

Salem Public Schools

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HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL
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ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL
LINDSEY WISEMAN

SALEM SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES SALEM SCHOOL DISTRICT AUGUST 17, 2026

Salem Public School Board Meeting Minutes Date: August 17, 2026 **Time:** 6:00 p.m. **Location:** Salem Public School Board Room

Members Present: Karen Coffman, Dr. Guy Smith, Burton Yarnell, Jason Miller and Joey Hall.

Members Absent: None

I. Call to Order and Quorum Board President Joey Hall called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.. A quorum was established with all members present.

II. Reports

- **Opening Presentation:** The board viewed a video of the first day of school produced by elementary students.
- **Enrollment and Funding:** Superintendent Mr. Gultner reported that while the district is funded on 801 students, current "students in seats" total 742. This discrepancy could lead to a \$500,000 funding loss next year.
- **Academic Performance:** The district test scores were among the top in the state again this year. Fifth grade ranked first in every area, and High School Algebra and Biology also ranked first.
- **Cyber Incident:** Mr. Gultner reported a phishing scam involving his email. No social security numbers were compromised, though student names, IDs, and dates of birth were potentially accessible in the admin share but nothing was identified as being taken.
- **Gymnasium Improvements:** The board recessed at 6:09 p.m. to tour the high school gymnasium renovations and reconvened at 6:24 p.m..
- **Financial Allotments:** State foundation funding decreased by \$181,000, while ESA funds increased by \$152,000. Federal funds overall decreased by \$30,000.
- **Service Awards:** Mr. Gultner recognized Board Members for their years of service on the Salem School Board.

III. Consent Agenda

- **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the January 21, 2026 meeting were reviewed.

Motion: Coffman

Second: Smith

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous

Nays: None

Result: Approved.

IV. Action Agenda

- **Fund Transfer:** Recommendation to transfer \$653,000 from the operating fund to the building fund.

Motion: Yarnell

Second: Miller

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous

Nays: None

Result: Approved.

- **Legal Transfers (In-District):** Recommendation to accept three students from Highland District to Salem School District.

Motion: Miller

Second: Yarnell

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous

Nays: None

Result: Approved.

- **Legal Transfers (In-District):** Recommendation to accept one student from IZARD County Consolidated District to Salem School District.

Motion: Smith

Second: Coffman

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous

Nays: None

Result: Approved.

- **Legal Transfers (Out-of-District):** Recommendation to transfer one student from Salem School District to Highland School District.

Motion: Yarnell

Second: Miller

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous

Nays: None

Result: Approved.

V. Executive Session (Employment) The board entered executive session for employment matters at 6:37 p.m. and returned at 6:51 p.m.

- Celina Bunn: Recommendation to move from library aid to literacy interventionist effective August 1, 2026.

Motion: Yarnell

Seconded: Smith

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous

Nays: None

Result: Approved.

- Vikki Sutherland: Recommendation to move from paraprofessional to library aid effective August 1, 2026.

Motion: Miller
Seconded: Coffman

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous
Nays: None

- **Result:** Approved.

- Brianna Robbins: Recommendation to hire as a paraprofessional effective August 18, 2026

Motion: Miller
Second: Yarnell

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous
Nays: None

Result: Approved

- Danielle Peterson: Recommendation to accept resignation effective August 3, contingent on being hired at Viola Elementary School District.

Motion: Yarnell
Second: Miller

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous
Nays: None

Result: Approved

- **Marquee Sign Purchase:** Recommendation to purchase a new color marquee sign from Cupples Sign Company for \$54,627.17 to be paid out of operating funds.

Motion: Coffman
Second: Miller

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous
Nays: None

Result: Approved

- **High School Gutter Project:** Three bids were received and reviewed.

A. Kirk Roofing + Construction Inc. \$29,072.00
B. Roof and Gutter Pros LLC \$17,850.00

C. Ultimate Exterior Designs LLC \$25,730.00

Recommendation was made to accept the low bid from Roof and Gutter Pros LLC for \$17,850.00 to be paid out of building fund.

Motion: Smith
Second: Coffman

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous
Nays: None

Result: Approved

- **Softball Fence Project:** Two bids were received and reviewed.

A. H & H Fencing, LLC \$23,298.37
B. Robinson Fence Company Inc. \$33,750.00

Recommendation to was made to accept the bid from H&H Fencing, LLC for \$23,298.37 to be paid out of building fund.

Motion: Miller
Second: Yarnell

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous
Nays: None

Result: Approved

- **Sale of Items:** Sealed bids were opened and reviewed.

Sewing Machine: One bid reviewed and the highest bid was for \$20.00

Recommendation to was made to accept the bid for \$20.00 and try to sell other sewing machines for same amount.

Motion: Miller
Second: Coffman

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous
Nays: None

Result: Approved

Embroidery Machine: Two bids reviewed and the highest bid was \$125.00.

Recommendation was made to accept the high bid for \$125.00.

Motion: Coffman
Second: Smith

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous

Nays: None

Result: Approved

- **Financial Reports:** Review and acceptance of financial reports.

Motion: Coffman

Second: Smith

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous

Nays: None

Result: Approved

VI. Miscellaneous

Board Training: Scheduled for October 5th and October 12th at 5:30 p.m..

Annual Report to the Public: Scheduled for September 28, 2026.

VII. Adjournment 7:16 p.m.

Motion to Adjourn: Smith

Second: Yarnell

Result: Passed Unanimously and meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Secretary _____
Karen Coffman