

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting – February 2, 2012

Regular Session 7:00 p.m.

Willows City Council Chambers

201 N. Lassen Street, Willows, CA 95988

MINUTES

1. OPEN SESSION – CALL TO ORDER

- 1.1 Roll Call – President Parisio called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Present were: Mr. Ward, Mrs. Knight, Mr. Parisio, Mr. Geiger, and Mr. Munguia.
- 1.2 Welcome to Visitors
- 1.3 Flag Salute was led by John Alves.

2. AGENDA/MINUTES

- 2.1 Approve Minutes for the Regular Meeting of January 12, 2012. Mr. Ward moved, seconded by Mr. Munguia, to approve the Minutes for the Regular Meeting of January 12, 2012. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.
- 2.2 Approve Agenda for February 2, 2012. Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mr. Munguia, to approve the Agenda for February 2, 2012. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

4. REPORTS

4.1 **Employee Associations (WUTA & CSEA)** – No reports.

4.2 **Principals**

(WHS) Mr. Smith reported:

- Mr. Smith gave a handout to the Board of upcoming activities.
- Cynthia Kampf of DataWORKS spent today with both WIS and WHS visiting classrooms to give the site administration a baseline of instructional strategies. Mr. Smith said it was very informative and also a good experience for administrators to learn how to help coach their teachers.
- Next week the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) will take place on February 7th & 8th. All of the tenth graders will take the test for the first time and it will also be given to juniors and seniors who have not passed yet.
- He stated that with his handout is a report from the Ag Department giving the Board an update of activities within that department.

(WIS) Mr. Sailsbery reported:

- Mr. Sailsbery gave a handout to the Board of upcoming activities.
- He said that the EDI walk through today took place from 7:30-11:00 a.m. at WIS. They spent between 5-7 minutes in every classroom. The administrators learned how to use the tool on the backside of the handout and thinks it will be a very outstanding and effective tool for administrators to help their faculty improve instruction in the classroom. This will help them become more proficient in coaching their staff.
- They are continuing with EDI implementation during their collaboration days. There will be another workshop training next Wednesday for both WIS and WHS. It will go from 1:45 to 6:30 p.m. Eight members from Team WIS and the WIS administrators learned a lot at the January 13th training and thought it was very valuable.
- The WIS Choir participated in the Winter Concert and gave a fantastic performance. He thanked the students and also Mr. West, Mrs. Street, and Mrs. Pastorino for their volunteerism.
- The WIS Sports Calendar is on the handout for the next few weeks.
- On March 6th the Seventh Grade California Standards Writing Test will take place which is an annual requirement.

(MES) Ms. McLaughlin reported:

- The MES Open House will be on March 29th. The time hasn't been determined because they are also planning a music presentation for that evening. The tentative time frame is 5:30-7:15 p.m. She also wanted to thank Mrs. Street for putting together the Fourth Grade Choir and commended them on their participation at the Winter Concert.

- On February 16th, the PTO Booster Club will put on their Spaghetti Feed Fundraiser from 4:30-7:00 p.m. at the Murdock cafeteria. One of their priorities for the fundraiser is to purchase some much needed swings for the playground.
- The staff and administration at MES are embracing EDI and are already seeing results. They see students engaged in learning. It is very motivating to see this happen so soon. Their walk-through will take place on February 15th and they are very excited about it.
- MES is also preparing for the STAR Testing with practice questions and by discussing the testing process with the students.

(WCHS) Dr. Geivett reported:

- Enrollment is now up to 25 students and they are doing well.
- The CAHSEE will be given on February 7th & 8th.
- The January 18th edition of the Willows Journal contained an article about the WCHS students and the patients from the Sun Bridge Center for Willows. Every Wednesday (weather permitting) the students walk the patients around the park and it has been a great experience for both parties.

4.3 **Director of Business Services – Ms. Skala** provided the Board with a handout on the budget from School Services – No report.

4.4 **Director of Categorical Programs – Mrs. Perez** deferred her report until later in the agenda.

4.5 **Director of Transportation/Facilities Operations** - No report.

4.6 **Superintendent – Dr. Geivett reported:**

- He went to the Superintendent's Symposium last week and attended some very good seminars with different speakers and topics. Technology was a big discussion point, especially distant and on-line learning during the week. The pros and cons of E-textbooks were discussed at one seminar. A professor from the University of LaVerne gave a presentation that indicated that charter schools don't work. He stated in his presentation that historically over the last few years charter schools test out at 83% of doing the same or worse than public schools. He also went on to say that charter schools that are really making a difference have community support, parent support, focus on student learning and student success, promote meaningful relevant curriculum, and promote and have various ways for students to meet goals through various projects. The research concluded that if the people who spend the time and energy in charter schools put their support, volunteerism, and focus in student learning in our public schools, we wouldn't need charter schools and our public schools would be that much better. Dr. Geivett also stated that there was a lot of discussion concerning the budget during the conference; but there were few answers, if any. He appreciated spending time with the small school, rural superintendents that are facing the same battles we are. He thanked the Board for this professional growth and learning opportunity.
- EDI is going strong and he is very supportive of this program. He thinks it is a very positive move for our district. He hopes the entire staff is embracing it and feels very fortunate to have the excellent EDI trainers we do.
- He met with Greg Isom, our bond advisor, and said his next step is to meet with some key members from the public and to conduct a community survey to see if and how much of a bond the public would support.
- Based on his research, he is pushing forward on moving the fifth graders over to Murdock next year, unless the Board advises him otherwise.
- We have received a contract for architectural services from Paul Lieberum to draw up plans for the MES 700 wing for the preschool classrooms. Another one of our goals of our District is to generate revenue for space we are not using. This project is being funded through GCOE and the preschool.

4.7 **Governing Board Members**

Mr. Ward – No report

Mrs. Knight – No report

Mr. Munguia – No report

Mr. Geiger:

- He stated that once again the State has put us in a terrible position with the budget. We have worked well with both of our unions to secure multi-year contracts. We now have to go back to the drawing board.

Mr. Parisio:

- Both WHS and WIS sports programs are doing well.
- The music programs are doing great.
- He commented that we seem to always talk about the negative during our board meetings, when most of it is out of our control. Mr. Parisio thinks we need to remember that there are many positive programs in our district that need to be shared at our board meetings with the public to keep them

informed. The Board will be facing some difficult decisions concerning the budget in the near future that has been passed down to us from the State level.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Approve Spring 2012 GCOE Adult Education Program (GAP) concurrent enrollment for WHS and WCHS students.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Accept letter of resignation from Joseph Zaragoza, MES Custodian, effective January 13, 2012.
2. Approve Ellen Pastorino as a volunteer for the WIS After-School Chorus.
3. Approve extra duty assignment at WIS for the 2011/12 school year: Noon-Duty Aide – Patty Galvan.
4. Approve updated Classified Substitute List for the 2011/12 school year.
5. Ratify employment of the following WHS spring coaches:

Varsity Baseball – Head Coach	Manuel Rakestraw
Varsity Baseball – Volunteer	Scott Thur
JV Baseball – Head Coach	Kellen Farrell
JV Baseball – Volunteer	Brian Farrell
Varsity Softball – Head Coach	Terri Moore
Varsity Softball – Volunteers	Robin Smith & Janet Guill
JV Softball – Head Coach	Lillian Martinez
JV Softball – Volunteer	Neisha Furtado
Boys Tennis – Head Coach	B.J. Boyd
Boys Tennis – Volunteer	Kevin Harrigan
Boys Track – Head Coach	Mike Biggs
Boys Track – Head Coach	Evone LaCombe
6. Ratify employment of Brenda Valenzuela as Child Care Tutor for Adult Ed.
7. Ratify employment of Mariana Valenzuela as Child Care Tutor for Adult E.

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. Approve budget revisions.
2. Approve warrants from 1/11/12 through 1/25/12.
3. Approve ASB Quarterly Report – MES & WIS.

Mrs. Knight pulled Item C5. Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mr. Munguia, to approve the Consent Calendar, excluding Item C5. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes. Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mr. Munguia, to approve Item C5 of the Consent Calendar. The motion passed with 4 yes votes and 1 abstention (Mrs. Knight).

6. DISCUSSION/ACTION CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. **(Action)** Approve Special Board Meeting to be held on Monday, February 13, 2012, at the WIS Library beginning at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the Budget and the Fiscal & Program Sustainability Plan. Dr. Geivett expressed that he would like to invite the public and all employees to come to this meeting. He said that the Board has difficult decisions ahead of them and that he and the Board need and welcome ideas from everyone. Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Knight, to approve a Special Board Meeting to be held on Monday, February 13, 2012, at the WIS Library. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.
2. **(Action)** Approve the disposal of the attached list of obsolete textbooks from WHS. Mr. Munguia moved, seconded by Mr. Geiger, to approve the disposal of obsolete textbooks from WHS. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. **(Action)** Approve LEA Title III Year 4 Plan. Mrs. Perez addressed the Board. She stated that even though the State has cut categorical dollars coming to our District considerably over the last five years, they haven't stopped the mandates that come with receiving any funding. She discussed the Needs Assessment Plan with the Board. She pointed out that the document she handed out to the Board and the public had some changes from the one posted on the website, but the changes were only in the organization of the document and not in content. Next month she will bring the Title I LEA Plan before the Board for

approval; today she has brought the Title III Plan for approval, which is a part of the Title I Plan. Title III is specifically for English learners and funding is received separately. LEAs receiving Title III funding are required to meet the Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAOs) for their English learner (EL) subgroup. She went over the three areas where we did not meet our AMAOs. Since we did not meet the three AMAOs this plan has to be updated. She reviewed the contributing factors that the District is currently working on:

- (1) Update ELA Curriculum - we have done this with the purchase and implementation of *CA Treasures/McGraw Hill*;
- (2) Lesson delivery – we are implementing EDI; and
- (3) Common Assessments – teachers are taking advantage of this during their PLC time.

In the Plan she addressed the different goals. Goals 2A-2F are strategies the District will use to improve. She invited the Board members to stop by the office anytime to go over the Plan if they had any additional questions. Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mr. Munguia, to approve the LEA Title III Year 4 Plan. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. **(Action)** Approve Marilyn Simlness' request to reduce her workload for the 2012/13 school year by means of a Willie Brown assignment. Mr. Munguia moved, seconded by Mr. Geiger, to approve Marilyn Simlness' request to reduce her workload for the 2012/13 school year by means of a Willie Brown assignment. Mr. Parisio wished her good luck in the planning for her retirement. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.
2. **(Action)** Approve unpaid leave of absence request from John Mattera, WIS Fifth Grade Teacher, to continue through the end of the 2011/12 school year (6/8/2012). Mr. Mattera plans to return for the 2012/13 school year. Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Knight, to approve an unpaid leave of absence for John Mattera through the end of the 2011/12 school year. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. **(Action)** Approve Specific Waiver Request for K-3. Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mr. Parisio, to approve the Specific Waiver Request for K-3. Ms. Skala addressed the Board. She stated this is a renewal of what we did two years ago. We are using this as a safety net in light of the State's budget. Classes can't be greater than 33:1. We haven't needed it in the past and hope not to use it in the future. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.

PUBLIC HEARING: A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE HELD AT THIS TIME TO ALLOW FOR PUBLIC INPUT REGARDING THE GENERAL WAIVER REQUEST FOR GRADES 4-8 CLASS SIZE PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF EDUCATION CODE 33050. President Parisio opened the Public Hearing at 7:44 p.m. No comments were made. At 7:45 p.m. President Parisio closed the Public Hearing.

2. **(Action)** Approve General Waiver Request for Grades 4-8. Mr. Munguia moved, seconded by Mr. Geiger, to approve the General Waiver Request for Grades 4-8. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.
3. **(Discussion/Possible Action)** Fiscal and Program Sustainability Plan. Dr. Geivett explained to the Board that this item will be the main topic of discussion at the February 13, 2012 Special Board Meeting. At this time these are ideas on paper for the Board to think about and they will have an opportunity to prioritize the list at the Special Meeting on the 13th. There is always some confusion and upset people because of this document. Just because certain items are on the list does not mean that they will in fact be cut. The Board will have to make determinations on February 13th. By giving the Plan to the Board this evening, it gives them adequate time to digest it. Due to the trigger being pulled with a \$13.00 per ADA loss and the cut to transportation, \$79,676.00 is the amount needed for sustainability for the 2011/12 school year. He said news regarding SB 81 is changing hourly, but even if SB 81 does not pass, we are still down \$60,000 for the current 2011/12 school year. The question was asked if any teachers had put in letters of intent to retire at the end of this school year. Dr. Geivett said he hasn't received any official letters from teachers regarding retirement. No action was taken.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

7.1 The next Regular Board Meeting on will be held on March 8, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. at the Willows Civic Center.

7.2 The following are the dates and times for Open House at the different schools:

Thursday, March 29, 2012 (time TBA)	Murdock Elementary School
Wednesday, April 18, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.	Willows High School
Thursday, April 19, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.	Willows Intermediate School
Tuesday, April 24, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.	Willows Community High School

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ITEM - None

At 7:55 p.m., the Board took a short recess after the Regular Meeting before going into Closed Session. President Parisio will report out in Open Session upon the conclusion of Closed Session.

9. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session began at 8:13 p.m.

9.1 Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(a): Conference with Legal Counsel: Existing Litigation (3 cases) Tim Crews v. Willows USD, et.al, Case No. 09CV00697 and Case No. 10CV00860; and Muyassar Al-Rifai, on behalf of her children, v. Willows USD, et. al, Case No. 2:10-CV-02526-MCE-CMK

9.2 Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9: Conference with Legal Counsel: Anticipated Litigation (one case)

9.3 Pursuant to Government Code §54957: Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release

10. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

10.1 Announcement of Action Taken in Closed Session

At 8:48 p.m., the meeting reconvened to Open Session. President Parisio reported out:

Item 9.1: Update given to Board.

Item 9.2: Information given to Board.

Item 9.3: Information given to Board; Direction given to Superintendent.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.