

December 2025

# WS Newsletter

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## Letter from Superintendent Ryan

### Reflecting on the Year

As we step into this season of gratitude and holiday cheer, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks for the incredible support you continue to show the School District of West Salem. Your partnership is one of our greatest gifts, and we feel it every day across our campuses.

If you've driven by recently, you've likely noticed the exciting progress on the construction projects approved in last November's referendum. Precast walls at the elementary school are scheduled to be set soon, and at the high school, crews are hard at work installing footings, foundation structures, and a new retaining wall for the upcoming addition. With progress comes activity, and you may have

seen an increase in construction vehicles and equipment in the area. Please know that our district and construction teams are taking every precaution to maintain a safe campus. We truly appreciate your patience, awareness, and extra care as we navigate this busy and transformative season together.

On November 11, our district once again came together to honor the courageous men and women who have served our country through our annual Veterans Day programs. Their bravery, sacrifice, and unwavering dedication continue to inspire us. Thank you to our students, staff, veterans, and community members who helped make these events so meaningful. It is an honor and a cherished tradition to pause, reflect, and teach our students the importance of gratitude and respect for

Letter continues on next page...

## School District of West Salem

those who have given so much. The heartfelt messages, musical performances, and thoughtful activities throughout our schools highlight our district's deep commitment to recognizing these remarkable individuals.

As we reflect on this year's accomplishments, we are proud to share the results from the latest District and School Report Cards. Our district's score of 77.3, which is an increase of 4 points from last year, earned the designation of Exceeds Expectations. We celebrate the fact that all of our schools improved on their scores from last year, and our elementary school is the top scoring non-charter elementary school in La Crosse County. These results are based on state-mandated assessments, as well as key indicators such as attendance, dropout rates, and students on track for graduation.

Having every building take a step forward is a tremendous accomplishment, and it speaks volumes about the teamwork, resilience, and dedication of our students, staff, and families. As Vince Lombardi reminded us, "The dictionary is the only place that success comes before work. Work is the key to success, and hard work can help you accomplish anything." District results and individual school report cards can be viewed on our website under District → District Information → School Reporting.

The dedication of our staff and administrators across all three buildings continues to inspire. Their collaboration and commitment are vital to our students' success. We also extend our sincere thanks to our families for their ongoing support and engagement, your partnership as your child's

first teacher makes all the difference. December marks the beginning of our winter co-curricular season, highlighted by holiday concerts, performances, and seasonal events. Please explore our district activity calendar and join us for these celebrations of student talent and creativity. You can find all the events schedule throughout the district by clicking on the calendar icon on our West Salem School District homepage in the top right corner.

With the holidays approaching, the School District of West Salem extends our warmest wishes for joy, rest, and meaningful time with loved ones. School will not be in session from Wednesday, December 24, 2025, through Friday, January 2, 2026. Classes will resume on Monday, January 5, 2026. We hope this upcoming break brings relaxation and renewal as we prepare to step into an inspiring new year together.

As we move through this busy season, I offer a gentle reminder to slow down and savor the moments that matter most. In a world full of hustle and bustle, the greatest gift we can give, or receive, is our time. Take a deep breath. Enjoy the holiday lights. Step outside for a quiet walk. Notice the beauty in the everyday. Be fully present with the people who mean the most to you. These small but meaningful moments become the memories that stay with us long after the season has passed.

I'll admit, I'm nostalgic, and I always hope for a white Christmas, the kind of fresh snowfall that softens the world and brings a quiet magic to the season. But more important than snowflakes or scenery are the memories we create with our family and friends. Those moments, shared with the

### School District of West Salem

people we care about, are the truest gifts of Christmas.

During this season of gratitude, I want to express my thanks for your continued support, kindness, and partnership. Because of you, the School District of West Salem remains a place where students thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. Your dedication and collaboration make a lasting difference, and it is appreciated.

May this Christmas season bring warmth to your home, peace, and hope for the new year ahead. From our district family to yours, we wish you a joyful, restful, and love-filled holiday season.

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year!

Ryan Rieber  
Superintendent

# Calendar of Events

## December



Athletic Events

Tuesday, December 2, 2025

5:30pm Ice Hockey: Girls JV  
Game vs. Winona  
Senior @ Winona Bud  
King Ice Arena

7:15pm Ice Hockey: Girls  
Varsity Game vs.  
Winona Senior  
@ Bud King Ice Arena

Thursday, December 4, 2025

5:45pm Basketball: Girls JV  
Game vs. Holmen  
@ Holmen High School

6:00pm Wrestling: Boys Varsity  
Quad vs. G-E-T, Logan  
& Tomah @ West Salem  
High School

7:00pm Ice Hockey: Boys  
Varsity Game vs. La  
Crescent @ West Salem  
Panther Den Arena

7:00pm Wrestling: Girls Varsity  
Quad vs. G-E-T, Logan  
& Tomah @ West Salem  
High School

7:15pm Basketball: Girls Varsity  
Game vs. Holmen  
@ Holmen High School

Friday, December 5, 2025

5:45pm Basketball: Boys JV  
Game vs. Tomah  
@ Tomah HS

7:30pm Basketball: Boys Varsity  
Game vs. Tomah  
@ Tomah HS

Saturday, December 6, 2025

9:00am Wrestling: Boys & Girls  
JV/Varsity Invite

vs. Adams/Friend  
ship, Amherst,  
Aquinas, Assumption,  
Blair-Taylor, Boscobel,  
Cashton, Edgerton,  
Hillsboro, Kickapoo,  
Mauston, Montello,  
New Lisbon, North  
Crawford, Poynette,  
Richland Center, River  
Ridge, Royall, Spencer,  
Tomah, Wautoma,  
Westby Area High  
School & Westfield  
Middle @ Royall  
High School

12:45pm Ice Hockey: Girls  
Varsity Game vs.  
Hayward Community  
Schools @ West Salem  
Panther Den Arena

3:00pm Gymnastics: JV/  
Varsity Invite vs. Austin,  
Blue Earth Area,  
Faribault Senior High,  
Mankato East, Mankato  
West, New Ulm, St.  
Peter & Waseca  
@ Mankato K & G  
Gymnastics

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

4:30pm Basketball: Girls JV  
Game vs. Luther  
@ Luther High School

4:30pm Basketball: Boys  
C-Team Game vs.  
Luther @ Luther High  
School

5:00pm Ice Hockey: Girls  
Varsity Game vs.  
Viroqua @ West Salem  
Panther Den Arena

Calendar of events continues on next page...

## School District of West Salem

5:45pm	Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Luther @ Luther High School
5:45pm	Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. Luther @ Luther High School
7:00pm	Ice Hockey: Boys Varsity Game vs. Viroqua @ West Salem Panther Den Arena
7:15pm	Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Luther @ Luther High School

### Thursday, December 11, 2025

5:00pm	Ice Hockey: Girls Varsity Game vs. Eau Claire North @ Hobbs Ice Arena
5:00pm	Ice Hockey: Boys JV Game vs. Baldwin-Woodville Area School District @ Baldwin United Civic Center
5:45pm	Basketball: Girls JV Game vs. Black River Falls @ West Salem High School
6:00pm	Wrestling: Boys Varsity Dual Meet vs. Eau Claire North @ Bangor High School
7:00pm	Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Black River Falls @ West Salem High School
7:00pm	Ice Hockey: Boys Varsity Game

vs. Baldwin-Woodville Area School District @ Baldwin United Civic Center

### Friday, December 12, 2025

4:30pm	Wrestling: Girls Varsity Invitational vs. Abbotsford, Arcadia, Arrowhead, Assumption, Auburndale, Baldwin-Woodville Area School District, Blair-Taylor, Bloomer, Burlington Area School District, Clear Lake, Cochrane-Fountain City, Durand-Arkansas, Eau Claire Memorial, Eau Claire North, Elk Mound, Holmen, Hudson, Manawa, McDonell Central Catholic, Medford, Menomonie, Mondovi, Mosinee, Neillsville, Nekoosa, New Richmond, Prescott, Rice Lake, St. Michael-Albertville, Simley, Somerset, Spencer, Spring Valley, St. Charles, Stanley-Boyd, Superior, Wausau East, Wausau West, Whitehall & Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln @ Eau Claire Memorial High School
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## School District of West Salem

### Saturday, December 13, 2025

9:00am Wrestling: Boys JV/  
Varsity Invitational  
vs. Abbotsford,  
Assumption,  
Auburndale,  
Baldwin-Wood  
ville Area School  
District, Bloomer,  
Cochrane-Fountain  
City, Don Bosco  
Catholic, Durand-  
Arkansaw, Eau Claire  
Memorial, Eau Claire  
North, Holmen,  
Kaukauna, Medford  
Menomonie, Mondovi,  
Mosinee, Neenah,  
Neillsville,  
Nekoosa, New  
Richmond, Rice  
Lake, Simley, Somerset,  
Spencer, Superior,  
Wausau East, Whitehall  
& Wisconsin Rapids  
Lincoln @ Sonnentag  
Center-Eau Claire

10:00am Gymnastics: JV/Varsity  
Invite vs. G-E-T, Logan,  
River Valley, Sauk  
Prairie, Southwestern,  
Tomah & Westby Area  
High School @ West  
Salem High School

11:00am Ice Hockey: Girls JV  
Game vs. Stevens Point  
Area Senior @ Panther  
Den Arena

### Monday, December 15, 2025

5:45pm Basketball: Boys  
C-Team Game vs.  
Holmen @ Holmen  
High School Gym C

5:45pm Basketball: Boys JV  
Game vs. Holmen

@ Holmen High School  
Gym A/B  
Basketball: Boys Varsity  
Game vs. Holmen  
@ Holmen High School

### Tuesday, December 16, 2025

5:45pm Basketball: Girls JV  
Game vs. G-E-T  
@ G-E-T High School  
Gym North

6:00pm Gymnastics: JV/Varsity  
Meet vs. G-E-T/M-M/  
CFC & Westby-Viroqua  
@ West Salem  
High School

7:00pm Basketball: Girls Varsity  
Game vs. G-E-T  
@ G-E-T High School  
Gym North

7:00pm Ice Hockey: Boys  
Varsity Game vs.  
Tomah/Sparta @ Tomah

### Thursday, December 18, 2025

4:15pm Basketball: Girls JV  
Game vs. Tomah  
@ West Salem  
High School

5:00pm Ice Hockey: Girls  
Varsity Game vs.  
Stevens Point Area  
Senior @ Panther Den  
Arena

5:00pm Wrestling: Girls Varsity  
Meet vs. Arcadia, Black  
River Falls, G-E-T,  
Neillsville, Viroqua &  
Westby Area High  
School @ Black River  
Falls Fieldhouse

5:45pm Basketball: Girls Varsity  
Game vs. Tomah  
@ West Salem  
High School

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5:45pm	Basketball: Boys C-Team Game vs. Black River Falls @ West Salem		Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln @ E.H Stech Fieldhouse - West Allis Central
5:45pm	Elementary School Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. Black River Falls @ West Salem	4:00pm	Wrestling: Boys JV Invite vs. De Soto, Eau Claire Memorial, Eau Claire North, G-E-T-/Mel-Min, Hillsboro, Holmen, Mondovi, Onalaska, Riverdale, Sparta, Tomah, Viroqua, Westby Area High School, Whitehall & Wisconsin Dells @ Melrose-Mindoro High School
7:00pm	Middle School Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Black River Falls @ West Salem		Wrestling: Girls Varsity Invite vs. Aquinas, Blair- Taylor, De Soto, Eau Claire Memorial, Eau Claire North, Holmen, Iowa-Grant, Mondovi, Osseo-Fairchild, Riverdale, Sparta, Tomah, Viroqua, Westby Area High School, Whitehall & Wisconsin Dells @ Melrose-Mindoro High School
7:00pm	High School Ice Hockey: Boys Varsity Game vs. Black River Falls @ West Salem	4:30pm	Basketball: Girls JV Game vs. Westby Area High School @ West Salem High School
<b>Friday, December 19, 2025</b>			
3:00pm	Panther Den Arena Wrestling: Boys Varsity Invite vs. Brown Deer, Cedarburg, Franklin, German town, Grafton, Greendale, Green field, Janesville Craig, Joliet Central, Kenosha Christian Life, Marshfield, Milwaukee Hamilton, Milwaukee Lutheran, Mukwonago, New Berlin West, Slinger, South Milwaukee, Verona Area, Watertown, Waukesha North, Wauwatosa West, West Allis Central, West Allis Nathan Hale, Whitefish Bay, Whitnall &	5:45pm	Basketball: Girls JV Game vs. Westby Area High School @ West Salem High School Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Westby Area High School @ West Salem High School
		7:00pm	

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### Saturday, December 20, 2025

7:00am	Wrestling: Boys Varsity Invite vs. Brown Deer, Cedarburg,	5:45pm	Basketball: Boys C-Team Game vs. Wausau East @ West Salem Middle School
	Franklin, Germantown, Grafton, Greendale, Greenfield, Janesville Craig, Joliet	5:45pm	Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. Wausau East @ West Salem High School
	Central, Kenosha Christian Life, Marshfield, Milwaukee Hamilton, Milwaukee	7:00pm	Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Wausau East @ West Salem High School
	Lutheran, Mukwonago, New Berlin West, Slinger, South Milwaukee, Verona	7:00pm	Ice Hockey: Boys Varsity Game vs. Altoona @ Altoona Hobbs
	Area, Watertown, Waukesha North, Wauwatosa West, West Allis Central, West Allis Nathan Hale,	7:15pm	Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Logan @ Logan High School Fieldhouse
	Whitefish Bay, Whitnall & Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln @ E.H Stech Fieldhouse-West Allis Central	<b>Saturday, December 27, 2025</b> TBD	
10:00am	Gymnastics: JV/Varsity Invitational vs. Antigo, G-E-T, Marshfield, Onalaska, Sparta, Tomah & Westby Area High School @ Tomah High School		Ice Hockey: Boys Varsity Invitational vs. Ashland, Milton, Madison Memorial, Marshfield, Monona Grove, Northland Pines, River Falls, Sauk Prairie, Whitefish Bay & Xavier @ Madison Ice Arena
5:00pm	Ice Hockey: Girls JV Game vs. Xavier @ Tri County Ice Arena	<b>Sunday, December 28, 2025</b> TBD	
7:00pm	Ice Hockey: Girls Varsity Game vs. Xavier @ Tri County Ice Arena		Ice Hockey: Boys Varsity Invitational vs. Ashland, Milton, Madison Memorial, Marshfield, Monona Grove, Northland Pines, River Falls, Sauk Prairie, Whitefish Bay & Xavier @ Madison Ice Arena

### Monday, December 22, 2025

5:00pm	Ice Hockey: Boys JV Game vs. Altoona @ Altoona Hobbs
5:45pm	Basketball: Girls JV



## School District of West Salem

### Monday, December 29, 2025

TBD	Ice Hockey: Girls JV Tournament vs. Arrowhead, Beaver Dam, Black River Falls, Chippewa Falls, Eau Claire North, Hayward Community Schools, & West De Pere @ Hayward Sports Center	9:15am	River Falls, Chippewa Falls, Eau Claire North, Hayward Community Schools, & West De Pere @ Hayward Sports Center
TBD	Ice Hockey: Boys Varsity Tournament vs. Ashland, Milton, Madison Memorial, Madison West, Marshfield, Monona Grove, Northland Pines, River Falls, Sauk Prairie, Whitefish Bay & Xavier @ Madison Ice Arena	11:30am	Wrestling: Boys & Girls Varsity Invitational vs. Multiple Schools - Bi-State Classic @ La Crosse Center
9:00am	Wrestling: Boys & Girls Varsity Invitational vs. Multiple Schools - Bi-State Classic @ La Crosse Center	1:00pm	Basketball: Girls JV Game vs. Caledonia Area Public Schools @ Caledonia Area High School
7:00pm	Ice Hockey: Girls Varsity Tournament vs. Arrowhead, Beaver Dam, Black River Falls, Chippewa Falls, Eau Claire North, Hayward Community Schools & West De Pere @ Hayward Sports Center	2:45pm	Basketball: Girls Varsity Game vs. Caledonia Area Public Schools @ Caledonia Area High School
		4:15pm	Basketball: Boys Varsity Game vs. Caledonia Area Public Schools @ Caledonia Area High School
		7:00pm	Basketball: Boys JV Game vs. Caledonia Area Public Schools @ Caledonia Area High School
			Ice Hockey: Girls Varsity Tournament vs. Arrowhead, Beaver Dam, Black River Falls, Chippewa Falls, Eau Claire North, Hayward Community Schools & West De Pere @ Hayward Sports Center

### Tuesday, December 30, 2025

TBD	Ice Hockey: Girls JV Tournament vs. Arrowhead, Beaver Dam, Black		River Falls, Chippewa Falls, Eau Claire North, Hayward Community Schools & West De Pere @ Hayward Sports Center
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## School District of West Salem

### Band Events

**Sunday, December 14, 2025**

1:00pm Winter Concert @ Heider Center

**Monday, December 15, 2025**

6:00pm Rotary Lights Performance

### Elementary School Events

**Tuesday, December 9, 2025**

5:30pm UW-L Math Night

**Wednesday, December 24, 2025-**

**Friday, January 2, 2026**

All Day No School-Christmas Break

### Middle School Events

**Wednesday, December 3, 2025**

8:00am Trimester 1 Grades Due

**Tuesday, December 9, 2025**

6:00pm 7th Grade Band &  
Choir Holiday  
Concert @ Heider  
Center  
Students should report  
@ 5:30 p.m.

7:30pm 8th Grade Band &  
Choir Holiday  
Concert @ Heider  
Center  
Students should report  
@ 7:00pm

**Wednesday, December 24, 2025-**

**Friday, January 2, 2026**

All Day No School-Christmas Break

### High School Events

**Sunday, December 7, 2025**

4:00pm WSHS Choir Holiday  
Concert  
@ Heider Center

**Sunday, December 14, 2025**

1:00pm Winter Band Holiday  
Concert @ Heider  
Center

**Wednesday, December 24, 2025-**

**Friday, January 2, 2026**

All Day No School-Christmas Break

CONTACT : [STENBERG.JENNIFER@WSALEM.K12.WI.US](mailto:STENBERG.JENNIFER@WSALEM.K12.WI.US) IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS OR WOULD LIKE AN NHS STUDENT TO SELECT A TAG FOR YOU.

# **NHS** *giving tree*

**SELECT A TAG WITH A GIFT CARD SUGGESTION FROM THE GIVING TREE IN THE HS LMC TO HELP A FAMILY IN NEED THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.**

**ALL GIFTS MUST BE TURNED INTO MRS. STENBERG (OR HS OFFICE) BY FRI., DEC. 12.**



**GIFT CARD REQUESTS ARE \$25 OR \$50 TO VARIOUS BUSINESSES.  
TAGS WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM TUES., NOV. 18 - THURS., DEC. 11 (OR UNTIL THEY ARE GONE)**

## Teacher of the Year

At this year's Wisconsin Health & Physical Education Convention, West Salem Middle School Healthy Living Teacher Josh Brewer was recognized for being named the WHPE Middle School Physical Education Teacher of the Year! Mr. Brewer was recognized for being a student-centered educator who strives to consistently foster growth through his relationship building, content expertise and willingness to initiate unique target-based learning opportunities for students. He is always thinking outside the box and has incorporated both biking and paddle boarding into the middle school curriculum, giving students unique and valuable experiences in the classroom. We couldn't agree more that he deserves this recognition and we are incredibly fortunate to have him as a member of our team!



## District Announcements



### Honoring their Service

This Veterans Day, we had the privilege of honoring our local veterans at our annual programs at each of our schools. These programs give our students and staff an opportunity to show their appreciation for the dedication, sacrifice, and courage of our veterans. Students learned about the origins of Veterans Day and the different branches of the military, sang and played patriotic songs, and had a chance to thank veterans by shaking their hands. At the high school, students even got to listen to Technology Education teacher Mr. Parr talk about his experience in the Army. While thank you will never be enough, we are proud to honor them today and every day for serving our country. Thank You, Veterans!



### School Board Members

Catherine Griffin, President ~~~~~(608) 769-1714  
Erik Peterson, Vice President ~~~~~ (608) 792-5370  
Trish Harman, Treasurer ~~~~~(608) 332-9222  
Caitlin Wilson, Clerk~~~~~(608)780-3836  
Bob Minard, Director~~~~~(608)786-9998  
Ben Garbers, Director~~~~~(608) 498-9510  
Jennifer Hatz, Director~~~~~(608) 317-3115

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



## District Announcements

# Heider Center



### Art Gallery

“Art from Around the Dining Room Table” - Found Object, Mixed Media & Wearable Art for All by Abby Johnson & Angie Hemker  
Runs November 25-January 9  
Reception & Sale: Saturday, November 29  
1:00-5:00 p.m.

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

### Simple Gifts

**Tuesday, December 16, 2025**

**7:30 p.m.**

**Tickets: \$28/\$26/\$10**

As long-time fans will tell you, Simple Gifts makes musical magic by bringing a modern flair to traditional Christmas carols and hymns. Staying close to the heart of Christmas by avoiding commercial and pop holiday repertoire has become the trademark of this award winning six-piece ensemble.



### 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.



### 2025 Champions!

After a very competitive season filled with excitements, we'd like to give a big congratulations to the West Salem/Bangor Adapted Sports League, the 2025 soccer champions! After a tough championship match against Holmen, their hustle, heart, and grit led them to victory! Way to go, you make West Salem proud!





# REFERENDUM PROJECT UPDATES

## What is Happening with the Construction Projects?



As we wrap up the year, our District is proud to share progress on both the Elementary and High School construction projects. December is a time to reflect on student and District milestones reached and look ahead to the facility improvements that will continue shaping our students, staff, and community in the new year.

### Elementary School

The project is approximately 7.5% completed thus far. Soil corrections for concrete footings and slab have successfully finished. Crews are now focused on concrete footings and foundations laying groundwork and framework for the elementary gym addition.

### Work Upcoming

Looking ahead, several key activities are scheduled in the coming weeks:

- » Installation of the underground storm sewer
- » Placement of foundation insulation
- » Installation of drain tile
- » Backfilling footings and foundations
- » Erection of structural steel columns and beams
- » Construction of the CMU fire wall
- » Site utilities

### High School

To stay up to date on the current project site, the District and KA have set up a time-lapse camera to catch all day-to-day updates on site. This is located on the District webpage which can be found at [bit.ly/WSconstruction](http://bit.ly/WSconstruction). We are excited to start to see dirt moving at the High School site.





**WS** | SCHOOL DISTRICT OF  
WEST SALEM

# EARLY CHILDHOOD SCREENING

Do you live within the School District of  
West Salem and have a 2 1/2–5 year old?

Are you curious about your child's  
development?

Mark your calendar for our Early Childhood Screening!

Friday, December 5, 2025  
8:00 a.m.–2:15 p.m. by appointment  
West Salem Elementary School

Staff will perform a play-based developmental screening including hearing and  
vision screenings. Staff will also be available to answer questions!

Visit [www.wsalem.k12.wi.us](http://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us) to sign up, call the ES office at (608) 786-  
1662 x 3117 or email Jordyn Bruette at [bruette.jordyn@wsalem.k12.wi.us](mailto:bruette.jordyn@wsalem.k12.wi.us)

## School District of West Salem

### School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes October 13, 2025

#### Marie Heider Meeting Room

#### 7:00 p.m

#### Convene

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Catherine Griffin. The meeting was noticed to the Coulee Courier, La Crosse Tribune, WLSU Radio 89 FM, WXOW TV-19, WKBTTV, WKTY, Union State Bank, First Community Credit Union, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district website, and district office on October 9, 2025.

#### Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

#### Roll Call

Present: Catharin Griffin, Erik Peterson, Trish Harman, Caitlin Wilson and Ben Garbers. Also in attendance – Administration: Ryan Rieber, Alex Hubing, Justin Jehn, Ben Wopat, and Heidi Horton; Student representatives: Lydia Jothan, Zeke Hyer. Recording secretary: Jennifer Larson. Excused: Alyssa Harlan, Shawn Handland, Bob Minard.

#### Approval of Agenda

E. Peterson moved, B. Garbers seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Written and Oral Reports

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

CESA#4 Board of Control Report – C. Griffin reported that the committee did not have an October meeting. They will meet in November.

Construction Project Update by Kraus Anderson Construction – Superintendent Rieber gave an update on the high school project including the groundbreaking ceremony that was held on October 8, 2025. He also gave an elementary school project update that concrete would be poured soon.

Open Enrollment/Third Friday Report - Superintendent Rieber provided information on our current enrollment information.

Superintendent Rieber provided a report on summer

school 2025 including enrollment numbers and various summer school programs at the elementary, middle and high school.

#### Connection with the Community

Lydia Jothan, Student Representative, reported on: To start, NHS partnered with DECA and Interact-Club are prepping for the annual haunted trail at the school forest. They collect cans as donations and the high school students always have tons of fun scaring the younger kids. Keeping in the Halloween spirit, they are also planning and will start advertising Trick or Can later this week. Near Halloween, all the canned goods are collected and donated to the West Salem Food Pantry.

As I'm sure you all know, Homecoming was just a few weeks ago! The high school had tons of fun dressing up during the week. This year's theme was through the ages. Monday's dress up day was Hunter vs Gatherer, and one kid wore a full gilly suit to school. Next was Independence Day, which was a USA dress up, and students went all out by even wearing blow up eagle suits. Wednesday was 80s neon vs grunge. A few of the teachers were excited they just had to dress like they did when they were our age! Thursday was zoom day where everyone was encouraged to wear a nice top and PJ bottoms. Some kids really took Covid day seriously by wearing full PPE. Finally Friday was a blast with everyone dressed in orange and black and we had no classes. We had tons of talent acts this year at our pep rally including Sumo Wrestling, Singing, and a drum off. Additionally we got to celebrate the two newly inducted Alumni Hall of fame members, Edna Whyte and Mary Smith.

#### Zeke Hyer, Student Representative, reported on:

After a day filled with celebrating West Salem it was time for the parade where it was very hot outside. Then the game was amazing where the cats won by a lot as I forgot the score. And the dance was amazing as our homecoming king Youseff and queen Addie Jehn were recognized!

The football team has a current record of 6-2 with this coming week being senior night against Black River Falls this Friday.

After tennis sectionals Senior Kendall Sullivan got 3rd place and will thus be moving on to State this coming weekend.

The volleyball team is wrapping up their regular season with just a couple weeks left with games



## School District of West Salem

### School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes October 13, 2025 continued...

#### Marie Heider Meeting Room

**7:00 p.m.**

against Black River Falls this week as well. This season has also been full of personal accolades with senior Addie Jehn reaching 500 assists, and then senior Josie Brudos is approaching 500 kills and 500 digs.

And last but certainly not least last week was Wisconsin School Board week so on behalf of the student body, Lydia and I wanted to thank the West Salem School Board for all you do.

Correspondence – A thank you note was read from Terrie Johnson and Gjerde Family.

The following proclamations were read:  
Wisconsin State Superintendent of Public Instruction proclamations for the following:  
October 1-31, 2025, is Keeping Kids Safe Online Month, the month of October is Gifted Education Month, October 16-26, 2025, is Wisconsin Science Week, and October 13-17, 2025, is National School Lunch Week.

Public Comments – None.

#### Consent Agenda

E. Peterson moved, C. Wilson seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:  
a. Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 22, 2025, and the Special Meeting Minutes of September 29, 2025  
b. Invoices to be paid  
c. Co-curricular Recommendations: high school advisors, head MS wrestling-Tyler Shrake, head girls' soccer-Autumn Mallicoat, head girls wrestling-Warren Frank, assistant wrestling coaches-Joe Hess, Reid Rasmussen, Evan Wolfe, assistant girls' hockey-Stacy Mitchell, Chad Long, assistant girls' basketball-Mariah Wick, Tanner Gibbons, assistant boys' basketball-Brennan Kennedy, and assistant boys' hockey-Jacob Iverson  
d. To accept donations from Cynthia and William Innes for Random Acts of Kindness fund, William B. Euler to the West Salem School District for Scholarship fund, Bonnie Koudelka to the West Salem High School Band and West Salem Kwik Trip for gas cards.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### Discussion/Action Items:

C. Wilson moved, T. Harman seconded to adopt the 2026-2027 school year calendar. Motion carried unanimously.

Alex Hubing presented the 4K Full Time Full Day proposal. No action was taken.

E. Peterson moved, C. Wilson seconded to approve the Early College Credit/Start College now requests. Motion carried.

Board Grant volunteers to review the Board Grant applications are C. Wilson, T. Harman and C. Griffin.

B. Minard joined the board meeting via Google Meet at 8:37 p.m.

The board reviewed the candidate submissions for the school board vacancy and appointed Jennifer Hatz to fill the vacancy.

B. Minard left the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

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. Live Stream Ends at 8:49 p.m.

#### Board Development

Justin Jehn led a Board Development Session on the Trades Lab Curriculum and Materials.

#### Adjournment

B. Garbers moved, C. Griffin seconded to adjourn at 9:26 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Caitlin Wilson, Clerk



# JOIN OUR TEAM!

We Are Looking for Bus Drivers!

APPLY VIA WECAN



## Bus Driver

### Key Responsibilities

- Current CDL or willing to obtain one
- Ability to work well with students of all ages
- Complete a pre trip inspection & keep the bus clean and orderly
- Approximately 3- 3.5 hours per day

### Benefits of Joining Us

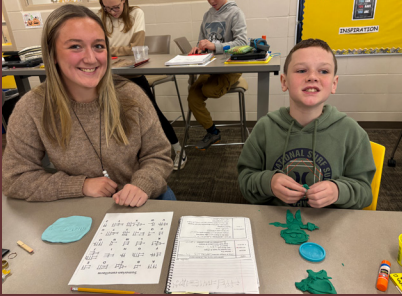
- CDL Training & Costs provided by district if needed
- Starting at \$25.52/hour
- Enjoy a school year schedule!
- Ability to take extra trips



## Hands-On Learning at WSMS

Mrs. Jeranek's 6th graders have been learning about Mesopotamian culture in Social Studies. To connect their learning with some hands-on activity, they spent time writing like Mesopotamians! They learned about their form of writing, then they used play dough and a wooden tool to

represent a clay tablet and stylus, as in Ancient Sumerians. Once they finished, they even had a little time to revert to their childhood and play with the play dough!



COULEE REGION

**FARM To School**  
LOCAL FOODS, HEALTHY KIDS

### Did You Know?

In Aztec, Mayan, and Native American cultures, squash was grown in companionship with corn and beans!



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

Check out our Facebook page  
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and

Follow us on X  
[@WestSalemSD](#)  
and Instagram  
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For WSHS athletic events, visit our website:

- \*click the calendar icon and then
- \*click Coulee Conference/  
Mississippi Valley Conference
- For WSMS athletic events,
- \*click the calendar icon and then
- \*Three Rivers Conference

School District of West Salem  
405 East Hamlin Street  
West Salem, WI 54669



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