

July 2021



Newsletter

School District of West Salem

Contents

- Letter from Superintendent Ryan Rieber.....1-2
- Spring Sports Recap.....2
- Now Hiring Cooks.....3
- Registration Info & Reminders....4-5
- Summer Meals Program.....6
- Class of 2022 Senior Photo Info.....7
- District Announcements.....8-9
- School Board Minutes.....10
- District News.....11



Letter from Superintendent Ryan Rieber

Moving Forward

Welcome to summer! As summer activities are back on schedule, so is our preparation for the upcoming school year. The summer months are busy ones in the district office as it is budgeting and planning season. The district’s fiscal year concludes on June 30th, which triggers district auditors to be on campus in July to review our books and provide a summary report for the district. This is a great opportunity to thank Shawn Handland, Director of Finance and Business Operations, and our district finance department who work hard to ensure that we offer the highest quality education and staff possible at a very economical price for our community. I am proud of this group of people and thank them for helping me along the way this first year.

We are at the tail end of a busy spring of interviewing potential new employees. The district will be onboarding new hires during the months of July and August. Recently, long-time Director of Human Resources Barb Buswell retired. We would like to thank her for her years of service to our district. Barb did a fine job of helping our district get to where it is today,

and now we are looking forward to Mrs. Crystal Becker continuing to push us further as our new Director of Human Resources .

With the onset of COVID happening last year, we postponed the authorization of our new long-range plan to this summer. Long-range or strategic planning is a way to identify what we want in the future and a road map in how we are going to get there. Whether you are looking at school buildings or curriculum, the components of the planning process are the same. We will be hosting a community listening session on Monday, July 12th at 5:00 pm in the Heider Center to gain input and thoughts from our community as we look to set the course for our next five years. I just completed reading “Row The Boat” by John Gordon and Coach P.J Fleck from the University of Minnesota. One of the quotes that stuck out to me was “One of the key elements of your journey is surrounding yourself with people who want to go to the same destination. Only by rowing together can we achieve our goals.” In order for our long-range planning to be successful, as a community, we need to have the same destination in mind. I am looking forward to hopping in the boat with all of you.

Letter continues on next page...

School District of West Salem

We are excited about what our future holds. The campus has been alive with kids attending swimming lessons, band camp, participating in our summer musical, participating in our meal program, and students attending the Boys and Girls Club. It has been wonderful to see our students smiling faces again, which I may add has all gone very successfully. We are looking forward to the start of our summer school program on July 19th and providing summer learning opportunities for our students.

Thank you for all that you continue to do to support our schools and community and I wish you a wonderful Fourth of July holiday!

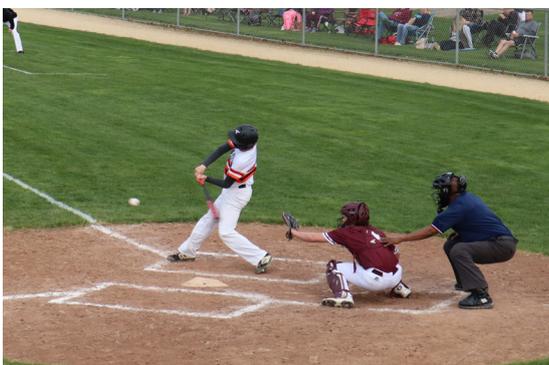
Take care, be well, and Go Panthers!

Ryan G. Rieber
Superintendent

Spring Sports Recap

Congratulations to all of our spring sports teams on excellent performances this season! Our student-athletes and coaches alike were excited to get back on the field, track, court, and course after missing their 2020 seasons. Girls softball kicked off their season by getting to enjoy their new fields for the first time. They ended the season with a 5-15 record, making it to the second round of the Division 2 regionals, but falling to Baldwin-Woodville. Baseball had a excellent season finishing with a 11-1 conference record, earning them a share of the Coulee Conference championship with Viroqua. They made it two games away from qualifying for the Division 2 state tournament, falling in the sectionals to Sparta, 9-6 and ending the season with a 13-5 record. After placing second at regionals, the boys golf team qualified for the sectional tournament at Prairie du Chien and finished in 10th place.

Girls soccer defeated Mauston to make it to the third round of sectionals, but lost to Madison Edgewood, finishing with a record of 6-6. Boys tennis sent two doubles teams and one single to the sectional tournament. After a dominant performance at sectionals and a 24-0 season record, junior Jack Hehli went on to compete in singles at the state tournament, finishing in 6th place in Division 2. Both boys and girls track and field team had great seasons, with the boys team winning the Coulee Conference Championship. Both boys and girls teams had several qualifiers for the sectional competition at Osceola, and following this, the boys qualified for four events at the WIAA Division 2 state tournament at UW-La Crosse. Carson Mooney finished 9th in the boys 800m run; Mooney, Brady Scallon, Max Wolf, and Vincent Schwarz finished 14th in the 4x800m relay with Charlie McKinney and Brennan Garbers as alternates, and Nathan Gribble took home 4th in discus and 2nd in shot put! Great job to all of our athletes and keep working hard!





NOW HIRING COOKS!

Part-time with summers off!

Duties and responsibilities include cooking and preparing food, cleaning tables, washing dishes, serving students, as well as other various tasks.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO APPLY PLEASE CONTACT:
EMILY KLUNK, DIRECTOR OF
SCHOOL NUTRITION**

608-786-3078

KLUNK.EMILY@WSALEM.K12.WI.US

WWW.WSALEM.K12.WI.US

GO TO "DISTRICT" >"EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES"

WS | SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
WEST SALEM

2021-2022 Registration Information- and Reminders

Elementary School

Online registration through Skyward Family Access for West Salem Elementary 4K through 4th grade students will start August 1st. If you are unable to register online, an in-house registration will be held on Tuesday, **August 17th** from 12:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Jostens will be here to take student pictures at this time. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending.

4K

If you have a child who will be four years old by September 1st, 2021, please call the Elementary Office (786-1662) ASAP to register your child, if you have not already done so. There is a morning and an afternoon session of 4K offered Monday through Thursday each week.

Kindergarten

If you have a child who will be five years old by September 1st, 2021, please call the Elementary Office (786-1662) ASAP to register your child, if you have not already done so.

Middle School

Online registration through Skyward Family Access for West Salem Middle 5th-8th grade students will start August 1st. If you are unable to register online, in-house registration will be held on Tuesday, **August 17th** from...Jostens will be here to take pictures at this time. Please plan on attending!

Middle School W.E.B. Orientation & Leader Training

W.E.B. Leader Training

August 16-17, 2021
8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
BGC Gym

W.E.B. 5th Grade Orientation

August 18, 2021
7:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
BGC Gym

Please enter through the side door from the front of the middle school. DO NOT enter through the BGC since they will be open for child care.

We want you to come! We need you to come! It won't be the same without you!
WEB is a program of 8th graders who will be there for YOU throughout the year!

Wear comfortable clothes, don't bring all your stuff, and you won't need your cell phone ... travel light!

We are excited that you are joining us at West Salem Middle School!

If you have any questions, you can email Mrs. Jehn or Mrs. Jarosh at jehn.heather@wsalem.k12.wi.us or jarosh.alyssa@wsalem.k12.wi.us

2021-2022 Registration Information- and Reminders

High School

High school registration is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, **August 10th** from 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. in the high school commons. Jostens will be here to take student pictures at this time. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending!

Link Leader Orientation and Training

Link Leader Training

August 18-19, 2021
8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
WSHS Gymnasium

Follow-Up Link Leader Training

August 30, 2021
Time TBD

Link Crew Freshman Orientation

August 20, 2021
8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
WSHS Gymnasium

The purpose of this orientation is to make the transition from middle school to high school a positive one. Seniors and juniors will be serving as leaders and mentors to the freshmen. Large and small group activities are designed to address students' needs and concerns in an enjoyable manner. Students should wear comfortable shoes and clothing, as this will be an active day! Lunch will be served at this event. Students are expected to attend and stay for the duration of the event.

If you have any questions, please contact either of the Link Crew Coordinators: Missy Haas (haas.melissa@wsalem.k12.wi.us) and Jamie Olson (olson.jamie@wsalem.k12.wi.us).

Fall Sports Meeting

All high school students planning on participating in a fall sport should attend this meeting!

Monday, July 26, 2021

6:00 p.m.

Heider Center Auditorium

Students participating in athletics must have a current physical on file with the main office of the high school prior to the first day of practice. Physicals must be dated on or after April 1, 2021, to be valid. Any athletes with physicals dated between April 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021, must also have an alternate year card on file with the main office. All forms can be downloaded by going to the district website and clicking on "Schools >High School >Activities > Athletics."

Please contact the high school office at (608)-786-1220 with any questions.

Bus Registration

K-12 Students

Registration for students eligible for transportation will be July 1-30. An email will be sent out to all families with a Google Form attached. The Google Form will also be available on our District website by clicking on the School Bus icon and selecting "BUS REGISTRATION." Bus schedules will be mailed August 13.

4K Students

If your child will be a 4K student and you have not registered for bussing, please call or email Monica Quinn at 608-786-0700 ext. 2306 or quinn.monica@wsalem.k12.wi.us. Schedules will be mailed August 18.

SUMMER FOOD SUMMER FUN!



Healthy meals for kids and teens. **FREE!**

No need to sign up or apply—just show up and enjoy!

Who: Anyone is welcome! Breakfast and lunch will be FREE to anyone 18 years of age or younger. Adults can purchase a breakfast for \$2.50 or a lunch for \$4.25.

What: Guests will come through the serving line and will have the option of hot lunch and a grab-and-go breakfast. Due to safety concerns, meals will not be consumed inside the building. Menus will be available on the school website.

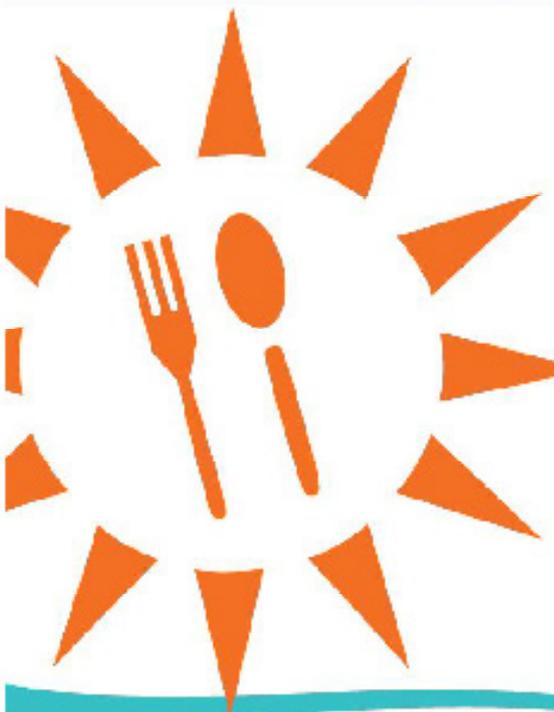
When: June 9th - August 13th (Monday - Friday); 11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. We will be closed Monday, July 5th for the holiday.

Where: West Salem Elementary School - Enter through door E by the north parking lot

Contact: Emily Klunk, klunk.emily@wsalem.k12.wi.us

If you reside in district boundaries and have extenuating circumstances where transportation is absolutely not an option please contact Angie Hemker the week prior at hemker.angie@wsalem.k12.wi.us.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Summer Food Service Program
Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

CLASS OF 2022: IT IS YOUR TIME

Senior year is finally here! We have an important yearbook deadline to keep in mind. Each senior needs to submit the following photos:

1. Yearbook Portrait

This photo is a traditional, formal head and shoulders pose. You may use this same portrait for everything if you would like.

***No full-length poses, hats, props, “misty” filters, or distracting backgrounds.**



3. Baby Photo

This photo will be used to morph into the “big kid” photo for the Senior Slide Show. The best morphs are created using baby photos where the baby’s face is the dominant part of the photo.



2. Times of Our Lives

This may be less formal.



4. Senior Photo for Slide Show

This photo will be the photo that the baby photo morphs into for the slide show. It can be the same photo used for the Yearbook or Times of our Lives if you would like.



Photos due:
Friday, Nov. 12,
2021

Submit **300 dpi jpeg** photo(s) via email to armstrong.andrea@wsalem.k12.wi.us

Please label photos with the student name and publication - ex. JoeSmithYearbook
Labeled hard copy photos can be dropped off to room 241 - silver box

District Announcements

Tradition Continues!

Although it looked a little different than year's past and they weren't able exactly "camp out" our 7th grade students still had a blast at their annual year-end trip to the school forest. They built birdhouses, searched for macroinvertebrates in the pond, worked on the trails, and identified trees in the forest! For those who chose to stay into the evening, they did a scavenger hunt and went howling for wolves in the Black River State forest.

They also spent time working on a project to help make the OEC more accessible for all. They paved a large stretch of one of the trails with gravel allowing our students in wheelchairs to be able to access the observation tower. It is a great addition to the OEC and we are so thankful to the 7th graders for their hard work!

Overall, everyone had a great time and we can't wait for next year!



Motivated to Help Others

Many of our 4th grade students recently read the book, "When Stars are Scattered" by Omar Muhammed and Victoria Jameson. It chronicles Omar's life in a refugee camp in Kenya. The students learned so much from him and how even though he had almost nothing, he was always grateful for what he did have. Omar ended up being resettled in the United States and is currently living here now. They were inspired to help other refugees like Omar, so they came up with the idea of doing donations for Refugee Strong and raised over \$1,000 for other refugees in Kenya! Fourth grade teacher Andrea Ihle said, "It was great to see such positive teamwork in order to help others in need!"

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

2021-2022 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 3:30 p.m. For more information, visit our website at 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

- Catherine Griffin, President ~~~~~ 769-1714
- Tom Grosskopf, Vice President ~~~~~ 386-0168
- Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk ~~~~~ 792-4130
- Sean Gavaghan, Treasurer ~~~~~ 797-3585
- Ken Schlimgen, 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



We're Back! 2021-2022 Season Tickets

Season tickets go on sale Monday, August 16th and remain on sale through September 10th. Get a 10% discount on the 5 show package or a 15% discount on the 8 show package.

Watch for Season Brochures in the mail or download a copy at www.heidercenter.org!

Individual Show Tickets

Tickets for all Heider Center shows will go on sale Monday, September 20th at noon. They can be purchased at the box office during business hours or online at www.heidercenter.org

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

Bass Masters in the Making

On June 12 and 13, our fishing team competed at the Wisconsin Bass Nation Junior, High School, and College Championship Tournament in La Crosse and had an excellent performance! The junior division team of Wyatt Becker and Terryn Boland took 1st place to qualify for the National Tournament on Lake Chickamauga in Dayton, Tennessee at the end of July. Two high school teams, including Noah LaFleur and Isaac Olson, and Riley Wuensch and Nick Ziegler also competed. Wuensch and Ziegler finished 6th, just outside of the qualifying range, and LaFleur and Olson finished 16th. All had a great showing and represented West Salem well. Congrats on an excellent job and best of luck at Nationals! Fishing Team is a place where students who want to fish competitively can get more information, as well as sign up to compete in tournaments. Brian Baker is the advisor.



Summer School Reminders

Summer school for students K-8 starts Monday, July 19 and ends Friday, August 6. Classes for all students run from 8:30 a.m. to 11:35 a.m. each day.

Buses for summer school will run on main roads only. As a reminder, there will also be no swimming lessons during summer school.

If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Williams, K-12 Summer School Administrative Assistant at williams.stephanie@wsalem.k12.wi.us or (608)-786-1662

Join Us for a Community Focus Group

The district is moving forward with the creation of a new five year strategic plan and we are seeking community feedback to assist us. We hope you can join us for a Community Focus Group!

Who: All School District of West Salem residents.

Where: Marie W. Heider Center

When: Monday, July 12, 2021 from 5:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.



JOIN US!

COMMUNITY FOCUS GROUP

Provide input on the District's Strategic Plan

JULY 12, 2021

5:00 - 6:30 P.M.

HEIDER CENTER

School District of West Salem

School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes June 14, 2021 Marie Heider Meeting Room 7:00 p.m.

As noted on the Public Meeting Notice: Live streaming of this meeting was available on our District's YouTube page.

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, 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 June 10, 2021.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag
Robin Fitzgerald led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Mike Malott recited the District Mission Statement.

Roll Call

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

Approval of Agenda

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

Connection with the Community

Krish Patel, Student Representative, reported on:

1. High school graduation was on May 30, and the class speaker was Kimberly Volden.
2. The Neshonoc Yearbook dedicatee was Kathy Hilby.
3. Track and baseball placed first – all conference.

Rachel Stein, Student Representative, reported on:

1. Boys' tennis placed second – all conference.
2. Girls' soccer going to playoffs.
3. High school band camp finishing this week.
4. The high school band and choir were approved to perform at Disney World in March.

Correspondence

A thank you note from the families of Rosie Kammel was read.

Public Comments – None.

Written and Oral Reports

Business Operations Committee – Mr. Grosskopf reported on the agenda items: miscellaneous wage scale, OEC project updates, 20-21 fiscal year close out, and 21-22 budget preview.

CESA #4 Board of Control reported on their annual meeting held last week. The next meeting will be in August.

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

Mr. Rieber made a statement regarding updates to the end of the school year.

Mr. Rieber provided information regarding Strategic Planning and working with Sue Peterson from ISG. There will be a Community Focus Group on July 12 from 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of May 24, 2021; to accept the donation from Marvin &

Kathleen Iverson for the district office; and to accept the resignations of Laura Skemp-Deal as the cross country assistant coach and Alexis Kuchta as a middle school special education teacher. Motion failed for lack of a majority. 1-Aye (Mr. Schlimgen), 5-Abstain (Mr. C. Peterson, Mrs. Fitzgerald, Mrs. Griffin, Mr. Gavaghan, Mr. Grosskopf)

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of May 24, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to approve the invoices to be paid. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded to accept the donation from Marvin & Kathleen Iverson for the district office. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded to accept the resignations of Laura Skemp-Deal as the cross country assistant coach and Alexis Kuchta as a middle school special education teacher. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to hire Benjamin Johnson-1.0 FTE high school math teacher, Caitlin Kopecky-1.0 FTE elementary school special education teacher, Jake Reader-1.0 FTE adaptive physical education teacher, Karly Baganz-1.0 FTE four-year-old kindergarten teacher, Andy Kastner & Paige Hesselberg-1.0 FTE each as a School Psychologist, Kristen Meyers and Lynelle Stagman – 1.0 FTE high school special education teachers, Elissa Kinstler-middle school part-time music lessons teacher, Scott Martin-1.0 FTE high school technology education teacher. Motion carried. 5-Aye, 1 Nay (Mr. Schlimgen)

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to accept the administration's co-curricular recommendations for 21-22 contracts as follows: Justin Jehn-head football coach, Ammar Sabar-head boys' soccer coach, Justin Stakston-head cross country coach, Becki Murphy-head volleyball coach, Julie Kamla-girls's tennis coach, and Claire Schroeder as the dance coach. Motion carried. 5-Aye, 1 Nay (Mr. Schlimgen)

Mr. Grosskopf moved, Mr. C. Peterson seconded to approve the middle school and high school WIAA memberships for the 21-22 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

Set a date for a Board Retreat. No action was taken.

Miscellaneous wage scale. No action was taken.

Energy Efficiency or the District. No action was taken

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to accept the administration's request to add an Esports advisor for 4%, and to add a second DECA assistant advisor at 2%. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Adjournment

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to adjourn at 7:37 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk

Eyes on the "Pie"

At the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year, Mrs. Baldwin challenged her first graders to read 650 books as a class by the end of the year. If they met their goal, they earned the chance to pie Superintendent Rieber in the face! The students had their "eyes on the pie" and not only did they meet their goal, they smashed it out of the park by reading 713 books! Because they did so well, they got to pie

Mr. Rieber as well as their principal, Mrs. Bagstad, and Mrs. Baldwin! The students had a great time celebrating their accomplishment with the whole first grade class coming to check out the show! Great job on meeting your goal first graders and keep on reading! Did you know that consistently reading throughout the summer can help to gain a month of reading proficiency?



Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities

The Board of the School District of West Salem does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its education program or activity and is required by Title IX and its implementing regulations not to discriminate in such a manner. The requirement not to discriminate in its education program or activity extends to admission and employment. The District's Title IX and Section 504 Coordinator(s) is/are:

Heidi Horton
Director of Pupil Services
608-786-1064
405 East Hamlin Street
West Salem, WI 54669
horton.heidi@wsalem.k12.wi.us

Crystal Becker
Director of Human Resources
608-786-5302
405 East Hamlin St.
West Salem, WI 54669
becker.crystal@wsalem.k12.wi.us

Any inquiries about the application of Title IX and its implementing regulations to the District may be referred to the Title IX Coordinator(s), the Assistant Secretary for the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, or both.

The Board has adopted a grievance process that provides for the prompt and equitable resolution of student and employee complaints alleging any action that is prohibited by Title IX and/or its implementing regulations. The grievance process is included in Policy 2266 – Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities, which is available at: www.wsalem.k12.wi.us. The grievance process specifically addresses how to report or file a complaint of sex discrimination, how to report or file a formal complaint of Sexual Harassment, and how the District will respond.

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.

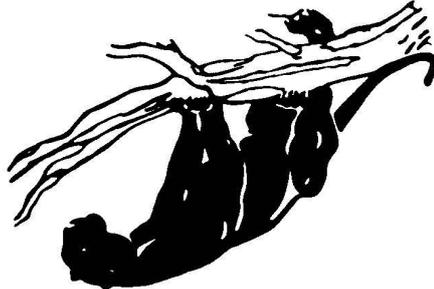


School District of West Salem

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



#WeAreWS



NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
WEST SALEM, WI
PERMIT NO. 38

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