

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting – March 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, Lourdes Ruiz, and Gina Taylor. Members absent: Michelle Knight and Alex Parisio
- 1.2 Welcome to Visitors
- 1.3 Flag Salute was led by Maddy Nissen.

2. AGENDA/MINUTES

- 2.1 Approve the Agenda for March 4, 2021.
Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the Agenda for March 4, 2021.
AYES: Geiger, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: Knight and Parisio
MOTION PASSED: 3-0-2
- 2.2 Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 4, 2021.
Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the Minutes of the Regular meeting of February 4, 2021.
AYES: Geiger, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: Knight and Parisio
MOTION PASSED: 3-0-2

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

4. REPORTS

4.1 Employee Associations (WUTA & CSEA)

WUTA – President Cathy Fleming reported:

- Continuing to work on the school reopening MOU with the District.
- The 2021/22 certificated/student calendar is on the agenda for approval. Will be finalizing the 2022/23 certificated/student calendar for approval in April.

CSEA – President Kathleen Morrison reported:

- Fundraiser will be held at Round Table on March 10, 2021. Money will be for WHS Seniors scholarships.
- Next chapter meeting will be March 18, 2021.
- Debbie Costello came to the last chapter meeting and discussed the Summer Assistance program for qualifying classified employees.
- Getting ready for Murdock full reopening.
- Dorene Hickman has been selected as member of the year for the Willows chapter.

4.2 Associated Student Body Report – President Maddy Nissen reported:

- Homecoming was a success, with five spirit days, and the Honker band performing. Homecoming court conducted and put together a rally via a video that was shown to all classes on campus. Jaime Medina and Kendra Sanchez were crowned homecoming king and queen.
- Planning a St. Patrick’s Day lucky “grams” where students can send a sweet note to their friends.
- Sadie Hawkins dance will be held on March 26, 2021.
- Prom will be held on April 24, 2021 at “The Meadows”.
- Kindness Week will be April 19-23, 2021, with several activities being planned.
- Planning another homecoming in the month of May.
- Hoping to schedule a drive-in movie night in May.

4.3 Principals**WCHS – Emmett Koerperich reported:**

- Enrollment is 22 students, with two on long-term independent study.
- Teachers have implemented a plan to address the issue of fulfilling elective requirements for graduation.
- One student has completed all of the registration paperwork and applied for financial aid to attend Butte College in the fall.
- Five students have made the “Wall of Fame” for the second quarter, and will have donuts and hot chocolate with the principal on March 5, 2021.

WHS – David Johnstone reported:

- Homecoming was a huge success.
- Honker Band marched over to Glenn Medical Center on February 17, 2021 and played for patients and staff.
- Total enrollment is 475, which includes Glenn County Office of Education students. WUSD enrollment is 453.
- 22 students took the ASVAB aptitude assessment on March 3, 2021.
- Working on next year’s master schedule and student course selections. Counselor will be visiting WIS and Walden’s 8th grade classes. Incoming freshman parent night will be on March 25, 2021.
- Gearing up for the FFA Livestock show in May. FFA had 13 students receive State Degrees.
- FCCLA members celebrated FCCLA Week.
- Brandon McCorkle and Steve Scalvini attended the Butte County forklift training of trainers for student certification. They are certified forklift trainers.
- WASC visit will be held March 22-23, 2021.
- David Johnstone, Greg Kitchen, and Emmett Koerperich are participating in the NorCal ELC Regional PLC team where the focus is data. Staff is looking at grading practices and developing an advisory period in the bell schedule for 2021/22.
- Scholarship night will be held on May 26, 2021 on the football field.
- Prom and Sober Grad will be held at “The Meadows”.
- Thank you to Murdock for allowing WHS child development students wishing to pursue a career in teaching.
- Planning for graduation, with keeping safety in mind.
- Greg Kitchen, Athletic Director reported:
 - Matt Garcia has been the #1 men’s cross-country runner in all of our “league” meets.
 - Leslie Zepeda has been a standout for the women’s circuit throughout the brief season.
 - Lexi Velazquez won her first tennis match against the #1 player from Paradise.
 - Looking forward to the next phase of athletics, which includes boys’ tennis, track, swimming, baseball, and softball.
 - Made the difficult decision to cancel football, because not enough students signed up or cleared to field even one team.
 - Boys and girls soccer are also struggling to field teams.
 - Working on a plan to reach students regarding sign ups/clearances before they get to WHS.

WIS – Steve Sailsbery reported:

- Third quarter progress reports went out on February 19, 2021 via the parent portal.
- Completed Grade Level Review Team meetings for all students who attend school in person. Will be meeting regarding all long-term independent study students.
- LEAP activities are up and running to include inside and outside activities.
- PTO meeting was held on March 4, 2021, with new parents attending. 4.0 students will be treated to a taco lunch on March 19, 2021. PTO is pursuing the purchase of a new marquee and repainting the cardinal on the WIS Gym. Poker Night fundraiser will be held on April 18 or May 2.
- 8th grade parent meeting was held, and items discussed were graduation and end of year activities.
- Enrollment is 291, with 64 on long-term independent study.
- Thank you to all staff who have worked hard to make this school year happen.

MES – Shirley Williams reported:

- Preparing for a full reopening on March 15, 2021.
- March 1-5 is Read Across America Week. Students have been participating in dress down days to celebrate reading.

- TK/K registration took place throughout the entire month of February. 48 new students have signed up (37 K and 11 TK). We have 20 current TK students who will roll up to the kindergarten next year.
- Testing calendar is ready.
- Hired Kaitlyn Swihart as a temporary instructional aide. Also hired Tom LeRossignol as a temporary independent study teacher to allow Amy Street to return to Music.
- Enrollment is 580 students, with 101 on long-term independent study. 35 will return to campus when school reopens. 66 will continue with long-term independent study.

4.4 Director of Business Services – Debbie Costello reported:

- More details continue to emerge related to the Governor’s January budget proposal for 2021/22. Changes are expected between now and May revise but economic forecasts portray a much more stable economy than was anticipated 6 months ago.
- The Federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA) package that was approved in December will provide additional resources to address the impact of COVID-19.
 - Current projections indicate that WUSD will receive \$1,086,904 in ESSER II funding.
 - Additional allocations under CRRSA will be forthcoming via the GEER II (Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund) program, though projections are not yet available.
 - In addition to the allowable uses for previously received CARES/ESSER, specific activities related to facilities work that directly mitigates risk of virus transmission.
- Under a recent compromise plan between the Governor and Legislature to provide resources for reopening California schools, now called the In-Person Instruction and Expanded Learning Opportunity Grants, WUSD will receive a projected \$1,119,520.
 - Broad allowable uses for the majority of these funds include:
 - Supplemental instruction
 - Support for social and emotional wellbeing
 - Funds will be available for expenditure through August 31, 2022
- A 3rd bus route has been finalized for Cedar Hills which is expected to start on March 15, 2021, pending driver availability.
- With Murdock’s return to a full day schedule on March 15, 2021, breakfast will be served before school in the cafeteria and at outdoor tables. Lunch periods have been modified and lunch will also be served in the cafeteria and at outdoor tables.

4.5 Director of State and Federal Programs – No report**4.6 Superintendent – Emmett Koerperich reported:**

- Meeting with Jeff Grau, architect with Rainforth, Grau Architects, to review options for the fencing project at MES as well as options for replacing the HVAC system for the gym at WIS.
- All iWave ion generators have been installed throughout the district.
- Two wall mounted HVAC units will be installed at WCHS on March 11, 2021.
- The person responsible for the break in and theft at Murdock was arrested and confessed to several crimes. Continuing to work with law enforcement and Golden State Risk Management Authority on recovery of stolen property and compensation for property loss.
- A major topic of the latest management team meeting was finishing the school year strong. Finding ways to celebrate the successes with staff and students is important considering the challenging year.
- Enjoyed participating in a Read Across America video project spearheaded by Amy Street by recording the story “Harry the Dirty Dog”.

4.7 Board of Education Members**Lourdes Ruiz reported:**

- Excited that sports are coming back.
- Happy with how WHS handled the notification process for a potential COVID exposure.

Gina Taylor reported:

- Exciting to hear and see students having activities outside of the normal school day. Thank you to everyone involved to make that happen.
- Glad to see Murdock will be opening up to full time in-person instruction.
- Was able to see the Homecoming activities, including seeing the band play.
- Thank you to staff for the hard work during the school year.

Jeromy Geiger reported:

- Nice to see students to getting back to something normal with sports, band, or FFA.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Approve Interdistrict Requests for Students #20-21-37 through #20-21-42 to attend school in the Willows Unified School District for the 2020/21 school year.
2. Approve Interdistrict Requests for Students #20-21-35 through #20-21-39 to attend school in another district for the 2020/21 school year
3. Approve Interdistrict Requests for Student #21-22-1 to attend school the Willows Unified School District for the 2021/22 school year.
4. Approve Interdistrict Request for Student #21-22-5 to attend school in another district for the 2021/22 school year.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Approve the employment of Kaitlyn Swihart, Temporary/Short-Term Instructional Aide I @ MES (3.9 hrs/day), effective March 1, 2021 through June 11, 2021.
2. Approve the employment of Karen Carney, Temporary/Short-Term Cafeteria Helper II (6 hrs/day), effective March 8, 2021 through June 11, 2021, pending clearance.
3. Approve the employment of Thomas Le Rossignol, Temporary MES Independent Study Teacher, effective March 8, 2021 through June 11, 2021.
4. Approve resignation of Shirley Williams, MES Principal, effective June 30, 2021.
5. Approve the Classified Substitute List.
6. Approve the employment of the following extra duty assignments at WIS for the 2020/21 school year:
Lunch Exercise and Activity Program (LEAP) Katie Donovan and Maria Briones
7. Approve the following coaches for the 2020/21 school year:

Varsity Baseball Head Coach	Mike Rakestraw
JV Baseball Head Coach	Loren Chapman
Baseball Volunteer Coach	Darren Reed
Baseball Volunteer Coach	Kyle Enos
Varsity Softball – Head Coach	Jose Cano
JV Softball – Head Coach	Kristi Hill
Boys Track Head Coach	Mike Biggs
Girls Track Head Coach	Robert Stupey
Boys Tennis Head Coach	Hunter Thompson
Volunteer Tennis Coach	Manny Lederer

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. Approve budget revision summary.
2. Approve warrants from 2/3/21 through 2/24/21.

Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Consent Calendar.

AYES: Geiger, Ruiz, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Knight and Parisio

MOTION PASSED: 3-0-2

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 3280	Sale or Lease of District-Owned Real Property
BP 3530	Risk Management/Insurance
BP 4157	Employee Safety
BP 5113.1	Chronic Absence and Truancy
BP 6161.1	Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials
E 9323.2	Actions by the Board

Information only – no action taken.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. **(Action)** Approve the Certificated/Student Calendar for the 2021/22 School Year.
Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the Certificated/Student Calendar for the 2021/22 School Year.

AYES: Geiger, Ruiz, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Knight and Parisio

MOTION PASSED: 3-0-2

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. **(Action)** Approve 2020/21 Second Interim Report.
Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the 2020/21 Second Interim Report.

AYES: Geiger, Ruiz, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Knight and Parisio

MOTION PASSED: 3-0-2

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

7.1 The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on April 1, 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 8:09 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 8:56 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 8:57 p.m.