

Salem Public Schools

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SALEM SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES SALEM SCHOOL DISTRICT JUNE 15, 2026

Salem School Board Meeting Minutes Date: June 15, 2026 **Time:** 6:00 PM **Location:** Salem School District
Members Present: Karen Coffman, Joey Hall, Dr. Guy Smith, and Jason Miller
Members Absent: Burton Yarnell

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by the Board President. A quorum was established.

II. Reports

- **Academic Testing Data:** Superintendent Gultner reported that preliminary testing data indicates the district and both buildings performed very well, likely placing in the top tier of the state.
- **Accreditation:** The district received official notification of being fully accredited by the Arkansas State Board of Education for the 2025-2026 school year.
- **Financial/CD Renewal:** A Certificate of Deposit (CD) was renewed for 182 days at a rate of 3.65%.

III. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the May 18th meeting were reviewed.

- **Motion to approve:** Smith
- **Seconded by:** Miller

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous
Nays: None

- **Result:** Motion passed.

IV. Action Agenda

- **2026-2027 School Handbook Changes:** Updates include a new Cybersecurity and Student Data Privacy section, revised requirements for Distinguished Honor Graduates (requiring "A" grades in all courses), and a cell phone policy exception for two-step authentication in concurrent credit courses.
 - **Motion to approve:** Miller
 - **Seconded by:** Coffman

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous
Nays: None

- **Result:** Motion passed.

- **2026-2027 School Improvement Plan:** The board reviewed the plan, which maintains current goals updated with 2026 testing data.

- **Motion to approve:** Coffman
- **Seconded by:** Smith

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous
Nays: None

- **Result:** Motion passed.

- **Capital Asset Deletion List:** A list of items totaling \$216,922.70 (including school buses and a vehicle involved in an accident) was presented for removal from inventory.

- **Motion to approve:** Miller
- **Seconded by:** Coffman

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous
Nays: None

- **Result:** Motion passed.

- **Board Policy Updates:** Changes include increasing the sick leave payout rate to \$90 per day (matching substitute pay), establishing a "sell down" option for employees entering T-DROP, and increasing the procurement threshold to \$27,300 to match state guidelines.

- **Motion to approve:** Smith
- **Seconded by:** Miller

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous
Nays: None

- **Result:** Motion passed.

V. Executive Session

The board entered executive session at 6:18 PM for employment matters and returned at 6:34 PM.

VI. Personnel Recommendations

- **Calvin Maguffee (Resignation):** Resignation from Ozarka bus route.

- **Motion to approve:** Smith
- **Seconded by:** Miller

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous

Nays: None

- **Result:** Motion passed.

- **Calvin Maguffee (Hire):** Hired as 240-day Maintenance Grounds Custodian, including the Ozarka bus route.

- **Motion to approve:** Miller
- **Seconded by:** Coffman

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous

Nays: None

- **Result:** Motion passed.

- **Lena Zimmer (Hire):** Hired as a Paraprofessional for the 2026-2027 school year.

- **Motion to approve:** Coffman
- **Seconded by:** Smith

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous

Nays: None

- **Result:** Motion passed.

- **Kent Andrews (Resignation):** Resignation from part-time Paraprofessional position.

- **Motion to approve:** Miller
- **Seconded by:** Smith

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous

Nays: None

- **Result:** Motion passed.

- **Kent Andrews (Hire):** Hired as full-time Distance Learning Facilitator.

- **Motion to approve:** Smith

- **Seconded by:** Miller

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous

Nays: None

- **Result:** Motion passed.

- **Ella Purdom (Resignation):** Resignation from Junior High Cheer Coach position only; she remains a teacher.

- **Motion to approve:** Coffman

- **Seconded by:** Miller

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous

Nays: None

- **Result:** Motion passed.

VII. Other Business

- **2026-2027 Food Service Prices:** Student meals remain at no cost. Adult breakfast and lunch prices were increased by \$0.05 to \$2.90 and \$4.45 respectively.

- **Motion to approve:** Smith

- **Seconded by:** Coffman

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous

Nays: None

- **Result:** Motion passed.

- **School Choice Applications:** Nine applications received in June were reviewed.

- **Motion to approve:** Coffman

- **Seconded by:** Smith

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous

Nays: None

- **Result:** Motion passed.

- **Financial Reports:** The board reviewed current financial statements, noting upcoming building fund expenditures for bleachers.

- **Motion to approve:** Miller
- **Seconded by:** Coffman

The Chairman called for discussion.

Yeas: Unanimous

Nays: None

- **Result:** Motion passed.

VIII. Adjournment

- **Motion to adjourn:** Smith
- **Seconded by:** Coffman
- **Result:** Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:47 PM.

Secretary _____
Karen Coffman