

October 2023



# Newsletter

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## Letter from Superintendent Ryan Rieber

### Fall is Upon Us!

John F. Kennedy once said, “Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past and present will surely miss the future.” October is a month of change and transition. As calendars flip from September to October, we fully understand that the warmth of summer is behind us as we prepare for the upcoming months. The trees transition from green to golden yellows, oranges, and reds before the leaves fall. Academically, our students are now “falling” into their routines as we transition our quarters and trimesters, and the district awaits the annual report cards from the Department of Instruction. The athletic seasons throughout the district begin to transition as the fall seasons conclude at the middle level, and tournament competition starts at the high school. Through this change, there is good! As we look at nature’s changes and changes within our school, there are always opportunities to keep advancing!

Going forward, I would love to hear from our community

about how people want to receive our district newsletter. The monthly cost for postage is \$1,000 to send out 5,000 copies of our monthly newsletter, which does not include the cost of paper. These costs add up over a year. We are not changing anything, but will allow everyone to choose how to receive our monthly newsletter. While I have heard from the community about the timeliness of the newsletter and when it ends up in your mailbox, the newsletter is available online by the first of the month. We are changing the appearance of our webpage with our newsletter, which will provide a visual of the current month’s newsletter along with an archive of past newsletters. Doing this will provide a more appealing and inviting format.

If you would like to have your address removed from our physical mailing list and access our newsletter online, please let us know by using our feedback form at <https://www.wsaalem.k12.wi.us/content/families/district-newsletter>.

The first week of October is School Board Appreciation Week. I want to share our appreciation to Catherine,

Letter continues on next page...

## School District of West Salem

Tom, Robin, Erik, Chris, Bob, and Sean for their hard work, steady focus on continuous improvement, and work to make the West Salem School District one that everyone can be proud of. We are very fortunate here in West Salem to have the schools we do, and those you elected to lead the district continue to serve with passion to ignite the creativity, innovation, and excellence we strive for here in West Salem! Thank you to our Board of Education!

The District will have a consulting firm conduct a traffic study on campus and affected intersections due to school traffic. I know that as a parent and employee, there are areas that make traveling in and around campus difficult. The study will begin the week of October 9th and will continue over a few weeks. The District plans to work with the Village and County on necessary changes or

modifications. More information will be shared as the results of the study come back.

October 23rd is West Salem's annual meeting and budget hearing. Please look for the posting of the time on page 5 and feel free to attend.

October is also the time to nominate alumni to the West Salem High School Hall of Fame. Nomination forms can be found on the district website. I encourage you to keep this tradition alive and acknowledge those who have been impactful West Salem High School graduates.

Ryan Rieber  
Superintendent

# Homecoming 2023 - Clash of Fans



# Calendar of Events October

## Athletic Events

### Monday, October 2, 2023

- 9:00am Tennis: Girls JV/Varsity Match vs. Aquinas, Black River Falls, Lodi, Luther, Mauston, Portage & Viroqua @ Portage High School
- 5:00pm Football: Varsity Reserve/C-Team Game vs. Viroqua @ West Salem High School

### Tuesday, October 3, 2023

- 4:30pm Cross Country: Boys & Girls Varsity Invitational vs. Adams-Friendship, Black River Falls, Chippewa Valley-Lightning Bolts, Eleva-Strum, Ellsworth, Lincoln High School, Loyal, Mauston, Mosinee, Neillsville & Viroqua @ Black River Falls Skyline Golf Course
- 5:30pm Swimming & Diving: Girls Varsity Meet vs. Marshfield @ Marshfield High School
- 5:30pm Volleyball: Girls C-Team Match vs. G-E-T @ Gale-Etrick-Trempealeau High School Gym South
- 5:30pm Volleyball: Girls JV Match vs. G-E-T @ Gale-Etrick-Trempealeau High School Gym North
- 7:00pm Volleyball: Girls Varsity Match vs. G-E-T @ Gale-Etrick-Trempealeau High School Gym North

### Wednesday, October 4, 2023

- 9:00am Tennis: Girls JV/Varsity Sectional vs. Aquinas, Black River Falls, Columbus, Delavan-Darien, Edgerton, Edgewood, Jefferson, Lake Mills, Lodi, Luther, Mauston, Portage, Viroqua, Watertown Luther Prep, Wayland Academy & Whitewater @ Green Island Tennis Complex

### Thursday, October 5, 2023

- 4:00pm Adapted Sports League: Soccer vs. Logan @ Logan Middle School
- 5:30pm Volleyball: Girls C-Team/JV Match vs. Black River Falls @ Black River Falls High School

- 7:00pm Volleyball: Girls Varsity Match vs. Black River Falls @ Black River Falls High School

### Friday, October 6, 2023

- 7:00pm Football: Varsity Game vs. Black River Falls @ Black River Falls High School

### Saturday, October 7, 2023

- 11:10am Cross Country: Boys & Girls Varsity Invitational vs. Aquinas, Arcadia, Blair-Taylor, Boyceville, Brookwood, Chippewa Valley - Lightning Bolts, Cochrane-Fountain City, Columbus Catholic Schools, Coulee Christian, G-E-T, Hope Farm, Independence/Gilmanton, Lincoln, Loyal, Melrose-Mindoro, Necedah, Providence Academy & Whitehall @ Arcadia High School

### Monday, October 9, 2023

- 5:30pm Football: Varsity Reserve/C-Team Game vs. Holmen @ Holmen

### Tuesday, October 10, 2023

- 5:30pm Volleyball: Girls C-Team/JV Match vs. Viroqua @ West Salem High School
- 7:00pm Volleyball: Girls Varsity Match vs. Viroqua @ West Salem High School

### Thursday, October 12, 2023

- 4:15pm Adapted Sports League: Soccer vs. Onalaska @ Onalaska High School
- 5:30pm Volleyball: Girls C-Team/JV Match vs. Luther @ Luther High School
- 7:00pm Volleyball: Girls Varsity Match vs. Luther @ Luther High School

### Friday, October 13, 2023

- 7:00pm Football: Varsity Game vs. Aquinas @ West Salem High School

### Saturday, October 14, 2023

- 10:00am Cross Country: Boys & Girls Varsity Conference Tournament vs. Arcadia, Black River Falls, G-E-T, Luther, Viroqua & Westby Area High School @ Arcadia High School
- 11:30am Swimming & Diving: Girls Varsity Triangular vs. Hol/Ona/Aq/G-E-T @ YMCA -North (Onalaska)

Calendar of events continues on next page...

## School District of West Salem

### Tuesday, October 17, 2023

4:15pm Adapted Sports League: Soccer vs.  
Holmen @ Holmen High School

### Saturday, October 21, 2023

11:00am Swimming & Diving: Girls Varsity  
Invitational vs. Platteville, Edgerton,  
Lodi, Monroe, River Valley, Sauk Prairie,  
& Whitewater @ UW Platteville

### Band Events

### Friday, October 13, 2023

6:30pm Football Game vs. Aquinas  
Arrive at 6:15pm  
Marching Band Uniform Required

### Elementary School Events

### Monday, October 2, 2023

8:30am 1st Grade to the OEC  
Reedy & Chambers

### Tuesday, October 3, 2023

8:30am 1st Grade to the OEC  
Richling, Antony & Baldwin

### Wednesday, October 4, 2023

8:30am 1st Grade to the OEC  
Christianson & Stencil

### Wednesday, October 11, 2023

12:20pm Early Release  
Students dismissed at 12:20pm  
Buses depart at 12:30pm

### Thursday, October 12, 2023

8:15am Kindergarten to the Fire Station

### Monday, October 16, 2023

8:30am Kindergarten to the OEC  
Wagner & Hickey

### Tuesday, October 17, 2023

8:30am Kindergarten to the OEC  
Wheeler & Grams  
3:30- Parent-Teacher Conferences  
7:00pm

### Wednesday, October 18, 2023

8:30am Kindergarten to the OEC  
Christianson & Passehl

### Thursday, October 19, 2023

All Day Picture Retake Day  
3:30- Parent-Teacher Conferences  
7:00pm

### Friday, October 20, 2023

All Day No School

### Tuesday, October 24, 2023

8:30am 2nd Grade to the OEC  
Servais, Skaar & Hesse

### Wednesday, October 25, 2023

8:30am 2nd Grade to the OEC  
Crow, Pearson & Flottmeier

### Friday, October 27, 2023

All Day No School - Staff Inservice

### Middle School Events

### Thursday, October 5, 2023

All Day 7th Grade to Trempealeau Wildlife  
Refuge - 1/2 of class

All Day Ms. Snook's 8th Grade Classes to the  
OEC

7:00pm 6th Grade Band & Choir Concert  
@ Heider Center  
Students Report @ 6:30

### Friday, October 6, 2023

All Day 7th Grade to Trempealeau Wildlife  
Refuge - 1/2 of class

All Day Mrs. Coe's 8th Grade Classes to the OEC

### Wednesday, October 11, 2023

12:20pm Early Release  
Students dismissed at 12:20pm  
Buses depart at 12:30pm

### Thursday, October 12, 2023

All Day Picture Retake Day

### Friday, October 13, 2023

All Day Picture Retake Day

### Thursday, October 19, 2023

3:30- Parent-Teacher Conferences  
7:00pm

### Friday, October 20, 2023

All Day No School

### Monday, October 23, 2023

3:30- Parent-Teacher Conferences  
7:00pm

### Friday, October 27, 2023

All Day No School - Staff Inservice

High School Events

Wednesday, October 4, 2023

All Day 1st Quarter Mid-Term

Monday, October 9, 2023

All Day 1st Quarter Mid-Term Grades Submitted

Wednesday, October 11, 2023

12:20pm Early Release  
Students dismissed at 12:20pm  
Buses depart at 12:30pm

Thursday, October 12, 2023

3:30- Parent-Teacher Conferences  
7:00pm

6:00pm Financial Aid Night @ HS LMC

Friday, October 20, 2023

All Day No School

Friday, October 27, 2023

All Day No School - Staff Inservice

Saturday, October 28, 2023

7:00am DECA Regional Competition @ Heider Center

October 8th-15th is Fire Prevention Week "Cooking Safety Starts with You!"

Smoke Alarms at Home

SMOKE ALARMS ARE A KEY PART of a home fire escape plan. When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast. Working smoke alarms give you early warning so you can get outside quickly.



SAFETY TIPS

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom. They should also be outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home. Install alarms in the basement.
- Large homes may need extra smoke alarms.
- It is best to use interconnected smoke alarms. When one smoke alarm sounds, they all sound.
- Test all smoke alarms at least once a month. Press the test button to be sure the alarm is working.
- Current alarms on the market employ different types of technology including multi-sensing, which could include smoke and carbon monoxide combined.
- Today's smoke alarms will be more technologically advanced to respond to a multitude of fire conditions, yet mitigate false alarms.
- A smoke alarm should be on the ceiling or high on a wall. Keep smoke alarms away from the kitchen to reduce false alarms. They should be at least 10 feet (3 meters) from the stove.
- People who are hard-of-hearing or deaf can use special alarms. These alarms have strobe lights and bed shakers.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.

FACTS

- ❗ A closed door may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire.
- ❗ Smoke alarms should be installed inside every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level. Smoke alarms should be connected so when one sounds, they all sound. Most homes do not have this level of protection.
- ❗ Roughly 3 out of 5 fire deaths happen in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.



Your Logo



Annual Meeting Notice

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WEST SALEM

NOTICE FOR ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING Section 120.8(1)

Notice is hereby given to qualified electors of the School District of West Salem, that the Annual Meeting of said District for the transaction of business will be held in the Marie W. Heider Meeting Room at 405 East Hamlin Street, West Salem, Wisconsin on the 23rd day of October, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Dated this 25th day of September, 2023.

Robin Fitzgerald, District Clerk

\*\*A quorum of the Board may be present, but no Board action will be taken.\*\*

NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING SECTION 65.90(4)

Notice is hereby given to the qualified electors of the School District of West Salem that the Budget Hearing will be held in the Marie W. Heider Meeting Room, 405 East Hamlin Street, West Salem, Wisconsin on the 23rd day of October, 2023, at 6:00 P.M. Detailed copies of the budget are available for inspection in the District's office, 405 East Hamlin Street, West Salem, Wisconsin from 7:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Dated this 25th day of September, 2023.

Robin Fitzgerald, District Clerk

\*\*A quorum of the Board may be present, but no Board action will be taken.\*\*

## 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.**



### 2. Times of Our Lives

This may be less formal.



### 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.



### 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.



## WEST SALEM ATHLETICS BOOSTER CLUB Sponsorship Form

490 North Mark Street, West Salem, WI 54669

What a year for West Salem Panther Athletics!!! From Conference Championships to State Tournament appearances, this year was one to remember. The West Salem Athletics Booster Club provides a valuable service to our athletic programs by providing equipment needs to each program to keep our athletes safe and competitive. The Booster Club supports all athletic programs. This Sponsorship drive is one way the Booster Club raises money to support the athletic programs. Please consider becoming a West Salem Booster Club Sponsor today.

**Board Members include:**

Bryan Novy - President  
Jason Lassen - Vice President

Matt Quick - Secretary  
Therese Novy - Treasurer

Members: Mark Donahue, Mike Brudos, Dennis Greer

### Yearly Family Sponsorship-\$40.00 (2023-2024 School year)

-----Please return bottom portion with payment-----

*With each sponsorship you will receive a Panther seat cushion,  
Panther yard sign, or a T-Shirt to show your support.*

*Please mark your selection. Seat Cushion \_\_\_ Sign \_\_\_ T-Shirt \_\_\_ Circle Size (M, L, or XL)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to WS Athletics Booster Club and  
send to 490 N. Mark St, West Salem, WI 54669

**The West Salem High School Drama Department  
presents**

# **BACK TO THE 80S**



**By Dean O'Carroll**

**Tuesday, October 17 & Thursday, October 19  
7:00 pm**

**\$5.00 tickets - available at the door**

Produced with special arrangements with Playscripts, Inc. ([www.playscripts.com](http://www.playscripts.com))



# KIDS HALLOWEEN PARTY

Thursday, October 26, 2023 @ West Salem High School

5:00-6:30 pm



**FREE TRICK-OR-TREATING**

**HALLOWEEN BAKE SALE & CONCESSIONS**

**BASKET RAFFLE**



**GAMES/ARTS & CRAFTS**

Games, arts & crafts & trick-or-treating for pre-school - 5th grade kids!

**KIDS COSTUME CONTEST, BASKET RAFFLE  
SHOW CHOR PERFORMANCES**

6:45 pm - HEIDER CENTER

Performances by Jr. Singations campers & Salem Singations



\*Sponsored by WSHS Show Choirs

# CAMP READ-A-LOT

November 16, 2023  
5-7 p.m.

West Salem Elementary School



SAVE THE DATE FOR AN EVENING OF  
CAMPING THEMED FUN AS WE CELEBRATE  
LITERACY AT  
WEST SALEM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL!

There will be games, prizes, treats, and opportunities  
to learn about supporting your young reader!

## Free Financial Aid Presentation at WSHS

The West Salem High School Student Services department is excited to share that Chris Cook from Minnesota State College Southeast is coming to present about Financial Aid and FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) on Thursday, October 12th at 6:00pm in the High School LMC (during High School Conferences). The presentation will cover forms of financial aid as well as guidance on filling out the FAFSA. We encourage students attending a two or four year college to file the FAFSA.

We have been informed there have been significant changes to the FAFSA this year. In prior years, FAFSA was available to fill out on October 1st. Due to new updates, the FAFSA will not be available until sometime in December 2023.

While this presentation will be most beneficial for families with graduating seniors, we are inviting parents of juniors just in case you'd like to get a jump-start on financial aid information. This will be a great information session with opportunity to ask questions and also learn more about different Scholarship Opportunities and tips for filling out Scholarship Applications.



# District Announcements



## Focusing on Safety

On Friday, September 8th, Wisconsin Attorney General Josh Kaul and Director of the Wisconsin DOJ Office of School Safety Trish Kilpin, came to campus to meet with Superintendent Rieber, Director of Buildings and Grounds, Scott Johnson, and Chief Kyle Holzhausen of the West Salem Police Department to discuss the importance of the Office of School Safety and the many resources it provides, such as the Speak Up, Speak Out tip line and how these resources have positively impacted our district. We thank them for their commitment to helping keep our students safe each and every day and we look forward to our continued work with them. In the coming months, look for a designated school safety page on our website including best practices such as the Standard Response Protocol (SRP), weather information, an FAQ on school safety, and partnership information with the West Salem Police Department and DOJ.



## 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



### Art Gallery

“Does The Center Hold?” - A Collection of Abstract works by

Quenten Brown

### Display Cases

Glass Etchings and More by MAC

Runs September 1-October 13, 2023

Box Office Hours  
(608) 786-2550

Monday, Wednesday & Friday:  
1:30 to 4:00 p.m.

[www.heidercenter.org](http://www.heidercenter.org)

### B2Wins

**Saturday, November 18, 2023**

**7:30 p.m.**

**Tickets: \$26/\$24/\$10**

Pronounced B-Twins, this high energy group continues to captivate audiences with its unique renditions of crowd favorites and an engaging, uplifting show that targets the masses. Led by charismatic twin brothers from Brazil, they combine a plethora of genres into a feel good performance that is equal parts rock concert, dance party, jam session and vacation for the soul.



## Reminder from the School Nurse

Dear Families, please remember to submit your signed immunization waiver or an immunization record if you have not already done so!

Thank you!

Kate Brohmer  
District RN  
608-451-1185

## Neshonoc Dedicattee Nominations

The West Salem High School Yearbook Staff are seeking nominations for the 2024 Neshonoc Dedicattee. You may submit the name of any district employee or member of the community who you believe has made a significant contribution to the students of the West Salem School District, and who has perhaps touched the lives of the members of the class of 2024 in particular.

Please email the name of your nominee and include a brief explanation of this person's qualifications for this distinction to:

[armstrong.andrea@wsalem.k12.wi.us](mailto:armstrong.andrea@wsalem.k12.wi.us)

The Neshonoc editor and advisor take each and every nomination under serious consideration. If your nominee is the person selected, we will be contacting you to assist us in gathering pictures and memories and in contacting the nominee's family. We would like to have the nominations by Friday, October 13th.

## 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.'

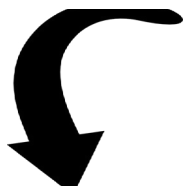
If you have questions, please call the High School Student Services Office at (608) 786-1220.

## 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.



# School District of West Salem

## School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes September 11, 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 September 7, 2023.

### Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

### Roll Call

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

### Approval of Agenda

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

### Written and Oral Reports

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

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

Policy/Engagement and Development Committee – E. Peterson reported on the agenda item advertising and commercial activities.

Start of school report – None.

Summer campus improvements – Superintendent Rieber provided an update of all the maintenance items that were updated in the District. Director of Buildings and Grounds Scott Johnson was present and answered questions.

### Connection with the Community

Sam Stenberg, Student Representative, reported on:

1. This past week, Class Presidents were elected. Freshmen-John Gerke, Sophomore-Lydia Jochen, Junior-Gideon Wolbrink, Senior-Sam Stenberg
2. Homecoming is next Friday, September 22. The theme this year is Clash of Fans. The football game will be against Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau. The dance theme is Day and Night on Saturday, September 23. All grades can start building their floats this week. Powder puff practices are also happening. The powder puff game will be this Sunday along with all the other homecoming kick off activities, which include volleyball, spikeball and the other activities. After those are completed, there will be a powder puff game featuring the juniors vs. the seniors.
3. Football, volleyball and boys' soccer information was shared.

Payton Greer, Student Representative, reported on:

1. Girls' tennis information was shared.
2. The band performed at Kellogg's Watermelon Days Parade this past Saturday.
3. The show choir finished learning their closing number in their show and will have weekly practices after school.

4. The drama department is holding auditions for the production of Back to the 80's.
5. HOSA (Health Occupation Students of America) will have their first meeting this Thursday.
6. Ecology Club will have their first meeting tomorrow.
7. FFA will have their first meeting this Friday.

Correspondence – None.

Public Comments – None.

### Public Hearing

PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER REQUEST FOR EARLY START OF THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR PER 118.045(3), WISCONSIN STATUTES – REQUEST A WAIVER FOR EARLY START OF SCHOOL YEAR DUE TO REPAIR OF ROOF FROM THE JULY 28, 2023, STORM.

C. Griffin called the hearing to order at 7:28 p.m. There wasn't a person who wished to speak. C. Griffin ended the hearing at 7:31 p.m.

### Consent Agenda

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

- a. the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of August 28, 2023;
  - b. the invoices to be paid;
  - c. to accept a donation from Dollar General Literacy Foundation for the elementary school, from Country Boom, LLC, for the high school football team, and from Waldenberger Inc., for the Outdoor Education Center.
  - d. to accept the administration's co-curricular recommendation for Brianna Kruser, volunteer dance coach.
- Motion carried unanimously.

### Discussion/Action Items:

C. Peterson moved, B. Minard seconded to adopt the following resolution. WAIVER REQUEST FOR EARLY START OF THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR PER 118.045 (3) WISCONSIN STATE STATUTE – REQUEST A WAIVER FOR EARLY START OF SCHOOL YEAR DUE TO REPAIR OF ROOF FROM THE JULY 28, 2023 STORM.

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 led a Board Development on the Future District Initiatives and provided the Board some of the results of the community survey that pertained to the subject.

### Adjournment

C. Peterson moved, B. Minard seconded to adjourn at 8:48 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Erik Peterson, Acting Clerk

# School District of West Salem

## Annual Notices

At the beginning of each school year, school districts are required to publish certain annual notices. These are as follows:

### Child Find & Referral Notice

Upon request, the School District of West Salem is required to evaluate a child for eligibility for special education services. A request for evaluation is known as a referral. When the district receives a referral, the district will appoint an Individualized Education Program (IEP) team to determine if the child has a disability, and if the child needs special education services. The district locates, identifies, and evaluates all children with disabilities who are enrolled by their parents in private (including religious) schools, elementary schools and secondary schools located in the school district.

A physician, nurse, psychologist, social worker, or administrator of a social agency who reasonably believes a child brought to him or her for services is a child with a disability has a legal duty to refer the child, including a homeless child, to the school district in which the child resides. Before referring the child, the person making the referral must inform the child's parent that the referral will be made.

Others, including parents, who reasonably believe a child is a child with a disability may also refer the child, including a homeless child, to the school district in which the child resides.

Referrals must be in writing and include the reason why the person believes the child is a child with a disability. A referral may be made by contacting Heidi Horton, Director of Pupil Services, School District of West Salem at (608)786-1064 or by writing her at 405 East Hamlin Street, West Salem, WI 54669.

### Educational Options

Students have the right to enroll in any public schools, private schools participating in parental choice programs, charter schools, virtual schools, full-time open enrollment, youth options, and course options as described by Wisconsin Statutes. The following educational options are available to School District of West Salem resident students:

- School District of West Salem (<https://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us/> )
- State Virtual Schools (<http://www.wisconsinvirtuallschool.org> )
- Full-time Open Enrollment (<http://dpi.wi.gov/open-enrollment> )
- Early College Credit Program & Start College Now (<https://dpi.wi.gov/dual-enrollment/eccp> )
- Youth Apprenticeship Program (<https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/apprenticeship/ya-applicants.htm>)
- Advanced Placement (<https://dpi.wi.gov/ap> )
- Home-Based Private Education (<http://dpi.wi.gov/sms/home-based> )
- Christ St. John's Lutheran School (<https://www.christstjohns.org/> )
- Coulee Christian School (<https://couleechristian.org/> )

### School Accountability Report

DPI requires that school districts include the most recent performance category assigned to each school within the school district boundaries. Please see below for the most recent Accountability Report Cards for the School District of West Salem for the 2021-2022 school year.

- [West Salem School District Report Card - Exceeds Expectations - 74.2](#)
- [West Salem Elementary School Report Card - Exceeds Expectations - 82.1](#)
- [West Salem Middle School Report Card - Exceeds Expectations - 79.9](#)
- [West Salem High School Report Card- Meets Expectations - 63.5](#)

For more accountability data, please visit: <https://apps2.dpi.wi.gov/reportcards/> and select West Salem.

### Nondiscrimination Notice

The Board is committed to providing an equal educational opportunity for all students in the District. The Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, sex, (including transgender status, change of sex or gender identity), or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability ("Protected Classes") in any of its student programs and activities.

Please refer to policy 2260 - Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity for further information.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact Heidi Horton, Pupil Services Director at (608) 786-0700.

To file a complaint of discrimination contact Heidi Horton, Pupil Services Director at (608) 786-0700. The West Salem School District is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

### Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs

The Board of the School District of West Salem does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its education program or activity and is required by Title IX and its implementing regulations not to discriminate in such a manner. The requirement not to discriminate in its education program or activity extends to admission and employment.

The District's Title IX Coordinator(s) is/are:

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Heidi Horton   | Crystal Becker   |
| Director of Pupil Services   | Director of Human Resources  |
| 608-786-1064   | (608) 786-5302   |
| 405 East Hamlin Street   | 405 East Hamlin Street   |
| West Salem, WI 54669   | West Salem, WI 54669   |
| <a href="mailto:horton.heidi@wsalem.k12.wi.us">horton.heidi@wsalem.k12.wi.us</a> | <a href="mailto:becker.crystal@wsalem.k12.wi.us">becker.crystal@wsalem.k12.wi.us</a> |

Any inquiries about the application of Title IX and its implementing regulations to the District may be referred to the Title IX Coordinator(s), the Assistant Secretary for the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, or both. The Board has adopted a grievance process that provides for the prompt and equitable resolution of student and employee complaints alleging any action that is prohibited by Title IX and/or its implementing regulations. The grievance process is included in Policy 2266 - Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities, which is available at: [www.wsalem.k12.wi.us](http://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us) . The grievance process specifically addresses how to report or file a complaint of sex discrimination, how to report or file a formal complaint of Sexual Harassment, and how the District will respond.

### Student Academic Standards

The West Salem School District has a commitment to excellence for all students. For the 2023-2024 school year, the district will adopt the Wisconsin State Standards for Math, English Language Arts, and Literacy; Next Generation Science Standards for Science; and Wisconsin Academic Standards or National Standards for all other content areas. When implementing the curriculum, educators use these standards to guide their instruction to provide all students with a guaranteed and viable curriculum.

Wisconsin Academic Standards

The Wisconsin Academic Standards are a set of consistent expectations for what students should know and be able to do in kindergarten through 12th grade. Setting high standards enables students, parents, educators, and citizens to know what students should have learned at a given point in time.

# School District of West Salem

## Annual Notices continued...

### Student Academic Standards continued...

#### Next Generation Science Standards

The Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) are a set of research-based, up-to-date K-12 science content standards. These standards set the expectations for what students should know and be able to do in science.

### Student Assessments

The School District of West Salem requires our Grades 3-8 and Grade 10 to participate in the State required FORWARD Assessment in the spring of every year. In addition, the students in Grade 9-10 participate in the ACT Aspire Assessment and our Grade 11 students take the ACT exam.

#### Elementary School Assessments- (Title I Schoolwide Program) State Required FORWARD

The Forward Exam is a high quality, research-based online assessment that is required to be administered to all State of Wisconsin students.

Grade 3 - ELA and Math

Grade 4 - ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies

#### District Required FastBridge

Grades K-4 - ELA and Math

#### Middle School Assessments State Required FORWARD

The Forward Exam is a high quality, research-based online assessment that is required to be administered to all State of Wisconsin students.

Grade 5, 6, 7 - ELA and Math

Grade 8 - ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies

#### District Required FastBridge

Grades 5-8 - ELA and Math

#### High School Assessments

##### State Required ACT, ACT Aspire, and FORWARD

The ACT, ACT Aspire, and FORWARD are high quality, research-based online assessments that are required to be administered to all State of Wisconsin students.

Grade 9-10 - ACT Aspire

Grade 10 - FORWARD Social Studies

Grade 11 - ACT

For additional information, please visit our Curriculum and Instruction webpage or call 608-786-5336 if you have questions.

### Student Privacy Rights under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)

PPRA affords parents of elementary and secondary students certain rights regarding the conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include, but are not limited to, the right to:

- *Consent* before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas ("protected information survey") if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education.

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parents;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or

student's parent; or

8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

- *Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of-*

1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding.
2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and

3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others. (This does not apply to the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions).

- *Inspect*, upon request and before administration or use'

1. Protected information surveys of students and surveys created by a third party;
2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
3. Instructional material use as a part of the educational curriculum.

These rights transfer from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.

The School District of West Salem has developed a policy regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. The School District of West Salem will notify parents of these policies, at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes. The School District of West Salem will also directly notify, such as through U.S. mail or email, parents of students who are scheduled to participate in the specific activities or surveys noted below and will provide an opportunity for the parent to opt his or her child out of participation of the specific activity or survey. The School District of West Salem will make this notification to parents at the beginning of the school year if the District has identified the specific or approximate dates of the activities or surveys at that time. For surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, parents will be provided reasonable notification of the planned activities and surveys listed below and be provided an opportunity to opt their child out of such activities and surveys. Parents will also be provided an opportunity to review any pertinent surveys. Following is a list of the specific activities and surveys covered under this direct notification requirement.

- Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for marketing, sales, or other distribution.
- Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by the U.S. Department of Education.
- Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.

Parents who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:  
Student Privacy Policy Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Ave, SW  
Washington, D.C., 20202

## STEAM Collaboration

Our 6th grade art and STEM classes have been working on a fun and unique collaboration to complete books that they will use throughout the year for creative drawing activities during Panther Time. In order to create the books, they have used a variety of processes including laser engraving, using a drill, Japanese stab binding (which is a traditional book making technique), and applying functional hinges.

Mrs. Hemker, Mr. Shrake, and Mr. Jones combined classes to ensure that all 6th graders would have time and be able to create a high quality hand bound book at the beginning of the school year, as well as create a website. The students did an excellent job showing off their creative skills and we can't wait to see what they fill their books with! We're sure these will be treasured for years to come!



### Did You Know?

There are over 7,500 varieties of apples grown across the world!

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



# School District of West Salem

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



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