

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting – February 4, 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 Greg Kitchen.

2. AGENDA/MINUTES

2.1 Approve the Agenda for February 4, 2021.

Michelle Knight moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Agenda for February 4, 2021.

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

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

2.2 Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 7, 2021.

Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 7, 2021.

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

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Kathleen Morrison shared that some people would like the board meetings on Zoom.
- Monica Throm, Parent, shared that while students are on campus at Murdock Elementary, they are locked down and cannot go outside or do P.E. She would like to see the students have P.E. outside and be able to have some kind of recess. She also shared that the WHS Boosters is building a structure over the barbecue at the football field.

4. REPORTS

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

WUTA –Jessie Proctor reported:

- Finalizing the MOU for COVID.
- Teachers are happy to have kids back in the classroom.
- WIS teachers are holding interventions for students who are behind. WHS is talking about starting interventions as well.

CSEA – President Kathleen Morrison reported:

- Attended a health and welfare symposium in January.
- Hearing good things about Mr. Koerperich throughout the district.
- Installation of officers occurred in February.
- Next Chapter meeting will be on February 18, 2021.
- Sponsoring a fundraiser for the WHS Senior Class on March 10, 2021 at Round Table Pizza.

4.2 **Associated Student Body Report – Vice President Alex McDonald reported:**

- Homecoming will be February 8-12, 2021. Planning a parade, and the winners will be announced Friday night, and again at school on the following Monday. Candidates will be making videos for dances, biographies, etc. to broadcast to each classroom on Friday, February 12, 2021. This will allow students to watch and get a modified version of what would normally be homecoming tradition.
- Planning a drive-in movie, with the City's approval.

- Prom will be held at “The Meadows” this year.
- WHS has an active Instagram account (@willows_hs) open to the public to stay up to date on events and activities.

4.3 Principals

MES – Shirley Williams reported:

- Learning Loss/Mitigation Intervention team met for the third time. Grade levels have determined the students who need the most support and groups will begin the week of February 8th.
- Kate Niehues has returned from maternity leave and will be taking over the TK-2 grade long-term independent study students. Amy Street will continue working with students in grades 3-5. Currently there are 107 students on long-term independent study; Kate Niehues will have 51 students, and Amy Street will have 56 students. They will be meeting an hour a week with students who need extra support.
- Four student teachers have started:
 - Peter Gibson with Shelley Amaro
 - Edward McBride with LaDeana Luster
 - Kaylee Dashiell with Patty Lev
 - Maddison Onyett with Terri Graham (SPED)
- Attended a webinar for CS4NorCal, which is a computer science grant through UC Davis. Elementary schools will not be added to this grant until 2023, but MES is on the list.
- Virtual awards assemblies will be held on February 5, 2021.
- Elizabeth Malagon is doing a Cal Water project, which will be submitted at the end of March.
- Enrollment is 579, with 107 students on long-term independent study.
- Thank you to staff for quickly responding when the office was broken into. Finding things every day that are missing.

WIS – Steve Sailsbery reported:

- Held two parent meetings. 8th grade parent meeting discussed graduation and year-end activities, and the WIS PTO meeting discussed activities for the year and how to sustain the PTO.
- WIS has a student teacher working with the PE teacher, Karen Evans. Her name is Victoria Prickett.
- First semester report cards went out on January 29, 2021.
- Interim/Block testing began in preparation for the CAASPP test.
- Restarting the Lunch Exercise and Activity Program (LEAP) at WIS. Trying to find creative and new ways to provide students with safe and fun activities.
- Current enrollment is 290, with 61 long-term independent study and 4 short-term independent study students.

WHS – Greg Kitchen reported:

- WUSD Enrollment is 461, with 54 students on long-term independent study and 17 on short-term independent study.
- WASC virtual visit will take place March 22-23, 2021.
- Starting the process of building the master schedule and working with students on scheduling for next year. Course selections will be due April 2, 2021.
- On February 1, 2021, 13 courses were submitted for A-G approval. 10 of the courses were approved automatically while three are under review. An additional four courses need to be submitted to make sure all WHS courses are A-G approved.
- Thank you to ASB for working so hard to bring spirit back to campus.
- Thank you to all staff for their hard work.
- ASVAB test will be offered on March 2, 2021.
- 8th grade parent night will be held on March 25, 2021.
- Trying to provide as much of a season as possible for the sports that are currently allowed in the purple tier by CIF and California Department of Public Health. Finalizing schedules for Cross Country and Girls Tennis. Collaborating with athletic directors in Glenn, Butte, Tehama, and Colusa counties as these are the only counties that the athletes will be allowed to play, in an effort to maximize the schedules in our allowable windows.
- One distinct challenge this year is the unusual amount of coaching attrition. Happy to report that some school and district employees have stepped up to fill some of these positions.

WCHS – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- Received three new students from WHS.
- Enrollment is 23, with 2 on long-term independent study.

- Students are working on valentine’s cards for the residents of the Willows Care Center.
 - Five students made the Wall of Fame for the second quarter.
- 4.4 Director of Business Services – Debbie Costello reported:**
- Reviewed some of the items in the governor’s proposed 2021/22 budget.
 - Awaiting further definitions and final allocations information for ESSER II funds (COVID relief).
 - 2020/21 Second Interim budget updates are underway and will be presented at the March board meeting.
 - Working to schedule a Budget Committee meeting for early to mid-March.
 - Evaluating bus routes and Cedar Hills options:
 - 135 WUSD students reside at Cedar Hills
 - 72 attend MES (26 in AM session, 27 in PM session, and 19 on long-term independent study)
 - 26 attend WIS
 - 37 attend WHS
 - Bus capacity challenges, especially during COVID and social distancing requirements.
 - Bus routes will be impacted with delays for subsequent stops – possibly 15-20 minutes later.
 - Possible need to add a 3rd bus and driver to provide this service.
 - At Murdock, food service personnel are providing meals to students at the gate instead of transporting all meals to the classroom. Seems to be working much better.
- 4.5 Director of State and Federal Programs – Emmett Koerperich reported:**
- As of today, testing has not been suspended for the 2020/21 school year.
 - Tentative schedule for testing will be as follows:
 - Murdock: TBD – possibly the end of April through May
 - WIS: April 26 – May 21
 - WHS/WCHS: April 19 – May 14
- 4.6 Superintendent – Emmett Koerperich reported:**
- The COVID-19 Safety Plan (CSP) has been posted on the district website. It consists of two parts:
 - Cal/OSHA COVID-19 Prevention Plan (CPP)
 - COVID-19 School Guidance Checklist
 - Northern Valley Indian Health has offered the COVID-19 vaccine for educators in Glenn County as part of the Tier 1B COVID-19 vaccine distribution. An email went out district-wide on how employees can sign up.
 - The iWave ion generators have been installed at WIS, WHS and WCHS. The District Office and MES will be completed within the next few weeks.
 - MES is gathering information for a property loss notification to submit to Golden State Risk Management Authority regarding the items stolen from the MES Office. The crime is still under investigation but officers have concrete leads and are making progress.
 - Had a phone conversation with Chris DeLong, our school facilities consultant. We reviewed the summary of the application for state school facility grants and will need to review the Facilities Master Plan to prioritize future projects. Hoping funds will become available in the Spring of 2022.
 - Will be attending the CIF President’s Advisory Committee meeting and the Federated Council Meeting.
 - Recognizes the efforts of all the employees in the district that continue to make in-person instruction and learning happen for students.
- 4.7 Board of Education Members**
- Lourdes Ruiz reported:**
- Enjoyed the WHS Boosters tri tip lunch.
 - Thank you to all staff for doing a great job.
- Michelle Knight reported:**
- Children’s Interagency Coordinating Council (CICC) is providing free suicide intervention training for any staff member. They are also working on brochures that provide information on programs and resources available in our community for suicide prevention, mental health, alcohol, etc. They will be placed in the bathrooms at the schools.
- Alex Parisio reported:**
- Wants students back full time at all the school sites.
 - Hoping athletics can resume this spring.
 - Providing a bus stop at Cedar Hills is a good idea, but we need to make sure the kids get on the bus.
- Gina Taylor reported:** No report

Jeromy Geiger reported:

- Need to get all students back in school.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. Accept donation from Cal Water in the amount of \$500.00 to Elizabeth Malagon’s class for the Cal Water Challenge.
2. Accept donation from BJ Boyd in the amount of \$336.48 for Willows High School.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Approve Interdistrict Request for Students #21-22-1 through #21-22-4 to attend school in another district for the 2021/22 school year.
2. Approve the Spring 2021 Butte College Concurrent Enrollment for WHS Students.
3. Approve the 2020/21 CARS (Consolidated Application and Reporting System) Winter Collection.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Approve the employment of Sheyenne Munguia, After School Program Activity Assistant (3.9 hrs/day), effective January 19, 2021.
2. Approve the employment of Emily Silva, After School Program Activity Assistant (3.9 hrs/day), effective February 8, 2021.
3. Accept the resignation of Laura Pedro, Yard Duty Supervisor/Crossing Guard at MES, effective January 22, 2021.
4. Accept the resignation of Kaitlyn Swihart, After School Program Coordinator, effective February 9, 2021.
5. Approve the Classified Substitute List.
6. Approve the following WHS Sports Coaches for the 2020/21 school year:
JV Football Head Coach Andrew Lederer
Varsity Girls Tennis Head Coach Kendall Enns Smith

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. Approve budget revision summary.
2. Approve warrants from 12/30/20 through 1/27/21.
3. Approve ASB Quarterly Reports – MES/WIS/WHS.

Alex Parisio moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Consent Calendar.

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

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

6. DISCUSSION/ACTION CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2020-21-06, Board Member Compensation.
Alex Parisio moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve Resolution #2020-21-06, Board Member Compensation.

AYES: Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: Geiger

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. **(Action)** Approve Waiving the Student Portfolio Requirement in Board Policy 6146.1 High School Graduation Requirements for the Graduating Class of 2021 due to COVID-19.
Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve Waiving the Student Portfolio Requirement in Board Policy 6146.1 High School Graduation Requirements for the Graduating Class of 2021 due to COVID-19.

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

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. **(Action)** Approve Agreement with Rainforth Grau Architects for Architectural Services for the Security Fencing at Murdock Elementary School.

Michelle Knight moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the agreement with Rainforth Grau Architects for Architectural Services for the Security Fencing at Murdock Elementary School.

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

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

2. **(Action)** Approve Agreement with Rainforth Grau Architects for Architectural Services for the Willows Intermediate School Gym HVAC Replacement.

Michelle Knight moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the agreement with Rainforth Grau Architects for Architectural Services for the Willows Intermediate School Gym HVAC Replacement.

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

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

7.1 February 15th and 16th will be district-wide non-school days.

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

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

At 8:16 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 8:28 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 §54957: Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release.

10. **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

10.1 Announcement of Action Taken in Closed Session.

At 9:28 p.m., the meeting reconvened to Open Session. President Geiger reported out:

Item 9.1: Update given to the Board.

Item 9.2: Direction given to the Superintendent.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 9:29 p.m.