

September 2021



# Newsletter

School District of West Salem

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## Letter from Superintendent Ryan Rieber

### We Are Back!

Summer projects are completed, and the district is ready for our students to walk back into our buildings. We have been updating and improving areas of our campus over the summer. At the high school, this included the renovation of two science rooms, creating a modern workspace for students in the library, and fixing the bathrooms in the basement. At the elementary school, painting gave several areas a fresh update, and a flood-prone area behind the school was improved. The completion of these projects is a sign that school is starting!

District staff is excited and eager to be welcoming our students back to school and on campus. Our staff has been busy preparing for this very important day, and we are excited that we have the opportunity to work with our students ahead of us. Staff began a week's worth of inservice by welcoming in our newest additions to our staff. Staff in all of our buildings were engaged in learning and preparing for our students as they begin the school year.

The District welcomed guest speaker Joe Beckman to our campus to kick off the year with our staff. Joe had a wonderful message to share. Joe's message focused on five phrases supporting the importance of human connection. We have all become aware of how important human connection is, and Joe's message was a great way to prepare us for beginning the school year. We are excited and look forward to bringing Joe back for our students and our community as well this fall.

Our students will be back on campus to begin the year. As a parent, educator, and superintendent, I am excited that we are welcoming everyone back. I also want to thank everyone that shared your thoughts on our community feedback survey with our reopening plan. A collection of the responses can be found on our district website under the COVID-19 tab. Our COVID-19 dashboard is also up-to-date and will display positive cases and quarantines within our district as we did last year.

Letter continues on next page...

## School District of West Salem

I personally would like to thank the community for your patience and understanding as we have navigated through this challenging time. Quoting Joe Beckman, “In nearly every aspect of our lives, we are better when we are together.” I am proud of the opportunities that the District has provided our students and community

and am looking forward to being together for a great new year!

Sincerely,

Ryan G. Rieber  
Superintendent

# Back in Action

WSHS student athletes were back on the field, court, and track beginning on August 2nd during the first day of football practice. Girls tennis, volleyball, and swimming and diving, as well as boys soccer and boys and girls cross country also kicked off their seasons in the following weeks. After an unusual fall sports season in 2020, it has been great to see the students back on campus,

practicing, training and preparing for their competitions. The football team kicked off their season on a great note, with a 48-0 win at G-E-T on August 20th. The following week they took on Ellsworth, but unfortunately, the game was called “no contest” due to several lightning delays. They will take on Central next, hosting them at home on September 3rd. Girls tennis had a slight delay to the start of their season, with their first match at Mauston being rescheduled, and day one of their tournament at Altoona being cancelled. It was a hot one for the second day of their tournament, but the girls were determined to play well and get better each match, ending the day with a 2-1 record, beating Bloomer and Amery and falling to Altoona. Their first conference match is scheduled for August 31st at Black River Falls.

Boys and girls cross country had a great start to the season, with the boys placing 1st and girls placing 2nd at Ken Trott Memorial Invitational in Westby on August 24th, followed by a 2nd place finish for the boys and 5th place finish for the girls at the Gale Johnson Invitational on August 28th at Maple Grove. Their next invitational will take place at Wildwood Park in Marshfield on September 4th. Volleyball began their season with a two day tournament at the Omni Center in Onalaska on August 26th and 27th, going 4-5 overall and placing 4th in the Silver bracket. They begin their regular season with a stretch of away games, starting on August 31st at Luther before holding their first game at home on September 14th. Girls swimming and diving participates as a co-op with Logan and Central and has had great success to start their season. They won competitions at Menominee and Eau Claire North and will compete next against Marshfield on August 31st. West Salem has 10 athletes participating in the co-op, the highest of any of the schools. Lastly, boys soccer took on Madison Edgewood at home to start their season, falling 5-0. They begin Mississippi Valley Conference play at Logan on August 31st, followed by a home game against Onalaska on September 7th.



# Calendar of Events September

## Athletic Events

### Thursday, September 2, 2021

- 4:00pm Soccer: Boys Varsity Match vs. Sparta @ Sparta High School
- 5:30pm Football: Freshman Game vs. Central High School @ Central High School Field
- 5:30pm Swimming & Diving: Girls Varsity Meet vs. Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln @ Wisconsin Rapids Lincoln High School
- 5:45pm Soccer: Boys JV Match vs. Sparta @ Sparta High School
- 6:00pm Volleyball: Girls Freshman Game vs. Royall @ West Salem High School

### Friday, September 3, 2021

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

### Saturday, September 4, 2021

- 10:00am Cross Country: Varsity Meet vs. Multiple Schools @ Wildwood Park - Marshfield, WI

### Monday, September 6, 2021

- 5:30pm Football: JV Game vs. Central High School @ Central High School Field-Football

### Tuesday, September 7, 2021

- 4:00pm Cross Country: Varsity Triangular vs. Cashton, Viroqua & Westby @ Westby High School
- 5:00pm Soccer: Boys JV Match vs. Onalaska @ West Salem High School
- 5:30pm Football: JV Game vs. Central High School @ Central High School
- 5:30pm Volleyball: C-Team Match vs. Arcadia @ Arcadia High School Aux Gym
- 5:30pm Volleyball: JV Match vs. Arcadia @ Arcadia High School Wanek Center Arena
- 5:30pm Tennis: Girls JV Match vs. Luther @ West Salem High School Tennis Courts
- 7:00pm Soccer: Boys Varsity Match vs. Onalaska @ West Salem High School
- 7:00pm Volleyball: Varsity Match vs. Arcadia @ Arcadia High School Wanek Center Arena

### Thursday, September 9, 2021

- 4:00pm Tennis: Girls Varsity Match vs. Viroqua @ West Salem High School Tennis Courts
- 4:45pm Cross Country: Varsity Meet vs. Arcadia, Bangor, C-F-C, Eleva-Strum, G-E-T, Lincoln High School, Mauston, Providence Academy, West Central Eagles & Whitehall @ Ettrick
- 5:00pm Soccer: Boys JV Match vs. Aquinas @ Field for Kids
- 5:30pm Football: Freshman Game vs. Logan @ West Salem High School
- 5:30pm Volleyball: C-Team/JV Match vs. Westby Area High School @ Westby High School
- 7:00pm Soccer: Boys Varsity Match vs. Aquinas @ Field for Kids
- 7:00pm Volleyball: Varsity Match vs. Westby Area High School @ Westby High School

### Friday, September 10, 2021

- 7:00pm Football: Varsity Game vs. Logan @ Swanson Field

### Saturday, September 11, 2021

- 9:00am Tennis: Girls Varsity Quad vs. Logan, Reedsburg & Sparta @ West Salem High School Tennis Courts
- 10:00am Cross Country: Varsity Invitational vs. Multiple Schools @ Colby High School

### Monday, September 13, 2021

- 4:30pm Tennis: Girls Varsity Match vs. Onalaska @ Onalaska Gullikson Courts
- 5:30pm Football: JV Game vs. Logan @ West Salem High School
- 6:00pm Volleyball: Freshman Game vs. Westby Area High School @ West Salem High School

### Tuesday, September 14, 2021

- 4:00pm Tennis: Girls Varsity Match vs. Luther @ West Salem High School
- 5:00pm Soccer: Boys JV Match vs. Tomah @ West Salem High School
- 5:30pm Volleyball: C-Team/JV Match vs. G-E-T @ West Salem High School

Calendar of events continues on next page...

## School District of West Salem

### Tuesday, September 14, 2021 continued...

7:00pm Soccer: Boys Varsity Match vs. Tomah  
@ West Salem High School

7:00pm Volleyball: Varsity Match vs. G-E-T  
@ West Salem High School

### Thursday, September 16, 2021

5:00pm Soccer: Boys JV Match vs. Holmen  
@ West Salem High School

5:00pm Swimming & Diving: Girls Varsity Meet  
vs. Black River Falls & Holmen @ Black  
River Falls Middle School

5:30pm Football: Freshman Game vs. Sparta  
@ West Salem High School

5:30pm Volleyball: C-Team/JV Match vs. Black  
River Falls @ West Salem High School

7:00pm Soccer: Boys Varsity Match vs. Holmen  
@ West Salem High School

7:00pm Volleyball: Varsity Match vs. Black River  
Falls @ West Salem High School

### Friday, September 17, 2021

7:00pm Football: Varsity Game vs. Sparta  
@ Sparta Memorial Park Field

### Saturday, September 18, 2021

8:30am Cross Country: Varsity Meet  
vs. Multiple Schools @ Tribute  
Golf Course

9:00am Tennis: Girls Varsity Conference  
Tournament vs. Black River Falls,  
Luther, Mauston & Viroqua  
@ West Salem High School  
Tennis Courts

9:00am Volleyball: Varsity Invitational vs.  
Catholic Central, DeForest, La Crosse  
Central, McFarland, River Valley &  
Watertown Luther Prep @ DeForest  
High School

9:00am Volleyball: Freshman Tournament  
@ West Salem High School

### Monday, September 20, 2021

5:30pm Football: JV Game vs. Sparta  
@ West Salem High School

6:00pm Volleyball: Girls Freshman Game vs.  
Westby Area High School  
@ Westby High School

### Tuesday, September 21, 2021

5:00pm Soccer: Boys JV Match vs. Central  
@ West Salem High School

5:30pm Tennis: Girls JV Match vs. Luther  
@ West Salem High School  
Tennis Courts

5:30pm Volleyball: C-Team/JV Match vs.  
Viroqua @ Viroqua High School

6:00pm Volleyball: Freshman Match vs. Royall

@ Royall High School

7:00pm Soccer: Boys Varsity Match vs. Central  
@ West Salem High School

7:00pm Volleyball: Varsity Match vs. Viroqua  
@ Viroqua High School

### Thursday, September 23, 2021

4:30pm Tennis: Girls JV/Varsity Match vs.  
Tomah @ West Salem High School  
Tennis Courts

5:30pm Football: Freshman Game vs. Onalaska  
@ Onalaska High School

5:30pm Volleyball: C-Team/JV Match vs. Luther  
@ West Salem High School

7:00pm Volleyball: Varsity Match vs. Luther  
@ West Salem High School

### Friday, September 24, 2021

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

### Saturday, September 25, 2021

9:00am Volleyball: Varsity Quad vs. La Farge,  
Neillsville & Whitehall @ Whitehall  
High School

11:00am Cross Country: Varsity Invitational vs.  
Multiple Schools @ Maple Grove Cross  
Country Course - West Salem

12:30pm Swimming & Diving: Girls Varsity  
Invitational vs. Chippewa Falls,  
Menomonie, Rice Lake, Marshfield,  
Holmen & Superior @ Chippewa Falls  
Middle School

4:00pm Soccer: Boys Varsity Game vs. Mauston  
@ West Salem High School

### Monday, September 27, 2021

5:30pm Football: JV Game vs. Onalaska  
@ Onalaska High School

6:00pm Volleyball: Girls Freshman Game vs.  
Westby Area High School  
@ West Salem High School

### Thursday, September 30, 2021

5:30pm Football: Freshman Game vs. River Falls  
@ West Salem High School

5:30pm Volleyball: C-Team/JV Match vs.  
Arcadia @ West Salem High School

6:00pm Swimming & Diving: Girls Varsity vs.  
Platteville @ University of Wisconsin -  
Platteville

7:00pm Volleyball: Varsity Match vs. Arcadia  
@ West Salem High School

## School District of West Salem

### Band Events

#### Friday, September 3, 2021

6:30pm Football Game vs. Central @ Home

#### Sunday, September 12, 2021

TBA Kellogg Watermelon Days Parade  
Marching Band Uniform Required

#### Tuesday, September 14, 2021

6:30pm Volleyball Game vs. G-E-T  
Black Pep Band

#### Sunday, September 19, 2021

TBA La Crescent Applefest Parade  
Marching Band Uniform Required

#### Monday, September 20, 2021

6:30pm Volleyball Game vs. Luther  
Orange Pep Band

#### Friday, September 24, 2021

6:30pm Football Game vs. Onalaska @ Home

### High School Events

#### Wednesday, September 1, 2021

8:00 am First Day of School for All Students

#### Monday, September 6, 2021

All Day No School-Labor Day

### Elementary School Events

#### Wednesday, September 1, 2021

8:00 a.m. First Day of School for All Students

#### Monday, September 6, 2021

All Day No School-Labor Day

#### Tuesday, September 28, 2021

All Day Fire Department Smoke House  
Simulation

### Middle School Events

#### Wednesday, September 1, 2021

8:00 am First Day of School for All Students

3:30 pm First Day of Fall Sports Practice

#### Friday, September 3, 2021

7:00pm Band Night with HS Band @ Home  
7th & 8th Grade Band  
Arrive at 5:45pm  
Performance Uniform Required

#### Monday, September 6, 2021

All Day No School-Labor Day

#### Thursday, September 30, 2021

7:00pm Oktoberfest Torchlight Parade  
7th & 8th Grade Band  
Arrive at 5:45pm  
Performance Uniform Required

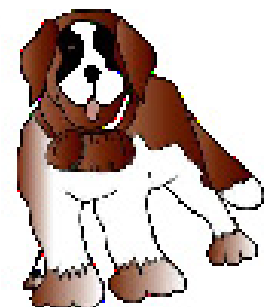
# Veterans Memorial Paws Park

West Salem Elementary and Middle School Art Departments are collaborating with the Veterans Memorial Paws Park Committee to celebrate the future Paws Park. We love having students use their imaginations and creativity to celebrate the future dog park.

The dog park, in the planning stages presently, will be built at Veterans Memorial Park within the next year through support by donors who are working with the La Crosse County Facilities Department. Paws Park will be the very first La Crosse County off leash enclosed dog park.

A special *fun family picnic* and dog walk fundraiser will be held *Saturday, September 25* at The Lion's Shelter in West Salem from 10AM to 2PM. Food will be available from 11AM to 2PM by the West Salem American Legion. Plans for music, wingspan raffle, and programming of interest to dog owners will be included.

Select student artwork on display will focus on *love of the family dog, a favorite dog, or on Paws Park*. Students participating through their classroom art teacher will receive recognition for their creativity and participation. Attendees at the event will vote on their favorite art entry. Parents, grandparents, neighbors and all dog and pet lovers are welcome to attend!



*Please mark your calendars now!*

**September 25, 2021**

**10:00 AM-11:00 AM** – Dog walk from the West Salem Lions Shelter – we ask families to register and purchase at least one Paws Park T-shirt if possible.

**11:00 AM-2:00 PM** – Food sales by the West Salem American Legion

*Wingspan Raffle* for Gift Baskets

*Art Selections on Display* (vote for your favorite)

*Dog Wash* - \$10 with proceeds going to Paws Park

*Special programming* on dog ownership, therapy dogs, dog training, etc.

*Music*



## WEST SALEM ATHLETICS BOOSTER CLUB Sponsorship Form

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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  
Mark Ziegler - Vice President

Emily Rogge - Secretary  
Therese Novy - Treasurer

Members: Matt Quick, Mark Donahue

### Yearly Family Sponsorship-\$30.00 (2021-2022 School year)

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

*With each sponsorship you will receive a Panther yard sign, a Panther window cling, or a T-Shirt to show your support. Please put a check mark next to your selection. \_\_\_ Sign \_\_\_ Cling \_\_\_ T-Shirt*

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

# District Announcements

## Serving and Leading Their Classmates

Making the transition to middle school can be daunting for a 5th grader, but our West Salem Middle School W.E.B. team is there to help the newest WSMS students along the way. W.E.B. stands for “Where Everyone Belongs,” and it is a program designed to welcome our newest students to the middle school. A group of 8th grade students are selected by staff as W.E.B. leaders who are there for the 5th graders throughout the year.

Our leaders held their training on August 16th and 17th and then welcomed the 5th graders for orientation on August 18th. They participated in a variety of fun activities designed to help the students get to know each other and get comfortable in a new environment. Special thank you to all of our leaders as well as our W.E.B. advisors, Mrs. Jehn, Mrs. Jarosh, and Mrs. Coe!



### Remembering to “Just Look Up!”

Motivational speaker and renowned author Joe Beckman helped School District of West Salem staff begin the the 2021-2022 school year on a high note on Tuesday, August 24th at back to school orientation. Beckman’s presentation helped to kick off a new initiative at the district this year, aimed at improving staff, student, and community mental health. His presentation, entitled “#ConnectionOn!” focused on equipping staff with strategies to reclaim connections between themselves and their students. Staff will also have the opportunity to participate in a book study using Joe’s book, ‘Just Look Up! Five Lifesaving Phrases Every Human Needs to Hear.’ The book focuses on helping students and staff to find self-worth, resilience, confidence, joy, and most importantly, human connection. The district took action on implementing this initiative after analyzing community, student, and staff feedback that was collected through recent surveys and seeing the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on mental health for each of these groups. Superintendent Ryan Rieber says, “The loss of human connection for a time during the pandemic had an effect on everyone. Joe’s work is refreshing and his message is energizing as we desire to move forward and reestablish the human connection that was not there at times this past year.” The district was able to bring Beckman in thanks to a generous grant from the La Crosse Community Foundation. Stay tuned as we hope to bring Joe back to campus to speak to our students and families!



### School Board Members

- Catherine Griffin, President ~~~~~ 769-1714
- Tom Grosskopf, Vice President ~~~~~ 386-0168
- Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk ~~~~~ 792-4130
- Sean Gavaghan, Treasurer ~~~~~ 797-3585
- Ken Schlimgen, Director ~~~~~ 786-4382
- Erik Peterson, Director ~~~~~ 792-5370
- Chris Peterson, Director ~~~~~ 385-3103

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



# District Announcements

## Heider Center



### Mainstage Tickets

Season ticket sales are on sale now through September 10th. Purchase your season tickets now to receive discounted rates. All individual tickets will go on sale Monday September 20th at Noon. Tickets can be purchased by stopping by, calling the box office, or going to [www.heidercenter.org](http://www.heidercenter.org)

#### Art Gallery

“Spring in Japan” by Andrea Garvens  
Runs September 1-October 14, 2021

#### Display Cases

“Things to Pass the Time” by Mark Johnson  
Runs September 1-October 14, 2021

#### Art Reception

Saturday, September 25, 2021  
6:00-7:30 p.m.

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

### Trap Team Info

Any student in grades 6-12 that is interested in being on the trap team, should contact Mr. Liethen. He can be reached by email at [liethen.paul@wsalem.k12.wi.us](mailto:liethen.paul@wsalem.k12.wi.us) or by coming to his classroom at the high school.

Registration must be completed prior to September 13th, which is the last day that the Wisconsin State High School League will allow registration for the Fall League.

### WSHS Automotive and Diesel Academy

West Salem High School's Automotive and Diesel Academy night classes began on August 17th. Through these classes, students have an opportunity to earn Automotive Service Excellence Certifications in various areas.

There is still room in both the Tuesday night Automotive class and Thursday night Diesel class for students who are interested. If you'd like more information, please contact advisor Paul Liethen at [liethen.paul@wsalem.k12.wi.us](mailto:liethen.paul@wsalem.k12.wi.us) or by calling the high school at (608) 786-1220.



### 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)

### 2021-2022 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 3:30 p.m. For more information, visit our website at [www.wsalem.k12.wi.us](http://www.wsalem.k12.wi.us) and click on “Enrollment” at the top of the page or call the District Office at (608)-786-0700.

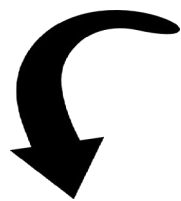
### Correction

The 2021-2022 adult lunch price was listed incorrectly in last month's newsletter. The correct price for an adult lunch is \$4.25. We apologize for the error.

As a reminder, student meals are FREE for the 2021-2022 school year due to USDA COVID-19 waivers. Please note, this does not include morning milk for elementary school students.

For more information on our nutrition services, visit our website and click the knife and fork icon at the top right of the page.

### 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.



# Important Info for 2022 Seniors

## CLASS OF 2022: IT IS YOUR TIME

Senior year is finally here! We have an important yearbook deadline to keep in mind. Each senior needs to submit the following photos:

### 1. Yearbook Portrait

This photo is a traditional, formal head and shoulders pose. You may use this same portrait for everything if you would like.

**\*No full-length poses, hats, props, "misty" filters, or distracting backgrounds.**



### 3. Baby Photo

This photo will be used to morph into the "big kid" photo for the Senior Slide Show. The best morphs are created using baby photos where the baby's face is the dominant part of the photo.



### 2. Times of Our Lives

This may be less formal.



### 4. Senior Photo for 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. 12,  
2021

Submit **300 dpi jpeg** photo(s) via email to [armstrong.andrea@wsalem.k12.wi.us](mailto:armstrong.andrea@wsalem.k12.wi.us)  
Please label photos with the student name and publication - ex. JoeSmithYearbook  
Labeled hard copy photos can be dropped off to room 241 - silver box

## School District of West Salem

### School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes July 12, 2021 Marie Heider Meeting Room 7:00 p.m.

As noted on the Public Meeting Notice: Live streaming of this meeting was available on our District's YouTube page.

#### 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, West Salem Post Office, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district website, and district office on July 8, 2021.

#### Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

Chris Peterson 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, Ken Schlimgen, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin, Robin Fitzgerald, and Sean Gavaghan. Also in attendance – Administrators: Ryan Rieber, Ben Wopat, Heidi Horton, Mike Malott, Tami Bagstad, Deanna Wiatt, and Shawn Handland; Student representative: Rachel Stein. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Krish Patel.

#### Approval of Agenda

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

#### Connection with the Community

Rachel Klein, Student Representative, reported on:

1. The trap took fourth as a team at Nationals out of 160 teams in Mason, Michigan. Jacob Helgeson shot his first 100 straight. Jesse Loging placed 8th in individual.
2. Seniors are still working on SEPs and Mrs. Volden has an SEP class taking place in August to help students prepare for their SEP.

#### Correspondence

A thank you note from Lynn Strong was read.

#### Public Comments – None.

#### Written and Oral Reports

Business Operations Committee - Mr. Grosskopf reported on the agenda items: OEC projects, 21-22 bus routes and a solar update.

Policy/Communication and Engagement Committee - Mr. Schlimgen reported on the status of updating the policies to Neola.

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

District Listening Sessions - Mr. Rieber provided a brief update on the listening sessions that were held today regarding the Strategic Plan.

#### Consent Agenda

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

- a) the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of June 28, 2021;
- b) the invoices to be paid;
- c) to accept the resignation of Middle School Teacher Chelsea Adams;
- d) to hire Sabrina Flood and Marci Fischer as middle school special education teachers;
- e) to accept the administration's high school co-curricular

recommendations, Jamie Holst and Brianna Meyer as assistant volleyball coaches, Dieter Antoni, Bob Gorniak, Jamie Olson, Ethan Ringlien as assistant football coaches, and Ryan Olson, Craig Reid, Ben Wopat and Mark Byom as volunteer assistant football coaches.

Motion carried unanimously.

No action was taken on the hiring of a Speech and Language Pathologist.

#### Discussion/Action Items:

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to approve adopting to use the Seamless Summer Option (SSO) waiver to allow all schools to provide free breakfast and lunch to all students through the 21-22 school year.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. E. Peterson seconded to adopt the Elementary School Student and Parent Handbook for the 21-22 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Gavaghan second to approve the High School Student Handbook for the 21-22 school year with amendments. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to adopt the Wisconsin Academic 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. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Fitzgerald moved, Mr. Gavaghan seconded to approve the administration's request to add an additional volleyball coach for the 2021 fall season. Motion carried unanimously.

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

#### Adjournment

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Gavaghan seconded to adjourn at 7:23 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk

### School District of West Salem Special Board Meeting Minutes July 19, 2021 Marie Heider Meeting Room 7:00 p.m.

#### Convene

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 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, West Salem Post Office, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district website, and district office on July 14, 2021. This meeting was at the request of a Board Member.

#### Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

#### Roll Call

Present: Erik Peterson, Chris Peterson, Ken Schlimgen, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin, Robin Fitzgerald, and Sean Gavaghan. Also in attendance – Administrators: Ryan Rieber, Ben Wopat, Heidi Horton, Mike Malott, Tami Bagstad, Deanna Wiatt, and Shawn Handland. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: N/A.

#### Approval of Agenda

# School District of West Salem

## School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes continued... July 26, 2021 Marie Heider Meeting Room 7:00 p.m.

### COULEE REGION VIRTUAL ACADEMY (CRVA) CONSORTIUM AGREEMENT

#### INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is made by and between the School District of La Crosse, the School District of Holmen, the School District of Onalaska, the West Salem School District, and the Bangor School District (each a "Member" and collectively the "Consortium" or "Members") pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 66.0301 and Wis. Admin. Code § PI 14.02.

WHEREAS, Wis. Stat. § 66.0301 and Wis. Admin. Code § PI 14.02 provide that municipalities, including school districts, may contract with one another for the joint exercise of any of their powers or duties as required or authorized by law; and

WHEREAS, this Agreement is intended to define and establish the respective roles and responsibilities of the Members.

NOW THEREFORE, the Members agree as follows:

1. Services Provided by the School District of La Crosse: The School District of La Crosse will provide software technical support, administration and registration with WEN at the consortium level, and Wisconsin eSchools Network (WEN) course book.

2. Costs to Member Schools. For each school year, The consortium's funding and budgetary processes shall occur in the manner set forth below.

a. WEN Invested Program Member Fee. Each Member shall pay their prorated portion of \$11,000 annually (2020-21 through 2030-31) based on the prior year 3rd Friday District Enrollment.

b. WEN Usage Fees. Each Member will be responsible for their own school district's incurred WEN usage fees.

c. Full-Time Virtual Students. For each pupil who is a resident of a Member school district and receives all courses and services virtual from their resident Member school district, the Member will be charged \$300.00.

d. Part-Time Virtual Students. For each pupil who is a resident of a Member school district and is enrolled less than full-time in virtual courses, the Member will be charged \$50.00 per course.

e. Personnel Costs. Members shall pay for their own staffing costs associated with the CRVA.

f. Invoicing. Based on the WEN invoice received by the fiscal agent each January and June, the following amounts will be invoiced to the Member and due as follows:

g. Due January 31:

- i. Member WEN usage fee according to the January invoice; plus
- ii. Member's portion of the WEN invested member fee

h. Due June 30:

- i. Member WEN usage fee according to the June invoice.

Services Provided by Each Member. Each Member will remain the Local Education Agency ("LEA") for their resident students and shall be responsible for the following for their students: special education services,

student data accountability with DPI, attendance and truancy procedures, state and local assessments, student materials, and administration, local registration and enrollment.

Indemnification of Fiscal Agent by Other Members. Each Member, other than the School District of La Crosse, who serves as Fiscal Agent, hereby holds harmless, defends and indemnifies the Fiscal Agent (and its board of education and all of its affiliates, officers, employees and representatives) from and against each and every demand, claim, loss, liability, or damage of any kind, including actual attorney's fees and expenses, whether in tort or contract, whether personal injury or property damage, arising from or in connection with the Fiscal Agent's performance of its duties set forth in this MOU.

Counterparts: Signature by Facsimile or Electronic Mail. This Agreement may be signed in counterparts, which shall together constitute the signed original Agreement. A signature delivered by facsimile or electronic mail shall be considered an original for purposes of this Agreement.

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

WASB Representative Fran Finco reviewed the WASB Superintendent Evaluation Tool process with the Board. No action was taken.

#### Adjournment

Mr. C. Peterson moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk

## School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes continued... August 9, 2021 Marie Heider Meeting Room 7:00 p.m.

**As noted on the Public Meeting Notice: Live streaming of this meeting was available on our District's YouTube page.**

#### Convene

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Treasurer Sean Gavaghan. 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, West Salem Post Office, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district website, and district office on August 5, 2021.

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

#### Roll Call

Present: Erik Peterson, Chris Peterson, Ken Schlimgen, Robin Fitzgerald, and Sean Gavaghan. Also in attendance – Administrators: Ryan Rieber, Heidi Horton, Tami Bagstad (remote access), Deanna Wiatt, and Shawn Handland; Student representatives: Krish Patel and Rachel Stein. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Catherine Griffin, Tom Grosskopf, Mike Malott and Ben Wopat.

## School District of West Salem

### School District of West Salem Special Board Meeting Minutes continued... July 19, 2021 Marie Heider Meeting Room 7:00 p.m.

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

#### Discussion/Action Items:

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Gavaghan seconded to accept the resignation of Elementary Teacher Lisa Hehli. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. E. Peterson seconded to accept the administration's recommendation to hire Heidi Vergin and Ella Smith as elementary school teachers each 1.0 FTE. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Board Development

The Board and administration held a Board Development Session with the following topics: field trips, fundraising, strategic planning, school facilities, and streaming of events. No action was taken.

#### Adjournment

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to adjourn at 9:01 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk

### School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes July 26, 2021 Marie Heider Meeting Room 7:00 p.m.

**As noted on the Public Meeting Notice: Live streaming of this meeting was available on our District's YouTube page.**

#### 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, West Salem Post Office, Village of West Salem, posted at each school, district website, and district office on July 22, 2021.

#### Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

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

#### Roll Call

Present: Erik Peterson, Chris Peterson, Catherine Griffin, Robin Fitzgerald, and Sean Gavaghan. Also in attendance – Administrators: Ryan Rieber, Ben Wopat, Heidi Horton, Tami Bagstad (remotely), Deanna Wiatt, and Shawn Handland; Student representatives: Krish Patel and Rachel Stein (remotely). Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Tom Grosskopf and Ken Schlimgen.

#### Approval of Agenda

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

#### Connection with the Community

Krish Patel, Student Representative, reported on:

1. Mrs. Kim Volden is offering a SEP class in August.

2. Volleyball open gym started.

Rachel Stein, Student Representative, reported on:

1. The high school fall sports meeting was tonight.
2. Fall sports will begin in early August.

Correspondence - None.

Public Comments – None.

#### Written and Oral Reports

Policy/Communication and Engagement Committee - Mr. E. Peterson reported on the agenda items: Neola 5000 Student Policies and Neola 2000 Program Policies.

Business Operations Committee - Mr. Gavaghan reported on the agenda item: request to change transportation position.

Teaching & Learning Committee - Mrs. Fitzgerald reported on the agenda item: 20-21 student outcomes.

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

Human Resource updates: the resignation of Transportation Assistant Elizabeth Jostad and Pool Manager Abby Maliszewski, and the hiring of Josue Gatlin as a full-time custodian at the elementary school.

#### Consent Agenda

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

- a) the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of July 12, 2021 and the Special Board Meeting Minutes of July 19, 2021;
- b) the invoices to be paid;
- c) the resignation of JV girls' basketball coach Maggi Bishop and 8th grade volleyball coach Kayla Wegner; and
- d) to accept the administration's co-curricular recommendations to contract: high school assistant cross country coach-Cameron Robaczewski, Avrie Duffy, Stacy Mitchell, assistant 7th grade volleyball coach-Julie Arentz, head 7th grade volleyball coach-Samantha Pederson, head 8th grade volleyball coach-Amber Coe, head 8th grade football coach-Jack Reader, and assistant freshman football coach Adam Krause. Motion carried unanimously.

No action was taken on accepting donations.

#### Discussion/Action Items:

Mrs. Fitzgerald moved, Mr. Gavaghan seconded to approve the 21-22 middle school handbook. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Fitzgerald moved, Mr. E. Peterson seconded to approve the 21-22 middle school co-curricular handbook. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Fitzgerald moved, Mr. Gavaghan seconded to approve the Student Technology Use Handbook. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Fitzgerald moved, Mr. E. Peterson seconded to approve the 21-22 bus routes. motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gavaghan moved, Mr. E. Peterson seconded to accept the Business Operations recommendation to change the .5 FTE transportation assistant position to a 1.0 FTE transportation administrative assistant position. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Fitzgerald moved, Mr. Gavaghan seconded to adopt the following Resolution: For the Purpose of Entering into an Agreement Between the School Districts of La Crosse, Holmen, Onalaska, West Salem, and Bangor for the Purpose of Operating the Coulee Region Virtual Academy (CRVA) Consortium Agreement Pursuant to Wis. Stats. §§ 66.0301.

# School District of West Salem

## School District of West Salem Regular Board Meeting Minutes continued... August 9, 2021 Marie Heider Meeting Room 7:00 p.m.

### Approval of Agenda

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

### Connection with the Community

Rachel Stein, Student Representative, reported on:

1. NHS Blood Drive August 10, 2021, High School Library, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., during high school registration. The goal for the blood drive is 40 units and we need 7 more donors to be able to reach that goal and become eligible for a scholarship.
2. SEP Jumpstart Classes - Everyday (9:00-11:00 a.m.) (12:00-2:00 p.m.)

Krish Patel, Student Representative, reported on:

1. Link Crew Days  
~Training days (18-19)  
~Orientation (20th)  
~Freshman at the Outdoor Education Association on September 1, 2021
2. Most high school fall sports have started.

### Correspondence

1. A letter to the Board from Sara Steien was read.
2. An informational flier from Laura Kozicki was shared with the Board.

### Public Comments

The following citizens commented on COVID-19 related components:

Mike Mesmer, Kortney Getter, Rachel Pierce, and Sara Steien. Shannon Torrance, Brian Gross and Mike Dinos signed up, but did not comment to the Board.

### Written and Oral Reports

CESA #4 Board of Control - Mr. Gavaghan read Mrs. Griffin's report from the August Board of Control's meeting.

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

Heidi Horton, Director of Pupil Services, reviewed the information on Seclusion and Restraint for the 20-21 school year.

Mr. Rieber reviewed and provided reasoning behind the 21-22 School Year Reopening Plan.

### Consent Agenda

Mr. C. Peterson moved, Mr. E. Peterson seconded to approve the Consent Agenda items as follows:

- a) the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of July 26, 2021;
- b) the invoices to be paid;
- c) donations Bahr Electric for the high school trap team and from the Berg-Hemker-Olson Post 51 American Legion for the West Salem Sharks Booster Club;
- d) the resignations of Special Education Teacher Christine Crouse, Biology Teacher James Klos and Special Education Teacher Brittany LaMere;
- e) to hire Payton Steiner, on a limited-term employment contract, as a 1.0 FTE elementary school teacher; and
- f) to accept the administration's co-curricular recommendations to hire Tom Fell-assistant soccer coach, Steve Averbeck-volunteer soccer coach, Lauren Lovely and Katie Murphy-assistant volleyball coaches, and Ashly Serres-8th grade volleyball assistant coach.

Motion carried. (4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Abstain-Mr. Schlimgen as he wasn't present at the last meeting)

### Discussion/Action Items:

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. C. Peterson seconded to approve for a first reading of Board Policies: Neola #2260-Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity, and Neola #2260.01-Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability. Motion Carried Unanimously.

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

### Adjournment

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. E. Peterson seconded to adjourn at 7:39 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robin Fitzgerald, Clerk

## Welcome to Our Newest Panthers!

On Thursday, August 19, we welcomed 45 new staff members to our team. Our newest additions will serve students in all three of our schools, as well as the district office and bus garage. They were welcomed to our district with a presentation by Superintendent Ryan Rieber, followed by meeting our administration and district office staff, building tours, and time to meet with other new staff and their

mentors, experienced School District of West Salem staff members who are there to share their knowledge and help them as they begin a new school year. We are so excited to welcome each of these individuals to our district and we hope if you see them out and about you will give them a warm welcome.



**Harvest of the Month**  
**September Tomatoes**

**Did You Know?**  
The heaviest tomato on record weighed 7 pounds, 12 ounces!

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.

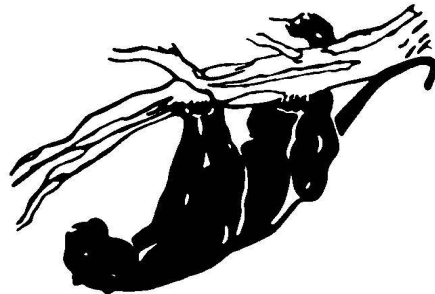


# School District of West Salem

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



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