

March 2024



# Newsletter

## Contents

- Letter from Superintendent Ryan Rieber.....1-2
- Calendar of Events.....3
- Kitchen Positions Available.....4
- Meet Your School Board Candidates.....5-7
- District Announcements.....8-9
- Board Minutes.....10-11
- Election Notice.....12
- District News.....13



## Letter from Superintendent Ryan Rieber

### Welcome to March!

As we enter March, a flurry of activities and initiatives are concluding and taking shape within our district. It's an exciting time as we embrace the spirit of creativity, education, and community engagement. Congratulations to all of our winter co-curricular participants who had success! Congratulations to Brett Plomedahl for reaching state in wrestling, our girls' gymnastics team, as they qualified for state, and our boys' and girls' basketball teams that earned a one seed in division two sectional tournaments. Our middle school conducted its annual Winter Wellness Day despite the lack of winter weather, and our elementary school is preparing for Read Across America week.

We are pleased to announce the commencement of a comprehensive long-range facility study for our district. This study will help us assess our current infrastructure, anticipate future needs, and ensure that our facilities continue providing a conducive learning environment. Your input and involvement in this process is invaluable

as we chart the course for the future of our educational spaces. This study began the last week in February and will continue throughout the spring months. Stay tuned for opportunities for community involvement in this process.

We are thrilled to announce that the Heider Center will host the district's K-12 Honors Art Show. This prestigious event will showcase exceptional artwork from students across all grade levels. It's an opportunity to witness the talent and dedication of our young artists and celebrate their achievements in the realm of visual arts. Please find a moment during the open Heider Center hours to stop by and see our students' talent on display!

March also celebrates Music in Our Schools Month in harmony with Youth Art Month. Music plays a vital role in enriching our students' educational experience fostering creativity, discipline, and teamwork. Join us in recognizing the importance of music education and supporting our talented musicians as they share their passion and skill with the community during the upcoming spring concerts. Please pay attention to when

Letter continues on next page...

## School District of West Salem

our youth will be performing! They are always enjoyable events to be in attendance for.

Three names will be on the April ballot to fill two vacant school board positions. Within this newsletter, you will find information on candidates Bob Gollnik, Caitlin Wilson, and Matt Knebes. April elections are on Tuesday, April 2nd. Your vote is crucial in shaping the direction and priorities of our district. Let your voice be heard as we elect representatives committed to serving with passion and keeping the best interests of our students, families, and staff at the forefront of everything we do.

We are approaching another transition in our district as we search for our next high school principal. Mr. Malott has served the district for the past 30 years, and we appreciate his dedication and devotion to the students, school, and community of West Salem. Thank you to Mr. Malott for his years of service, commitment, and devotion to the West Salem community!

Filling this critical position will take an entire community effort. This search will include interview committees of

high school teachers, paraprofessionals, parents, students, community members, district administration, and school board members. When the candidate is selected, the district will make an announcement, and the new principal will be introduced in our May newsletter.

As we embark on this journey through March, let's embrace the spirit of collaboration, creativity, and community engagement. Maya Angelou once said, "Do your best until you know better. Then, when you know better, do better." Together, we can embrace these words and continue to make West Salem schools a vibrant and enriching experience for all by being better today than we were yesterday!

Warm regards,

Ryan Rieber  
Superintendent

## Important Info



### Playoff Athletic Schedules

Many of our high school sports teams will be participating in the WIAA playoffs throughout the month of March. As dates and times are determined for these competitions, they will be posted on the WIAA website at [wiaawi.org](http://wiaawi.org). To find schedules, click "Tournaments" at the top of the page, select the sport you are looking for, scroll down to "Assignments and Brackets" on the left side of the page and then click the respective sport's division bracket for the latest schedule. As a reminder, WIAA uses only digital ticketing for playoffs. Best of luck to all of our student-athletes! Go Panthers!

# Calendar of Events

## March

### Band Events

#### Wednesday, March 13, 2024

TBD Piano Solo & Ensemble

#### Friday, March 22, 2024

2:00pm Spring Concert Rehearsal  
Wind Symphony

7:00pm Spring Concert @ Heider Center  
All Band Members

#### Tuesday, March 26, 2024

6:10pm 5th Grade Beginner Night  
@ MS Band Room  
Jazz Ensemble I

### Elementary School Events

#### Monday, March 4, 2024

6:15pm Grade 1 Music Concert  
@ Heider Center

7:15pm Grade 3 Music Concert  
@ Heider Center

#### Tuesday, March 5, 2024

6:15pm Kindergarten Music Concert  
@ Heider Center

7:15pm Grade 2 Music Concert  
@ Heider Center

#### Friday, March 15, 2024

All Day No School-Staff Inservice

#### Thursday, March 21, 2024

6:00pm Kindergarten P.E. Night

#### Wednesday, March 27, 2024

All Day Environment Day

#### Thursday, March 28, 2024

All Day No School-Snow Make-Up Day if Needed

#### Friday, March 29, 2024

All Day No School - Easter Break

### Middle School Events

#### Friday, March 1, 2024

All Day End of Trimester 2

#### Wednesday, March 6, 2024

8:00am Trimester 2 Grades Due

#### Thursday, March 7, 2024

1:15pm 5th Grade DARE Graduation @ Heider Center

#### Friday, March 8, 2024

11:45am 5th Grade Field Trip to the La Crosse County Courthouse

#### Thursday, March 14, 2024

4:00pm WWSMA Middle School Solo & Ensemble @ WSMS

#### Friday, March 15, 2024

All Day No School-Staff Inservice

#### Tuesday, March 19, 2024

7:00pm Band Extravaganza Concert featuring Jazz Ensemble and 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Bands @ MS New Gym

#### Thursday, March 28, 2024

All Day No School-Snow Make-Up Day if Needed

#### Friday, March 29, 2024

All Day No School - Easter Break

### High School Events

#### Thursday, March 7, 2024

8:45 a.m.- NHS Blood Drive @ HS LMC  
2:00 p.m.

#### Tuesday, March 12, 2024

All Day ACT State Assessment for Juniors

#### Friday, March 15, 2024

All Day No School-Staff Inservice

#### Wednesday, March 27, 2024

All Day End of 3rd Quarter

#### Thursday, March 28, 2024

All Day No School-Snow Make-Up Day if Needed

#### Friday, March 29, 2024

All Day No School - Easter Break

# Kitchen Positions Available!

Positions available at WSES & WSHS

## Cook

- 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- \$17.38/hour
- West Salem Elementary School

## Cook

- Approximately 9:15 a.m.-1:15 p.m. with some variability (3.75 hours)
- \$17.38/hour
- West Salem High School

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"



# Meet Your Candidates for West Salem School Board

In the Spring Election on April 2, 2024 there will be two seats open on the West Salem School Board. The three candidates that have filed to fill these positions are: Bob Gollnik, Matt Knebes, and Caitlin Wilson. Please remember to vote on April 2! Voting locations can be found on page 8.

## 1) What motivates you to become a board member?

A: "I am motivated by a commitment to education and using my role as a school board member to embrace and expand the reputation of West Salem as a top school district in the area, while exploring ways to foster innovation and opportunities for our students at all skill and ability levels. I currently have two students attending the School District of West Salem and have lived in West Salem since 2017. I am interested in maximizing educational opportunities and innovation for students at a district of our size while being fiscally responsible. I believe that strong schools and strong communities create strong opportunities for students and vice versa. I view this as an opportunity to help grow students into capable, connected, and contributing members of the community, while positioning them for success upon graduation. Lastly, my professional life revolves around planning and resource allocation, so I am familiar with the collaborative process of policy development and how decisions are made and implemented."



## Bob Gollnik

## 2) What do you see as the board's roles and responsibilities?

A: "I see the board's fundamental responsibility as providing staff and students the training and resources they need to be successful. This revolves around policy development, budget approval and analysis, community stewardship, curriculum oversight, facilities management, and political advocacy as highlighted below: Policy Development: Develop and adopt targeted policies that govern the operation of schools within the district. Budget Approval: Work with district administrators to allocate funds appropriately, ensuring that resources are allocated efficiently to support educational goals. Community Stewardship: Engage with the community and serve as a link between the community and the school district. Curriculum Oversight: Oversee the curriculum offered by the district, and work with educators to align and exceed state standards while preparing students for career and college readiness. Legal Compliance: Ensure compliance with education laws, labor laws, and other regulations. Facilities Management: Work with staff to manage maintenance, construction, and renovation of school facilities. Advocacy: Advocate the needs of the district to legislators and stakeholders at the state and local levels."

## 3) What is the most important responsibility of a school board?

A: "The school board's most important responsibility is the development and oversight of policy, in order to cultivate and sustain an environment that supports effective teaching and learning. Through a positive, collaborative, and productive atmosphere, policies can be objectively developed, evaluated, and revised to suit the changing trends and needs. Effective implementation is crucial for creating a successful and balanced community and school district."

## 4) What issues do you believe the district needs to address in its academic program and offerings?

### What changes would you recommend?

A: "I'm not familiar with the breadth and depth of academic program offerings, and don't have any specific recommendations without knowing the full range of opportunities available and how they are being implemented. I think considering a number of questions would help guide any potential changes, such as: What opportunities do other school districts similar to our size and means offer? What are best practices we can learn from our cohorts and peers? Why do families open enroll in or out? How can student data help inform us regarding successes and shortcomings? For those entering the workforce and technical training, what are skills that are in demand in our region and how can we proactively prepare students for them? For those pursuing advanced education, what are strengths and weaknesses from their preparation at West Salem School District? Generally, I am supportive of regular evaluation of academic programming, offerings, and instructional practices to best prepare students for a range of post-graduation opportunities and expanding higher education, industry, and other partnerships to maximize success of students. I am also supportive of strategic budgeting to maximize the value of fiscal decisions made by the board wherever possible."

# Meet Your Candidates for West Salem School Board

In the Spring Election on April 2, 2024 there will be two seats open on the West Salem School Board. The three candidates that have filed to fill these positions are: Bob Gollnik, Matt Knebes, and Caitlin Wilson. Please remember to vote on April 2! Voting locations can be found on page 8.

**1) What motivates you to become a board member?**

**A:** “Being a part of the community I wanted to contribute to our children’s future. I feel the board has done a great job and now it’s my turn to help.”

**2) What do you see as the board’s roles and responsibilities?**

**A:** “Helping in discussions and decisions on the kids & schools’ goals and growth.”

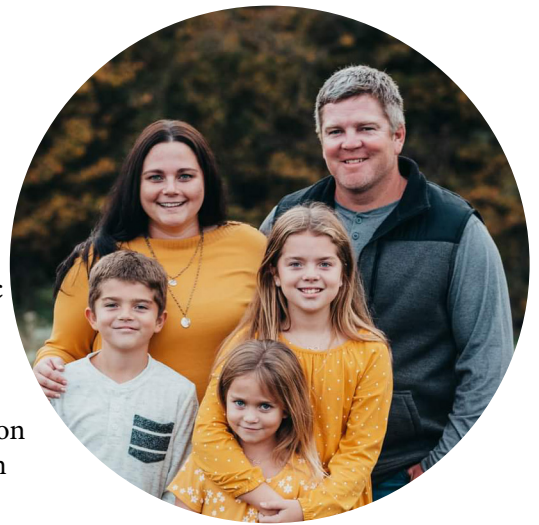
**3) What is the most important responsibility of a school board?**

**A:** “To make decisions based on our children’s safety, education and future.”

**4) What issues do you believe the district needs to address in its academic program and offerings?**

**What changes would you recommend?**

**A:** “Continuing growth and partnership with the trades and community. Keep an open dialogue with companies in the area, get feedback from them on some of their expectations to better prepare our youth in the next chapters in their future.”



**Matt Knebes**

# Meet Your Candidates for West Salem School Board

In the Spring Election on April 2, 2024 there will be two seats open on the West Salem School Board. The three candidates that have filed to fill these positions are: Bob Gollnik, Matt Knebes, and Caitlin Wilson. Please remember to vote on April 2! Voting locations can be found on page 8.

**1) What motivates you to become a board member?**

**A:** “My husband Eric and I have lived in the Town of Hamilton with our two children, Huck (4th grade West Salem Elementary) and Haila (3rd grade West Salem Elementary) since 2015. I want to serve on the West Salem Board of Education to pay it forward – care for others, like others have cared for us.

Teachers, coaches, families, businesses, public service workers – the people of West Salem rally to help when someone is in need. Our family have been beneficiaries of that generosity. The power for good West Salem can do when we unite makes us all part of something very special. I want to help amplify our strengths as a community, so together we can navigate any challenge ahead and create a thriving future for the generations that will follow us.”

**2) What do you see as the board’s roles and responsibilities?**

**A:** “ Listen to and learn from as many people as possible – students, teachers, parents, community members – to understand needs. Make decisions that represent the collective interests of our people and the vision we want to achieve. Communicate transparently.”

**3) What is the most important responsibility of a school board?**

**A:** “Listening, paired with transparent action.”

**4) What issues do you believe the district needs to address in its academic program and offerings?**

**What changes would you recommend?**

**A:** “First, the issues I believe our district needs to address in our academic program and offerings are: resiliency, leadership, self-discipline, conflict resolution, self-awareness, interpersonal skills.

Second, I have no changes I’m recommending at this time. I intend to spend time listening and learning to understand our challenges, opportunities, strengths and weaknesses, before advocating for change.”



**Caitlin Wilson**

## Are You a Super Taster?

Mr. Baker's 7th grade students have been having fun in science class learning about the genetics of picky eaters! They started off by tasting and rating different flavors such as bitter, sour, sweet, and salty. Then they had to dye their tongues to count the number of taste buds! Supertasters typically react strongly to the different flavors, have more taste buds, and tend to be pickier eaters!



# District Announcements



## An Example of Perseverance

A little over a year ago, WSHS senior Zoe Coder began the toughest battle of her life after she was involved in a serious head-on car crash. She suffered several traumatic injuries and has spent months undergoing surgeries and rehab to relearn daily activities like speaking and walking, all while preparing for her senior year. She also participates in band, is a manager for the West Salem Bangor Wrestling team, and a member of the softball team. Throughout this process, she has remained upbeat, determined, and always has a smile to share. As a result of her courage and positive attitude while battling adversity, Zoe was named a winner of the Milwaukee Bucks Perseverance Award! This award is given to senior student athletes who have overcome adversity to compete and/or excel in interscholastic sports. She was just one of seven students selected throughout the state. Thanks to generous sponsors she will receive a \$1,000 award. Zoe and the other seniors will be recognized at the March 17th Milwaukee Bucks vs. Phoenix Suns game. Congratulations, Zoe! We are so proud of you!



## 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*



# District Announcements

## Heider Center



**The Little Mermen - The Ultimate Disney Tribute**  
**Saturday, March 16th**  
**7:30 p.m.**  
**Tickets: \$26/\$24/\$10**

The Little Mermen play all of the Disney hits that generations grew up on and never let go! You'll hear songs from The Jungle Book, Lion King, Frozen and many more all sung by a cast of talented musicians that dress like Disney characters and Disney Princesses. Don't miss this family fun show!



**Art Gallery**  
West Salem School District K-12  
Honors Art Show  
Runs March 6-April 12  
**Reception**  
Thursday, March 14th  
6:00-7:30 p.m.

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

## A Successful Winter Wellness

Although there were some slight adjustments due to the weather, the annual Winter Wellness Day at WSMS was still a huge success! Students took a trip off campus to participate in a variety of fun indoor and outdoor activities designed to get them physically active and enjoying time with their classmates. They can choose from several fun options including tubing, skiing and snowboarding, swimming, bowling, and more! Our students look forward to this day every year and it's a highlight of the middle school experience for so many of them. Thank you to our staff who spend lots of time planning, coordinating, and chaperoning to make this a successful event!



## 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."

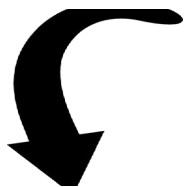
If you have questions, please call the High School Student Services Office at (608) 786-1220.

## Open Enrollment for 2024-2025

Open Enrollment into the School District of West Salem runs February 5-April 30, 2024. Open Enrollment is for any nonresident student that wishes to attend our schools. Students that are currently open enrolled do not need to reapply.

All open enrollment information can be found by going to our website [www.wsalem.k12.wi.us](http://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us) and clicking on "Enrollment" at the top of the page and then "Open Enrollment" on the right hand side. If you have questions, please call the District Office at (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.



# School District of West Salem

## School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes February 12, 2024

### 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 February 8, 2024.

#### Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Alex Hubing led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Shawn Handland recited the District Mission Statement.

#### Roll Call

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

#### Approval of Agenda

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

#### Written and Oral Reports

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

Business Operations Committee – S. Gavaghan reported on the agenda items: roof update and post-employment benefits for professional staff.

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

Community Safety Meeting – Director of Buildings and Grounds Scott Johnson presented information on the meeting that was held on Wednesday, February 7, 2024.

2023 Audit Report update was presented by Director of Finance and Business Operations Shawn Handland.

#### Connection with the Community

Payton Greer, Student Representative, reported on:

1. The West Salem Sports and Entertainment Marketing class for the second semester is starting to create videos about activities around the high school. They are calling it the West Salem Sports Center video. Here is a link for the video they made for these past 2 weeks! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NXFk8dZU3dA>
2. Spring Sports are just around the corner. The spring sports meetings are set to be held on Monday, February 26th.

#### Correspondence

A thank you from Kathy Morgan and from the family of Juanita Affeldt was read.

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Proclamations were read: National School Counselor Week, Career and Technical Education Month, 2024 Adult Crossing Guard Recognition Week, and FFA Week 2024 in Wisconsin.

Public Comments – None.

#### Consent Agenda

C. Peterson moved, S. Gavaghan seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- a. the Regular Board Meeting of January 22, 2024, the Special Board Meeting of January 15, 2024, the revised Closed Session Meeting of January 8, 2024, the Special Board Meeting of February 1, 2024;
- b. the invoices to be paid;
- c. to accept donations: from Ashley For The Arts for the high school dance team and music program, from Errol Kindschy for the elementary, middle and high school libraries, from A & C Martial Arts, Bakalars, Big Boar, BioLargo, Bubba's Meats, Burrachos, Chick-Fil-A, Chris Munson Realty, Crimson Clover, Famous Dave's, Festival Foods, Founders Café, Great Lakes Cheese, Hansen's IGA, HyVee, Jersey Mike's, Kenrich Foods, KFC, Kwik Trip, Linda's Bakery, Lindy's La Crosse, Meringue Bakery, Pepsi, Riot MotorSports, Russ Davis, Sam's Club, St. Joe's Meats, and Taco John's for the high school WonderStruck event, from The West Salem Panther Booster Club for the purchase of a softball hitting machine, from the Friends of West Salem Baseball, Inc. for the purchase of baseball uniforms, from Jason Lassen towards the installation of EV chargers at the Panther Den, from Sandra Hammond-Gonia for the Game Getter Scholarship in memory of Gene Gonia, from Randall & Priscilla Weinke in the memory of Patti Neimeier for the high school volleyball team, boys' basketball team and girls' basketball team, from Robert & Bonnie Elliot in memory of Patti Neimeier for the girls' soccer booster club, from the Class of 1992 in memory of Shannon Frydenlund for the Random Acts of Kindness Fund, from the West Salem Lions Club for the Random Acts of Kindness Fund, and from the Barre Co-Ed Lions Club for the Random Acts of Kindness Fund;
- d. to accept the retirement of High School Principal Mike Malott.

Motion Carried unanimously.

#### Discussion/Action Items:

Superintendent Rieber provided an update and explanation of the pupil counts from September and January. No action was taken.

Superintendent Rieber shared information regarding the Facility Study Kick-Off meeting and the next steps in the facilities study process. No action was taken.

Director of Human Resources Crystal Becker presented information on post-employment benefits for professional staff. S. Gavaghan moved, E. Peterson seconded to approve going to the new post-employment benefit plan with the National Insurance Services (NIS). Motion carried unanimously.

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

#### Adjournment

C. Peterson moved, S. Gavaghan seconded to adjourn at 7:56 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk

# School District of West Salem

## School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes February 26, 2024 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 February 22, 2024.

### Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

### Roll Call

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

### Approval of Agenda

C. Peterson moved, B. Minard seconded to approve the agenda with the removal of the Traffic Study Update. Motion carried unanimously.

### Written and Oral Reports

District Strategic Initiative updates from the Directors' Team and the Superintendent were reviewed. Policy/Communication and Engagement Committee – E. Peterson reported on the agenda items under policy review.

Human Resource updates: the resignations of Bonnie Bloomfield-school nutrition, Mary Boggs-school nutrition, Amanda Boswell-custodian, Cheryl Friell-paraprofessional, Crystal Goulet-school nutrition, Allison Klug-paraprofessional, Tricia Mulholland-District Accounts Receivable/Accounts Payable Specialist, and Bridget Peterson-administrative assistant; the retirements of Jane Frank-administrative assistant, Kathy Stello-administrative assistant, Lynn Strong-kitchen manager; and the hire of Todd (Chester) Brown-custodian/mail.

### Connection with the Community

Payton Greer, Student Representative, reported on:

1. Show choir finished a great season! They finished 5th runner up at Monona Grove, Hannah Reischl also got 2nd place in the solo competition. Last Thursday and Friday they had their last performance in the Heider Center for families and the community to come and watch. The junior show choir kid camp performed along with the middle school show choir performed that night.
2. This past week was FFA week. There were dress-up days the students participated in.
3. Spring sports meeting is also happening tonight.
4. West Salem had 23 students who qualified to compete at State DECA in Lake Geneva at the Grand Geneva Hotel from Sunday to Wednesday this week.
5. NHS scheduled a blood drive on March 7 in the high school LMC
6. Boys' basketball had 3 home games this past week; won 2 and lost 1. They also tied/broke the record for most consecutive Coulee Conference wins in conference history. They also received a #1 seed.
7. Girls' basketball are Conference champs. They have started playoffs and beat Logan Friday night and won against Reedsburg Saturday night. They play this week Thursday against Onalaska.

8. Gymnastics are the conference champs and they competed at sectionals this past Saturday and got 1st so they are going to state.

9. Wrestling had sectionals 2 weekends ago and state this week. Brett Plomedahl (West Salem), Emily Anderson (Bangor) and Cody Peterson (Bangor) qualified and competed at state. Emily is the first girl from West Salem/Bangor to qualify for state wrestling.

10. Esports competed for state in Fortnite Squads.

11. Band had a clinician, Jim Piela, come in on Wednesday.

12. Spring play, There's a Monster in my Closet performs on February 29th and March 1st both at 7:00.

13. Art at the Capitol- Caralyn Parry, Lizzy Stavlo, Leah Beyer, Danica Hudzinski, and Maddie Dovenberg all have pieces displayed at the state capital.

### Correspondence

Proclamations for Child and Adult Care Food Program Week and National School Breakfast Week were read.

Public Comments – None

### Consent Agenda

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

a. the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 12, 2024;

b. the invoices to be paid;

c. to accept the retirements of High School Math Teacher Scott Koepnick and the Outdoor Education Center Coordinator John Sullivan, the resignation from High School English Teacher Maggi Bishop.

d. to accept the administration's co-curricular recommendations for girls' head track coach-Stacy Mitchell, boys' head track coach-Justin Stakston, assistant track coach-Cameron Robaczewski, Tony Weilandt and Tanner Gibbons, volunteer track coach-Avery Duffy, Ian McBride, Brett Miller, Laura Deal, Emma Clements and Orin Schwier, head baseball coach-Jamie Olson, assistant baseball coach-Jared Hauser, Nick Schultz, Ben Luther, Jayden Buchley, Cory Mehsikomer, volunteer baseball coach Randy Schultz, head softball coach-Brian Babiash, volunteer assistant softball coach-Rod Hamilton, head golf coach-Tyler Shrake, assistant golf coach-Josh Shrake, Aaron Kupinski, volunteer golf coach-Tyler Woodke, head girls' soccer coach-Lionel Karyea, assistant girls' soccer coach-Darwin Carranza, head boys' tennis coach-Julie Kamla, assistant boys' tennis coach-Lisa Hehli, and middle school track coach-Nicole Friell, Bill Jensen, Heidi Propson, Addison Frank.

Motion carried unanimously.

### Discussion/Action Items:

E. Peterson moved, T. Grosskopf seconded to only have one meeting in May and that meeting would be on May 13, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Peterson moved, T. Grosskopf seconded to set April 10, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. as a Special Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Robin Fitzgerald, Catherine Griffin and Tom Grosskopf volunteered to review the submissions for the College, Career and Life Ready (CCLR) video scholarship and select the recipients by the March 25, 2024, Board Meeting.

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 Session

Superintendent Rieber led a Board Development Session on controversial issues in the classroom.

### Adjournment

C. Peterson moved, T. Grosskopf seconded to adjourn at 8:22 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk

**School District of West Salem  
Location and Hours of Polling Place  
ALL POLLS OPEN AT 7:00 A.M. AND CLOSE AT 8:00 P.M.**

At the Spring Election to be held on April 2, 2024, in the County of La Crosse, the following polling place locations will be used for the Municipalities and Districts

<b>MUNICIPALITY</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
BANGOR	Town Hall – N4400 State Rd 162, Bangor
BARRE	Town Hall – W3541 County Road M, La Crosse
BURNS	Town Hall – W1313 Jewett Rd, Bangor
FARMINGTON	Town Hall – N8309 County Road C, Mindoro
GREENFIELD	Town Hall – N1800 Town Hall Rd, La Crosse
HAMILTON	Town Hall – N5105 N Leonard St., West Salem
MEDARY	Town Hall – N3393 Smith Valley Rd, La Crosse
SHELBY	Town Hall – 2800 Ward Ave, La Crosse
WASHINGTON	Town Hall – W1430 County Road H, Bangor
VILLAGE OF WEST SALEM	Presbyterian Church – 625 W Franklin St., West Salem
City of Onalaska	Onalaska Omni Center 255 Riders Club Road, Onalaska

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WEST SALEM BOARD OF EDUCATION CANDIDATES ARE MATT KNEBES, BOB GOLLNIK AND CAITLIN WILSON.

**ALL POLLING PLACES WILL OPEN AT 7:00 A.M. AND WILL CLOSE AT 8:00 P.M.  
All polling places are accessible to elderly and disabled voters.**

<https://myvote.wi.gov/> to see if you are registered to vote, locate your polling place, and to find your district.

**At the close of voting on Election Day**, pursuant to the provisions of Wis. Stat. § 19.84, the Election Inspectors at each polling place will convene as the Local Canvassing Board for the purpose of conducting the local canvass pursuant to Wis. Stat. §7.51. This meeting will be open to the public pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 19.81-89.

<b>School District</b>
<b>West Salem School District School Board Member Vote for not more than 2</b>
<input type="radio"/> Matt Knebes
<input type="radio"/> Bob Gollnik
<input type="radio"/> Caitlin Wilson
<input type="radio"/> write-in:
<input type="radio"/> write-in:

## A Record Breaking Year

It's been a record breaking year for two of our boys and girls basketball players! Junior Megan Johnson passed the 1,000 point career mark in the team's game against Logan on January 16, and in the following week became the team's all-time leading scorer in their game against G-E-T! She broke Penny Wehrs' record that stood for 40 years by scoring 1,161 points! She is currently averaging 22.8 points per game as the girls

continue their playoff run. Senior Tamarrein Henderson also reached the 1,000 point career mark in the team's game against Darlington on February 5, as well as tying the single game scoring record with 51 points! He is averaging 18.6 points per game as the boys also continue their playoff run. Congratulations, Megan and Tamarrein!



### Did You Know?

Sometimes people call sweet potatoes yams, but sweet potatoes and yams are different vegetables!

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/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.”



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