

September 2020



Newsletter

School District of West Salem

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Letter from Superintendent Ryan Rieber

Another New Year

Welcome to a new school year and a beginning that is new to all of us! The first days of school are memories that we all hold from our childhood and/or dropping our children off on the first day and for many traditions. One of our family traditions is the first day of school pictures with our boys holding a picture from the previous year. It is always enjoyable to see how much our children grow from one year to the next. Those changes and memories are great to look back on, and as we move into this new year, it goes unsaid this school year is one unlike any other, but our district is ready for it!

The West Salem School District is excited for the year to come and is prepared to navigate the unknowns for the upcoming year. Our staff has been working diligently to prepare for our kids and the first eight days of school online, all while anxiously awaiting welcoming our students back on campus. Our 4K students will be the first group to have in-person instruction beginning on Tuesday, September 8th. After these first four days for our youngest learners, we will be phasing in the rest of our student body on Monday, September 14. The

return to the classrooms will have some changes and modifications as we do our best to ensure the safety and well being of our students, families, and staff. Our students who are entering Kindergarten through fifth grade will attend face to face five days a week, while our sixth through twelfth-grade students will be following a blended learning approach. On the following page is a table that provides the schedule for our blended learning model:

As with the start of a new season in sports or hunting, the first day of school has its own excitement. The opening of school represents so many things, but most importantly, it allows all of us to make new memories with our children. We are excited about the start of our new season and are looking forward to living our mission - to serve our students, our families, and our community with passion and to ignite the creativity, innovation, and excellence that we have come to expect as Panthers. We've got this! We are WS!

Sincerely,

Ryan G. Rieber, Superintendent

Important School Year Start Info

Please see below for a table detailing the schedule of our blended learning model beginning for students in grades 6-12 on Monday, September 14th. All K-5 students will begin face-to-face learning on Monday, September 14th.

West Salem School District (Grades 6-12) Blended Learning Model with In-person Safety Precautions

Student Grouping	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
"WEST" Group Last Names (A-K)	IN PERSON	At home learning	IN PERSON	At home learning	-Building Cleaning -At home learning -Professional Learning Communities
"SALEM" group Last Names (L-Z)	At home learning	IN PERSON	At home learning	IN PERSON	-Building Cleaning -At home learning -Professional Learning Communities

Calendar of Events September

Athletic Events

Tuesday, September 1, 2020

- 4:30pm Tennis: Girls Varsity Match vs. Black River Falls @ West Salem High School
- 5:30pm Cross Country: Varsity Triangular vs. Multiple Schools @ Viroqua High School

Friday, September 4, 2020

- 4:30pm Tennis: Girls JV/Varsity Match vs. Onalaska @ Onalaska Gullikson Courts

Tuesday, September 8, 2020

- 4:00pm Tennis: Girls Varsity Match vs. Viroqua @ Viroqua High School

Thursday, September 10, 2020

- 4:00pm Tennis: Girls Varsity Match vs. Mauston @ Mauston High School
- 5:00pm Cross Country: Varsity Meet vs. Multiple Schools @ Ettrick Golf Course

Saturday, September 12, 2020

- 9:00am Tennis: Girls Varsity Match vs. Sparta @ West Salem High School

Tuesday, September 15, 2020

- 4:00pm Tennis: Girls Varsity Match vs. Luther @ West Salem High School
- 5:30pm Volleyball: C-Team/JV Match vs. G-E-T @ Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau High School
- 7:00pm Volleyball: Varsity Match vs. G-E-T @ Gale-Ettrick-Trempealeau High School

Thursday, September 17, 2020

- 5:00pm Cross Country: Varsity Meet vs. Multiple Schools @ Skyline Golf Club

Saturday, September 19, 2020

- 9:00am Tennis: Girls Varsity Conference Tournament vs. Multiple Schools @ Viroqua High School

Monday, September 21, 2020

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

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

- 5:00pm Cross Country: Varsity Meet vs. Multiple Schools @ Westby High School

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

Thursday, September 24, 2020

- 5:30pm Volleyball: C-Team/JV Match vs. Luther @ Luther High School
- 7:00pm Volleyball: Varsity Match vs. Luther @ Luther High School

Friday, September 25, 2020

- 4:30pm Tennis: Girls Varsity Match vs. Aquinas @ Green Island Tennis Courts
- 5:30pm Tennis: Girls JV Match vs. Aquinas @ Green Island Tennis Courts

Monday, September 28, 2020

- 4:30pm Tennis: Girls Varsity Match vs. Onalaska @ West Salem High School
- 5:30pm Tennis: Girls JV Match vs. Onalaska @ West Salem High School

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

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

Notice Regarding Fall Sports

Please note, at this time, there are specific required procedures in place for spectators at our Girls Tennis and Boys and Girls Cross Country events.

Spectators must wear a face covering and practice social distancing while in attendance.

Volleyball, Boys Soccer, and Football begin practice on September 7th. Attendance procedures are TBD for these sports and will be updated as soon as possible. Please watch the school district website and social media for the most current updates.

At the time of publication, the Boys Soccer and Football schedules have not been finalized. For the latest update, please go to our district website, click the calendar icon at the top, and then select "Coulee Conference Calendar" on the left.

Calendar of events continues on next page...

School District of West Salem

Elementary School Events

Tuesday, September 1, 2020

8:00am First Day of Virtual School for Grades K-4

Monday, September 7, 2020

All Day No School-Labor Day

Tuesday, September 8, 2020

8:00am First Day of Face-to-Face Classes for 4K Students

Monday, September 14, 2020

8:00am First Day of Face-to-Face Classes for Grades K-4

Middle School Events

Tuesday, September 1, 2020

8:00am First Day of Virtual School for Grades 5-8

Monday, September 7, 2020

All Day No School-Labor Day

Monday, September 14, 2020

8:00am First Day of Face-to-Face Classes for Grade 5

First Day of Blended Learning for Grades 6-8

3:30pm First Day of Practice for Fall Sports

High School Events

Tuesday, September 1, 2020

8:00am First Day of Virtual School for Grades 9-12

Monday, September 7, 2020

All Day No School-Labor Day

Monday, September 14, 2020

8:00am First Day of Blended Learning for Grades 9-12

Important Info for 2021 Seniors

CLASS OF 2021: 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 Slide Show. The best morphs are created using baby photos where the baby's face is the dominant part of the photo.



4. Senior Photo for Slide Show

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



Photos due:
Friday, Nov. 13,
2020

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

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

Interested in Trap Team?

There will be an informational and organizational meeting for students interested in participating in the Fall Trap Shooting Season. Please see below for further details.

Who: Any interested students in grades 6-12
When: Sunday, September 13 at 2:00 PM
Where: West Salem Rod and Gun Club “lower pole barn”.

If you are interested in finding more about the trap team, please attend! If you are interested in participating, but cannot attend the meeting, please email Coach Paul Liethen at liethen.paul@wsalem.k12.wi.us.



District Announcements



Welcome New Panthers!

On Thursday, August 20, we welcomed 14 new Panthers to the district at our annual New Employee Orientation. Our new employees are paired with mentors, experienced staff members who welcome them to the district and are there to help them with any questions they may have. They were also able to meet our administrators and district office staff to get to know more about them and what they do, tour our school buildings and enjoy time learning about what makes our district so great. We are looking forward to a wonderful school year with all of them and we know they will all do a great job serving with passion to ignite creativity, innovation, and excellence!

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

The West Salem School District prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the Pupil Services Director at (608) 786-0700. To file a complaint of discrimination write to: Eric Jensen, Pupil Services Director at 405 East Hamlin Street, West Salem, WI 54669 or call 608-786-0700. The West Salem School District is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

2020-2021 New Student Enrollment

Enrollment for new students can be completed at the District Office, 405 E. Hamlin St., Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, visit our website at www.wsalem.k12.wi.us and click on “Enrollment” at the top of the page or call the District Office at (608)-786-0700.

School Board Members

Jane Halverson ~~~~~ 786-1067
Ken Schlimgen ~~~~~ 786-4382
Catherine Griffin ~~~~~ 769-1714
Tom Grosskopf ~~~~~ 386-0168
Robin Fitzgerald ~~~~~ 792-4130
Sean Gavaghan ~~~~~ 797-3585
Erik Peterson ~~~~~ 792-5370

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

District Announcements

Ready for a Great Year!

During the last week of August, staff throughout all of our buildings were working hard to prepare for the beginning of a new and exciting, yet unusual school year. They set up their classrooms in new ways, learned new protocols and procedures to keep both themselves and their students safe, filmed virtual “open houses”, distributed materials to students, welcomed our new staff members, and worked together with their teammates to get ready for a virtual start to the 2020-2021 school year on September 1st and a transition to face-to-face and blended learning on September 14th. Our district staff have also been working hard all summer, coordinating bus routes, cleaning and sanitizing our buildings, preparing health and safety protocols, paying bills, enrolling new students, coordinating curriculum, updating technology, and so much of the behind the scenes work that often goes unnoticed. Throughout the many hours of preparation and busyness, our staff have had smiles on their faces (through their masks of course!) Although this year will look much different than normal, our staff are just as passionate about serving our students and families as ever! We want to thank them for their hard work, determination, and commitment during this unprecedented time. They can't wait to see their students very soon!



Informational Meeting for Automotive and Diesel Academy Night Class

Please see the details below for a parent and student informational meeting on our Automotive and Diesel Academy Night Class for WSHS students. Students that participate in either class have the opportunity to earn ASE certifications.

When: Tuesday, September 15th at 7:00 PM
Where: WSHS Automotive Lab located at the back of the high school

Who: The Academy is open to Juniors and Seniors, and by special permission for Sophomores.

All attendees should park in the Heider Center Parking lot, and walk down to the auto lab. If this is your first year attending the academy, you will need to fill out an application. The application is on the District website underneath the High School Tab, and then Under Student Services. Print a copy and fill it out. Printed copies are also available in the High school office. All attendees are required to wear a mask, and maintain social distancing guidelines.





WEST SALEM ATHLETICS BOOSTER CLUB Sponsorship Form

490 North Mark Street, West Salem, WI 54669

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. Some recent examples include: Football Guardian Helmet Caps, Panther Den Ice Machine, Wrestling Mats, Soccer Hudl program, Girls Basketball Hudl program, and State Championship banners in the gymnasium. The Booster Club supports all athletic programs. This Sponsorship drive is one way the Booster Club raises money to support the athletic programs.

Board Members include:

Bryan Novy - President
Kim Dummer - Vice President
Emily Rogge - Secretary

Therese Novy - Treasurer

Members: Matt Quick, Mark Ziegler

Yearly Family Sponsorship-\$25.00

(2020-2021 School year)

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

*With each sponsorship you will receive a
Panther yard sign or a Panther window cling to proudly display.
Please put a check mark next to your selection. _____ Sign _____ Cling*

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

School District of West Salem

School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes July 13, 2020 High School Library 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, WIZM, Union State Bank, First Community Credit Union, St. Joe's Country Market, River Bank-Barre Mills, West Salem Post Office, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district web site, and district office on July 9, 2020.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Maxwell Goetz led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Deanna Wiatt recited the District Mission Statement.

Roll Call

Present: Erik Peterson, Jane Halverson, Ken Schlimgen, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin, Robin Fitzgerald, and Sean Gavaghan. Also in attendance – Administrators: Ryan Rieber, Ben Wopat (remote access), Eric Jensen (remote access), Mike Malott (remote access), Tami Bagstad (remote access), Deanna Wiatt, and Shawn Handland; Student representatives: Madisyn Haun 5:05 and Maxwell Goetz. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: N/A.

Approval of Agenda

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Connection with the Community

Maxwell Goetz, Student Representative, reported on:

1. The weight room opened today and there is a plan in place for its use.
2. The prom committee is exploring options to still hold prom on August 8
3. The NHS blood drive has been approved by Mr. Malott, and will need to find alternate location if in "red" zone on the Coulee COVID-19 Compass Dashboard. (Maxwell presented in Madisyn's absence)

Correspondence

A thank you note from Syl and Pat Clements was read.

A retirement note from special education vehicle driver, Betty Hanson, was shared.

Public comments

Ryan Waldhart signed up and spoke. Tammy Larson signed up but did not speak. Megan Weibel signed up, but did not speak. Brian Gross signed up, but did not speak. Karla Schams asked clarification questions. Matt Goetz signed up, but did not speak.

Written and Oral Reports

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Report – Mr. Schlimgen provided information on the TIF's recent meeting.

CESA #4 Board of Control – Mrs. Halverson reported on the Board of Control's July meeting.

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

Mr. Rieber announced: the retirement of vehicle driver Betty Hanson.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- a) the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of June 22, 2020, and the Special Board Meeting Minutes of June 18, 2020;
- b) invoices to be paid;

c) hire Special Education Teacher Andrea Muller, pending release from her current contract;

d) to accept the resignation from Elementary School Teacher Nic Schmidt;

e) to accept the administration's co-curricular recommendation, head cross country coach-Justin Stakston, assistant football coach-Dieter Antony, Bob Gorniak, Jamie Olson, Mark Byom, Ethan Ringlien, volunteer football coach-Craig Reid, Scott Johnson, Ben Wopat, assistant soccer coach-Thomas Fell, volunteer soccer coach-Steve Averbeck.

Motion carried unanimously. No action was taken on Deb Miller's retirement letter.

Discussion/Action Items:

Director of School Nutrition Emily Klunk presented information on the school nutrition program. Mrs. Fitzgerald moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve the breakfast/lunch prices and the school day milk program.

Breakfast: Elementary School-\$1.70, Middle School-\$1.90, High School-\$2.05, Adult-\$2.50

Student Free/Reduced-Free

Lunch: Elementary School-\$2.85, Middle School-\$3.05, High School-\$3.20, Adult-\$4.25

Student Free/Reduced-\$0.40

Elementary Milk Break: \$0.35

Ala Carte Milk or Juice: \$0.50

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Peterson seconded to approve the Elementary School Student and Parent Handbook as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve the Middle School Student and Parent Handbook, and the Athletic Handbook as amended by defining STEM and alphabetizing staff names. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve the High School Student Handbook as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Fitzgerald moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve increasing the cash in-lieu for support staff from \$1,600 to \$3,500 starting with the 2020-2021 school year. Motion carried. 6-Aye, 1-Abstained (Mr. Peterson)

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to adopt the Academic Standards for the 2020-2021 school year by following the Wisconsin Academic Standards and the Next Generation Science Standards. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Malott provided an update on the July 25, 2020, high school graduation ceremony. No action was taken.

Coulee Region Virtual School Memorandum of Understanding. No action was taken.

Mrs. Fitzgerald moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to adopt the following resolution: For the Purpose of Entering into an Agreement Between the School Districts of Bangor, Holmen, La Crosse, Onalaska, and West Salem for the Purpose of Establishing and Operating a Virtual Learning Program Pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 66.0301

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the School Districts of Bangor, Holmen, La Crosse, West Salem, and West Salem to create and operate a virtual academy that provides a fully on-line educational option for students; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Wis. Stat § 66.0301 and Wis. Admin. Code § PI 14.02, school districts are authorized to enter into such an agreement for intergovernmental cooperation in connection with the receipt and furnishing of services; and

WHEREAS, the parties believe that entry into this Agreement is in the public's interest; and

WHEREAS, the School Districts of Bangor, Holmen, La Crosse, Onalaska, and West Salem desire to set forth in writing the terms and

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School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes July 13, 2020 continued... High School Library 7:00 p.m.

conditions for the sharing of services related to the operation of a virtual learning program.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that:

The School Boards Representing the School Districts of Bangor, Holmen, La Crosse, Onalaska, and West Salem agree to establish and maintain, on a cooperative basis, a virtual learning program pursuant to Section 66.0301 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

Mr. Rieber shared a draft of the school opening plan for the 20-21 school year. No action was taken.

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

Mrs. 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 retirement and post-employment benefits for professional staff.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 9:20 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mrs. Fitzgerald, Aye; Mr. Gavaghan, Aye; Mr. Peterson, Aye; Mrs. Halverson, Aye; Mrs. Griffin, Aye; Mr. Grosskopf, Aye; and Mr. Schlimgen, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Adjournment

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded to adjourn at 9:54 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Halverson, Clerk

School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes July 27, 2020 High School Library 7:00 p.m.

As noted on the Public Meeting Notice: The health and safety of district employees, Board of Education and the community is our number one priority. Therefore, the district is taking precautionary measures consistent with the CDC and the La Crosse County Health Department recommendations. *Board members may participate via remote access. The room will be open to limited spectators. Live streaming of this meeting was available on our District's YouTube page. Face coverings were required to be worn when attending the meeting and social distancing measures should be followed.

Convene

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Catherine Griffin. The meeting was noticed to the Coulee Courier, La Crosse Tribune, WLSU Radio 89 FM, WXOW TV-19, WKBT-TV, WKTY, WIZM, Union State Bank, First Community Credit Union, St. Joe's Country Market, River Bank-Barre Mills, West Salem Post Office, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district web site, and district office on July 23, 2020.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag
Erik Peterson led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Jane Halverson recited the District Mission Statement.

Roll Call

Present: Erik Peterson, Jane Halverson, Ken Schlimgen, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin, Robin Fitzgerald, and Sean Gavaghan. Also in attendance – Administrators: Ryan Rieber, Ben Wopat, Eric Jensen (Remote Access), Mike Malott, Tami Bagstad (Remote Access), Deanna Wiatt, and Shawn Handland; Student representatives: Madisyn Haun (Remote Access) and Maxwell Goetz (Remote Access). Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: N/A.

Approval of Agenda

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

Connection with the Community

Madisyn Haun, Student Representative, reported on:

1. The August NHS Blood Drive will be at the West Salem American Legion.
2. The fitness center is closed due to the La Crosse County COVID Compass, and the CAT Program is on hold.

Maxwell Goetz, Student Representative, reported on:

The high school prom has been postponed; it was scheduled for August 18, 2020.

Correspondence

A thank you note from Emma Deal was read.

Public comments – None.

Written and Oral Reports

Business Operations Committee – Mr. Grosskopf reported on the agenda items: Senior Exit Project to renovate the high school dark room, bus routes for the 20-21 school year, high school and district office project update, Heider Meeting Room upgrades, use of Heider Center funds for equipment in the Heider Center, utilization of CARES Act funds, and the 20-21 budget update.

District Strategic Initiative updates from the Business Operations Team and the Superintendent were reviewed.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Gavaghan seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- a) the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of July 13, 2020;
- b) the invoices to be paid; and
- c) to accept the donations from the Panther Booster Club for the high school football program and for the Panther Den, and from Tom Moran for the Horace and Gladys Moran Scholarship Fund.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to move the retirements to the August 10, 2020, Board Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded to approve the bus routes for the 2020-2021 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Use of Heider Center funds for equipment in the Heider Center. No action was taken.

School Reopening Updates for the 2020-2021 School Year

- 1) Coulee Region Virtual Academy (CRVA) registration update was provided by Director of Curriculum Deanna Wiatt. Director of Technology Craig Halvorson was able to provide information on computer devices for students.
- 2) Mr. Rieber led the discussion on back-to-school by providing updated

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information from La Crosse County and discussions from other county school districts and staff.

Mr. Grosskopf moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded to accept Superintendent Rieber's recommendation to start school on September 1, going virtual and will continue through Friday, October 2, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Adjournment

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to adjourn at 8:33 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Halverson, Clerk

School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes August 10, 2020 High School Library 7:00 p.m.

As noted on the Public Meeting Notice: The health and safety of district employees, Board of Education and the community is our number one priority. Therefore, the district is taking precautionary measures consistent with the CDC and the La Crosse County Health Department recommendations. *Board members may participate via remote access. The room will be open to limited spectators. Live streaming of this meeting was available on our District's YouTube page. Face coverings were required to be worn when attending the meeting and social distancing measures should be followed.

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, WIZM, Union State Bank, First Community Credit Union, St. Joe's Country Market, River Bank-Barre Mills, West Salem Post Office, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district web site, and district office on August 6, 2020.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

Roll Call

Present: Erik Peterson, Jane Halverson, Ken Schlimgen, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin, and Robin Fitzgerald. Also in attendance – Administrators: Ryan Rieber, Ben Wopat, Eric Jensen, Mike Malott, Tami Bagstad, Shawn Handland, Lisa Gerke (Remote Access), and Amanda Beld (Remote Access); Student representatives: Madisyn Haun (Remote Access) and Maxwell Goetz (Remote Access). Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Sean Gavaghan

Approval of Agenda

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

Connection with the Community

Madisyn Haun, Student Representative, reported on:

1. Senior Exit Project "jumpstart" summer class began on August 3.

2. National Honor Society blood drive is being held tomorrow from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Maxwell Goetz, Student Representative, reported on:

There was a virtual fall sports meeting and an online registration process.

Correspondence – None.

Public comments – Joe Scallon signed up to speak, but passed on the opportunity.

Written and Oral Reports

Business Operations Committee – Mr. Grosskopf reported on the agenda items: Heider Meeting Room update, the use of Heider Funds for equipment in the Heider Center, and the notification to the West Salem Hockey Association regarding the 2020-2021 ice season.

Policy/Communication and Engagement Committee – Mr. Schlimgen reported on the agenda items: two new policies, Title IX Employee and Title IX Student.

CESA #4 Board of Control – Mrs. Halverson reported on the events of the Board of Control meeting.

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

Mr. Rieber announced: the resignations of Alexis Shaw-school nutrition, Carrie Niedfeldt -custodian and Jennifer Hyer-paraprofessional; and the hire of Sabrina Flood-paraprofessional.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to approve the following Consent Agenda items:

- a) Regular Board Meeting Minutes of July 27, 2020;
- b) invoices to be paid;
- c) to accept the retirements of Elementary Teachers Jane Macdonald and Deb Miller, and the resignation of Amber Walter, cheer coach;
- d) to hire Lisa Hehli as a 1.0 FTE elementary teacher, Rebecca Miller, 1.0 FTE elementary teacher, Torrie Stencel as a 1.0 FTE elementary teacher;
- e) parent transportation contracts for the 20-21 school year for 19 students attending Blessed Sacrament School and Luther High School.

Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/Action Items:

A summary of the 2020 Summer School session was provided to the Board. No action was taken.

A summary of the 2020-2021 school year was provided, which provided information on the Coulee Region Virtual Academy, the back to school/reopening and staffing. No action was taken.

Information on co-curricular activities and WIAA Sports Season was provided. No action was taken.

Information was provided for the notification to the West Salem Hockey Association regarding the 2020-2021 ice season. No action was taken.

Information was provided regarding the use of the walking track and fitness center by the public. No action was taken.

Information was provided regarding support staff compensation data for the 2020-2021 school year. No action was taken.

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to accept the Business Operations Committee's recommendation to approve the purchase of wireless microphones for the Heider Center, and selecting the bid from SSE Music. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Peterson seconded to set a Special Board

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Meeting for Monday, August 17, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Mrs. 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 retirement for professional staff.

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 8:16 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mrs. Fitzgerald, Aye; Mr. Peterson, Aye; Mrs. Halverson, Aye; Mrs. Griffin, Aye; Mr. Grosskopf, Aye; and Mr. Schlimgen, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Adjournment

Mrs. Fitzgerald moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded to adjourn at 8:42 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Halverson, Clerk

School District of West Salem Special Board Meeting Minutes August 17, 2020 High School Library 7:00 p.m.

As noted on the Public Meeting Notice: The health and safety of district employees, Board of Education and the community is our number one priority. Therefore, the district is taking precautionary measures consistent with the CDC and the La Crosse County Health Department recommendations. *Board members may participate via remote access. The room will be open to limited spectators. Live streaming of this meeting was available on our District's YouTube page. Face coverings were required to be worn when attending the meeting and social distancing measures should be followed.

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, WIZM, Union State Bank, First Community Credit Union, St. Joe's Country Market, River Bank-Barre Mills, West Salem Post Office, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district web site, and district office on August 14, 2020. The meeting was set at the Regular Board Meeting of August 10, 2020.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

Roll Call

Present: Erik Peterson, Jane Halverson, Ken Schlimgen, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin, Robin Fitzgerald, and Sean Gavaghan. Also in attendance – Administrators: Ryan Rieber, Ben Wopat, Eric Jensen, Mike Malott, Tami Bagstad, Deanna Wiatt, and Shawn Handland. Recording

secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: N/A.

Approval of Agenda

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

Discussion/Action Items:

Mr. Rieber provided a summary of the events of the past few weeks regarding the school reopening plan. Mrs. Griffin called upon Gundersen Health System Medical Advisor Dr. Rose Wolbrink and School Nurse Beth Clements to provide input. Mrs. Fitzgerald moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded that staff return to school on September 1. The district staff deliver education virtually the first two weeks, and four weeks from today on Monday, September 14, as risk allows, we welcome back students. PreK-5 students five days a week in person, and grades 6-12 in a hybrid environment. The ultimate goal of the West Salem School District is to return to full, in person education of the entire district as soon as the community risk allows. A roll vote was taken: Mrs. Fitzgerald, Aye; Mr. Gavaghan, Aye; Mr. Peterson, Aye; Mrs. Halverson, Aye; Mrs. Griffin, Abstain; Mr. Grosskopf, Aye; and Mr. Schlimgen, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to pay staff as we have in the past to continue financial stability and lessen the burden of replacing our staff. Every attempt would be made to give employees meaningful work and to reassess at intervals. Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to amend the motion by removing "Every attempt would be made to give employees meaningful work" and adding "Employees choosing this option must take on duties as assigned." A roll call vote was taken on the amendment: Mrs. Fitzgerald, Aye; Mr. Gavaghan, Aye; Mr. Peterson, Abstained; Mrs. Halverson, Aye; Mrs. Griffin, Aye; Mr. Grosskopf, Aye; and Mr. Schlimgen, Aye. Amendment carried. A roll call vote was taken on the full amended motion to pay staff as we have in the past to continue financial stability and lessen the burden of replacing our staff, and to reassess at intervals. Employees choosing this option must take on duties as assigned. Mrs. Fitzgerald, Aye; Mr. Gavaghan, Aye; Mr. Peterson, Abstained; Mrs. Halverson, Aye; Mrs. Griffin, Aye; Mr. Grosskopf, Aye; and Mr. Schlimgen, Aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Halverson seconded to accept the administration's high school co-curricular recommendations: assistant volleyball coach-Jamie Holst, Madeline Kiehn and Allison Schullo; assistant tennis coach-Carly Anderson and Brian Baker; volunteer assistant tennis coach-Dennis Kreuser; assistant cross country coach-Laura Deal, Cameron Robaczewski and Stacy Mitchell; and volunteer assistant cross country coach Avrie Duffy. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Mrs. Halverson moved, Mr. Peterson seconded to adjourn at 8:55 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Halverson, Clerk

A Busy Summer of Renovations and Updates

Over the late spring and summer, the district office and portions of the high school have undergone updates and renovations. Our district office is being updated with a secure and handicap accessible entrance and a new layout to allow for a safer and more efficient working environment for our staff and a welcoming area for our visitors. A new roof was added onto parts of our high school, a needed project that has been many years in the making and which was part of our 2019 referendum. Our first and second floor high school bathrooms have also

been updated and renovated for our students, and new vestibule doors were installed in the high school after the previous ones had begun to show wear and tear after being used for approximately 55 years. Last, but not least, a new ticket booth was created for the Heider Center, which we are excited to use as soon as we can welcome guests back for our shows. We can't welcome visitors right now, but we hope that everyone can see the wonderful updates soon! Thank you for your continued support of our schools!



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

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



For WSHS athletic events, visit our website:

- *click Calendars and then
- *click Coulee Conference

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

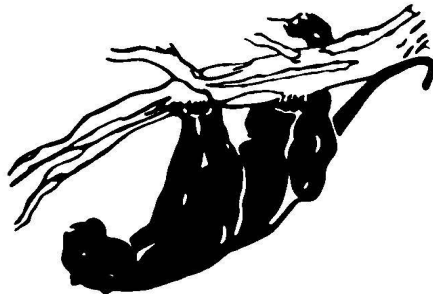


School District of West Salem

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



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