

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting – September 3, 2020

Regular Session 7:00 p.m.

Due to the current “Stay at Home” order,
the Willows Unified School District
will hold its regularly scheduled meeting through a virtual meeting.

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: Jeromy Geiger, Michelle Knight, Alex Parisio, Gina Taylor, and Buck Ward.
- 1.2 Welcome to Visitors
- 1.3 Flag Salute was led by Alex Parisio.

2. AGENDA/MINUTES

- 2.1 Approve the Agenda for September 3, 2020.
Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Knight to approve the Agenda for September 3, 2020.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
- 2.2 Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 6, 2020.
Mrs. Knight moved, seconded by Mr. Geiger to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 6, 2020.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED 5-0

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Monica Throm shared that by waiting until WUSD was prepared to start, the District has done a fabulous job getting the kids and teachers ready for school. WUSD is ahead of the game, having everybody trained and onboard. Talked to many parents who agree.

4. REPORTS

4.1 Employee Associations (WUTA & CSEA)

WUTA – Cathy Fleming, President reported:

- Off to a good start to the school year.
- At this time, WUTA is opposed to the K-6 waiver to open up schools and has not seen a written plan.
- Hand sanitizer provided by the state is does not smell good and is unusable.

CSEA – Kathleen Morrison, President reported:

- Applaud everyone’s effort to get school going with Distance Learning.
- Yard Duty is happy with the communication and training at MES.
- Happy with the information regularly provided by the nurse and Dr. Garrison.
- Members are happy with the training that was provided before school started.
- Initial proposal for 2020/21 school year is on the agenda. Looking forward to negotiating a new contract.
- Scheduled a meeting once a month with Mr. Koerperich.
- Still working on the MOU for reopening of school. Should be completed soon.
- Impressed with the job duty matrix for CSEA members, so they know what they are doing until the students come back on campus.

- 4.2 **Associated Student Body Report** – No report. WHS is scheduling its election.

4.3 Principals

MES – Shirley Williams reported:

- First week of school success and challenges:
 - Student attendance:
 - Day 1 was 97%
 - Day 2 was 98%
 - Day 3 was 94% - will be making contact with students who did not show up.
 - Teachers are doing a great job engaging their students on Zoom.
 - Staff is doing an amazing job. A few parent complaints, but calls from parents sharing how happy they are with how engaged students are the whole time. Mr. Bazan and Mr. Thompson are making home visits to check on students who may not be showing up to class.
 - Still short about 300 Chromebooks and 48 hotspots. Tech support from GCOE has been great.
 - A parent survey is going out regarding the potential approval of the waiver with a hybrid schedule. Parents will be asked what their preference will be, either the morning or afternoon session. Independent Study (I.S.) has been implemented, with 26 students on I.S.
 - Enrollment is 584 students. Did not see the jump in Kindergarten enrollment at the beginning of the year as in year's past.

WIS – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- Attended the welcome back breakfast and enjoyed meeting everyone.
- All parents have completed the data confirmation process through the parent portal. Great job Stephanie and Erin.
- All students have devices. 90% (270) of the students checked out Chromebooks, and 10% are using their own devices.
- 50 hotspots were sent out to families, with 20 on the waiting list. Of the 20, about five students have not been able to connect at all due to no internet and awaiting hotspots.
- Mr. Huntley is holding procedure assemblies with the students via Zoom.
- Enrollment is 300. Six of the 300 students are on independent study.

WHS – David Johnstone reported:

- Overall, student attendance has been good, with students being able to log into their Zoom classrooms. Teachers are working with students and parents to make this year a great start. Every day teachers are sharing new ways to incorporate technology into their classrooms. Teachers are becoming better due to technology.
- All students have been supplied a Chromebook who needs one. Still in need of 42 hotspots.
- Jen Ovitz was persistent and was able to get the full \$6,000 back from the prom venue. It will be deposited into the senior account.
- 57 students are enrolled in Butte English and 31 students are enrolled in Butte Math classes.
- Greg Kitchen has been making home visits, checking on students.
- Thank you to maintenance and custodial staff for all their hard work.
- Thank you to the IT department for working so hard and helping our teachers when in need.

WCHS – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- Liz Beck has been getting everything organized.
- Held the back to school breakfast on Tuesday. Thank you to the cafeteria staff for putting it on.
- More than half of the students have been attending pretty consistently so far.
- Both teachers have appreciated the training they received in anticipation of distance learning.

4.4 Director of Business Services – Debbie Costello reported:

- Year-end closing for 2019/20 is progressing. Will bring the Unaudited Financials to the board in October.
- Auditors are performing their work remotely and will finish the 2019/20 year the week of October 5th. Final audited financial report will be presented to the board in December.
- The summer feeding partnership with Butte County Office of Education wrapped up the week of August 28th. Meals will continue to be provided through the Seamless Summer Option to all children 18 and under through December 31, 2020. Transportation will continue to deliver meals on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- SHI has not delivered the Chromebooks as promised. WUSD received 77 Chromebooks, out of the 700 that were ordered and were supposed to be delivered on August 21, 2020. Due to the uncertainty of their ability to complete the order, Chromebooks have been ordered from another source and should be delivered in the next few weeks.

- The 150 hotspots that were ordered in the spring have all been distributed. Since there is more of a demand than anticipated, more have been ordered and should be here in a week.

4.5 Director of State & Federal Programs – No report

4.6 Superintendent – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- Thank you to Monica Throm, Kathleen Morrison, and Cathy Fleming for their comments and can do attitude.
- Went to all sites over the first couple of days of school and visited many classrooms. Been fun to see the teachers and students online.
- MES Waiver:
 - Survey Results:
 - MES Parent survey had 220 total responses.
 - 35 parents wanted Distance Learning
 - 168 wanted in person instruction
 - 17 wanted independent study
 - MES Classified staff survey had 11 responses, with 9 in support of students returning to school with in person instruction.
 - MES Teachers survey had 19 responses, with 14 of them in favor of students returning to school with in person instruction.
 - Waiver application was submitted September 1, 2020. Representative from the Glenn County Public Health Department called, asking a few clarifying questions. They will submit the waiver to state, and we should know in the next couple of days. School may need to start October 1 to give enough time to prepare. All stakeholders have been working hard with the plan for opening.
 - Waiver is posted on the WUSD website.
 - Waiver committee consisted of administrative staff, certificated staff, classified staff, parents, and PTO president.
- Thank you to all staff members and parents for their patience starting the school year. Everybody is stepping up to the challenge.

4.7 Board of Education Members

Buck Ward reported:

- Great job to all staff for their hard work this summer to come back to school

Michelle Knight reported:

- Thank you to all staff members for their hard work to come back to school.
- September 6-12 is Suicide Prevention Week.

Jeromy Geiger reported:

- Thank you to all staff members for their dedication during these unprecedented times.
- Thank you to parents for helping to ensure that their kids are getting the education they need.

Gina Taylor reported:

- Thank you to all stakeholders on their hard work starting the new school year.
- Looking forward to seeing students at school.
- Make sure social-emotional support is provided to all students.

Alex Parisio reported:

- Thank you to parents and staff that have worked very hard to get this school year off to a good start.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. Accept donation from Willows Community Thrift Shoppe in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the WHS Football program.
2. Accept donation from Willows Community Thrift Shoppe in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the WHS Robotics Club.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Approve Interdistrict Requests for Students #20-21-21 through #20-21-24 to attend school in the Willows Unified School District for the 2020/21 school year.
2. Approve Interdistrict Requests for Students #20-21-21 through #20-21-32 to attend school in another district for the 2020/21 school year.
3. Approve the Fall 2020 Butte College Concurrent Enrollment for WHS students.

4. Approve the 2019/20 CARS (Consolidated Application and Reporting System) Spring Collection.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Approve employment of Kaitlyn Swihart, After School Program Coordinator, effective 8/25/2020.
2. Approve employment of Nicholle Schmidt, Temp Part-Time WHS Teacher (.5 FTE), effective 8/31/2020.
3. Approve resignation of Jasmin Velazquez, Instructional Aide II, effective 9/3/2020.
4. Approve employment of the extra duty assignments at WHS for the 2020/21 school year. (See attached list)
5. Approve employment of the extra duty assignments at WIS for the 2020/21 school year. (See attached list)
6. Approve employment of the extra duty assignments at MES for the 2020/21 school year. (See attached list)

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. Approve warrants from 8/5/20 through 8/26/20.

Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mr. Parisio to approve the Consent Calendar.

AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

6. DISCUSSION/ACTION CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. **(Action)** Approve the Certificated/Student Calendar with Collaboration Days for the 2020/21 school year.
Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Knight to approve the Certificated/Student Calendar with Collaboration Days for the 2020/21 school year.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
2. **(Action)** Approve the Distance Learning School Bell Schedules.
Mr. Ward moved, seconded by Mr. Geiger to approve the Distance Learning School Bell Schedules.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. **Public Hearing:** A Public Hearing will be held at this time to allow for public input regarding the Sufficiency of Textbooks or Instructional Materials, pursuant to the requirements of Education Code 60119 (Public Hearings, Instructional Materials).

President Parisio opened the Public Hearing at 7:53 p.m. No comments were made. President Parisio closed the Public Hearing at 7:54 p.m.

2. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2020-21-01, Sufficiency of Instructional Materials 2020/21. (Annual Requirement).
Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Taylor to approve Resolution #2020-21-01, Sufficiency of Instructional Materials 2020/21.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
3. **Public Hearing:** A Public Hearing will be held at this time to allow for public input regarding the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan, pursuant to the requirements of Education Code 43509.

President Parisio opened the Public Hearing at 7:55 p.m.

Ellen Hamilton went over the Learning Continuity and Attendance Plan. No other comments were made.

President Parisio closed the Public Hearing at 8:07 p.m.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. **Public Hearing:** In accordance with Government Code §3547, a Public Hearing will be held at this time to allow for public input regarding the Initial Proposal from the California School Employees Association #119 (CSEA) to the Willows Unified School District (WUSD) for the 2020/21 school year.

President Parisio opened the Public Hearing at 8:07 p.m.

CSEA President Kathleen Morrison shared that the local chapter approved the Initial Proposal that is being presented.

President Parisio closed the Public Hearing at 8:08 p.m.

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

7.1 The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on October 1, 2020.

8. **PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

At 8:09 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 8:14 p.m.

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

9.2 Pursuant to §54957: Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release

10. **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

10.1 Announcement of Action Taken in Closed Session.

At 8:39 p.m., the meeting reconvened to Open Session. President Parisio reported out:

Item 9.1: Update given to the Board.

Item 9.2: Update given to the Board.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.