

School District of West Salem  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
January 14, 2019  
Marie Heider Meeting Room – 7:00 p.m.

**Convene**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Jane Halverson. 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 January 10, 2019.

*Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag*

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

*Roll Call*

Present: Syl Clements, Jane Halverson, Ken Schlingens, Tom Grosskopf, Robin Fitzgerald, and Melinda Kopnisky-Bloomfield. Also in attendance – Administrators: Troy Gunderson, Ben Wopat, Michael Johnson, Eric Jensen, Mike Malott, Ryan Rieber, Deanna Wiatt, and Shawn Handland; Student representative: Rachel Newton. Recording secretary: Patrick Bahr. Excused: Catherine Griffin, Melinda Kopnisky-Bloomfield, Dagan Hemker.

*Approval of Agenda*

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

**Connection with the Community**

*Rachel Newton, Student Representative, reported on:*

1. A few senior members are organizing and holding a semi-formal winter dance on January 19th.
2. The Link Crew is hosting a cocoa and cram session, mostly for freshman, tomorrow after school to give students a chance to study for finals, with some cocoa.
3. The high school Pep Club held a Christmas Spirit Week before the winter break and sold “candy grams” during lunch for 25 cents.
4. Show Choir competed on January 5th and January 12th.
5. Season updates on Wrestling, girls’ and boys’ basketball, girls’ and boys’ hockey, and dance team were provided.

*Correspondence*

A Proclamation by Tony Evers, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Adult School Crossing Guard Recognition Week, January 14-18, 2019, was read.

*Public comments* – None.

*Written and Oral Reports*

Finance Committee – The committee reviewed the 19-20 budget reductions following the failed referendum, operational referendum planning and the survey results.

Buildings & Grounds Committee – Mr. Clements reported that the committee reviewed the elementary infrastructure project and updates on the building projects.

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

District Strategic Initiative updates by the Superintendent Cabinet Team and Mr. Gunderson were reviewed.

Mr. Gunderson announced: the hiring of Jeremy Yackwak as a part-time middle school nutrition services employee.

**Consent Agenda**

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of December 10, 2018; the Special Board Meeting of January 7, 2019; the invoices to be paid; the Open Enrollment requests as presented with one exception – to deny entrance to the ninth grade student from La Crosse; and to accept the administration’s co-curricular recommendations for middle school forensics-Mary Czajka, high school volunteer DECA-Josh Maliszewski, and high school boy’s tennis coach-Julie Kamla. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion/Action Items:**

High School Spanish Teacher Shelly Helland presented the request for the Spanish/Ecology Club trip for the summer of 2020. Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to approve the request by the Spanish/Ecology Club to take a trip to the Dominican Republic in the summer of 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mrs. Fitzgerald seconded to accept donations from the following: From the La Crosse County Dairy Promotions for the high school family and consumer education class, from Jon and Lynette Labus for the Angela Labus Scholarship Fund, from Stephen and Deborah Kraus for the Horace Moran Memorial Fund, from Altra Federal Credit union for the Horace Moran Memorial Fund, from Our Saviour’s Luthern Church for the Nutrition Services Jane Doe Fund, from Roger Fish for the Nutrition Services Jane Doe Fund, from Dave and Mary Geske for the High School FFA program, from Richard and Lorna Wehrs for the High School FFA program, from the La Crosse County Jeans Day Committee for the middle school Random Acts of Kindness Fund, and from Stella Jones, J&H Hotel Management, Wehrs Machine & Racing Products, Fox Hollow Golf Course, Altra Federal Credit Union, Dick’s Pallet Works, Inc. for the Gearbox Heros 5019 Team. Motion carried unanimously.

It was recommended that individual Board members express their concerns regarding the 2019 Delegate Assembly Proposals to Robin Fitzgerald, the Board’s Delegate Assembly Representative. No action was taken.

Mr. Grosskopf moved, Mr. Clements seconded to approve for a second reading of Board Policy 671.2-Rule Expense Reimbursements. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Gunderson and Mr. Jensen reviewed the designation of regular and special education Open Enrollment Spaces for the 2019-2020 school year. No action was taken.

2019-2020 district budget reductions. No action was taken.

Preliminary enrollment, staffing and budget information for 2019-2020. No action was taken.

Public Relations Specialist/Grant Writer Samantha Schmitz was available and shared information on the Operational Referendum communication strategy. No action was taken

Mrs. Fitzgerald moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to approve the Joint Board Agreement with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater La Crosse. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded to approve the Early College Credit Alternate Request for the Spring of 2019 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Halverson 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” 1) regarding the superintendent’s evaluation, 2) regarding contracts for specific administrative personnel, 3) the performance of a professional staff employee;

And disciplinary data of a student under (f) Considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations.

Mr. Schlimgen moved, Mr. Grosskopf seconded that the Board convene in closed session at 9:30 p.m. A roll vote was taken: Mrs. Fitzgerald, Aye; Aye; Mr. Clements, Aye; Mrs. Halverson, Aye; Mr. Grosskopf, Aye; and Mr. Schlimgen, Aye. Motion carried unanimously.

*Closed Session*

**Adjournment**

Mrs. Fitzgerald moved, Mr. Schlimgen seconded to adjourn at 10:13 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Ken Schlimgen, Acting Clerk