

June 2025



Newsletter

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Letter from Superintendent Ryan Rieber

Celebrating Milestones and Looking Ahead

This year's graduating class was one of the largest in West Salem's history, with more than 160 students receiving their diplomas. The ceremony was a beautiful tribute to their hard work, growth, and perseverance. A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the event so special! Graduation is more than a ceremony, it's a moment that honors years of learning, friendship, and determination.

This senior class has experienced so much during their time in school, and they've emerged with strength, heart, and a drive to do great things. We are proud to stand behind them as they take their next steps. "Go confidently in the direction of your dreams," as Henry David Thoreau once said, "Live the life you have imagined."

As the school year comes to a close, I want to express sincere gratitude to our incredible staff. Your unwavering commitment to students and the West Salem community is nothing short of inspiring. From the classroom to the

field, the stage, and beyond, you are the heartbeat of this district. Thank you for making a difference every single day.

Looking ahead, we are excited about what's to come! Several major construction projects are set to break ground toward the end of the summer, and we'll be providing monthly updates to keep you informed on progress. We will also update our district website with pictures and details as these projects come to life. It's going to be an exciting transformation. Stay tuned and follow along!

In addition, we currently have a vacancy on the West Salem School Board. If you or someone you know is passionate about education and community service, we encourage you to consider this opportunity. Information about next steps, including how community members can apply, is available later in this newsletter, on our Facebook page, and district website under "School Board Members."

As summer begins, we wish you a season filled with rest, joy, and new adventures. Whether you're traveling, gardening, diving into a good book, or simply enjoying

Letter continues on next page...

a slower pace, may your days be bright and fulfilling. F. Scott Fitzgerald once wrote, “And so with the sunshine and the great bursts of leaves growing on the trees, I had that familiar conviction that life was beginning over again with the summer.” There’s something about summer evenings that invites reflection, connection, and a renewed sense of energy. We hope this season brings you the time and space to recharge and enjoy the moments that matter most.

Be sure to follow us on social media and visit our website at www.wsalem.k12.wi.us to stay connected. Even though

the school year is over, plenty of activity and excitement is still happening around campus.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Have a fantastic summer, we’ll see you in August!

Ryan Rieber
Superintendent

Class of 2025 Presents Panther Portfolios

May 7 was a long anticipated day for the Class of 2025, as they presented their Panther Portfolios, the culmination of months, and for some, even a year or more’s worth of hard work.

The Panther Portfolio is an experience unique to West Salem and it consists of multiple parts designed to prepare students to be College, Career, and Life Ready once they graduate. These include a project, speech, and research paper, as well as specific elements they complete throughout the school year like preparing a resume and applying for a job, taking a personal finance course, completing community service hours or obtaining a professional certification.

On Presentation Day, everything comes together and they get a chance to show off their hard work as they present their speeches to a panel of judges about the project they chose, as well as a research paper on a topic of their choice. From building sheds to organizing sports camps and events, making items to donate to charity or learning a new skill, it’s truly amazing to see what our students can accomplish and the difference they can make in their community.

None of this could happen without our incredible staff members including Mr. Ryan Nelson, our Panther Portfolio Coordinator, Mrs. Kim Volden, ELA Teacher and Mr. Justin Jehn, our High School Principal as well as every high school staff member that has supported our students throughout this process. We also have to thank our community members who graciously volunteered their time to judge presentations. Thanks to everyone’s hard work, it was a very successful day!





Board of Education Vacancy

Application Process: Qualified and interested candidates from the community should submit notice of their interest by answering the application questions below and submitting to Superintendent Ryan Rieber via email at rieber.ryan@wsalem.k12.wi.us or dropping off at the District Office at 405 East Hamlin St. by **Thursday, June 12 at 3:30 p.m.**

Application Questions

1. What motivates you to become a board member?
2. What do you see as the board's roles and responsibilities?
3. What is the most important responsibility of a school board?
4. What issues do you believe the board needs to address in its academic programs and offerings? What changes would you recommend?

Term of Service: June 2025 until April 2026, with the ability to run for a two-year term beginning after the April 2026 election.

Questions? Contact Superintendent Ryan Rieber at rieber.ryan@wsalem.k12.wi.us or by calling the District Office at (608) 786-0700.

2025 Artwork of the Year

In a school wide assembly in May, MaKenna Olson's photography was named the "Artwork of the Year" for 2025.

MaKenna will have her work hung in the "Hall of Fame" at WSHS, and will join countless other works of art, where it will be seen by thousands of people in years to come. Her photo was one of 20 quality works submitted for consideration, which made the choice extremely difficult for the panel of anonymous judges.

This year's Artwork of the Year Award is a testament to the years of dedication that MaKenna has put into countless courses in our program, honing her craft with countless hours and thousands of photos taken.

Congratulations MaKenna!



District Announcements



Learning About Where Their Food Comes From

West Salem and Bangor High School FFA students recently held their annual "Food for America" event where they educate 4th grade students about the origins of their food. This year's attendees were from West Salem and Bangor Public Schools and St. Paul's in Bangor. During this event, 4th graders rotated through several educational stations, including Holthaus Dairy Farms, Old Oak Farm, the school's Aquaponics facility, and the La Crosse County Fairgrounds. At each location, students had the opportunity to interact with a variety of animals such as goats, sheep, pigs, chickens, horses, beef and dairy cattle, fish, ducks, and bunnies! It was a great day of hands-on learning for all! Lunch for the students was served by members of the West Salem and Bangor FFA Alumni and generously provided through donations from several local organizations including Culver's, McDonald's, Organic Valley, West Salem and Bangor FFA Alumni, and the Dairy Promotion Board.



School Board Members

Catherine Griffin, President ~~~~~(608) 769-1714
Erik Peterson, Vice President ~~~~~ (608) 792-5370
Bob Gollnik, Treasurer~~~~~ (612) 720-1852
Caitlin Wilson, Clerk~~~~~ (608)780-3836
Vacancy, Director~~~~~
Ben Garbers, Director~~~~~(608) 498-9510
Trish Harman, Director ~~~~~(608) 332-9222

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

District Announcements

Heider Center



Heider Center Mainstage 2025-2026 Season Tickets

Season tickets for the new 2025-2026 Heider Center Mainstage Season will go on sale Thursday, May 29th at 1:30 pm.

Season tickets for both the 8 show and 5 show season can only be ordered through the Heider Center box office (not online). There is a 15% discount for ordering all 8 shows early.

Individual show tickets will go on sale to the general public on Monday, August 11th at 1:30 pm

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

Creative Collaboration

Mrs. Hemker's 8th grade art students and Mrs. Hickey's kindergarteners recently joined forces for a collaborative project they began as an annual tradition last school year.

The kindergarten students were given the prompt to "draw your favorite place" and then the 8th graders were prompted to respond to the kindergarten drawings by drawing their version of that place. Students had a wide variety of favorite places, from their cabins to Disneyland and even birthday parties!

After they finished, they came together to share their drawings. Some of the 8th graders also did a drawing of their favorite place and sent that with the kindergarten students afterward. It was a great way to collaborate and exercise their creativity!



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. 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 2025-2026

Are you new to the district and looking to enroll your students for the 2025-2026 school year?

All enrollment information can be found by going to our website at 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 and navigate to the top right corner and click on the calendar icon. From here, you can view the school year calendar, Coulee Conference Athletic calendar, Mississippi Valley Athletic calendar, and individual building events.

School District of West Salem

School District of West Salem

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2025

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 April 10, 2025.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Sean Gavaghan led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Bob Minard recited the District Mission Statement.

Roll Call

Present: Erik Peterson, Tom Grosskopf, Bob Minard, Catherine Griffin, and Sean Gavaghan. Also in attendance – Administration: Ryan Rieber, Heidi Horton, Crystal Becker, Justin Jehn, Alex Hubing, Alyssa Harlan, and Shawn Handland; Student representatives: Brennon Anderson. Recording secretary: Jennifer Larson. Excused: Caitlin Wilson, Jessa Hickey and Ben Wopat.

Approval of Agenda

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

Connection with the Community

Art Department Presentations – K-12 District Honors Exhibit. Winning artwork was hung and winners were presented with a Certificate.

Brennon Anderson, Student Representative, reported on:

1. The Baseball team won one and lost one in a doubleheader against Sparta on Thursday. They have games tonight in BRF, tomorrow at home, and Thursday at home.
2. The softball team also plays tonight in BRF, and Thursday at home
3. Track and field teams competed at GET last Friday, where every athlete who was healthy got a chance to compete. They have their one and only home meet tomorrow at 4 PM
4. The tennis team competed last Friday and Saturday and they have a match tomorrow at home.
5. The golf team has their first Coulee Conference meet tonight at Coulee Golf Bowl
6. The district solo and ensemble festival was on April 5th. Both bands and choirs sent a total of 36 performances to the state competition, which will be held on April 26.
7. The jazz ensemble performed at Stoney Creek Hotel on Saturday.
8. The girls soccer team is 2 and 1 on the season. They have a game tomorrow at Arcadia and Thursday at home.
9. Last Thursday, the high school had a CCLR day. The freshman and sophomores took the Pre-ACT, the juniors had their job shadow day, and the seniors had various adulting sessions. The whole school had different wellness sessions put on by HOSA. Those were activities like yoga, board games, and quiet work time or reading.
10. The seniors have been presenting their Panther Portfolio presentations in class, with the community presentation day coming up on May 7th.

Correspondence – Proclamations April 2025

April 1-30, 2025 is School Library Month:

To recognize school libraries and the valuable role school librarians hold in the education of our youth in WI and encourage students and citizens to familiarize themselves with their library's available services.

April 6-12, 2025 was National Library Week. to encourage Wisconsinites to visit their local library and celebrate what draws them to the library.

April 5-11, 2025 was Week of the Young Child. To focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs.

April 1-30, 2025 is Bilingual/Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month. Over 160 languages are spoken by WI Public School students and their families. Multilingualism is an asset that benefits students' cognitive, academic, social and career development.

April 1-30, 2025 is Month of the Military Child. WI is proud to be the home of approximately 10,000 school aged children of military families. Military children face numerous and unique challenges as a result of the service of their parents and families to our country. We encourage everyone to honor our military youth and families who care and support them.

April 1-30, 2025 is National Autism Acceptance Month. Schools, educators and families across WI strive to provide services and supports to ensure that all students with autism can fully participate and thrive in their education. Join students, families and school district staff in celebrating the unique and positive identity of students with autism.

April 3, 2025 was National Paraprofessional Appreciation Day. To celebrate the invaluable contributions of paraprofessionals and acknowledge the impact they have on student success. This day is to recognize and honor the dedication of paraprofessionals in shaping the future of education.

April 20-26, 2025 is National Environmental Education Week. April 22 is Environmental Awareness Day. Schools are encouraged to conduct a day-long program to enhance student's understanding of the environment. Every child should have the opportunity to play in the dirt, plant a tree, grow a garden and explore.

Public Comments – None

Written and Oral Reports

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

CESA #4 Board of Control – Catherine Griffin reported from the minutes of the April Meeting.

Business Operations Committee update by Tom Grosskopf: Staffing for 25-26, CESA #4 Contract for 25-26 and 24-25 Budget Adjustments was discussed.

Policy/Communications & Engagement – Erik Peterson reported that they reviewed 35 Legal and Recommended Policies and are recommending a 1st Reading to the board.

Construction Project Update – ISG did a presentation of the status of the Elementary and High School Construction project.

Consent Agenda

B. Gollnik moved, B. Minard seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- a. minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 24, 2025;
- b. invoices to be paid;
- c. to accept the administration's Co-curricular Recommendations: Ian McBride for Middle School Track Coach;
- d. to accept the recommendation to hire Laura Johnsrude for 3rd Grade Teacher (Limited term for 25-26 school year;
- e. to accept the resignation of High School Social Studies Teacher Talia Dacquist; to accept the retirements of William Hinmen as Middle

School District of West Salem

School District of West Salem

Regular Board Meeting Minutes continued...

April 14, 2025

Marie Heider Meeting Room

7:00 p.m.

School Spanish Teacher and David Reeck as District Accountant;

f. to accept the Donations of \$1500 from American Red Cross for Student Scholarship award; \$64.00 from P & P Productions, Inc to the ASH Activity Account; \$20.00 from Cynthia & William Innes for the Random Acts of Kindness fund; \$1000 from an anonymous donor for the Athletic Scholarship. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

Ryan Rieber presented the 2025-2026 CESA #4 Contract for board approval. OT/PT services have been removed.

E. Peterson moved, B. Gollnik seconded to approve the 2025-2026 CESA #4 Contract for \$213,186.

Motion carried unanimously.

College, Career and Life Ready Video Scholarship

C. Griffin reported that the CCLR Committee reviewed the videos, selected the winners and sent the winner names to J. Jehn.

T. Grosskopf moved, B. Minard seconded to approve \$2000 in funds for the College, Career and Life Ready video scholarships. Motion carried unanimously.

Budgeting/Staffing for 2025-2026

E. Peterson moved, T. Grosskopf seconded to approve to hire 1.0 FACE Teacher and .8 FTE Occupational Therapist. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Minard moved, B. Gollnik seconded to approve the first reading of legal and recommended policy updates of Vol 34 No 1 and be reissued for a second reading at the next meeting. Legal/Recommended Vol 34 No 1

Po1100 - Copy of DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Po1130 - Copy of ETHICS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Po1241 - NON-RENEWAL OR TERMINATION OF THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S CONTRACT

Po2210 - Copy of CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Po2264 - Copy of NONDISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEX IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES

Po2266 NON-DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEX IN

EDUCATION PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES (The Board's Policy and Grievance Procedures for Responding to Sexual Harassment Alleged to Have Occurred Prior to 8/1/24)

Po2270 - Copy of RELIGION IN THE CURRICULUM

Po2271.01 - Copy of START COLLEGE NOW PROGRAM

Po2416 - Copy of STUDENT PRIVACY AND PARENTAL ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Po2464 - Copy of ADVANCED LEARNING INSTRUCTION ("GIFTED AND TALENTED")

Po3230 - Copy of ETHICS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Po3281 - Copy of PERSONAL PROPERTY OF STAFF MEMBERS

Po 4124 - Copy of NOTICE OF REASONABLE ASSURANCE OF EMPLOYMENT

Po4230 - Copy of ETHICS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Po5113 - Copy of OPEN ENROLLMENT PROGRAM (INTER-DISTRICT)

Po5330 - Copy of ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION/EMERGENCY CARE

Po5341 - RESCIND Copy of EMERGENCY MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION

Po5512 - Copy of USE OF TOBACCO AND NICOTINE BY STUDENTS

Po5611 - RESCIND Copy of DUE PROCESS RIGHTS

Po5710 - RESCIND Copy of STUDENT COMPLAINTS

Po6231 - Copy of BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION

Po6235 - Copy of FUND BALANCE

Po6620 - Copy of PETTY CASH

Po7410 - Copy of MAINTENANCE

Po7430 - Copy of SAFETY STANDARDS

Po7440 - Copy of FACILITY SECURITY

Po7540.03 - Copy of STUDENT TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY

Po7540.04 - Copy of STAFF TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY

Po7540.07 - Copy of DISTRICT-ISSUED STUDENT E-MAIL ACCOUNT

Po8120 - Copy of VOLUNTEERS

Po8305 - Copy of INFORMATION SECURITY

Po8395 - Copy of STUDENT MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH SERVICES

Po8531 - Copy of FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS

Po8600 - Copy of Transportation

Po5411 - Copy of New Policy - Special Updated-Act 20 - Feb. 2025 - THIRD GRADE PROMOTION AND RETENTION: AT RISK STUDENTS

Motion carried unanimously.

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

Live Streaming of the Board Meeting ended at 8:51p.m., 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 the evaluation of the superintendent.

E. Peterson moved, B. Gollnik seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 8:53 p.m. A roll call vote was taken: T. Grosskopf, Aye; E. Peterson, Aye; B. Minard, Aye; C. Griffin, Aye; B. Gollnik, Aye; S. Gavaghan, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Adjournment

B. Minard moved, C. Griffin seconded to adjourn at 9:38 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Erik Peterson, Clerk

School District of West Salem

School District of West Salem

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

April 28, 2025

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 April 24, 2025.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

Roll Call

Present: Erik Peterson, Trish Harman, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin, Caitlin Wilson, Bob Gollnik and Ben Garbers. Also in attendance – Administration: Ryan Rieber, Heidi Horton, Crystal Becker, Justin Jehn, Alex Hubing, Alyssa Harlan, Ben Wopat, Scott Johnson and Shawn Handland; Student representatives: Zeke Hyer. Recording secretary: Jennifer Larson. Excused: Cody Braun and Lydia Jochen.

Approval of Agenda

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

Reorganization of the 2025-2026 School Board Election of 2025-2026 School Board Officers

E. Peterson moved to nominate Catherine Griffin for the office of President. E. Peterson moved, B. Gollnik seconded to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Catherine Griffin as the President of the West Salem School Board. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Griffin moved to nominate Tom Grosskopf for the office of Vice President. C. Griffin moved, C. Wilson seconded to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Tom Grosskopf as the Vice President of the West Salem School Board. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Griffin moved to nominate Caitlin Wilson for the office of Clerk. B. Gollnik moved, C. Griffin seconded to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Caitlin Wilson as the Clerk of the West Salem Board of Education. Motion carried unanimously.

T. Grosskopf moved to nominate Bob Gollnik for the office of Treasurer. T. Grosskopf moved, E. Peterson seconded to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Bob Gollnik as the Treasurer of the West Salem School Board. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Wilson moved, B. Gollnik seconded a resolution to authorize the Board officers to borrow money for the 2024-2025 and the 2025-2026 school years per Wisconsin state Statutes 67.12(3). Motion carried unanimously.

B. Gollnik moved, E. Peterson seconded to select the Union State Bank of West Salem as the bank depository. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Peterson moved, B. Gollnik seconded to authorize the use of facsimile and digitized signatures. Motion carried unanimously.

T. Grosskopf moved, B. Gollnik seconded to authorize the Board officers to invest surplus funds. Motion carried unanimously.

T. Grosskopf moved, E. Peterson seconded to continue with the current schedule to select the second and fourth Monday of each month for Regular School Board Meetings; and to set only one meeting for December 8, 2025 and May 11, 2026. T. Grosskopf moved, E. Peterson seconded to amend the motion to add the start time of all Regular School Board Meetings at 7:00pm. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Peterson moved, T. Grosskopf seconded to appoint Jennifer Larson as the Deputy Clerk and Shawn Handland as the Deputy Treasurer. Motion carried unanimously.

Board members should provide their input to the Board President regarding committee assignments by May 12, 2025.

T. Grosskopf moved, B. Gollnik seconded to select Catherine Griffin as the CESA #4 Representative. Motion carried unanimously.

Written and Oral Reports

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

Construction Project Update – ISG did a presentation of design and layout of the High School Construction project with input provided from user groups.

Join Administrative/School Board Sub Committee report was given by Catherine Griffin. Layout collaboration and brainstorming with ISG, Staff and Board Members.

Connection with the Community

Zeke Hyer, Student Representative, reported on:

1. On Thursday, April 10th the junior class went on job shadows of their choice. Many found job shadows on their own regarding the career fields they are interested in, but some students went on job shadows through the school.
2. Seniors are finishing up their class Panther Portfolio presentations, now the only thing they have left is their presentations to get judged on May 7th.
3. The DECA team is competing at Nationals this week, with the group leaving this past Friday and coming back this Wednesday. Various students from all grade levels are competing including Lydia Jochen my co-representative
4. Prom is coming up this coming Saturday May 3rd! Juniors from the prom committee have been meeting since December to put everything together! One interesting change that the committee has made is opening up the gym for yard games while the dance is going!
5. The baseball team is having a solid start to their season with a 4-6 record
6. Softball is having a great start to their season with a 9-1 record. Junior Josie Brudos breaking school records. Josie broke the school record for most home runs in a game with 3, and she is aiming to beat the school record for most home runs in a season. Josie currently has 7, and she has 9 more games to break 10 home runs for the season.
7. In summer of 2026 Mr. Rueckheim will be taking a group of students to Peru for the biyearly Ecology club and Spanish club trip. This is an 8-day long trip with stops all over the country!
8. The track team has had 3 varsity meets so far.
9. Finally, the soccer team has a 6-1 record with leading scorer Emily Graham.

Correspondence

A thank you note from Angie Hemker was read.

Proclamations April/May 2025

May 7, 2025 is National School Nurse Day:

To celebrate and acknowledge the accomplishments and efforts of Wisconsin school nurses in meeting the needs of today's students. School nurses support the physical and mental health and educational success of children by providing a link between health and learning. They make a positive difference in children every day.

School District of West Salem

School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes continued... April 28, 2025

Marie Heider Meeting Room

7:00 p.m.

May 7, 2025 is National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day and May 1-31, 2025 is Mental Health Awareness Month. Schools can create safe and inclusive spaces where students can access a continuum of mental health supports.

May 1-31, 2025 is National Speech-Language-Hearing Month. This provides an opportunity to raise awareness about speech, language and hearing disorders and to recognize the invaluable contributions of speech-language pathologists, audiologists and related professionals.

Public Comments – None.

Consent Agenda

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

- a. minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of April 14, 2025;
 - b. invoices to be paid;
 - c. to accept the recommendation to hire Faith Moser as the District School Psychologist and Megan Bagniefski as the Occupational Therapist (.8 FTE)
 - d. to accept the Donations of \$20.00 from Cynthia & William Innes for the Random Acts of Kindness fund; \$10,000 from West Salem Elementary PTO for the Elementary Playground.
- Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

B. Gollnik moved, C. Wilson seconded to approve the teacher and school psychologist contracts for the 25-26 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Gollnik moved, T. Grosskopf seconded to approve the contracts for vehicle drivers for the 25- 26 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Wilson moved, E. Peterson seconded to approve planting 2 trees and placing a plaque in Loving Memory of Ros Krajewski at the Elementary School. Motion carried unanimously.

T. Grosskopf moved, C. Wilson seconded to approve the second reading of legal and recommended policy updates of Vol 34 No 1. Motion carried unanimously.

Legal/Recommended Vol 34 No 1

Po1100 - Copy of DISTRICT ORGANIZATION

Po1130 - Copy of ETHICS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Po1241 – NON-RENEWAL OR TERMINATION OF THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S CONTRACT Po2210 – Copy of CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Po2264 – Copy of NONDISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEX IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES

Po2266 NON-DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEX IN EDUCATION PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES (The Board's Policy and Grievance Procedures for Responding to Sexual Harassment Alleged to Have Occurred Prior to 8/1/24)

Po2270 – Copy of RELIGION IN THE CURRICULUM

Po2271.01 – Copy of START COLLEGE NOW PROGRAM

Po2416 - Copy of STUDENT PRIVACY AND PARENTAL ACCESS TO INFORMATION

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Po8305 – Copy of INFORMATION SECURITY

Po8395 – Copy of STUDENT MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH SERVICES

Po8531 – Copy of FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS

Po8600 – Copy of Transportation

Po5411 – Copy of New Policy – Special Updated-Act 20 – Feb. 2025 – THIRD GRADE PROMOTION AND RETENTION: AT RISK STUDENTS

Motion carried unanimously.

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

Live Streaming of the Board Meeting ended at 8:23p.m., as noted on the Public Meeting Notice.

Board Development

Superintendent Rieber provided a new Board Member welcome and orientation to all the Board Members.

Adjournment

B. Garbers moved, C. Griffin seconded to adjourn at 9:01 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Caitlin Wilson, Clerk



Starts 6/3

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)

Delivery available within the Village of West Salem - Watch for
sign up on Facebook & District website

Free meals for kids 18 and under

For more info, check the Feed Our Children - West Salem
Facebook page or email feedourchildrenws@gmail.com

SWARTHOUT POOL



OPENING DAY | JUNE 2

Pool Hours Monday through Friday

Early Risers: 6:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m.

Adult Lap Swim: 12:45 p.m.-1:30 p.m.

Open Swim: 1:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Pool Hours Saturday and Sunday

Open Swim: 1:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

For admission and membership prices, visit the district website at www.wsalem.k12.wi.us and then go to "Community" > "Swarthout Pool"
Other Questions? Call the pool at (608) 786-5309



REFERENDUM PROJECT UPDATES

What is Happening with the Construction Projects?



After the community approved the capital referendum projects in November 2024, there has been plenty of work going on behind the scenes to make these projects become a reality. Staff at our elementary school and high school have had several meetings with our project managers and architects at ISG and construction manager Kraus-Anderson, to offer their input and feedback on design and various project elements. From floor plan layout to door hardware, planning is in full swing.

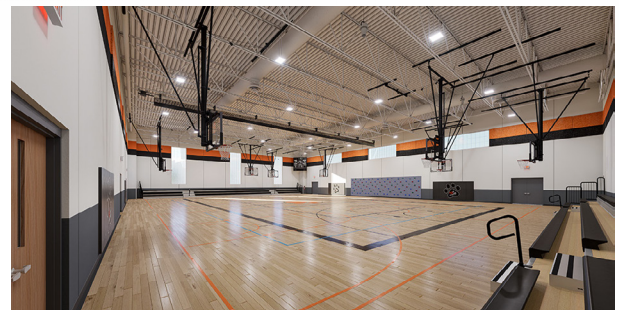
Elementary Gym

At the elementary school, the design phase for the new gym is nearly complete. The photos to the right show the preliminary design of the interior and exterior of the new gym addition. The next phase of the process is the creation of construction documents, which we estimate will be completed by July.



High School

User group meetings continue at the high school, and staff members have had a chance to meet with ISG and Kraus-Anderson at least twice to offer feedback and review various elements of the project. Two community group meetings with various business owners and industry experts in the career and technical education field were held. Industry experts offered insight on what skills are valuable for their employees to have, as well as industry-best practices. This insight is crucial to making sure these new spaces serve our students and allow them to develop skills that are in demand in the workforce. Floor plan development and remaining design features continue. We anticipate this phase will be wrapped up by July.



We thank you for your continued interest and support for these projects that will serve our community for generations!

What Is Next?



- Creation of construction documents for the elementary school.
- Design continues at the high school.



SDWS Hosts WSMA State Solo & Ensemble

Campus was alive the last weekend in April as we hosted the Wisconsin School Music Association State Solo & Ensemble Festival! This was a special event, as the School District of West Salem was the only K-12 district to host, as it is usually held at UW-La Crosse and other state universities. Students from West Salem Middle School and West Salem High School performed in 39 instrumental and vocal events, joining

hundreds of others competing from all over the area. In total, nearly 500 performances took place across all three of our school buildings! The event was a resounding success and we'd like to thank all of our staff and volunteers for their hard work!



Did You Know?

Strawberries are a member of the rose family!



Check out videos and photos of the innovative things happening in your student's classroom at our district Facebook page and X 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 X
@WestSalemSD
and Instagram
@schooldistrictofwestsalem



For WSHS athletic events, visit our website:

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

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

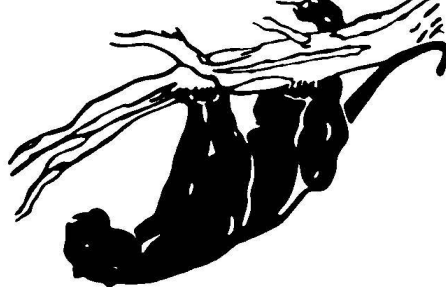


School District of West Salem

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



#WeAreWS



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