

# WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting – January 7, 2021

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 7:00 p.m. Members present: Jeromy Geiger, Michelle Knight, Alex Parisio, Lourdes Ruiz, and Gina Taylor.
- 1.2 Welcome to Visitors
- 1.3 Flag Salute was led by Monica Throm.

### 2. AGENDA/MINUTES

- 2.1 Approve the Agenda for January 7, 2021.  
Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Michelle Knight to approve the Agenda for January 7, 2021.  
**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor**  
**NOES: None**  
**MOTION PASSED: 5-0**
- 2.2 Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 10, 2020, Organizational Meeting of December 14, 2020, and the Special Meeting of December 21, 2020.  
Alex Parisio moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 10, 2020, Organizational Meeting of December 14, 2020, and the Special Meeting of December 21, 2020.  
**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor**  
**NOES: None**  
**MOTION PASSED: 5-0**

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Monica Throm, WHS Boosters member, shared they are holding a tri tip drive-thru lunch fundraiser and are working with the softball and football team with their fundraisers.
- Stacy Lanzi shared concerns and reasons why the District should provide a bus stop at the Cedar Hills apartment complex.

### 4. REPORTS

#### 4.1 **Employee Associations (WUTA & CSEA)**

##### **WUTA – President Cathy Fleming reported:**

- Working with the District Calendar Committee on school calendars for future years.
- CTA Representative, Curtis Lyon, has retired. New representative is Shawn Ferguson.

##### **CSEA – President Kathleen Morrison reported:**

- Participated on the District Calendar Committee.
- January 26-28, 2021 will be a health and welfare symposium.
- Officially became a union steward on January 13, 2021.
- Held first meeting on January 13, 2021. Officers are President-Kathleen Morrison, Vice President-Evelyn Niehues, Secretary-Bev Appleton, Treasurer-Dorene Hickman.
- Welcome to new board member, Lourdes Ruiz.

#### 4.2 **Associated Student Body Report - David Johnstone reported:**

- Will be voting on Homecoming candidates when school resumes to in person instruction.
- Working on ways to engage students.

#### 4.3 **Principals**

##### **WHS – David Johnstone reported:**

- Will be implementing a modified schedule when school resumes on January 11, 2021.
  - Monday and Tuesday – Periods 1-4 (Purple)
  - Thursday and Friday – Periods 5-8 (Gold)

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- Wednesday – Alternating between Purple and Gold
- Current long-term independent study enrollment is 74 students and short-term independent study enrollment is two (2). 380 students will be on site beginning Monday.
- Thank you to entire staff to include all certificated and classified staff for working so hard this year.
- Will be requesting the board to waive the portfolio requirement for current seniors.
- Greg Kitchen, Athletic Director reported:
  - CIF guidelines do not allow for competition until after January 25, 2021. Guidelines lay out which sports can be played in specific Tiers:
    - Purple Tier – cross country, golf, swimming, track, and tennis
    - Red Tier – baseball, softball
    - Orange Tier – football, soccer, and volleyball
    - Yellow Tier – wrestling, basketball
  - NSCIF executives will meet on January 21, 2021, so athletic directors will wait until that meeting before proceeding with scheduling.
  - While back in live instruction, facilities will be opened for individual workouts and training with safety protocols in place.

**WIS – Steve Sailsbery reported:**

- Thank you to everyone for their support while out on leave.
- Thank you to all staff for their hard work getting school up and running.
- Current enrollment is 285, with 206 students on campus, 66 on long-term independent study, and 13 on short-term independent study.
- Four students are currently on quarantine. Three are due to a close contact, and one has COVID-19.
- Grade level review team meetings will take place the first week of February to review each student’s academic progress, attendance, behavior concerns, and social well-being.
- After School program is up and running at WIS.

**MES – Shirley Williams reported:**

- 5<sup>th</sup> grade team worked with Shady Creek and set up a virtual week for student since they could not attend in person. It was held December 14-18, 2020 and included daily lessons through Zoom. Hoping if students can attend Shady Creek next year, this year’s 5<sup>th</sup> graders could join next year’s 5<sup>th</sup> graders in order to get the experience of being there.
- Learning loss/intervention team has been formed to look at what is happening with students due to the pandemic and provide resources for students.
- Currently have 6 Instructional Aide positions, 1 temporary independent study teacher, and 1 yard duty position open.
- Three staff members are on quarantine due to COVID-19, two have tested negative and are waiting to hear on the third. All are finishing their quarantine time.
- Enrollment is 575, with 115 on long-term independent study.
- There are currently 80 students enrolled in the After School program that will begin January 11, 2021. There will be two sessions because of the modified schedule.

**WCHS – Emmett Koerperich reported:**

- Enrollment is 21, with two on long-term independent study.
- One of the teachers is a close contact, so the other teacher is covering his classes until he returns on January 11, 2021.
- Students who are attending school are making good academic progress. Mr. Kitchen and Deputy Alves are following up with students who have attendance issues.
- Semester ends on January 22, 2021.

**4.4 Director of Business Services – Debbie Costello reported:**

- Governor’s budget proposal will be released on January 8, 2021. Will be attending presentations to get details regarding education funding proposals for the coming year.
- Governor’s recently released Reopening Schools Proposal would provide funding to encourage reopening schools in California to in-person instruction for TK-6 grades and other vulnerable cohorts. Do not know what resources might be available for districts that have already resumed in-person instruction. Will continue to monitor the details and respond accordingly with any applications or funding requests.
- WUSD expects to receive approximately \$1,109,028 in the latest round of ESSER funding (Federal COVID relief funding). Allowable uses will be the same as the first round of funding with two additions for facilities repairs and improvements to reduce risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental

hazards, and to support student health needs and measures to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities. Specific timelines for funding has not yet been released.

- The provisions for the Families First Coronavirus Relief Act (FFCRA) were not renewed as part of the new stimulus package. Both the Extended Personal Sick Leave (EPSL) and additional leave related to COVID for childcare needs sunsetted on December 31, 2020. WUSD is working to clarify what the district practice should be for staff impacted by quarantine orders or otherwise affected by COVID and plan to issue districtwide guidance.
- Funding is guaranteed at the 2019-20 P-2 ADA, so WUSD is not required to prepare and submit P-1 attendance reports (ADA through December 2020) for this year. Internal calculations will be completed in advance of the 2020/21 2<sup>nd</sup> interim budget update and 2021/22 budget development to facilitate the multi-year projections.
- State timelines for completion of the Independent Auditor’s Report were extended to March due to COVID delays.

**4.5 Director of State and Federal Programs – No report**

**4.6 Superintendent – Emmett Koerperich reported:**

- District enrollment, as of December, is 1120 students, with 245 students on long-term independent study.
- Been in contact with Glenn County Public Health regarding timeline for distribution of COVID-19 vaccines. Vaccines for all school personnel should be available in mid/late February.
- Due to unforeseen delays, the iWave ion generators will not be installed until the end of the month. They are an air-purifying device that is installed in the HVAC duct that kills viruses, bacteria, mold, etc.
- Partitions for the high school classrooms have been installed and are ready when students return to in-person instruction.
- Quotes were requested for the perimeter fence at Murdock, but only one quote was received for \$145,000. This does not include the cost for Division of State Architects (DSA) or any adjustments required for ADA compliance. Additional requests for quotes will be made to other fencing contractors in other areas.
- Glad to have Steve Sailsbery and Ron Bazan back to work.
- Will be working on focusing on improving student achievement throughout the district.

**4.7 Board of Education Members**

**Lourdes Ruiz reported:**

- Thank you to the staff for their hard work during these trying times.

**Michelle Knight reported:**

- Thank you to all staff for their hard work.

**Alex Parisio reported:**

- Concerned about the lack of connection students, staff, and community have with each other right now without sports and extracurricular activities. Would like to see teams and clubs reach out through various social media outlets to engage with the public.

**Gina Taylor reported:**

- Would be nice to have the band perform again.
- Thank you to all staff for their hard work.
- Concerned about the sunseting of the FFCRA.
- Hoping sports will be able to start up this spring.

**Jeromy Geiger reported:**

- Students and community are missing out on attending sporting events.

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A. GENERAL**

1. Approve the disposal of a True T-35 refrigerator, Item#1142293.

**B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

1. Approve Interdistrict Requests for Students #20-21-31 through #20-21-33 to attend school in another district for the 2020/21 school year.
2. Approve the School Accountability Report Cards (SARCs) for all schools: Murdock Elementary, Willows Intermediate, Willows High, and Willows Community High.

**C. HUMAN RESOURCES**

1. Approve the employment of Kaitlin Owens, Yard Duty Supervisor/Crossing Guard at WIS (2 hrs/day), effective December 7, 2020.
2. Accept the resignation of Kaitlin Owens, Yard Duty Supervisor/Crossing Guard at WIS (2 hrs/day), effective December 24, 2020.

**D. BUSINESS SERVICES**

1. Approve budget revision summary.
2. Approve warrants from 12/9/20 through 12/16/20.

Michelle Knight asked for Items 5C-1 and 5C-2 be pulled due to a conflict.

Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Consent Calendar with the exception of Items 5C-1 and 5C-2.

**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor**

**NOES: None**

**MOTION PASSED: 5-0**

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve Item #5C-1.

**AYES: Geiger, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor**

**NOES: None**

**ABSTAIN: Knight**

**MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1**

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve Item #5C-2.

**AYES: Geiger, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor**

**NOES: None**

**ABSTAIN: Knight**

**MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1**

**6. DISCUSSION/ACTION CALENDAR**

**A. GENERAL**

1. **(Information)** Williams Uniform Complaints Quarterly Report. (There were no complaints.) - Information only – no action taken.
2. **(Action)** Approve Debbie Costello as an additional District Representative to work with the Office of School Public Construction regarding any new construction and modernization funding under the School Facility Program.

Alex Parisio moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve Debbie Costello as an additional District Representative to work with the Office of School Public Construction regarding any new construction and modernization funding under the School Facility Program.

**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor**

**NOES: None**

**MOTION PASSED: 5-0**

**B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

**C. HUMAN RESOURCES**

1. **(Action)** Approve 2020/21 Salary Schedules for High School Counselor, District Nurse, Psychologist, and District-wide Librarian.

Alex Parisio moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the 2020/21 Salary Schedules for High School Counselor, District Nurse, Psychologist, and District-wide Librarian.

**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor**

**NOES: None**

**MOTION PASSED: 5-0**

**D. BUSINESS SERVICES**

1. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2020-21-05 California Air Resources Board Rural School Bus Pilot Project.

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Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Michelle Knight to approve Resolution #2020-21-05 California Air Resources Board Rural School Bus Pilot Project.

**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor**

**NOES: None**

**MOTION PASSED: 5-0**

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

7.1 Monday, January 18, 2021 is a district-wide holiday – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

7.2 The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on February 4, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at the Willows Civic Center.

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

At 8:02 p.m., the Board took a short recess after the Regular Meeting before going into Closed Session. President Geiger will report out in Open Session upon the conclusion of Closed Session.

9. **CLOSED SESSION**

Closed Session began at 8:15 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 8:46 p.m., the meeting reconvened to Open Session. President Geiger reported out:

Item 9.1: Update given to the Board.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.