by \$2,500,000 for the 2022-2023 school year, \$2,500,000 for the 2023-2024 school year and \$2,750,000 for the 2024-2025 school year.

In preparation for the upcoming referendum, the School Board has focused on three key areas:

- Continue top-level programming and quality services
- Continued district maintenance and facility upgrades
  - Keep and maintain competitive wages for staff

If you have questions regarding the referendum, we invite you to visit the referendum webpage at [bit.ly/WSalemReferendum](http://bit.ly/WSalemReferendum), call the District Office at (608) 786-0700 or send us an email at [referendum@wsalem.k12.wi.us](mailto:referendum@wsalem.k12.wi.us)

#WeAreWS



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