

December 2020



# Newsletter

School District of West Salem

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## Letter from Superintendent Ryan Rieber

### Updates, Information, and Gratitude

Greetings and welcome to December! I hope you and your families had a wonderful Thanksgiving, although perhaps unique from what you have been accustomed to. I hope that everyone found time to spend or talk with those close to you and enjoy your families. Speaking of family, the West Salem High School Honor and Alumni Hall of Fame nominations are upon us. In order to be considered for this honor, each individual nominated must be a graduate from West Salem High School and have attended West Salem High School for more than two years. Nominations need to be received by December 15th for consideration for the next year's induction class. Anyone nominated will remain eligible for two years. Each year up to three members will be inducted into the Hall of Fame. Nomination forms are available on the District's website. <https://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us/content/district/wshs-alumni-hall-of-fame>

Recently, our school nurse, Mrs. Beth Clements, our school doctor, Dr. Rose Wolbrink, and I created a public service announcement for our community. If you have

not had an opportunity to view this, you can see this along with our district dashboard here: <https://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us/content/s/covid-19-dashboard> We are also working on updating our dashboard to be even more transparent and share information.

This time of reflection brings me back to a book that I read, *The Coffee Bean* by Jon Gordon and Damon West. While we as individuals can't control the circumstances we currently have, we can control how we respond to them. We can make the choice to be like an egg, a carrot, or a coffee bean. When placed in a pot of boiling water, an egg hardens, and a carrot weakens. We don't want to be like either; instead, we should be like a coffee bean. The coffee bean transforms the water into something more. We all have the power to transform the environment that we are in. We don't have to let our circumstances define who we are. We get to define our circumstances. No matter how difficult, we have the ability to change them. Don't give up; be a coffee bean. As we continue through this unique period, I encourage you not to give up, but to be a coffee bean, creating a positive impact on the world around you.

Letter continues on next page...

## School District of West Salem

The holiday season offers an opportunity to express gratitude and appreciation for our staff, students, families, and community. Collectively as a unit, everyone has had to face challenges that we never expected and has made the best of the circumstances. The success of our district and public education necessitates the support and engagement of everyone. This is evident in our continued student achievement. Our school district also continues to offer outstanding value with great performance opportunities. Our staff is second

to none, and the District cannot express its appreciation enough to our community.

On behalf of our entire school staff, we wish you and yours a safe and joyous holiday season!

Ryan G. Rieber  
Superintendent

## Volunteers Wanted!

The School Nutrition Services Department is looking for volunteers to assist with meal pick-up when students are in blended/in-person learning mode. Volunteers would hand out meals to families from approximately 10:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. outside the High School. We would need approximately 2 volunteers each day. Please note, volunteers are required to wear a mask and abide by the school district's COVID-19 Attendance Guidelines.

Are you interested in helping out? If so, we require that you fill out the "Personal Data" section of the Paper Application and Background Check Form which can be found at the link below and email them to [quinn.monica@wsalem.k12.wi.us](mailto:quinn.monica@wsalem.k12.wi.us) and [klunk.emily@wsalem.k12.wi.us](mailto:klunk.emily@wsalem.k12.wi.us). Paper application materials can also be picked up and returned at the District Office.

<https://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us/content/district/employment-opportunities>

Application-To access the application, scan the QR code below with your phone's camera or visit the link above.



Background Check-To access the background check, scan the QR code below with your phone's camera, or visit the link above.



# Help Out During the Holidays



Hats, scarves, jackets and blankets may be new or gently used. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

**HOLIDAY BASKET DRIVE**

Help us fill 50 baskets with non-perishable food and other necessities for families and senior citizens in the West Salem area.

Donations can be dropped off at WSES and WSMS from December 1-December 16 from 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. or at WSMS on Wednesday, December 9 and Wednesday, December 16 from 5:00-7:00 p.m.



Held by WSES & WSMS Students in conjunction with the West Salem Lions Club

Items most needed include:

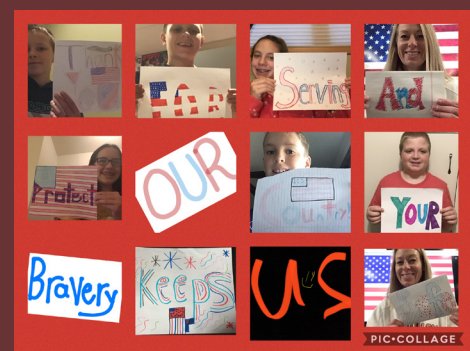
- Cans of fruit and vegetables
- Cans of soup
- Meat/Tuna Helpers
- Box potatoes
- Crackers
- Paper towels
- Plastic silverware
- Canned juices
- Peanut butter & jellies
- Macaroni and cheese
- Cans of tuna or chicken
- Flour
- Baby food
- Napkins
- Dish soap
- Brownie/cake mixes
- Spaghetti sauce and noodles
- Oatmeal/cereal
- Sugar
- Stuffing
- Kleenex/Facial Tissue
- Toilet paper



# Honoring Our Veterans

Every year, each of our school buildings holds a Veterans Day program to honor and thank the veteran family members of our students and staff, as well as our local veterans for their service to our country. Unfortunately, due to our current environment, we were not able to hold our traditional programs this year. However, we still wanted to honor our veterans in a special way.

Thanks to almost 100 families, community members and staff who submitted information about their veterans, we were able to create a video honoring them for their service. While it was not quite the same as giving them a handshake in person, we hope they know how much their sacrifice and bravery is appreciated by all of us. To view the video, you can go to our YouTube Channel or Facebook page by searching "School District of West Salem." Our students also took the time to write messages of thanks to veterans in their homerooms and discuss the importance of honoring them on this day.



# District Announcements



## Getting Creative with At-Home Science

Throughout November, Mr. Baker's 7th grade science students got creative by taking their science experiments into their homes! Students learned all about the different processes cells use to get their energy, including photosynthesis, respiration, and fermentation. They conducted a fermentation study by baking bread, which involves alcoholic fermentation, or by doing a workout, which involves lactic acid fermentation. Check out some of the amazing looking bread made for this experiment! With cells out of the way, they will be starting to learn about body systems and students will be creating their own experiments based on a single body system.

## 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)

## 2020-2021 New Student Enrollment

Enrollment for new students can be completed at the District Office, 405 E. Hamlin St., Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, visit our website at [www.wsalem.k12.wi.us](http://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us) and click on "Enrollment" at the top of the page or call the District Office at (608)-786-0700.

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

- Jane Halverson ~~~~~ 786-1067
- Ken Schlimgen ~~~~~ 786-4382
- Catherine Griffin ~~~~~ 769-1714
- Tom Grosskopf ~~~~~ 386-0168
- Robin Fitzgerald ~~~~~ 792-4130
- Sean Gavaghan ~~~~~ 797-3585
- Erik Peterson ~~~~~ 792-5370

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

# District Announcements

## Our Newest Model Teachers

At the school board meeting on November 9th, we held a virtual ceremony to honor this year's Model Teachers. To become a Model Teacher, these staff members had to present to an administrative committee and demonstrate mastery and excellence in the areas of achievement, instruction, leadership, and growth. As a Model Teacher, they commit to increased leadership, investing in the success of others, and school-wide success. Approximately 40% of our teachers have achieved Model status, which is a huge accomplishment and a testament to their dedication! This year's Model Teachers are:



Karly Baganz, 4K



Brian Baker, 7th  
Grade Science



Lindsey Dederich,  
MS Library Media  
Specialist



Melissa Haas,  
HS Family &  
Consumer Science



Alyssa Jarosh,  
6th Grade Science



David Neuman,  
HS Physical  
Education & Health



Amy Reedy,  
1st Grade



Rachel Sackett,  
8th Grade English  
Language Arts



Rita Schwartz,  
4th Grade



Jennifer Stenberg,  
HS Science



Sarah Weber,  
7th Grade Math



Carrie  
Wilson-Smith,  
HS Special  
Education

Not Pictured: Heidi Schiefelbein, Elementary Math Coordinator

## 4K Registration and Screening

If you have a student who will be four years old by September 1, 2021, please join us for 4K registration and screening! Mark your calendars for the following tentative dates. Please note that these dates could change. Watch for further details in January's newsletter.

### Tentative Dates for 4K Registration and Screening

Tuesday, February 23, 2021-evening

Thursday, February 25, 2021-evening

Friday, February 26, 2021-afternoon/day

### Kindergarten Registration 2021-2022

If you have a student who will be five years old by September 1, 2021 and your child does not attend our 4K program, please contact the elementary school office at 786-1662 to pre-register.

All current WSES 4K students will automatically receive kindergarten registration information.



## ADS for GRADS

The Neshonoc Yearbook Senior Tribute program, known as Ad for Grads, is a wonderful way to congratulate seniors on their accomplishments - especially this year. The size options include anything from a full-page to a 1/8th page ad. The larger options provide more room for multiple photos and longer messages.

You can build your own ad online! If you would like to order online, please use the following link:

<https://www.jostens.com/yearbooks/students-and-parents/yearbook-ads>

Our staff can also build your ad for you if you prefer. If interested please fill out the following form, and turn it into the yearbook staff by: **Thursday, January 7th, 2021.**

Your Name:

Address:

Phone:

Graduate's Name:

Ad size:

\_\_\_ 1/8 (\$40)      \_\_\_ 1/4 (\$65)      \_\_\_ 1/2 (\$100)      \_\_\_ Full Page (\$185)

Message:

If the ad includes photos, please label them clearly, and send them along with this form as well as payment to West Salem High School -- Attn: Andrea Armstrong Room 242. Please make checks payable to West Salem High School. Photos will be returned. If you are emailing your photos, please send them to:

armstrong.andrea@wsalem.k12.wi.us





WEST SALEM MIDDLE SCHOOL

# VIRTUAL HOLIDAY BAND CONCERT

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2020

7:00 P.M.

**SHAREABLE ZOOM LINK COMING SOON**

Come join us as our 7th & 8th Grade Band Students share a little holiday cheer. The concert will be held on ZOOM with as many as 10 short holiday selections to be performed. Mr. Waldhart will also share a little about the process of student recordings and layer the files to create a concert band setting. The VIRTUAL CONCERT is REQUIRED for all 7th & 8th Grade Band Students, so please make a note in your calendar.

## NOTICE OF SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

School District of West Salem

April 6, 2021

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at an election to be held in the School District of West Salem, on Tuesday, April 6, 2021, the following offices are to be elected to succeed the present incumbents listed. The term of office for school board member is three years beginning on Monday, April 26, 2021.

<u>Office</u>	<u>Incumbent</u>	<u>Term</u>
School Board Member	Robin Fitzgerald	3 years-Expire April 21, 2024
School Board Member	Jane Halverson	3 years-Expire April 21, 2024

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that a Campaign Registration Statement and a Declaration of Candidacy, must be filed no later than 5:00 p.m., on Tuesday, January 5, 2021, in the office of the school district clerk. The office of the school district clerk is located at 405 East Hamlin Street, West Salem, WI 54669

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that if a primary is necessary, the primary will be held on Tuesday, February 16, 2021.

A description of the school district boundaries can be obtained from the school district office.

**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.**

Done in the School District of West Salem on October 26, 2020

Jane Halverson, Clerk



# School District of West Salem

## School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes October 12, 2020 Marie Heider Meeting Room 7:00 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 7:00 p.m. by President Catherine Griffin. The meeting was noticed to the Coulee Courier, La Crosse Tribune, WLSU Radio 89 FM, WXOW TV-19, WKBT-TV, WKTY, WIZM, Union State Bank, First Community Credit Union, St. Joe's Country Market, West Salem Post Office, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district web site, and district office on October 8, 2020.

### Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

### Approval of Agenda

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

### Connection with the Community

Madisyn Haun, Student Representative, reported on:

1. Sports are beginning to enter their playoffs and post season games.
2. Tennis has three players going to state.

Maxwell Goetz, Student Representative, reported on:

1. Students are back in school in the blended learning format.
2. Lifetouch has come to take the "Salem" group's school photos on October 8 and the "West" group's school photos is on October 19.
3. There is a tentative homecoming date set for October 23.

Correspondence – None.

Public comments – None.

### Written and Oral Reports

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

Workforce Engagement and Development Committee – Mrs. Halverson reported on the agenda item: employee handbook updates.

Business Operations Committee – Mr. Grosskopf reported on the agenda items: proposed 20-21 budget, mill rate and tax levy; resolution for short-term borrowing; and refinance of referendum debt from 3.4% to 2.5%.

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

### Consent Agenda

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Peterson seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:  
a) the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of September 28, 2020;  
b) the invoices to be paid  
c) accept the resignation of Angie Hemker as the district's Odyssey of the Mind Leader.

Motion carried unanimously.

### Discussion/Action Items:

Proposed 20-21 budget, mill rate and tax levy. No action was taken.

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to adopt the following resolution: Be It Resolved that the School District of West Salem will borrow on a short-term basis the sum of \$5,500,000 for the operation of the schools of the district: \$2,750,000 on October 15, 2020 with an additional \$2,750,000 on November 13, 2020, with a payment of \$1,842,000 to be made on December 18 and January 22nd, and the final payment of \$1,839,000 plus interest on February 26, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Gavaghan seconded to approve the refinancing of referendum debt from 3.4% to 2.5%. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Grosskopf moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to accept the Workforce Engagement & Development Committee's recommendation for employee handbook updates. Motion carried. (6-0) Mr. Peterson Abstained.

Wisconsin Education Convention participation. No action was taken.

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

Mrs. Griffin welcomed the motion for closed session: The Board will discuss, consider and, if appropriate, take action pursuant to Wis. Stats §19.85(1) (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 superintendent's evaluation.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 7:45 p.m. 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.

### Closed Session

### Adjournment

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to adjourn at 9:28 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane Halverson, Clerk

## School District of West Salem Annual Budget Hearing October 26, 2020 Marie Heider Meeting Room 6:00 p.m.

### Convene

President Catherine Griffin called the annual budget hearing of the School District of West Salem to order at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was noticed to the Coulee Courier on October 9 and October 23, 2020 and posted in the district office on October 22, 2022.

There were seven district resident/voting members present at the meeting.

Board members present: Sean Gavaghan, Ken Schlimgen, Catherine

**School District of West Salem**  
**School District of West Salem**  
**Annual Budget Hearing continued...**  
**October 26, 2020**  
**Marie Heider Meeting Room**  
**6:00 p.m.**

Griffin, Robin Fitzgerald, Tom Grosskopf, and Erik Peterson.

**Presentation and Explanation of the Budget**

Mrs. Griffin called on Director of Finance Shawn Handland who presented a report on the 2019-20 budget, the proposed 2020-21 budget, General Fund revenues and expenses, and summarized the other Funds: 21, 38, 41, 43, 49, 50, 72, 73 and 80.

<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Actual 2019-20</u>	<u>Proposed 2020-21</u>
General Fund (10)	22,436,551.65	23,221,659.00
Special Revenue Trust (21)	593,643.19	357,266.00
Special Education (27)	3,549,136.56	3,793,969.00
Non Referendum Debt Service (38)	512,051.15	70,597.00
Debt Service (39)	1,970,659.57	1,682,048.00
Long Term Capital Improvement Trust (46)	0.00	0.00
Capital Projects (49)	1,094,227.69	196,963.00
Food Service (50)	930,229.30	1,081,782.00
Private Benefit Trust (72)	26,427.97	24,000.00
Post Employment Trust Fund (73)	11,077.00	300,000.00
Community Service (80)	107,094.84	146,898.00
Property Tax Levy		
General Fund	7,550,958	7,699,658
Non-Referendum Debt Service Fund	174,400	70,597
Debt Service	1,405,646	1,682,048
Community Service Fund	109,500	109,500
TOTAL SCHOOL LEVY	0.00955	0.00954
Fund 73 Balance:		
July 1, 2019	1,453,561.72	
Interest Earned	26,157.43	
Implicit Rate Subsidy Value	11,077.00	
Expenses	11,077.00	
June 30, 2020	1,468,642.15	

**Call for Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Sean Gavaghan moved, Erik Peterson seconded to adjourn at 6:16 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Sean Gavaghan, Acting Clerk

# School District of West Salem

## School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes October 26, 2020 Marie Heider Meeting Room 7:00 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 7:01 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 October 22, 2020.

### Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Eric Jensen led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Ben Wopat recited the District Mission Statement.

### Roll Call

Present: Erik Peterson, Ken Schlimgen, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin, Robin Fitzgerald, and Sean Gavaghan. Also in attendance – Administrators: Ryan Rieber, Ben Wopat, Eric Jensen, Mike Malott, Tami Bagstad, Deanna Wiatt, and Shawn Handland; Student representatives: Madisyn Haun and Maxwell Goetz. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Jane Halverson

### Approval of Agenda

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

### Connection with the Community

Madisyn Haun, Student Representative, reported on:

1. The National Honor Society had their Trick or Can event yesterday
2. Homecoming went smoothly. Events and activities included: court, king & queen, football game, dress up days (Freshmen won), painted canvases instead of windows (Seniors won), and decorated each grade's homerooms' doors, pep band got to play at game, and spirit awards.
3. Drama department will perform "Into the Woods" at the school forest.
4. The choirs performed at the Lion's Shelter yesterday for their families.
5. There is no school this coming Friday

Maxwell Goetz, Student Representative, reported on:

1. Some West Salem sports teams are finishing their season and competing in playoffs.
2. The soccer team beat Wautoma 4-1 on Saturday and became the regional champions.
3. Volleyball took an unfortunate loss Saturday against Aquinas.
4. The football team beat Aquinas for their homecoming game 22-6. They will play Nekoosa on Friday.
5. Boys cross country team qualified for state and Macy Tauscher qualified for the tournament for girls cross country.
6. Tennis competed at the state tournament two weeks ago

Correspondence – None.

Public comments – None.

### Written and Oral Reports

Business Operations Committee – Mr. Grosskopf reported on the agenda

item proposed 20-21 budget, mill rate and tax levy.

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

Human Resources updates: Resignations, Gerald Every-van driver, Sara Gorniak-school nutrition, Kurt Knoll-lead custodian. Hire Gary Roesler-van driver

School Facility Use Under COVID-19 – Mr. Rieber provided a summary.

### Consent Agenda

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

- a) the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of October 12, 2020;
- b) the invoices to be paid;
- c) accept the donation from Anna Gorski for the elementary school;
- d) co-curricular recommendations

High school - Matt Quick-head girls' basketball coach, Maggi Bishop & Melissa Norman-assistant girls' basketball coach, Steve kastenschmidt-head boys' basketball coach, Jared Hauser-assistant boys' basketball coach, Bill Jensen-volunteer boys' basketball coach, Eric Borre-head hockey coach, Bob Gorniak & Shaun Borre-assistant hockey coach, Grant Le Doux & Joseph Oldendorf-volunteer hockey coach, Carrie O'Hearn-head gymnastics coach, Brittney Hodgson-assistant gymnastics coach, Ana Botwinski-Kennebeck-volunteer gymnastics coach, Josh Brewer-head wrestling coach, Tyler Shrake & Mike Lyga-assistant wrestling coach. Middle school – Heather Jehn-7th grade boys' basketball, Janel Lochen-7th grade boys' assistant basketball, Justin Running-8th grade boys' basketball.

### Discussion/Action Items:

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to approve the Early College Credit requests for the 2nd semester. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to set the budget for the 2020-2021 as presented-proposed Fund 10 expenses at \$23,221,659 and proposed Fund 10 revenues at \$23,691,662. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to set the 2020-2021 school year Tax Levy at \$9,561,803 with a Mill Rate of 0.00954448. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mr. Peterson seconded to make November 13, 2020, December 11, 2020 and January 15, 2021 as full-day professional development days for staff. A roll call vote was taken: Mrs. Fitzgerald, Aye; Mr. Gavaghan, Aye; Mr. Peterson, Aye; Mrs. Griffin, Aye; Mr. Grosskopf, Aye; and Mr. Schlimgen, Nay. (5-Aye, 1-Nay) Motion carried.

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

### Board Development Session

Mr. Rieber and Mrs. Griffin led the Board and administrators through a Board Development Tool exercise and reviewed preliminary survey information.

The Board and administrators did not get to review the reading assignment from the book, The Governance Core: School Boards, Superintendents and Schools Working Together.

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

### Adjournment

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to adjourn at 9:31 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sean Gavaghan, Acting Clerk

# School District of West Salem

## School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes November 9, 2020 Marie Heider Meeting Room 7:00 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 7:08 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 November 5, 2020.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag  
Tami Bagstad 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 (Remote Participation). Also in attendance – Administrators: Ryan Rieber, Ben Wopat, Eric Jensen, Mike Malott, Tami Bagstad, Deanna Wiatt, and Shawn Handland; Student representatives: Madisyn Haun (Remote Participation) and Maxwell Goetz (Remote Participation). Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: N/A.

### Approval of Agenda

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

### Connection with the Community

Madisyn Haun, Student Representative, reported on:

1. The seniors are ordering their cap and gowns.
2. First quarter ended at the high school

Maxwell Goetz, Student Representative, reported on:

1. Fall sports have ended.
2. The winter sports meeting happened over the weekend.
3. School now in virtual learning mode.

Correspondence – None.

### Public comments

Jennifer Black spoke on virtual learning.

### Written and Oral Reports

Board Grant Review Committee – Mrs. Halverson reported on the Board Grant Selections.

CESA #4 Board of Control- Mrs. Halverson reported on the events of the Board's November meeting.

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

A presentation from Technology Integrationist Kathy Hilby regarding the online learning platforms used in the district.

Mrs. Griffin presented Ken Schlimgen and Robin Fitzgerald with a certificate and pin as part of the WASB (Wisconsin Association of School Boards) recognition program.

Mr. Rieber provided an update on the use of school facilities following a recent meeting with organizations.

### Consent Agenda

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

- a) the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of October 26, 2020;
- b) the invoices to be paid;
- c) and to accept donations from the Knights of Columbus to the special education program, from the 1st Community Credit Union to the Nutrition Services Jane Doe Fund, from Altra Federal Credit Union to the elementary school reading program, from Lynxx Internet to the middle and high schools, from Rochelle Lafky to the district, and an anonymous donation in memory of Dorrene Heider for the Random Acts of Kindness and Jane Doe lunch accounts.

Motion carried unanimously.

### Discussion/Action Items:

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to accept the Board Grant Review Committee's recommendation to award School Board Grants as follows:

- 1) Angie Hemker for Social & Emotional Color Studies Using Printmaking as a Vehicle-\$1,013.74
- 2) Becky Buisman & Kari Schultz for Greek Drama Festival-\$1,500.00
- 3) Heidi Horton & Mike Lang for Calming Kits-\$400.00

Wisconsin Education Convention in January 20-22, 2021. No action was taken.

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

### Board Development Session

The Board and administration reviewed the introduction and Chapter 1 of The Governance Core: School Boards, Superintendents and Schools Working Together.

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

### Adjournment

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Peterson seconded to adjourn at 8:59 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane Halverson, Clerk



## A New Type of Sport

Did you know West Salem High School has an Esports team? Approximately 30 students have joined to become members of the school's first Esports team. The team is a member of the Wisconsin High School Esports Association, and competes against other schools throughout the state in competitive on-line games. They recently held their first match and took home a 4-0 victory over Wautoma, the defending State Champions! Students played Overwatch, and were very excited to start their season off with a

win! Advisor and high school business teacher Jason Holter says the team has been a great opportunity for many of our students that may not participate in sports or other extracurriculars to try something new. Students practiced at school before switching to virtual learning, but now they are competing against their opponents from home. We wish them the best of luck this season!



COULEE REGION

**FARM TO SCHOOL**  
LOCAL FOODS. HEALTHY KIDS

HARVEST OF THE MONTH  
NEWSLETTER 12/2020



### Did You Know?

There are over 15 different types of squash!



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

You can also set yourself up to receive automatic text or e-mail notifications for any of the activities listed OR subscribe to RSS.

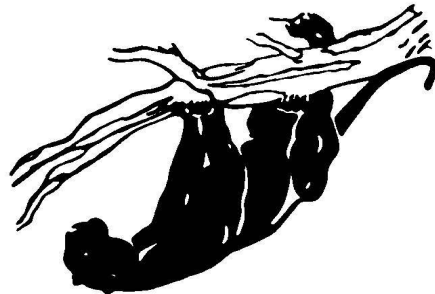


# School District of West Salem

“Serve with Passion to Ignite Creativity,  
Innovation and Excellence.”



#WeAreWS



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