

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting – November 4, 2010

Regular Session 7:00 p.m.

Willows City Council Chambers

201 N. Lassen Street, Willows, CA 95988

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. AGENDA/MINUTES

- 2.1 Approve Minutes for the Regular Meeting of October 11, 2010. Mrs. Brott moved, seconded by Mr. Geiger, to approve the October 11, 2010 minutes. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 1 absent.
- 2.2 Approve Agenda for November 4, 2010. Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Brott, to approve the agenda for November 4, 2010. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 1 absent.

3. RECOGNITION OF RETIREES

- 3.1 Deborah Wallace – Ms. Skala presented Mrs. Wallace with a plaque and thanked her for the many years of dedicated service she provided to the District. Ms. Skala said that it had been an honor and privilege to work with her. Mrs. Wallace spoke and said she enjoyed her 25 years working for the District and thanked the Board for their support. Mr. Parisio thanked Mrs. Wallace for her knowledge of WUSD's history and said that she will truly be missed. Mrs. Brott thanked Mrs. Wallace and said she appreciated her wealth of knowledge and also that she was very easy to work with because of her kind and caring demeanor.

4. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR - None

5. REPORTS

5.1 **Employee Associations (WUTA & CSEA)** – No report

5.2 **Principals**

(MES) Mrs. Parsons reported:

- She passed out a handout of upcoming events.
- The “Murdock Agribee” (spelling bee contest) is on 11/9/10.
- “Pie in the Face” has been rescheduled to 11/5/10.
- She shared a story about Mrs. Wallace and thanked her for her years with WUSD.

(WIS) Mr. Sailsbery reported:

- He passed out a handout of upcoming events.
- October 19th was the County Spelling Bee. WIS had 8 participants – Devin Johanningsmeier, Samantha Parisio, Kishi Hunter, Shawna Johnson, Noah Parham and Brittyn Gammon. Ryan Southam and Kat Taylor were runners up at the 5th grade level.
- He welcomed Nekki Bateman as the new secretary to Team WIS.
- The Leadership Team attended a workshop in Red Bluff. They listened to an incredible and knowledgeable speaker from Sanger Unified. He was very inspirational and shared useful information.
- Physical Fitness Tests results – Discussions are being held between the site administration and P.E. teachers to review the results and how they plan to reach their goals on getting more WIS students into the healthy fitness zone.
- Healthy Kids Survey – The survey results stimulated good discussion among staff.
- He appreciates the WIS Leadership Team for “stepping up” by preparing for upcoming Collaboration Days; review, discuss and try to solve current concerns, issues and problems that face WIS. He also appreciates their input, getting information out to their colleagues and putting in the extra time to improve student learning, safety and make WIS the best school possible.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

- PLC work is great for WIS. Topics from the last three meetings were documented on the Board handout. He appreciates the Board and Superintendent's support.

(WHS) Dr. Geivett reported:

- He is reporting for Mr. Smith this evening who is attending Senior Night for volleyball.
- Senior Night for the football team and cheerleaders will be tomorrow evening.
- The Costume Ball very well attended and was a good fundraiser for the senior class.
- Mr. West and the WHS Band attended Cal Band Day on October 23rd. He gave a photo to the Board.
- The freshman class won the Homecoming Spirit Week overall.
- Red Ribbon Week was October 25-29 – FNL distributed wrist bands to the students.
- Football and volleyball are finishing up great seasons. Volleyball is undefeated in league to date. Both teams will be in playoffs.
- November 6th will be the next Movie Night in the cafeteria. Mrs. Ansel will be in charge of the evening.
- Winter Sports teams are starting up and will include a new winter cheer team.
- The Fall Finals Schedule is on the WHS website. It will be the week of December 13th.
- Mr. Smith wanted to thank Anji Martin and Adele Foley for improving the WHS website each week.
- Thanksgiving Break – November 22-26
- He introduced FFA members to report on the FFA 83rd National Convention they attended in Indianapolis, IN.

(WHS) FFA members Laura Ferriera, Mackenzie Gomes, Marvin Price, Lukas Nygard, Natalie Massa, Delainy Ward and Eduardo Briones reported:

- They attended many tours – Purdue University, Fair Oaks Dairy Farm tour; Cass County Agribusiness Tour which included the Tyson Processing Plant and a bison ranch. They also attended a career show, leadership workshops at the convention, and a rodeo.
- The FFA members thanked the community for their support and the School Board for allowing them this opportunity. It was a fantastic trip for all the students attending.
- They thanked the community for their support with the “Flamingo Fundraiser”.

(WCHS) Dr. Geivett reported:

- WCHS lost two 18 year old students to Adult Ed and jobs but also picked up four new students. The total enrollment is now up to 27.
- Their annual Thanksgiving Feast will be on November 19th at 11 a.m. in Room 202.
- Student Forum discussions this month included Trimester Awards, Field Trips and Incentive possibilities.
- He thanked Ms. Steele for organizing the automotive tour field trip.
- They have four students on the Wall of Fame this month and are proud of their success.
- Three students and one staff member are highlighted this month on the bulletin board – “Our Willows Community High School”.
- This month WCHS only had two discipline referrals. Both Mr. Perry and Dr. Geivett are proud of the students.
- He thanked Ms. Steele and Mrs. Beck for their help with the incentives.

- 5.3 **Director of Business Services** – Ms. Skala addressed the Board. On October 29, 2010, WUSD received a letter from GCOE stating they had adopted our revised budget. GCOE conveyed their appreciation to the WUSD Board's leadership during these difficult times. They did express caution with our projected declining enrollment and continued deficit spending. This would deplete our reserves and cause cash flow issues which would put us below the recommended reserve level by 6/30/2013. She is starting to work on the First Interim. With the savings from the State she hopes to have a positive budget. With new leadership at the State level mid-year cuts are still a concern. The State's budget is still shaky. She passed out a Pocket Budget '10-'11 to the Board. She is happy to report that Erin Taylor has joined the staff at the district office full time now and wanted to thank Debbie Wallace again and appreciates her training Erin.
- 5.4 **Director of Categorical Programs**–CA Physical Fitness Test Report & CA Healthy Kids Survey-Key Findings. Mrs. Perez reported that the CA PFT is given to grades 5, 7 & 9. We need improvement to get within or above the healthy fitness zone. Discussions and ideas to reach these goals are happening between the administration and P.E. teachers at the site levels. The Key Findings on the Healthy Kids Survey were discussed. This survey is given every other year to grades 5, 7, 9 and 11. This is a report for schools to look at and focus on any areas of concern. There was discussion as to the validity of the report as to whether or not students are being truthful. Mrs. Perez said that we have to take the report seriously and need to pay attention to “bullying” and “alcohol intake”.

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

5.6 **Director of Transportation/Facilities Operations** – No report

5.7 **Superintendent** – Dr. Geivett reported: He thanked Mrs. Wallace for her years of service and appreciated her support and input when he was appointed Superintendent. He commented on the leadership workshops and said he thought everyone was learning a great deal and that it is nice to have a presence from WUSD there and have the opportunity to participate in discussions with other districts. He also said that it was refreshing to witness WIS at their PLC meetings. It is about our kids and student learning. He thanked the Board for allowing him to attend the new superintendent workshops. Dr. Geivett reported that Paul Hendricks, architect in Chico, will have a presentation next month for the Board regarding hardship funding due to the District's two unsuccessful bond measures. After further research he found out that we may not be eligible for the hardship funding, but there may be other funding that could help WUSD. Dr. Geivett will be meeting with John Alves and a representative from Pristine Sun next week to discuss solar panels and alternative energy sources. Dr. Geivett then discussed the lock down situation that happened less than a few weeks ago. Janet Perez is the head of the WUSD Safety Committee and they met last week to go over the details of that day and discussed what went well, what didn't go well, what improvements need to be made, and also to discuss other disastrous situations that could happen. The committee will revisit protocol and procedures to address those issues and are making up a step by step flip chart for such situations, which the Board will receive a copy of upon its completion. Dr. Geivett thanked Mrs. Domenighini for her four years she served on the Board and also gave a special thank you to Mrs. Brott for serving 12 years on the Board – three terms. He said he appreciated her knowledge, wisdom, support and dedication she gave to the students of WUSD. He said she is a very positive person and he enjoyed working with her very much.

5.8 **Governing Board Members**

Mrs. Brott – She congratulated Kyle Munguia and Michelle Peters Knight for being elected to the Board. She told them they would be working with three of finest men she has ever worked with and also a great management team.

Mr. Ward – He wanted to commend Mrs. Brott for being a hard working and very knowledgeable board member for 12 years. He stated that very few people actually know how much time Mrs. Brott put in behind the scenes with such activities as attending negotiation meetings and the amount of time she put in volunteering. He said she will be greatly missed. He also thanked Mrs. Domenighini for her service as she brought a lot of knowledge to the table and she will also be missed. Then he thanked Ms. Skala for all her help with the budget and the entire WUSD staff for their energy and pride they are giving to the District this year.

Mr. Geiger – He congratulated Mrs. Knight and Mr. Munguia on the election and looks forward to working with them. He said that they have some extremely large shoes to fill with the two individuals leaving the Board. Mrs. Domenighini has 20+ years in education and Mrs. Brott has 12 years of extreme dedication to the kids and community. He stated that it had been an honor to work with Mrs. Brott and he learned a lot from her and cherished her friendship. He wished her the best and said again that she will truly be missed and appreciated all she did for the community.

Mr. Parisio – He thanked Dr. Geivett and Mr. Smith for handling the events that happened last year. He said the reason this Board upheld the decision made by the principal last year was for situations that can happen and did last week at WHS, fortunately with no harm to any students. He welcomed the new board members and said he looks forward to working with them. He said from local government to the oval office he has never seen a more dedicated elected official than Mrs. Brott. She jumped into help with the crossing guards, attended negotiations, volunteered with painting of the schools, as well as attending all school events. He said she was by far the most dedicated elected official, on any level, and thanked her again. He also thanked Mrs. Domenighini for her knowledge of the school system, and although they disagreed at times, he had respect for her and hopes she knew that. He thanked her for her years of service as well.

Mrs. Brott – She said she also wanted to thank Mrs. Domenighini and enjoyed working with her. She also shared a story about Debbie Wallace and thanked her again for her dedication to WUSD. She said she thinks WUSD is a great district and thanked everyone for giving her the opportunity to serve on the board for the last twelve years.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. Accept donation from Wal-Mart of school supplies

2. Accept donation from Marty Catania Lakin, granddaughter of L.A. “Mac” McArthur, for DVD’s of home movies taken in the 1950’s of WUSD and community events.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Approve Interdistrict requests for Student #10-11-64 through #10-11-65 to attend school in another district for the 2010/11 school year
2. Approve Interdistrict request for Student #10-11-38 to attend school in the WUSD for the 2010/11 school year

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Ratify employment of Nekki Bateman as Secretary I at WIS, effective November 1, 2010.
2. Ratify employment of the following assignments at Murdock:
Yard Duty/Crossing Guard Kevin Mauzey & Sasha Carter
3. Accept resignation from Chris Mauzey as Murdock crossing guard and yard duty, effective September 9, 2010.
4. Ratify the following volunteer positions:
WHS Drama Coach Premila Adhin
WHS Winter Cheer Coaches Bernadette Francis, Nicole Powell & Tiffanie Hofhenke
WHS Varsity Boys Basketball Coach Richard Welsh
5. Ratify employment of the following WHS winter coaches:
Varsity Boys Basketball Darrell Schonauer
JV Boys Basketball Scott Thur & Manuel Rakestraw (Co-Head Coaches)
JV Girls Basketball Monica Hutson-Throm
Varsity Boys Soccer Jose Cano
Varsity Girls Soccer Baduel Ramirez
Varsity Wrestling Matt Steele

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. Approve budget revisions
2. Approve warrants from 10/6/10 through 10/27/10
3. Approve ASB Quarterly Reports – MES/WIS/WHS.

Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mr. Ward, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 1 absent.

7. DISCUSSION/ACTION CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. **(Information/Possible Action)** WHS Track Facility Beautification Project. Mr. Geiger had asked for this item to be placed on the agenda. He said since Mrs. Brott had started up the beautification projects with Gina Taylor, Daryn Montz, Cathy Mudd and others, he started thinking about the track facility which he thinks is an eyesore to the entire community. He has secured funding to purchase Tulip trees (through the City of Willows at their rate) which are on the City’s preferred list of trees that grow fast – about 80 feet tall. He wants to plant them north/south on the Washington Street side of the track and possibly east and west on the Wood Street side. He would like to have at the two entrances a 10 foot wide gold path of decomposed granite with Eastern Redbud trees (purple leaves in color during the fall) on each side of the path. He has been working on this project with Dr. Billy Throm, Terri Moore, John Alves and Mr. Smith. They would like to have disc golf included in the track which could also be incorporated into the PE classes and is getting more popular with students and community members. Dr. Billy Throm addressed the Board and explained that the disc golf course they are proposing is a 6-hole course and should take between 15-30 minutes to complete. He said since the high school periods are about 45 minutes long and with dressing out and walking to the track, they should have plenty of time to complete the course. The welding shop will help build the baskets. There is also talk about adding a course at WIS. It is a low cost sport and golf disc tournaments are also easy fundraisers. Mr. Geiger is asking for approval to purchase the trees and get the project started. The only expense to WUSD would be watering of the trees. He has talked to John Alves in maintenance and he told him there is a water line in the center of the track they could tie into for a drip system. Mr. Geiger said he is planning on purchasing 16-20 tulip trees and 4 of the purple trees at this time. Mrs. Perez asked if we had a master plan for the track so if we think of adding to the facility later we

would have a plan to reference. Dr. Geivett said he would call Paul Hendricks to see if he had any existing plans on file. The Board thanked Mr. Geiger and Dr. Throm for their time and effort they have put into this project. The Board approved the plan for the trees and disc golf course.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. **(Action)** Approve corrected Classified Calendar for 2010/2011 to include furlough days. Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Brott, to approve the corrected Classified Calendar. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 1 absent.
2. **(Action)** Approve reinstatement of four (4) instructional aides at MES. Mrs. Brott moved, seconded by Mr. Geiger, to approve reinstatement of four instructional aides at MES. Discussion followed. Dr. Geivett explained that at the summer parent informational meeting at MES, a major concern was lack of instructional aides. Although the District is trying to hang onto dollars because of budget uncertainties, he thinks it is important to reinstate the four instructional aides who will be paid out of Title I funds. The Murdock staff and Mrs. Parsons will put together a plan for the use of these Instructional Aides, relevant to the needs of the school site. By redirecting funds, the four most senior aides on the 39-month rehire list, will be notified to see if they are interested in the position. More discussion followed. The Board stated they wanted to get the maximum use of their time to and to utilize every minute they have to improve test scores at MES. Dr. Geivett was asked if these positions would be for this year only and he said definitely for the remainder of this school year and hopefully next year also. He said the District is also looking into a part-time library media specialist and part-time technology assistant. He needs to talk to CSEA about reaching these goals. He would like to see “snapshots of student learning” on a timely basis, not just for STAR testing week. WUSD has received the federal jobs monies in the amount of \$293,000. This funding is linked to classroom staffing - it is one-time money for personnel that has to be used through the next school year. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 1 absent, to reinstate four instructional aides at MES.
3. **(Action)** Approve Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators for the 2010/11 school year (Annual Requirement). Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Brott, to approve the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators for the 2010/11 school year. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 1 absent.

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2010-11-08, Authorizing signatures to cash checks made payable to the Revolving Cash Fund of the District. Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Brott, to approve Resolution #2010-11-08. Roll call vote was taken. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 1 absent.
2. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2010-11-09, Authorizing signatures for the Willows Revolving Checking Account which is deposited in Tri-Counties Bank. Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Brott, to approve Resolution #2010-11-09. Roll call vote was taken. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 1 absent.
3. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2010-11-10, Authorizing signatures for the Willows Cafeteria Account which is deposited in Umpqua Bank. Mr. Ward moved, seconded by Mr. Geiger, to approve Resolution #2010-11-10. Roll call vote was taken. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 1 absent.
4. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2010-11-11, Authorizing signatures for the General Fund Transmittal Account which is deposited in Umpqua Bank. Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Brott, to approve Resolution #2010-11-11. Roll call vote was taken. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 1 absent.
5. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2010-11-12, Authorizing the Superintendent and/or the Director of Transportation/Facilities Operations to Make Application and Administer the Grant Program (ARB School Bus Replacement Grant Program & ARB School Bus Exhaust Retrofit Grant Program). Mrs. Brott moved, seconded by Mr. Geiger, to approve Resolution #2010-11-12. Roll call vote was taken. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 1 absent.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Organizational Meeting will be held at the next Regular Board Meeting on December 9, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at the Willows Civic Center.
2. There will be a district-wide break from November 22 – November 26, 2010.
3. WIS will host their Annual Holiday Band Presentation on December 2nd at 6:30 p.m. in the WIS Cafeteria.

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m. with a recess before going into Closed Session. Mr. Parisio will report out in Open Session upon the conclusion of Closed Session.

9. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session began at 9:00 p.m.

1. Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6: Conference with Labor Negotiator – Agency negotiator: Mort Geivett. Employee Organization: WUTA/CSEA, Non-represented: Management and Confidential
2. 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 9:20 p.m. the meeting reconvened to Open Session. Mr. Parisio reported out:

- Item 1: Update given to Board
- Item 2: Update given to Board

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 p.m.