

School District of West Salem  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
February 13, 2017  
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 7:00 p.m.

**Convene**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Syl Clements. The meeting was noticed to the Coulee News, 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 February 9, 2017.

*Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag*

Greg Brickl led everyone in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance and Ken Schlimgen recited the District Mission Statement.

*Roll Call*

Present: Syl Clements, Ken Schlimgen, Tom Grosskopf, Catherine Griffin, Melinda Kopnisky-Bloomfield, and Greg Brickl. Also in attendance – Administrators: Troy Gunderson, Ben Wopat, Eric Jensen, Ryan Rieber, Michael St. Pierre, and Davita Molling; Student representatives: Paige Dunnum and Simon Buchanan. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Jane Halverson, Josh Mallicoat, Mike Malott, and Lisa Gerke.

*Approval of Agenda*

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

**Connection with the Community**

*Simon Buchanan reported on:*

1. Girls basketball, 15-5 record (9-1 conference).
2. Boys basketball, 8-10 record (5-4 conference).
3. Wrestling sectional qualifiers were announced.
4. Hockey's regular season has ended and are seeded 1st in section 4.
5. Gymnastics conference meet is this Friday.

*Paige Dunnum reported on:*

1. Abby Malizewski, a West Salem senior, decided to use her public relations and marketing skills she had learned while in DECA to spotlight each of the school's diverse clubs and organizations through video. Her goal is to boost awareness of the immense amount of activities available to students at West Salem. Once completed, these videos are posted on the school YouTube channel and on the district Facebook page.
2. The West Salem MathCounts team, composed of mathletes in grades 6-8, took first at the regional MathCounts competition on Friday, February 3, at UW-La Crosse. These middle school students will advance on to the State competition in March.

3. The West Salem Dance Team qualified for State with both their jazz and pom routine during regionals on January 28, allowing them to compete with both routines at the State Dance Championship on Saturday, February 4. The team took 4th with their pom routine, bringing home a state trophy for the first time in school history.
4. The West Salem show choirs competed in Bloomington on Saturday, February 4, with their all women's group, Vivace, taking home 3rd place in their division. This past Saturday, the West Salem show choirs, including the Middle School show choir, competed for the last time this year at the Logan Invite, with Vivace taking home 1st place, best vocals, and best choreography in their division.

*Correspondence*

A thank you note from the Myrna Walters family was read.

A thank you note from the Donna Christianson family was read.

*Public comments* – None.

*Written and Oral Reports*

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Mr. Grosskopf reported on the Boys and Girls Club agreement, the facilities and the owners representative.

Staff Relations Committee – Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield reported on the co-curricular salary schedule and 17-18 wages for staff.

District Performance Initiative reports by Ryan Rieber and Lisa Gerke, Ben Wopat, Josh Mallicoat and Mike Malott, Eric Jensen, Michael St. Pierre, and Troy Gunderson were reviewed.

West Salem High School DECA Co-Presidents Abby Maliszewski and Kaylee Mulholland, along with Jason Holter, Advisor, were present to share District Competition results and highlights.

**Consent Agenda**

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Brickl seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2017, and the invoices to be paid. Motion carried unanimously. No action was taken on the Open Enrollment request for the 16-17 school year.

**Discussion/Action Items:**

The members discussed the start time, length and agendas of Regular School Board Meetings. No action was taken.

Mr. Gunderson reviewed the Sale of Bonds information from Baird. No action was taken.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield seconded to approve the following resolution: RESOLUTION AWARDED THE SALE OF \$10,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION CORPORATE PURPOSE BONDS. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND AWARDING THE SALE OF  
\$10,000,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION CORPORATE PURPOSE BONDS

WHEREAS, on August 22, 2016, the School Board of the School District of West Salem, La Crosse County, Wisconsin (the "District") adopted Initial Resolutions ("Initial Resolution Number I" and "Initial Resolution Number II", respectively, and collectively, the "Initial Resolutions") authorizing the issuance of general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed (a) \$20,000,000 to raise funds for the purpose of paying the cost of a school improvement program consisting of: renovations and additions at the current Middle School; renovations and building infrastructure improvements at the Elementary School; site improvements, including additional parking and a new bus transfer area; and acquisition of related furnishings, fixtures and equipment (the "Initial Resolution Number I Project") and (b) \$5,000,000 to raise funds for the purpose of paying the cost of District athletic facilities improvements consisting of: replacing the track and constructing additional track/football stadium seating, constructing and equipping baseball and softball fields, tennis courts, and a multi-purpose sports and events facility; and completing related site improvements (the "Initial Resolution Number II Project") (collectively, the Initial Resolution Number I Project and the Initial Resolution Number II Project shall be referred to as the "Project");

WHEREAS, school districts are authorized by the provisions of Section 67.04(2)(a), Wisconsin Statutes, to borrow money and to issue general obligation bonds for public purposes such as the Project;

WHEREAS, on August 22, 2016, the School Board adopted a resolution providing for a referendum election on the proposition of whether the Initial Resolutions should be approved;

WHEREAS, on November 8, 2016, a referendum election (the "Referendum") was held in the District on the proposition of whether Initial Resolution Number I should be approved at which 3,352 votes were cast "YES" for approval of Initial Resolution Number I and 2,118 votes were cast "NO" for rejection of Initial Resolution Number I; and whether Initial Resolution Number II should be approved at which 3,242 votes were cast "YES" for approval of Initial Resolution Number II and 2,209 votes were cast "NO" for rejection of Initial Resolution Number II;

WHEREAS, the Board of Canvassers duly reported the aforesaid results to the District Clerk who has made said results public;

WHEREAS, the District issued \$9,900,000 General Obligation School Improvement Bonds, dated December 21, 2016 to pay a portion of the cost of the Initial Number I Project authorized by Initial Resolution Number I and the Referendum;

WHEREAS, the School Board hereby finds and determines that it is necessary, desirable and in the best interest of the District to raise funds for the purpose of paying the cost of refinancing certain outstanding obligations of the District, to wit: \$1,500,000 Taxable Promissory Note, dated September 1, 2016 (the "Refunded Obligations") (hereinafter the refinancing of the Refunded Obligations shall be referred to as the "Refunding");

WHEREAS, the School Board deems it to be necessary, desirable and in the best interest of the District to refund the Refunded Obligations for the purpose of providing permanent financing for the projects financed by the Refunded Obligations;

WHEREAS, school districts are authorized by the provisions of Section 67.04, Wisconsin Statutes, to borrow money and issue general obligation refunding bonds to refinance their outstanding obligations;

WHEREAS, the District hereby finds and determines that it is necessary and desirable that a portion of the general obligation bonds authorized by the Initial Resolutions and the Referendum and the general obligation bonds authorized by this Resolution be combined, issued and sold as a single issue of bonds designated as "General Obligation Corporate Purpose Bonds" (the "Bonds") to finance a portion of the cost of the Initial Resolution Number I Project, a portion of the cost of the Initial Resolution Number II Project and the cost of the Refunding;

WHEREAS, the School Board deems it to be necessary, desirable and in the best interest of the District that the Bonds be issued in the aggregate principal amount of \$10,000,000 for the following purposes and in the following principal amounts: \$4,000,000 to finance a portion of the cost of the Initial Resolution Number I Project, \$4,500,000 to finance a portion of the cost of the Initial Resolution Number II Project and \$1,500,000 to finance the Refunding;

WHEREAS, the District has directed Robert W. Baird & Co. Incorporated ("Baird") to take the steps necessary to sell the Bonds;

WHEREAS, Baird, in consultation with the officials of the District, prepared an Official Notice of Sale (a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by this reference) setting forth the details of and the bid requirements for the Bonds and indicating that the Bonds would be offered for public sale on February 13, 2017;

WHEREAS, the District Clerk (in consultation with Baird) caused a form of notice of the sale to be published and/or announced and caused the Official Notice of Sale to be distributed to potential bidders offering the Bonds for public sale on February 13, 2017;

WHEREAS, the District has duly received bids for the Bonds as described on the Bid Tabulation attached hereto as Exhibit B and incorporated herein by this reference (the "Bid Tabulation"); and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that the bid proposal (the "Proposal") submitted by the financial institution listed first on the Bid Tabulation fully complies with the bid requirements set forth in the Official Notice of Sale and is deemed to be the most advantageous to the District. Baird has recommended that the District accept the Proposal. A copy of said Proposal submitted by such institution (the "Purchaser") is attached hereto as Exhibit C and incorporated herein by this reference.

Mr. Gunderson reviewed information regarding the strategic plan. No action was taken.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Griffin seconded to accept the resignation of administrative assistant Stephanie Williams. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Kopnisky-Bloomfield seconded to approve the renewal of athletic cooperatives for the 17-18 and the 18-19 school years for gymnastics with Aquinas and Bangor, and wrestling with Bangor. Motion carried unanimously.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Brickl seconded to adjourn at 7:56 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Melinda Kopnisky-Bloomfield, Clerk