



# School District of West Salem

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



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

## End of the Year Adventures

After lots of hard work, our students got to wrap up the school year with some fun trips and activities! Our 8th graders had the option to participate in trips to fun activities around the area including Mt. Olympus, Jump-Start, Features, and the movie theater, or the annual trip to Washington, D.C. Students had a blast spending time with their classmates, learning about history, and visiting new places. Our 7th graders had the opportunity to

go to the annual campout at the OEC, where they went on bike rides, participated in team building activities, helped maintain the forest, cooked food on the campfire and explored nature. Our 6th graders spent a day at the OEC as well as heading to Jellystone to enjoy swimming and some sun and our 5th graders got to head out on the Mighty Mississippi during their trip to the La Crosse Queen.



### Did You Know?

Zucchini is the most popular summer squash grown in Wisconsin!

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

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



For WSHS athletic events, visit our website:

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

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

# FREE SUMMER LUNCHES



Starts 6/6

Tuesdays and Thursdays

11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Meals can be picked up at Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
359 Leonard St. N (use East Ave. door)

Free meals for kids 18 and under

For more info, check the Feed Our Children - West Salem  
Facebook page.

# School District of West Salem

## School District of West Salem

### Regular Board Meeting Minutes continued...

June 12, 2023

#### Marie Heider Meeting Room

7:00 p.m.

6. CAT program runs Monday-Thursday

7. the Summer Musical, Wizard of Oz, will be performed June 22-23-24-25

8. Panther Portfolios began, including a summer class

9. trap team placed 2nd as a team at state

#### Correspondence

A thank you note from Pryia Oshan was read.

Public Comments – None.

#### Consent Agenda

E. Peterson moved, R. Fitzgerald seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

a. the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of May 22, 2023;

b. the invoices to be paid;

c. to accept donations from the La Crosse Community Foundation Mary Grace Sieber Fund for the Adapted Sports League's Athlete Safety Enhancement Project, from Kim Foglia, Kristine Cvikota, Michelle Anderson, Alison Hemker, Anne Skaar, Erin Waldhart, Jennifer Wehrenberg, Bridget Wright, and Lynn Maas for the Jane Doe Fund, from Wehrs Electric for the senior sing out, from Michael Garbers and Lesley Fitzgerald for the FFA in memory of their father, from the La Crosse Community Foundation for the school and community;

d. to accept the resignation of Kimberly Volden as the Junior Class Advisor (prom coordinator);

e. to hire Alyssa Harlan as a 1.0 FTE Director of Instruction, Rebekah Schomberg as a 1.0 FTE elementary school special education teacher, Jordyn Trager as a 1.0 FTE elementary school special education teacher;

f. to accept the administration's high school co-curricular recommendations for Claire Schrader-dance team coach (fall & winter), Justin Stakston-head cross country coach, Justin Jehn-head football coach, Becki Murphy-head volleyball coach, Thomas Fell-head boys' soccer coach, and Julie Kamla-head girls' tennis coach; and

g. to approve the request to borrow sports equipment.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### Discussion/Action Items:

C. Peterson moved, T. Grosskopf seconded to approve the co-curricular requests and revision for the 23-24 school year Co-Curricular Compensation Schedule. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Peterson moved, T. Grosskopf seconded to approve for a first reading of the following policies: 0100-Definitions, 2210-Curriculum Development, 2220-Adoption of Courses of Study, 2221-Special Observance Days, 2430-District-Sponsored Clubs and Activities, 3215-Use of Tobacco and Nicotine by Professional Staff, 4215-Use of Tobacco and Nicotine by Support Staff, 5200-Attendance, 5330 Administration of Medicine/Emergency Care, 5340-Student Accidents/Illness/Concussion & Sudden Cardiac Arrest, 5410-Promotion, Placement, and Retention, 5512-Use of Tobacco and Nicotine by Students, 5517-Nondiscrimination and Anti-Harassment – student Anti-Harassment, 5771-Search & Seizure, 7434-Use of Tobacco and Nicotine on School Premises, 7440-Facility Security, 7544-Staff Use of Social Media, 7544.01-District Use of Social Media, 8405-Environmental Health and Safety Program, 7420.01-Epidemics and Pandemics-8450 Control of Casual-Contact Communicable Diseases, 8600-Transportation, 8800-Religious Activities and Observances, and 8802 Patriotic Activities and Observances. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Peterson moved, R. Fitzgerald seconded to accept the Policy/Communication & Engagement Committee's recommendation to approve for a first reading of policy 8500.01-Meal Charge. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Peterson moved, T. Grosskopf seconded to accept the Policy/Communication & Engagement Committee's recommendation to approve for a first reading of policy 5460.03-Graduation Date/Ceremony. Motion carried unanimously.

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.

#### Board Development

Final review of the Community Survey. No action was taken.

Crisis Response Plan. No action was taken

#### Closed Session

C. 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 evaluation of the superintendent.

E. Peterson moved, T. Grosskopf seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 8:38 p.m. A roll call vote was taken: R. Fitzgerald, Aye; E. Peterson, Aye; C. Peterson, Aye; C. Griffin, Aye; and T. Grosskopf, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Closed Session

#### Adjournment

C. Peterson moved, R. Fitzgerald seconded to adjourn at 9:21 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk

## School District of West Salem

### School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes May 22, 2023 Marie Heider Meeting Room 7:00 p.m.

- the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of May 8, 2023;
  - the invoices to be paid;
  - to accept the donation from Dynamic Lifecycle Innovations, Inc. for the high school Odyssey of the Mind team;
  - there were no retirements or resignations to act upon;
  - to hire a 1.0 FTE middle school Spanish teacher-William Hinman.
- Motion carried unanimously.

Bob Minard arrived at 7:25 p.m.

#### Discussion/Action Items:

High School Spanish Teacher Emily Phillips and High School Science Teacher Kelly Rueckheim presented their request for a Spanish/Ecology Club Trip to Costa Rica in June 2024. C. Peterson moved, E. Peterson seconded to approve the request for a Spanish/Ecology Club Trip to Costa Rica in June 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

R. Fitzgerald moved, B. Minard seconded to setting the wages for the support staff for the 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried. E. Peterson didn't participate in the discussion of the support staff wages and abstained from the vote.

B. Minard moved, R. Fitzgerald seconded to set the wages for the district staff and administration for the 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

R. Fitzgerald moved, C. Peterson seconded to approve the miscellaneous wage-sheet for the 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Peterson moved, B. Minard seconded to approve the agreement with the West Salem Education Association for the 2023-2024 school year which included the salary schedule. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Peterson moved. C. Peterson seconded to approve the Open Enrollment requests for the 2023-2024 school year, with the exceptions of students 26, 48, 58, 60, 68, and 70. Motion carried unanimously.

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.

**Board Development**  
Superintendent Rieber reviewed with the Board a draft of the Community Survey.

#### Closed Session

C. 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 evaluation of the superintendent.

C. Peterson moved, B. Minard seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 8:46 p.m. A roll call vote was taken: R. Fitzgerald, Aye; E. Peterson, Aye; C. Peterson, Aye; C. Griffin, Aye; and B. Minard, Aye. Motion carried

unanimously.

Closed Session

#### Adjournment

C. Peterson moved, B. Minard seconded to adjourn at 9:09 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk

### School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes June 12, 2023 Marie Heider Meeting Room 7:00 p.m.

#### Convene

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Catherine Griffin. The meeting was noticed to the Coulee Courier, La Crosse Tribune, WLSU Radio 89 FM, WXOW TV-19, WKBT-TV, WKTY, Union State Bank, First Community Credit Union, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district website, and district office on June 9, 2023.

#### Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Payton Greer led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Tom Grosskopf recited the District Mission Statement.

#### Roll Call

Present: Erik Peterson, Chris Peterson, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin, and Robin Fitzgerald. Also in attendance – Administration: Ryan Rieber, Ben Wopat, Heidi Horton, Mike Malott, and Shawn Handland; Student representative: Payton Greer. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Bob Minard, Sean Gavaghan, Charlie Alexander, Deanna Wiatt, and Sam Stenberg.

#### Approval of Agenda

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

#### Written and Oral Reports

Policy/Communication and Engagement Committee – E. Peterson reported on the agenda items: review policies with legal and recommended changes, graduation, advertising policy, and meal charge.

Business Operations Committee – T. Grosskopf reported on the high school kitchen remodel agenda item.

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

CESA #4 Board of Control – C. Griffin reported on the Board of Control's agenda.

Superintendent Rieber provided an end of the year update.

#### Connection with the Community

Payton Greer, Student Representative, reported on:

- track state results
- tennis sectional and state results
- softball was sectional runner-up
- baseball was sectional runner-up
- soccer competed in a playoff game

## School District of West Salem

### School District of West Salem

### Regular Board Meeting Minutes

May 8, 2023

### Marie Heider Meeting Room

7:00 p.m.

Associated Trust Company, National Association, Green Bay, Wisconsin, as Escrow Agent (the "Escrow Agent"), for the purpose of effecting the provisions of the Resolution.

2. Transfer and Deposit to Escrow Account. The School Board hereby authorizes and approves the transfer and deposit of the Funds into the Escrow Account to be established with the Escrow Agent in an amount sufficient, together with earnings thereon, to provide for the payment of the Defeased Obligations concurrently with the execution of the Escrow Agreement, and the subsequent use, investment and disbursement thereof by the Escrow Agent in the manner provided by the Escrow Agreement.

3. Professional Services. The School Board hereby ratifies and approves the retention of Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated ("Baird") to provide general consulting services in connection with this transaction; Quarles & Brady LLP ("Bond Counsel") to provide limited, special counsel legal services in connection with this transaction; and Causey Demgen & Moore P.C. ("Causey") to provide mathematical verification, and, if necessary, bidding agent services for the escrow securities and related services in connection with this transaction.

4. Redemption of the Defeased Obligations, Notice of Defeasance and Redemption. The Defeased Obligations are hereby called for redemption on April 1, 2025. The School Board hereby directs the Escrow Agent pursuant to the Escrow Agreement to provide a notice of the defeasance of said Defeased Obligations and a notice with respect to the redemption of the Defeased Obligations at the times and in the manner set forth in the final Escrow Agreement.

5. Authorization of Officers and Agents. The School Board hereby authorizes the appropriate officers and agents of the District to work with Baird, the Escrow Agent and Causey to review and approve the finalized Escrow Agreement including the escrow deposit and other details, to provide the notices of defeasance and redemption, to facilitate open market bidding, if necessary, and to execute and deliver all documents required by Bond Counsel with respect to this transaction.

Motion carried unanimously.

Director of Instruction search process was reviewed by the Director of Human Resources Crystal Becker. No action was taken.

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

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

Closed Session

C. 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 salaries for individual district and administrative staff member(s);

and Wis. Stats §19.85(1) (e) deliberating or negotiating or bargaining reasons require a closed session; for the purposes of discussing the employee compensation with the West Salem Education Association for the 2022-2023 school year; and

(d) Except as provided in s. 304.06 (1) (eg) and by rule promulgated under s. 304.06 (1) (em), considering specific applications of probation,

extended supervision or parole, or considering strategy for crime detection or prevention, for the purpose of reviewing a draft of the district safety plan.

S. Gavaghan moved, C. Peterson seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 7:23 p.m. A roll call vote was taken: R. Fitzgerald, Aye; S. Gavaghan, Aye; C. Peterson, Aye; C. Griffin, Aye; T. Grosskopf, Aye; and B. Minard, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Adjournment

S. Gavaghan moved, C. Peterson seconded to adjourn at 8:49 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk

## School District of West Salem

### Regular Board Meeting Minutes

May 22, 2023

### Marie Heider Meeting Room

7:00 p.m.

#### 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, Union State Bank, First Community Credit Union, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district website, and district office on May 18, 2023.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Robin Fitzgerald led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Chris Peterson recited the District Mission Statement.

Roll Call

Present: Erik Peterson, Chris Peterson, Bob Minard (7:25 p.m.), Catherine Griffin, and Robin Fitzgerald. Also in attendance – Administration: Ryan Rieber, Ben Wopat, Heidi Horton, Mike Malott, Charlie Alexander, Deanna Wiatt, and Shawn Handland. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Tom Grosskopf, Sean Gavaghan, Payton Greer, and Sam Stenberg.

Approval of Agenda

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

Written and Oral Reports

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

Human Resource updates: the resignations of paraprofessionals-Lorrie Burch, Jordyn Schurhammer, Kelsey Thomas, and Autumn Weed; the retirement of paraprofessional Susie Rudesill; and the employment of assistant nurse Kathleen Waldenberger.

Connection with the Community

Correspondence

A thank you note was read from the family of Bryan Bahr.

Public Comments – None.

Consent Agenda

R. Fitzgerald moved, C. Peterson seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

# School District of West Salem

## School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes May 8, 2023 Marie Heider Meeting Room 7:00 p.m.

### Convene

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Catherine Griffin. The meeting was noticed to the Coulee Courier, La Crosse Tribune, WLSU Radio 89 FM, WXOW TV-19, WKBT-TV, WKTY, Union State Bank, First Community Credit Union, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district website, and district office on May 4, 2023.

### Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

### Roll Call

Present: Chris Peterson, Bob Minard, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin, Robin Fitzgerald, and Sean Gavaghan. Also in attendance – Administration: Ryan Rieber, Ben Wopat, Heidi Horton, Charlie Alexander, Deanna Wiatt, and Shawn Handland; Student representative: Sam Stenberg. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Erik Peterson, Mike Malott and Payton Greer.

### Approval of Agenda

S. Gavaghan moved, B. Minard seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

### Written and Oral Reports

Policy/Communication & Engagement Committee – C. Peterson reported on the agenda item, reviewed policies with legal and recommended changes.

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

### Connection with the Community

Sam Stenberg, Student Representative, reported on:

1. Panther Portfolio introduced to the juniors in their English class. Juniors will have until May 19th to propose their project plan if they want to start their project in the summer.
  2. Teacher appreciation week is this week with breakfast, treats and cards for teachers.
  3. Prom was this past Saturday and Zoe Coder and Gustaf Bang were royalty.
  4. Nine members made the dance team from the tryouts.
  5. Ecology club did a highway clean up last weekend.
  6. SEP presentations are this Wednesday. There will be an early release for the elementary and middle schools.
  7. Solo ensemble State was this past Saturday at UW-La Crosse.
  8. School Lunch Hero Day was this past Friday to show appreciation for our school lunch workers.
  9. Track - last meet tonight at Viroqua before conference, which is this coming Saturday.
- Baseball - won last Monday and Tuesday against Prescott and Westby.  
Golf - has a conference tournament this Thursday at Drugan's

Correspondence – None.

Public Comments – None.

### Consent Agenda

R. Fitzgerald moved, B. Minard seconded to approve the following Consent

### Agenda items:

- a. the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of April 24, 2023;
  - b. the invoices to be paid;
  - c. to accept the donation from Harry Warriner for the high school physical education class, from the West Salem Volunteer Fire Department for the Random Acts of Kindness Fund, from Caren & James Groose, Dixon Engineering, Inc., J.J. Brennan Company, Inc., Jay Wheaton, American Marine La Crosse, LLC, Brian & Christa Kent, Jeremy & Meredith Tomesh, Alter Metal Recycling, Dakota Supply Group, and Northern Battery for the high school Odyssey of the Mind Team, and from the Lassen Family for the Panther Den;
  - d. to accept the resignations of Director of Instruction Deanna Wiatt and Early Childhood Teacher Amber Clark; and
  - e. to hire Maggie Maxwell as a 1.0 FTE High School Spanish Teacher.
- Motion carried unanimously.

### Discussion/Action Items:

C. Peterson moved, R. Fitzgerald seconded to approve the second reading of Board Policy #8600 – Transportation, #8660 – Transportation by Private Vehicle and #0175.1 – School Board Conference, Conventions, and Workshops. Motion carried unanimously.

S. Gavaghan moved, T. Grosskopf seconded to approve the following resolution:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ESCROW ACCOUNT WITH RESPECT TO AND THE DEFEASANCE OF CERTAIN OF THE GENERAL OBLIGATION CORPORATE PURPOSE BONDS, DATED APRIL 6, 2017

WHEREAS, the School District of West Salem, La Crosse County, Wisconsin (the "District") has outstanding its General Obligation Corporate Purpose Bonds, dated April 6, 2017 (the "2017 Bonds") which were issued for the purpose of paying the cost of (i) a school improvement program consisting of: renovations and additions at the current Middle School; renovations and building infrastructure improvements at the Elementary School; site improvements, including additional parking and a new bus transfer area; and acquisition of related furnishings, fixtures and equipment, (ii) District athletic facilities improvements consisting of: replacing the track and constructing additional track/football stadium seating, constructing and equipping baseball and softball fields, tennis courts, and a multi-purpose sports and events facility; and completing related site improvements and (iii) refunding certain outstanding obligations of the District;

WHEREAS, the District has \$619,295.00 in debt service funds and other funds on hand (the "Funds") sufficient to defease a portion of the debt service on the 2017 Bonds and to pay associated transaction costs;

WHEREAS, the School Board of the District deems it desirable and in the best interest of the District to transfer and apply such Funds to the defeasance and early redemption of a portion of the 2017 Bonds and to pay associated transaction costs; and

WHEREAS, since the 2017 Bonds are not currently callable, it is necessary for the available Funds to be irrevocably deposited into an escrow account, invested in direct obligations of the United States of America, treated as a portion of the debt service fund for the 2017 Bonds and applied to pay the principal of and interest on as much of the outstanding principal of the 2037 maturity of the 2017 Bonds as possible (the "Defeased Obligations") on the April 1, 2025 early redemption date, taking into account the transaction costs and the prevailing market on the direct obligations of the United States of America.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of the District that:

1. Establishment of Escrow Account. The School Board hereby authorizes and directs the officers of the District to enter into an Escrow Agreement with

# District Announcements

## Heider Center



### 2023-2024 Season Tickets

Season Ticket ordering for the 2023-2024 season is now finished.

ALL TICKETS for all shows will go on sale on Monday, August 14th at noon on the heider center website ([www.heidercenter.org](http://www.heidercenter.org)) and they will be on sale at the box office starting at 1:30pm



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

### Athletic Ticketing New for 2023-2024!

Similar to the WIAA state tournaments, the Coulee and MVC Conferences are partnering with GoFan to provide a cashless system for all athletic entry fees. All purchases for athletic events will need to be purchased through GoFan. Your ticket will be available on your electronic device on the date of the event. In addition, your West Salem High School athletic passes will be purchased through GoFan. Electronic individual game tickets and athletic passes will be available for purchase on the high school athletics webpage beginning July 14, 2023. This page can be accessed by going to [www.wsalem.k12.wi.us](http://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us), going to "Schools" > "High School" and then "Activities" > "Athletics."

### Congratulations, Retirees!

Congratulations to this year's retirees! Together, they have served the students, staff, families, and community members of the district for 169 years and we wish them all nothing but the best in their retirement!

- Kathy Beshensky, Elementary School Special Ed. Paraprofessional
- Mary Czajka, 5th Grade Teacher
- Cheri Elliott, Middle School Kitchen Manager
- Shelly Helland, High School Spanish Teacher
- Ellen Hendricks, High School Custodian
- Susie Rudesill, High School Paraprofessional
- Kelly Schneider, 4K Paraprofessional
- Tracy Sell, 4K Paraprofessional
- Kathy Wagner, Middle School Cook

### Transcript Information

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

WSHS graduates that need a transcript can request one online, or print out an official transcript request form by going to the Student Services page on the district website at [www.wsalem.k12.wi.us](http://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us). Navigate by going to "Schools" > "High School" > "Students" > "Student Services" > "Transcripts."

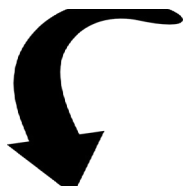
If you have questions, please call the High School Student Services Office at (608) 786-1220.

### Enrollment for 2023-2024

Are you new to the district and looking to enroll your students for the 2023-2024 school year?

All enrollment information can be found by going to our website at [www.wsalem.k12.wi.us](http://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us) and clicking on "Enrollment" at the top of the page. Here you can learn more about our district and print off the required enrollment forms. Once completed, you can bring them to the District Office to complete registration. If you have any questions, please call (608)-786-0700.

### Looking for Important Dates?



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





## Field Day Fun

Our elementary school students got to end their school year with their annual Field Day on May 26th. Students get to participate in a variety of fun, outdoor activities with their classmates. It was a beautiful day and the students had a great time getting active and practicing their team work skills.



# District Announcements



## Odyssey of the Mind World Finals

The West Salem High School Odyssey of the Mind team recently qualified to participate in the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals at the end of May at Michigan State University in East Lansing, Michigan. They were one of just three teams throughout the state to compete and they took home 11th place out of 39 teams!

Odyssey of the Mind is a problem-solving co-curricular activity for students of all ages that emphasizes creativity, science, technology, engineering, math, the arts, and much more! Students are given a problem to solve that involves a variety of the disciplines mentioned above and their solutions are then scored on their creativity and how well they solved the problem. Team members are Haley Chandler, Angelina Lu, Julia Byrnes, Keahna Littlejohn, Sydney Laursen, Madelynn Wright and Katherine Townsell and their coach is Laura Skemp-Deal. Congratulations on a wonderful job, Panthers!



## School Board Members

- Catherine Griffin, President ~~~~~ 769-1714
- Tom Grosskopf, Vice President ~~~~~ 386-0168
- Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk ~~~~~ 792-4130
- Sean Gavaghan, Treasurer ~~~~~ 797-3585
- Erik Peterson, Director ~~~~~ 792-5370
- Chris Peterson, Director ~~~~~ 385-3103
- Bob Minard, Director ~~~~~ 786-9998

*\*Board meetings are held the second and fourth Monday*

# 2023-2024 Registration Information- and Reminders

## High School

High school registration is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, **August 8th** from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.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 Crew Freshman Orientation

### Link Crew Freshman Orientation

August 29, 2023  
7:45 a.m.-3:15 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! Part of the day will be spent at the school forest, so please plan accordingly. 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)

## Athletics

The WIAA Sports Meetings will once again be part of the online registration process. We will no longer host a large all sport meeting. However, each individual sport will still host a break out session prior to the first date of practice. Dates for individual break out sessions will be placed on the school district calendar once determined.

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, 2022, to be valid. Any athletes with physicals dated between April 1, 2022 and March 31, 2023, 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."

## Bus Registration

### K-12 Students

The deadline for registering your child for transportation is now closed. If you are new to the district or you have not signed up and need transportation, please call or email Monica Quinn at 608-786-0700 ext. 2152 or quinn.monica@wsalem.k12.wi.us. Bus schedules will be mailed in mid-August.

### 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. 2152 or quinn.monica@wsalem.k12.wi.us. Schedules will be

# 2023-2024 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 15th** 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, 2023, 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, 2023, 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 15th** from 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. 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 14 & 15, 2023

8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

MS Gym

Meet in the gym each morning with a water bottle, a pen/pencil, and some light snacks (no nuts or peanut/peanut butter allowed). Wear comfy clothes (no skirts) for the activities. You will receive information about expectations such as report time and attire for the 5th grade orientation day during your training.

### W.E.B. 5th Grade Orientation

August 16, 2023

8:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

MS Gym

Wear comfy clothes (no skirts) and leave your bags, backpacks, hats, and phones at home...travel light! The purpose of this orientation day is to make the transition from elementary school to middle school a positive one. Eighth graders will be serving as leaders and mentors to the fifth graders. Large and small group activities are designed to address students' needs and concerns in an enjoyable manner. Students will be eating a school-provided lunch with their leaders that day.

We can't wait to meet your child!

The WEB Coordinators,

Amber Coe, Alyssa Jarosh, & Heather Jehn

## CLASS OF 2024: 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 Slideshow. 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 Slideshow

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. 17,  
2023

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

## School District of West Salem

is similar to the past community surveys sent out with a few updated questions under district initiatives. These questions help us see where we are, where the community wants us to go, and identify areas where we can do a better job. Our district is here to serve our students and community; your input will allow us to do that!

July is the transition month as we all prepare for the start of the 2023-2024 school year!

As we move into the end of the month, please be looking for communication on upcoming meetings for registration, fall athletics, orientations, and our building open houses across the district.

Take care, be well, and Go Panthers!

Ryan Rieber  
Superintendent

# Congratulations, Class of 2023!



July 2023



# Newsletter

## Contents

- Letter from Superintendent Ryan Rieber.....1-2
- Congratulations, Class of 2023.....2
- Class of 2024 Info.....3
- 2023-2024 Registration Info & Reminders.....4-5
- District Announcements.....6-7
- Board Minutes.....8-11
- Free Summer Meals Info.....12
- District News.....13



## Letter from Superintendent Ryan Rieber

### Change

An unknown author wrote, “Embrace the warmth of summer and the winds of change, for it is in this season that we find the courage to blossom and grow.” The summer months within the district are a time of change, blossoming, and growing. The District’s fiscal year concluded at the end of June, and we await the passing of the state’s biennium budget. As this concludes here in the coming weeks, we will provide an update of the budget to everyone, what the passing of a budget means to the school district, and what this could mean for you as a taxpayer as we approach our Annual Meeting in October.

As we changed from June into July, it also marks the time when auditors will be on campus to review our books and provide a summary report to the district. We are in the process of improvements across the district. As discussed in our referendum, we have been improving our Outdoor Education Center (OEC) by adding two park shelters. The Wieser Brothers sign in front of the high school is there as updates are being made to our kitchen

area. There are also flooring projects going on at the high school and in the elementary school. The original carpet at the elementary school is being replaced with a more sanitary, modern-looking LTV flooring. As we move into the school year and these projects are completed, we will provide pictures of these updates in our newsletter and social media.

Along with changing over our fiscal year, we also have administrative changes within the district. Mr. Alex Hubing began as our elementary principal on Monday, July 3rd, and Mrs. Alyssa Harlan began as our Director of Instruction. We are excited about our district’s new leadership and the knowledge they will bring to these positions.

There will also be a change when the School District of West Salem holds its graduation ceremony. Working through our policy committee, the district has made a policy change moving our graduation ceremony from Sunday of Memorial Day weekend to Friday. The time of graduation will be shared soon.

In the coming weeks, you will receive a postcard requesting your thoughts and input on our district. This

Letter continues on next page...