

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting – December 10, 2020

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 7:00 p.m. Members present: Michelle Knight, Alex Parisio, and Gina Taylor. Member Absent: Jeromy Geiger
- 1.2 Welcome to Visitors
- 1.3 Flag Salute was led by Brandon McCorkle.

2. AGENDA/MINUTES

- 2.1 Approve the Agenda for December 10, 2020. Emmett Koerperich requested Item 6C-2 be pulled from the agenda.
Michelle Knight moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Agenda for December 10, 2020, excluding Item 6C-2.
AYES: Knight, Parisio, and Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: Geiger
MOTION PASSED: 3-0-1
- 2.2 Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 5, 2020, Special Meeting of November 9, 2020, and Special Meeting of November 19, 2020.
Michelle Knight moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 5, 2020, Special Meeting of November 9, 2020, and Special Meeting of November 19, 2020.
AYES: Knight, Parisio, and Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: Geiger
MOTION PASSED: 3-0-1

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – Monica Throm, WHS Boosters Member, shared they are postponing the annual Wine and Dine event. They will be holding a drive thru Tri Tip and Linguica dinner on January 22, 2021. Tickets are \$10. There are two other fundraisers going on for football and cross-country. They are holding raffles.

4. REPORTS

- 4.1 **Employee Associations (WUTA & CSEA)**
WUTA – No report
CSEA – Kathleen Morrison, President reported:
 - Currently in negotiations with WUSD.
 - William Pope is the new labor representative.
- 4.2 **Associated Student Body Report – Maddy Nissen, ASB President, reported:**
 - Canceled a spirit week due to the return to distance learning.
 - Concerned about student mental health during this time period.
 - Postponing Homecoming in January. Hoping to hold festivities the third week in January.
- 4.3 **Principals**
MES – Shirley Williams reported:
 - Conducting parent conferences via Zoom December 9-10, 2020.
 - Currently have five short-term instructional aide and one yard duty supervisor/crossing guard positions available.
 - Prepping for full opening on January 4, 2021, but would like to stay on the hybrid schedule.

- Thank you to Denise Conrado, Emmett Koerperich and the Board for making sure Murdock was covered while Mrs. Williams was gone.
- MES is signed up to participate in the CS4NorCal Project, which is a K-12 grant bringing computer science pathways and professional development into the northern counties.
- Enrollment is 578 students, with 116 of them on long-term independent study.
- Currently, one kindergarten class is being quarantined. Staff is very flexible, kids are amazing, and parents are very supportive.
- Trying to keep morale up by doing fun events such as mask design contest and a door-decorating contest. Staff is participating in secret Santa, and Marsha Squier is sending out “Meet the Staff” emails, so staff members can get to know each other.

WIS – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- Mort Geivett is happy to be able to help out, and things are going well.
- Steve Sailsbery is still experiencing some health issues, but is planning on returning to work on January 4, 2021.
- Enrollment is 287 students, with 44 on long-term independent study and 21 on short-term independent study. The numbers change daily, as students are ill or on quarantine.
- Staff and students have been great wearing masks and adhering to the established protocols.
- Now that WIS is back to in-person instruction, Administration is working with SIP coaches to set up classroom visits and begin working with teachers on their instructional practices.
- Working with the WIS leadership team to discuss upcoming Collaboration days.

WHS – David Johnstone reported:

- It was amazing for students to get to come back to in-person instruction. Unfortunately, WHS met the threshold for number of staff members and/or students with COVID, so WHS returned to distance learning. Hoping to open after Christmas Break.
- WHS is participating in a countywide program that is discussing learning loss for students and how to help bridge the gap. WHS is already addressing it during collaboration meetings.
- Thank you to maintenance and custodial staff.
- Greg Kitchen, Athletic Director reported:
 - CIF has decided to put a hold on athletics until the California Department of Public Health issues a new set of return to athletics guidelines. While on distance learning, our facilities are closed. Once WHS opens for in-person instruction, students will be able to resume training and conditioning with their coaches. Hoping that there is still a window for athletics and will continue to do everything possible to provide students athletes with opportunities to compete in their sport of choice.

WCHS – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- Current enrollment is 20 students, with 2 students on long-term independent study.
- Safety protocols are in place.
- Good academic progress for those who attend. Greg Kitchen and Officer Alves are tracking down those students who are not attending.

4.4 Director of Business Services – Debbie Costello reported:

- Information regarding the 2021/21 budget proposal has started to come out. Governor’s budget will be released in January.
- Enrollment is down 108 students since June 2020, which can impact the multi-year projects. Need to monitor the budget carefully.
- Reopened the kitchen at Murdock. Continuing to serve breakfast and lunch in the classrooms. Will be purchasing additional outdoor tables.
- With the return of distance learning at WHS, cafeteria began remote service.
- Remote meal distribution has continued daily at all campuses for limited hours.
- Another roll out of the Pandemic EBT program will be coming.
- Transportation has been running 3 routes a day. WUSD has been awarded another bus grant, so will be able to retire Bus #6.
- Reviewed CARES funding, and WUSD is on target to spend all the money within the specific timeline.

4.5 Director of State & Federal Programs – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- State testing is still scheduled for the spring but has been abbreviated. Testing window opens in March 2021. Exact testing dates by site are TBD.
- SARC will be available in January.

- After school program at MES/WIS will begin January 4, 2021 if schools resume to a traditional format. If not, the program will continue to provide remote tutorial support for students. 82 students are currently enrolled at Murdock and eight are enrolled at WIS. Because there are not enough staff members, if Murdock returns to a traditional format, only 30 students from Murdock will be in the after school program, with the remaining students put on the waitlist. Priority will be given to foster and homeless youth, then by first come, first served. As soon as additional staff are hired, more students can attend as the ratio is 1 staff member to 15 students.

4.6 Superintendent – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- Dr. Garrison visited WHS and gave some recommendations regarding safety protocols.
- WHS returned to distance learning due to too many positive COVID-19 cases on campus.
- MES and WIS will continue to stay open to in-person instruction.
- Over winter break, maintenance will be installing ION systems in all HVAC systems at all sites which helps kill viruses and purify the air.
- CIF will have a meeting on January 20, 2021 to make decisions regarding sports.
- Thank you to Mort Geivett and Denise Conrado for helping with administrative coverage at WIS and MES.
- Thank you to all district employees for their efforts during this year.
- Recommending MES stay on the hybrid model in January.
- Recommending WHS wait an additional week after winter break to reopen to in-person instruction to ensure no spiking in COVID-19 cases after the holidays. Looking at coming back to a hybrid model.

4.7 Board of Education Members

Michelle Knight reported:

- Suicide is a big concern, and the county is making sure resources are available. Need to watch students as close as possible.
- Thank you to parents, students, and all employees for the ongoing support in transitioning from distance learning to in-person instruction.

Gina Taylor reported:

- Thank you to all district employees, parents, and students. This has been hard on everyone. Worry about mental health of students.
- Hoping to reopen to in-person instruction at all sites in January.

Alex Parisio reported:

- Was excited to reopen to in-person instruction but need to continue to adhere to safety protocols.
- Thank you to all staff for keeping schools open and clean.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. Approve the disposal of (2) Dukane Micromatic II and (1) Audiotronics 155A Cassette Recorder at WIS.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Approve Interdistrict Request for Student #20-21-30 to attend school in another district for the 2020/21 school year.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Accept resignation of Camden Johnstone, After School Program Activity Assistant, effective November 9, 2020.
2. Accept resignation of Amber Smith, After School Program Activity Assistant, effective November 18, 2020.
3. Accept resignation of Tara Hansen, After School Program Activity Assistant, effective November 30, 2020.
4. Approve employment of Laura Pedro, Yard Duty/Crossing Guard at MES (3.9 hrs/day), effective November 5, 2020.
5. Approve employment of Emanuel Guadiana, Instructional Aide II at WIS (3.9 hrs/day), effective November 23, 2020.
6. Approve employment of Ryan Southam, Yard Duty/Crossing Guard at WIS (2 hrs/day), effective November 23, 2020.
7. Approve employment of Rosa Gonzalez, Yard Duty/Crossing Guard at WIS (2 hrs/day), effective November 23, 2020.

- 8. Approve employment of Kaitlin Owens, Yard Duty/Crossing Guard at WIS (2 hrs/day), effective December 7, 2020.
- 9. Approve employment of Maria Garcia Gutierrez, After School Program Assistant (3.9 hrs/day), effective November 30, 2020.
- 10. Approve employment of Nicole Chavez, After School Program Assistant (3.9 hrs/day), effective November 30, 2020.
- 11. Approve employment of Anthony Neuhauser, Short-Term/Temporary Custodian (8 hrs/day), effective October 26, 2020 through June 11, 2021.
- 12. Approve employment of Amber Smith, Short-Term/Temporary Health Records Aide II at WHS (6.5 hrs/day), effective November 19, 2020 through June 11, 2021.
- 13. Approve employment of Tara Hansen, Short-Term/Temporary Health Records Aide II at WIS (6.5 hrs/day), effective November 30, 2020 through June 11, 2021.
- 14. Approve prep period buy out for Jessamin Proctor (Independent Study) for the 2020/21 school year effective November 13, 2020.
- 15. Approve prep period buy out for Katie Jones (Independent Study) for the 2020/21 school year effective November 19, 2020.
- 16. Approve the Classified Sub list.
- 17. Accept resignation of Tyler Michalewicz, Varsity Football Coach, effective December 1, 2020.
- 18. Approve the following coaches for the 2020/21 school year:

Varsity Football – Head Coach	Jose Cano
JV Boys Basketball – Head Coach	Adrian Sherwin

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

- 1. Approve warrants from 11/4/20 through 12/2/20.

Michelle Knight asked for Item #5C-8 be pulled due to a conflict. Due to lack of quorum, will be placed on the January agenda.

Alex Parisio moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Consent Calendar with the exception of Item #5C-8.

AYES: Knight, Parisio, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Geiger

MOTION PASSED: 3-0-1

6. DISCUSSION/ACTION CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

- 1. **(Information)** WHS Proposed School Farm Presentation. Brandon McCorkle and Kate Jones distributed and reviewed a power point presentation on a plan to purchase a 13-acre parcel for the development of a school farm. Funding would come from grants and donations.
- 2. **(Action)** Approve the Surplus of (2) 1994 Chevrolet Pickups.
Michelle Knight moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the surplus of (2) 1994 Chevrolet Pickups.
AYES: Knight, Parisio, and Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: Geiger
MOTION PASSED: 3-0-1
- 3. **(Action)** Second Reading of the following additions/deletions/changes to Board Policies per CSBA’s Policy Guidesheet Recommendations:

BP 3555	Nutrition Program Compliance
BP 4119.11/4219.11/4319.11	Sexual Harassment
BP 5141.22	Infectious Diseases
BP 5145.6	Parental Notifications
BP 5145.7	Sexual Harassment
BP 6142.7	Physical Education and Activity
BP 6159	Individualized Education Program
BP 6159.1	Procedural Safeguards for Special Education
BP 6159.2	Nonpublic, Nonsectarian School and Agency Services

For Special Education

Michelle Knight moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve Board Policies per CSBA's Policy Guidesheet Recommendations.

AYES: Knight, Parisio, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Geiger

MOTION PASSED: 3-0-1

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. **(Action)** Approve the Adoption of Agriscience Pathway Textbooks for Willows High School (see attached). Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Michelle Knight to approve the Adoption of Agriscience Pathway Textbooks for Willows High School.

AYES: Knight, Parisio, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Geiger

MOTION PASSED: 3-0-1

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. **(Discussion/Possible Action)** Temporarily Increase Substitute Teacher Rates for the 2020/21 School Year. Currently WUSD pays \$100/day for substitute teachers. Other districts are paying at least \$120/day. Orland just increased its rate to \$165/day through the end of the school year. Proposing to increase the rate to \$175/day through June in order to stay competitive. We would re-evaluate later in the school year a more permanent daily rate.

Michelle Knight moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to temporarily increase the substitute teacher rate to \$175/day through June 11, 2021.

AYES: Knight, Parisio, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Geiger

MOTION PASSED: 3-0-1

2. **(Action)** Approve 2020/21 Salary Schedules for High School Counselor and District Nurse. This item was pulled from the agenda – no action taken.

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. **(Action)** Annual Developer Fee Report. Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Michelle Knight to approve the Annual Developer Fee Report.

AYES: Knight, Parisio, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Geiger

MOTION PASSED: 3-0-1

2. **(Action)** Approve the 2020/21 First Interim Budget Report. Michelle Knight moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the 2020/21 First Interim Budget Report.

AYES: Knight, Parisio, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Geiger

MOTION PASSED: 3-0-1

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPCOMING EVENTS

- 7.1 The Board's Organizational Meeting will be held on December 14, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. at the District Office.
- 7.2 December 18, 2020 is a district-wide Minimum Day.
- 7.3 A Special Board Meeting to interview new Board member candidates will be held on December 21, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. at the Willows Civic Center.
- 7.4 There will be a district-wide break from December 21, 2020 – January 1, 2021. School resumes on January 4, 2021.
- 7.5 The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on January 7, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ITEMS - None

At 8:33 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 8:41 p.m.

9.1 Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6: Conference with Labor Negotiator – Agency Negotiator: Emmett Koerperich. Employee Organizations: WUTA, CSEA, Management, and Confidential.

10. **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

10.1 Announcement of Action Taken in Closed Session

At 9:24 p.m., the meeting reconvened to Open Session. President Parisio reported out:

Item 9.1: Update given to the Board. Direction given to the Superintendent.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

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