

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting – November 5, 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: Jeromy Geiger, Alex Parisio, Gina Taylor, and Buck Ward.
- 1.2 Welcome to Visitors
- 1.3 Flag Salute was led by Greg Kitchen.

2. AGENDA/MINUTES

- 2.1 Approve the Agenda for November 5, 2020. President Parisio asked for Item #7.3 be modified that parent-teacher conferences will be held via Zoom.
Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Agenda for November 5, 2020, with the change to Item #7.3.
AYES: Geiger, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward
NOES: None
ABSENT: Knight
MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1
- 2.2 Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 1, 2020.
Buck Ward moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 1, 2020.
AYES: Geiger, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward
NOES: None
ABSENT: Knight
MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** – Stacy Lanzi, Murdock Teacher, requested a bus stop be added at the Cedar Hills apartment complex. 173 students who attend WUSD schools live at that address, 70 at Murdock, 26 at WIS, and 37 at WHS. This could help with tardies and attendance.

4. REPORTS

4.1 Employee Associations (WUTA & CSEA)

WUTA – Cathy Fleming, President reported:

- Working with the District on the MOU for this year.
- Murdock is still struggling with getting collaboration time.

CSEA – Kathleen Morrison, President reported:

- CSEA chapter meeting will be on November 12, 2020.
- Glad to see students coming back.
- Negotiations begin on November 23, 2020.

4.2 Associated Student Body Report – Maddy Nissen, ASB President reported:

- All positions have finally been filled, and ASB has been working hard to come up with ideas to keep school spirit.
- Held a virtual spirit week October 26-30, 2020. Great participation from students and staff.
- Held a virtual pumpkin-carving contest, which turned out to be a great event. Prizes were awarded for the top three winners.

4.3 Principals

MES – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- MES has been open on a hybrid schedule for 30 days. Everyone is doing a remarkable job and continues with daily temperature checks along with other safety protocols.
- Parents are doing well with the drop-off and pick-ups at the two locations. Approximately 12 staff members assist with the two drop-offs, ensuring traffic is flowing, temperatures are checked, and escorting the youngest students to class.
- All students have a chromebook and hot spot.
- One grade level shared how well learning is going, as they are able to target instruction and move more quickly with smaller groups of students.
- Enrollment is 575, with 107 students on long-term independent study.

WIS – David Johnstone reported:

- Teachers are working on first quarter grades, and report cards will be available online in the parent portal on Friday, November 6, 2020.
- Staff are making preparations for reopening to in-person instruction. Focus has been making sure safety measures are in place such as dividers for desks, thermometers for teachers to check students and developing structure to safety and efficiently move students around campus between classes.
- Olam Tomato Processors donated 250 reams of paper and hundreds of dollars of unused office supplies.
- Wal Mart donated 25+ cases of student folders and a giant box of small bottles of hand sanitizer.
- Attendance:
 - October 19-23 – average of 95% attendance
 - October 26-30 – average of 92% attendance
 - Attendance for the first week of November looks better at first glance. This may be due to automated absence calls going out to parents. Home visits continue as well.

WHS – David Johnstone reported:

- Working on plans for reopening to in-person instruction. Plans will provide safety precautions that follow state guidelines. These include modified bell schedules; social distancing; class size reductions; mandatory masks; full time health aide; daily and period temperature checks; disinfecting; dividers for desks; wash stations; and hand sanitizing stations.
- Will be holding Zoom orientations for the freshman.
- Thank you to all staff who have put in the time and energy to get us where we are today.
- Fall athletic schedules have been completed. Hopeful to be able to provide as much of a season as possible and are awaiting clearance to get back to training and conditioning. Greg Kitchen will be meeting with coaches on November 12, 2020 to go over school safety protocols for training/practice and for facilities use.

WCHS – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- Held a staff meeting on November 4, 2020 to discuss plans for reopening to in-person instruction to include all safety protocols.
- Attendance has been a struggle in Distance Learning and grades have suffered. Staff have been making phone calls, attempting to make contact with parents online and in person to help improve the situation.
- Implementing a positive recognition program for attendance and academics.
- Enrollment is 20 students.

4.4 Director of Business Services – Debbie Costello reported:

- Year-end audit for the 2019/20 fiscal year is progressing. Will be bringing the Audited Financial Report to the January meeting.
- Food Service personnel have continued with remote distribution on Tuesdays and Thursdays as well as multiple meal distributions per day at Murdock for the AM and PM sessions. If WIS, WHS, and WCHS reopen, the remote distribution will be discontinued and in person meal service will begin at each site. The USDA waivers for food service have been extended to June 30, 2021.
- The District received and deployed 277 refurbished chromebooks from SHI and have also received 450 new chromebooks from Staples that are being readied for distribution to students. We also received a surprise delivery of 200 chromebooks from a partnership with Office Depot and the California Department of Education. The devices were donated, and our only cost will be the licensing at \$24 per device.
- 300 hotspots have been deployed, and there are extra hotspots available.
- Assessing additional technology needs for staff to include laptops for teachers.
- Busses are running at Murdock for both the AM and PM sessions. If in-person instruction is resumed district-wide, the routes will be run before school and after school. While Murdock stays in the hybrid

model, busses will continue to run taking students home at 11:00 a.m. In the process of reviewing routes and capacity of busses.

- District has used quite a bit of the CARES funding and will be prioritizing other needs with the remaining funds.

4.5 Director of State and Federal Programs – No report

4.6 Superintendent – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- Enjoying making site visits and seeing staff members and students at work.
- Thank you to the custodial staff. They have been going above and beyond what they are normally asked to do in order to keep our campuses clean and safe for staff and students.
- Football field restrooms have been repaired.
- Working with Cal Water on water conservation in the district.
- With the absence of Steve Sailsbery, three new teachers need to be evaluated. Have been doing observations of those teachers in preparation of their evaluations. Fun joining their classrooms as a student through Zoom and seeing the many ways they are teaching in the online format.
- All stakeholders need to be open minded, patient and flexible as we look at opening school to in-person instruction.

4.7 Board of Education Members

Buck Ward reported:

- Thank you to all WUSD employees for all your hard work and dedication to keep schools going and preparing to open to in-person instruction.
- Read a letter of resignation as a board member effective November 13, 2020.

Jeremy Geiger reported:

- Shared how he will miss Buck Ward.
- Thank you to all students for their resiliency in getting through these tough times.

Gina Taylor reported:

- Thank you to all stakeholders for the hard work this year.
- Shared how she will miss Buck Ward and has enjoyed serving on the board together for six years.

Alex Parisio reported:

- Keep an open mind about the plan and understand that not everyone will be happy with whichever plan is approved.
- Thanked Buck Ward for his 11 years of commitment and dedication to WUSD and shared that he will be missed.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. Accept donation from the Willows Community Thrift Shoppe in the amount of \$1,000.00 for WHS Football.
2. Accept donation from the Willows Community Thrift Shoppe in the amount of \$1,000.00 for WHS FFA.
3. Accept donation from the Willows Community Thrift Shoppe in the amount of \$500.00 for WHS Honker Goat Project.
4. Approve the WUSD Obsolete Equipment List.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Approve the Interdistrict Request for Student #20-21-36 to attend school in the Willows Unified School District for the 2020/21 school year.
2. Approve the Interdistrict Requests for Students #20-21-26 through #20-21-29 to attend school in another district for the 2020/21 school year.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Approve the employment of the following coaches for the 2020/21 school year:

Calvin Johnson	Varsity Girls Basketball Head Coach
Martin Castillo	Varsity Boys Soccer Head Coach
Kristi Hill	Varsity Girls Soccer Head Coach

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. Approve warrants from 10/7/20 through 10/28/20.
2. Approve ASB Quarterly Reports – MES/WIS/WHS.

Buck Ward moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve the Consent Calendar.

AYES: Geiger, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward

NOES: None

ABSENT: Knight

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

6. DISCUSSION/ACTION CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. **(Information)** First 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

Information only – no action taken.

2. **(Action)** Approve the One-Year Extension of the Enviroplex Piggyback Agreement.

Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the One-Year Extension of the Enviroplex Piggyback Agreement.

AYES: Geiger, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward

NOES: None

ABSENT: Knight

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

3. **(Action)** Approve the Increase to Bid Amounts Outlined in the Enviroplex Appendix Items List.

Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to Increase the Bid Amounts Outlined in the Enviroplex Appendix Items List.

AYES: Geiger, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward

NOES: None

ABSENT: Knight

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

4. **(Information)** Williams Settlement – Willows Unified School District 2020-21 Glenn County Schools Deciles 1-3 Report. Information only – no action taken.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. **(Action)** District Plan for Reopening to In-Person Instruction.

- Emmett Koerperich distributed and presented the District’s reopening plan to begin in-person instruction on November 12, 2020. Murdock will stay on the current hybrid schedule until January. All other schools (WIS, WHS, WCHS) will return to their normal schedules with modifications to the bell schedules that allow for cleaning in between classes. They will also reduce class sizes to allow for social distancing. All schools will implement rigorous safety protocols to include requiring all staff and students to wear facemasks, temperature checks, cleaning in between classes, dividers for desks, spacing desks, requiring seating charts, etc. Students will have the option to go on Independent Study if they do not want to return to campus.
- WHS students, Misael Collns, Haley Thomas, Mackenzie Karlovich, and Elena Guadiana shared their concerns as to why they think schools should not reopen to in-person instruction at this time.
- Cathy Fleming, WUTA President, asked for clarification on some areas of the reopening plan. She also requested that teachers district-wide receive the same protocols and procedures to share with the students on their return to school.
- Monica Throm, parent, asked for the names of the Independent Study Programs being used at the schools. She shared her concern that some teachers are sharing their personal disapproval of the District’s plan to

reopen school with students on Zoom. She also asked for clarification if students can wear a shield versus a mask.

- Marisela Collins, parent, shared that she wants her child to continue with Distance Learning, because Independent Study does not allow students to participate in extracurricular activities.
- Elena Guadiana, WHS student, asked if students who went on Independent Study could join clubs by participating through Zoom.
- Karli Lanzi, WHS student, shared reasons why she wants school to open to in-person instruction.
- Morgan Cirigliano, teacher, shared that she was scared before school started at Murdock, but that once school started, she was happy to be back in the classroom with her students.

Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve WIS, WHS, and WCHS to return to in-person instruction based on the reopening plan.

AYES: Geiger, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward

NOES: None

ABSENT: Knight

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. **(Action)** Approve Hiring Short-Term, Temporary Classified Positions for the 2020/21 School Year for Reasons Related to COVID-19, Using COVID-19 CARES Act One-time Funding.

Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Hiring of Short-Term, Temporary Classified Positions for the 2020/21 School Year for Reasons Related to COVID-19, Using COVID-19 CARES Act One-time Funding.

AYES: Geiger, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward

NOES: None

ABSENT: Knight

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

2. **PUBLIC HEARING:** In accord with Government Code §3547, a Public Hearing will be held at this time to allow for public input regarding the Initial Proposal (see attached) from the Willows Unified School District (WUSD) to the Classified School Employees Association #119 (CSEA) for the 2020/2021 school year.

President Parisio opened the Public Hearing at 8:48 p.m. No comments were made. President Parisio closed the Public Hearing at 8:49 p.m.

3. **(Action)** Approve the Initial Proposal from the Willows Unified School District to the Classified School Employees Association #119 (CSEA) for the 2020/2021 school year.

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve the Initial Proposal from the Willows Unified School District to the Classified School Employees Association #119 (CSEA) for the 2020/2021 school year.

AYES: Geiger, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward

NOES: None

ABSENT: Knight

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

7.1 Veterans' Day Holiday (no school) will be observed on November 11, 2020.

7.2 There will be a district-wide Thanksgiving break from November 25 – November 27, 2020.

7.3 Murdock Elementary will be holding Parent-Teacher Conferences December 9-10, 2020. School will be dismissed at 12:00 p.m.

7.4 The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on December 10, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

7.5 The Organizational Board Meeting will be held on December 14, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

8. **PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ITEMS** – None

At 8:51 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 9:05 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.

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

9.3 Pursuant to Government Code §48915: Recommendation for Student Expulsion #2020-21-01.

10. **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

10.1 Announcement of Action Taken in Closed Session

At 9:42 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.

Item 9.3: Update given to the Board.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 9:43 p.m.