

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting – March 3, 2011

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 Geiger called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Present were: Mr. Ward, Mrs. Knight, Mr. Geiger, Mr. Parisio, and Mr. Munguia.
- 1.2 Welcome to Visitors
- 1.3 Flag Salute was led by Mrs. Mudd.

2. AGENDA/MINUTES

- 2.1 Approve Minutes for the Regular Meeting of February 3, 2011, and the Special Meeting of February 17, 2011. Mr. Ward moved, seconded by Mr. Parisio, to approve the Minutes of the February 3, 2011 and February 17, 2011 meetings. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.
- 2.2 Approve Agenda for March 3, 2011. Mr. Munguia moved to approve the agenda for March 3, 2011. Mr. Geiger pulled Item 6A1 – BP 4020 only, as an updated version just came in from CSBA and will be on a future agenda. Mr. Parisio seconded the motion, as amended to reflect Board Policy 4020 being pulled. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

4. REPORTS

4.1 Employee Associations (WUTA & CSEA)

(WUTA) Shelley Amaro, WUTA President, addressed the Board. She stated that she was unable to attend the February 17th Special Meeting as she had a prior commitment. She said WUTA is very concerned about our District and they meet between Board meetings to discuss matters of concern. She also commented that there are two full days set in March for negotiations. She said that negotiations went well last year with the District. She mentioned that furlough days are a cut in pay and WUTA was one of the first teacher associations last year to negotiate furlough days.

(CSEA) – No report

4.2 Principals

(WCHS) – Dr. Geivett reported:

- The enrollment at WCHS is now up to 34.
- The student forum was held today and two major questions were discussed. The first question asked of the students was, “What will happen if WCHS closed?” Three students thought they would be successful at WHS. After some discussion only two students thought they would be. The second question asked of the students with only Dr. Geivett present and no teachers, per the teachers’ request, was, “How are things going at WCHS?” The students gave several suggestions for improvement.
- The CAHSEE will be given on March 8th and 9th on site.
- The WCHS ACSA (Association of California School Administrators) Student of the Year was Miriam Rodriguez. She has turned herself around, has good attendance and doesn’t have any discipline referrals. There was a luncheon to honor the students, but unfortunately Miriam couldn’t be there, so Dr. Geivett and the WCHS staff will take her to lunch when it is convenient for Miriam. The staff is very proud of her.
- Dr. Geivett gave some statistics on graduation rates for the last four years.

(WHS) – Mr. Smith reported:

- Mr. Smith gave a handout to the Board listing Spring Sports, Major Spring Activities, and Academic Activities. March 8th and 9th will be the final time the CAHSEE will be given this year. He mentioned that with Spring Sports beginning, almost everyday and every Saturday some sporting event will take place.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

- He congratulated the Winter Sports Teams for very successful seasons.
- He thanked Sasha Amaro for being an excellent “Herkimer”, the Honker mascot, this year.

(WHS) – Mr. Xanthus gave a report for FFA:

- WHS had regional winners in four proficiency areas – one went onto State and is one of the top three.
- Laura Ferreira will be competing at the State FFA Convention.
- Two State FFA Degrees were received and awarded – students will get those on March 16th.
- The group has just completed the North Valley Section Leadership Speaking Contest, and one student will compete at the regional level in Job Interviews.
- The greenhouse is up and running and vegetables will be for sale in a few months.

(WIS) – No report

(MES) – No report (handout given to Board)

4.3 **Director of Business Services** – Ms. Skala addressed the Board. She gave a financial summary handout for the 2009/10 school year (ending 6/30/10) so the Board has a benchmark for the reports she is providing them each month. At the Special Meeting on March 10th, Ms. Skala will be reporting on the 2nd Interim Report. She invited any board members or community members to call her or stop by if they have any questions about the report.

4.4 **Director of Categorical Programs** – No report

4.5 **Director of Technology Services** – No report

4.6 **Director of Transportation/Facilities Operations** – Mrs. Taylor addressed the Board. She reported that the Retrofitting Grant came through for a total of \$76,121.00 – 100% for four of our buses (the other two are obsolete). The Replacement Program was discussed. Mrs. Taylor said we should find out in a couple of weeks about that program.

4.7 **Superintendent** – Dr. Geivett reminded the Board that next Thursday, March 10th, we will have a Special Meeting at the Civic Center beginning at 7:00 p.m. He said that evening would be the last time to make any changes or addendums to the Resolution or Cut List prior to the March 15th deadline. Also, on that evening, Zane and Seward Schreder will update the Board on their solar energy proposal. Dr. Geivett has also spoken with Greg Isom, bond consultant, who is looking forward to running a successful bond campaign in 2012. He would welcome the opportunity to share his ideas with the Board at a future meeting. Dr. Geivett said he appreciated the Board members that attended the California Public Records Act/Brown Act Training Workshop. Terry Franke, lead of The California Aware Organization, put on the workshop. On behalf of the WUSD, Dr. Geivett has joined Cal Aware for an annual fee of \$60.00 which allows the District to receive free legal advice regarding CPRA and the Brown Act. He said that if the Board had any questions concerning these matters to submit them to him and he will get the answers for them. He thinks that Mr. Franke is very knowledgeable and WUSD can use his services effectively.

4.8 **Governing Board Members**

Mr. Ward – He attended the February 7th “Anti-Bullying Presentation” at WIS. He was disappointed in the lack of parent attendance but thought Mr. Sailsbery gave an excellent presentation. He also attended the February 8th CPRA/Brown Act Workshop. Mr. Ward commented he has been attending several athletic games and commended Mr. Smith on his Sunday evening “Heads Up” telephone calls. He also commended our Pep Band at the Orland Game – he thought they did a great job.

Mrs. Knight – No report

Mr. Munguia – No report

Mr. Parisio – Mr. Parisio said he thought our winter sports teams did very well. He said at last night’s Orland game that Willows was very well represented before, during, and after the game by the athletes, students, and WHS supporters. He stated that with the March 15th deadline approaching he hopes that all units can work together. He emphasized that the Board doesn’t want to make any cuts since our District is down to bare bones in all areas. We are here to work together and he appreciates everyone that comes to the table and is willing to work and move forward.

Mr. Geiger – He said he wanted to commend Mr. Smith for the students’ behavior at the Orland game – he thought they were very well behaved. He commented that the Cut List is unfortunate and no one wants any cuts. In a small district like ours, it is not just a position, we know the person behind the position, so it is personal. The Board has an extremely difficult obligation and that is to protect the solvency of WUSD. He stated that we all have a difficult road ahead but hopes we will have a positive outcome.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. Accept donation from Priority Farms (Joel & Carlene Mann) in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the 8th Grade History Field Trip.
2. Accept donation from Kurt & Pam Cundiff in the amount of \$500.00 to go towards the WHS Golf Program.
3. Accept donation from Shelley Amaro in the amount of \$80.00 to go for MES field trips (Mrs. Amaro's class).
4. Accept donation from Beverly Boyd in the amount of \$200.00 to go towards the WHS Boys Tennis Team.
5. Accept donation from Lance Boyd in the amount of \$200.00 to go towards the WHS Boys Tennis Team.
6. Accept donation from the Glenn County Peace Officers Association in the amount of \$100.00 to go towards the Girls Soccer Program.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Approve Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) for MES, WIS, and WHS. (To be posted on website after Board approval)

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Ratify employment of the following extra duty assignments at MES:
Intervention Teachers
Janna Alves
Julie Roessel
Kristen Schonauer
2. Ratify employment of the following for extra duty assignments at WIS:
Intervention Teachers
Lauren Albert
Heidi Barley
Mike Buckley
Inette Howard
3. Accept resignation from Michael Dennis, effective June 11, 2011.
4. Accept resignation from Juliann Holley, effective June 11, 2011.
5. Accept resignation from Michael Rutherglen, effective June 11, 2011.

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. Approve budget revisions.
2. Approve warrants from 2/2/11 through 2/23/11.

Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mr. Parisio, to approve the Consent Calendar. Mr. Geiger wanted to thank everyone listed on Items 5A 1-6 for their generous donations. Mr. Parisio also wanted to recognize the retirees, Mr. Dennis, Mrs. Holley, and Mr. Rutherglen, for the years of service to the District. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.

6. DISCUSSION/ACTION CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. **(Action)** First Reading of the following additions/deletions/changes to Board Policies per CSBA's Policy Guidesheet Recommendations.:

BP 4020 (PULLED)

BP 4127/4227/4327

BP 4156.2/4256.2/4356.2

BP 6158

BB/E 9270

Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace

Temporary Athletic Team Coaches

Awards and Recognition

Independent Study

Conflict of Interest

(COMPLETE POLICIES ARE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE)

This is an information only item at this time – no comments were made. No action was taken.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. **(Action)** Approve the 2011/2012 Certificated/Student Calendar. Mr. Parisio moved, seconded by Mr. Ward, to approve the 2011/2012 Certificated/Student Calendar. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.
2. **(Action)** Approve Collaboration Dates (Minimum Days) for the remainder of the 2010/11 school year at Murdock Elementary School:
 - Wednesday, March 16, 2011
 - Wednesday, March 30, 2011
 - Wednesday, April 13, 2011
 - Wednesday, May 4, 2011
 - Wednesday, May 18, 2011
 - Wednesday, June 1, 2011

Mrs. Parsons addressed the Board and stated that MES picked these days so they would be in conjunction with the schedule WIS is currently using and would also have the same release times. The days would be used to plan schedules with RTI to meet the needs of the students. They will also work on collaboration and plan programs for next year. Basically, they will work on student data to help improve test scores. Mrs. Parsons said she will plan a Parent Information Meeting to keep parents informed of the dates and how the school will use these days. She also noted that parents would be notified through the Sunday phone calls, flyers sent home, and it is also online to help get the information out to all families. Mr. Parisio moved, seconded by Mr. Munguia, to approve the Collaboration Dates (Minimum Days) for MES. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2010-11-17, Adopting Seniority List to Determine Order of Employment of Certificated Employees for Reductions in Particular Kinds of Services. Dr. Geivett explained that this resolution is an annual item needed for the upcoming layoffs. Mr. Parisio moved, seconded by Mr. Munguia, to approve Resolution #2010-11-17. Roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.
2. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2010-11-18, Adopting Layoff of Certificated Employees for the 2011/12 School Year for Particular Kinds of Services. Mr. Munguia moved, seconded by Mr. Ward, to approve Resolution #2010-11-18. Dr. Geivett said that the public should have time to speak concerning this resolution. John Shively and Kaitlyn Hansen, WHS seniors, addressed the Board concerned about eliminating the U.S. AP History class. Both students spoke eloquently and shared what they gained by taking the class. Their hopes are that the Board will preserve the class. They said they learned unique skills such as critical thinking, writing and debating skills. They also shared that with the advanced classes it makes WHS students more competitive when applying to colleges. They reported that on average 53% of advanced students taking the AP tests pass with a score of 3 out of 5 which is required to pass the test. Eight of the nine WHS students that took the AP U.S. History test last year scored a 4 or 5. They commended Mr. Owen for doing a great job teaching the AP U.S. History. They urged the Board to keep the class based on quality, not the quantity of students taking the class.

Mr. Bryant, WHS Counselor, addressed the Board. He wanted to commend Mr. Smith for what he has done at WHS, the students and teachers here this evening, and Dr. Geivett for trying to pull everyone together and getting things done in a quick manner. He appreciates what everyone is trying to do. He stated that he is here tonight to speak on behalf of the counselors. There are 2.6 counselors on the Cut List. He said the counselors provide vital services for our students at all grade levels. He commented he is not as familiar as with the needs of WIS and MES but was speaking on behalf of WHS and WCHS. Amy Steele splits her time between both schools and he said she is doing a great job at both schools. He said we are in a different world today and she has earned the trust of the students at WCHS. If the Board chooses to close WCHS and those students return to the high school, they would need someone they are familiar with and trust. She manages the students at WCHS and in addition services about 250 9th & 10th grade students at the high school. In addition, she is the District CAHSEE and STAR Testing coordinator which involves a multitude of tasks and organization. It is a huge task and commitment. His last comment was that he hopes we can keep counseling services at WUSD for the students. Mr. Geiger and Mr. Parisio stated that they are listening to what everyone is saying and don't want to make the cuts. They have to make cuts to balance the budget and hope they can bring all positions back. Right now it is the Board's job to balance the budget.

Roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.

3. **(Information)** Reminder to Board: Superintendent's evaluation should be completed by June 30th.

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2010-11-15, Support Placing a Revenue Extension Measure on the Ballot. Dr. Geivett gave clarification concerning the resolution. Mr. Ward moved, seconded by Mr. Munguia, to approve Resolution #2010-11-15. Mr. Parisio commented he would like to see Sacramento "do right" with the money we already send them. Roll call vote was taken. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 1 no vote (Mr. Parisio).
2. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2010-11-16, Authorizing participation in a Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes (TRANS) for temporary cash flow problem. Ms. Skala reported that this is an annual requirement to receive a TRANS, if needed, – this is not commitment. If we quality negative, we would not be eligible for a TRANS. Mr. Parisio moved, seconded by Mr. Ward, to approve Resolution #2010-11-16. Roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.
3. **(Discussion/Possible Action)** Cut List. An updated Cut List has been provided. The SRO Officer (#22) and water coolers (#23) were added. Item #16 – Director of Technology was discussed. Making educationally sound vs. fiscally and financially sound decisions were commented on. Roberto Herniman from GCOE has been in contact with the District concerning contracting with GCOE. He thinks we can save the District between \$50,000 - \$60,000 a year. Dr. Geivett wants to meet personally with Mr. Herniman to clarify some information about what Dr. Geivett's vision is for WUSD. He will have more information for the Board by the Special Meeting on March 10th. Response time to the District's needs will be a question he will ask of Mr. Herniman. The Board gave Dr. Geivett direction to investigate this item further.

The four instructional aides that were brought back plus the MES library media specialist were discussed. Ms. Skala, Mrs. Perez and Dr. Geivett have met and discussed categorical funds and jobs monies funding anticipated to come in (funds with restrictions). On information received, they will reinstate Items #12, #14, and #19 for one year, which are the four Instructional Aide I positions, the MES library media specialist and the Instructional Aide II positions. Mrs. Perez also stated to the Board that they are working very hard to restore the counselors as well. She said the District understands the concerns and will work very hard to bring them back. Dr. Geivett said we will try to bring back as many things as possible as long as it is fiscally and financially sound to do so. Retirees were discussed.

Mr. Smith addressed the Board with his concerns for the high school. He said the counselors are huge positions at the high school, especially if WCHS students are sent to the high school next year. He also shared his concern about Item #21 – Secretary I positions. He stated the job responsibility at the high school takes care of all ASB accounts and is in control of over \$520,000 a year coming in and out of the high school ASB accounts and also writes approximately 1,200 checks a year. He said this position is a "MUST" at the high school. He is asking the Board to look at Item #21 and separate the positions by sites.

Closing WCHS and keeping counselors was discussed further. Shelley Taylor, WHS Secretary II and former WCHS Secretary II for 15 years, addressed the Board. She stated that if we close WCHS we will not get those 34 students back. She talked about the re-designation of seniors in the past and past graduation rates at WCHS. Housing WCHS students at the high school was discussed – changing the facility not the school. Dr. Geivett recommended to the Board keeping 1 FTE at WCHS and cutting .6 FTE with possibly GCOE adding some Adult Ed and ROP classes and possibly renting out those classrooms to GCOE. He has been in contact with Jess Modesto from GCOE on these matters. Mrs. Taylor also spoke out in support of the Secretary I position at the high school.

Mr. Sailsbery spoke out in support of WCHS and the counseling position at that site. He also spoke up in support of keeping the counselor and Secretary I position full time at WIS.

Ms. Amy Steele addressed the Board. She said she doesn't feel that an Independent Study Program will work out for WCHS students. She thinks they would do better in the comprehensive high school setting than any form of an independent study program.

Mrs. Parsons addressed the Board to speak in support of the counseling position at Murdock for those students that have serious mental health issues or educational disabilities because it takes a long time to be officially recognized and be designated to get the extra services beyond what the classroom can provide.

Ms. Skala asked a question of the Board concerning Items #12 (MES Library Media Specialist), #14 (Instructional Aide I positions) and #19 (Instructional Aide II positions). The Board directed her to keep them on the Cut List and designate that they are funded for next year. She would leave it blank under the Board Status column. Dr. Geivett will bring any additional information to the March 10th meeting if he has any and any amendments can be made that evening so certificated staff can be noticed by March 15th. Classified employee positions have more time to be noticed. Direction was given to staff. No action was taken.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

7.1 WHS Open House is on Wednesday, April 6, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.

7.2 The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on April 7, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. at the Willows Civic Center.

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m. with a recess before going into Closed Session. President Geiger will report out in Open Session upon the conclusion of Closed Session.

8. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session began at 9:21 p.m.

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

8.2 Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6: Conference with Labor Negotiator – Agency negotiator: Mort Geivett. Employee Organization: WUTA/CSEA, Non-represented: Management and Confidential

8.3 Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9: Conference with Legal Counsel: Anticipated Litigation – two cases.

8.4 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; 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

At 11:02 p.m. the meeting reconvened to Open Session. President Geiger reported out:

Item 8.1: Direction given to the Superintendent.

Item 8.2: Update given to Board.

Item 8.3a: Update given to Board.

Item 8.3b: Update given to Board.

Item 8.4a: Update given to Board.

Item 8.4b: Update given to Board.

Item 8.4c: Update given to Board.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:03 p.m.