

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting – April 1, 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 Jeromy Geiger.

2. AGENDA/MINUTES

- 2.1 Approve the Agenda for April 1, 2021.
Michelle Knight moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the Agenda for April 1, 2021.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
- 2.2 Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 4, 2021.
Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 4, 2021.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

4. REPORTS

4.1 Employee Associations (WUTA & CSEA)

WUTA – President Cathy Fleming reported:

- MES teachers and students are happy to be back in session full time. Teachers did appreciate the smaller class sizes to start the year off to help with learning loss, but they are happy to be back all day.
- WIS teachers are starting interventions this spring, trying to fill in the gaps with student learning. Math and English teachers are preparing for the state testing.
- WHS student teachers are so grateful to be in person. Math and English teachers are preparing for state testing. The number of 9th grade English students who were failing English has been reduced by 40%. English is happy to welcome the new English teacher.
- Possibility that many 5th grade Walden students will come to WIS next year. District is considering dropping to three 6th grade teachers for the 2021/22 school year. Hope 6th grade can be left at four classes to keep the class sizes smaller.

CSEA – No report

4.2 Associated Student Body Report – No report

4.3 Principals

WHS – David Johnstone reported:

- Total district enrollment at WHS is 454, with 48 on long-term independent study.
- Incoming 2021/22 9th grade class enrollment is 95 from WIS and 10 from Walden.
- Counselors are working on student course requests and plan to have the master schedule completed by the end of April.
- WASC visit was successful, and the team presented its summary and forwarded the report off for accreditation review.
- WHS Kindness Week is this week, and students are really getting in the spirit.

- Gear Up Coordinator, Jose Cano, is working with the freshman class and has already made a big impact with some freshman students.
- Honker Band is planning two performances this spring:
 - April 22, 2021, 5:30-6:30 – Wind Ensemble plus Young Alumni "Concert-in-the-Park"
 - May 27, 2021, 6:00-7:30 – Spring Concert - Concert Band, Wind Ensemble, & Fully-Combined Honker Band
- Autism Awareness Day is April 2, 2021.
- State testing will begin on April 19, 2021.
- Prom is scheduled for April 24, 2021.
- Scholarship Night will be held on May 26, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the WHS Gym.
- Cross Country finished the season with all athletes setting personal records. Mathew Garcia took place in both league and division.
- Girls Tennis has done very well, with Lexi Velazquez and Araceli Jauregui winning every match.
- Girls Soccer has begun. Boys Tennis, Baseball, and Softball will start in April. Swimming and Track will start in May.

WIS – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- 3rd quarter report cards will be going out through the parent portal on April 2, 2021.
- WIS is working with GCOE to incorporate learning loss classes for English and math as part of the Expect Success Camp this summer. Students will be identified and invited using prioritized lists from teachers.
- Interventions will be starting, with students being invited using prioritized lists from teachers.
- Willows Cardinals Boosters is sponsoring after school intramurals in basketball, volleyball, swimming, and soccer. They will begin after spring break.
- 8th grade parents are moving forward with planning a graduation to be held on June 10, 2021 on the WHS Football Field.
- Current enrollment is 292, with 48 on long-term independent study.

MES – No report**WCHS – Emmett Koerperich reported:**

- Current enrollment is 17 students.
- State testing will be May 4-6, 2021.
- Meeting with military recruiters and inviting them to make presentations in the classroom.
- ASVAB test will be provided to students.
- Discussed career readiness for students at a recent staff meeting.
- Due to COVID, the various gatherings during the year such as barbecues, Thanksgiving feast, and pancake breakfasts have been missed. These are opportune times to make connections. Hoping to bring something back this spring.

4.4 Director of Business Services – Debbie Costello reported:

- Filing an audit extension, so hope to bring the audit report to the May board meeting.
- Information is still forthcoming on the latest round of federal stimulus money. State school reopening money is projected to be approximately \$1.5 million and have specific targets for the use. A plan for its use will need to be approved by the board.
- Working on LCAP and budget development.
- State extended the COVID-19 supplemental paid sick leave, similar to the federal leave, retroactive from January 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021.

4.5 Director of State and Federal Programs – Debbie Costello reported:

- State testing will begin in April. Districts were given the option to test the students either with the Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments (SBAC) as we've used in the past, or another diagnostic, benchmark, or interim assessment that meet specific criteria from the state. WUSD has decided to continue to test students using SBAC as there are more benefits for students and the district.
- Results for testing this year will be used to inform local educators and parents as well as align resources for student supports.
- The State will waive federal penalties for student testing participation rates of less than 95% on the state's SBAC English Language Arts and Math assessments.
- The window has been extended to July 30, 2021 by which schools must complete test administration of the English Language Assessments for California (ELPAC), which measures English learners' progress toward language proficiency and for SBAC assessments, as applicable.

- Administration of the science tests have been waived altogether for 2021.
- California Department of Education is working with the State Legislature to align federal and state accountability requirements.

4.6 Superintendent – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- Working with the Murdock and WIS PTOs to purchase electronic marquees for each school.
- Over spring break, maintenance will be mounting TVs at MES and changing filters throughout the district.
- Distributed and went over information from the 2019 WUSD California Dashboard along with some potential LCAP goals for 2021.

4.7 Board of Education Members

Lourdes Ruiz reported:

- Assisted with driving the soccer team to their first game. Athletes had a good time.
- Participated in the MES Principal interviews.

Michelle Knight reported:

- Continue to be aware of students’ mental health status and provide resources for them.
- Local Mental Health received funding, so there may be some services available to students.

Alex Parisio reported:

- Happy to see students participating in sports and interacting with their peers.
- Glad to see some money coming from the state and federal government. Need to be cautious with one-time funds.
- Glad to see all students back to full time, in person instruction.

Gina Taylor reported:

- Attended the Golden State Risk Management Authority board meeting in March.
- Attended the WASC review at WHS.
- Excited to look forward and talk about student learning.
- Happy to see all the students participating in sports.

Jeremy Geiger reported:

- Attended the WASC review at WHS.
- Great to see our students doing sports.
- Happy to see MES back to full time.
- Thank you to all staff for working so hard, so schools can stay open.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Approve Interdistrict Requests for Students #20-21-43 through #20-21-44 to attend school in the Willows Unified School District for the 2020/21 school year.
2. Approve Interdistrict Requests for Students #20-21-40 through #20-21-44 to attend school in another district for the 2020/21 school year.
3. Approve Interdistrict Requests for Students #21-22-2 through #21-22-6 to attend school in the Willows Unified School District for the 2021/22 school year.
4. Approve Interdistrict Requests for Students #21-22-6 through #21-22-10 to attend school in another district for the 2021/22 school year.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Approve employment of Deborah Zimmerman, Temporary Independent Study Teacher at WIS, effective March 10, 2021.
2. Approve employment of Claudia Arciga, MES Yard Duty Supervisor/Crossing Guard (3.9 hrs/day), effective March 10, 2021.
3. Approve the employment of Elizabeth Rodriguez, Temporary/Short-Term Custodian (8 hrs/day), effective March 12, 2021 through June 11, 2021.
4. Approve the employment of Rebeka Mercado, MES Yard Duty Supervisor/Crossing Guard (3.9 hrs/day), effective March 29, 2021.
5. Approve employment of Julia Reilley, WHS Summer School Distance Learning teacher (20 days), effective June 21, 2021.

6. Approve employment of Nicholle Schmidt, WHS Teacher, effective August 11, 2021.
7. Approve resignation of Glenda Priscilla Mora, Cafeteria Helper I, effective March 4, 2021.
8. Approve resignation of Sue Borjas, Cafeteria Helper I, effective June 11, 2021.
9. Approve resignation of Abigail Ott, WHS Teacher, effective June 11, 2021.
10. Approve resignation of Lucas Arnese, WHS Teacher, effective June 11, 2021.

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

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

Jeromy Geiger 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. **(Discussion/Possible Action)** Review the Proposals and Cost Estimates for the Murdock Fence Project. Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Alex Parisio to approve the construction of the ornamental fencing at Murdock Elementary School based on the preliminary cost estimate of \$221,148.00.

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

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

2. **(Discussion/Possible Action)** Review the Proposal and Cost Estimate for the WIS Gym HVAC System Replacement.

Michelle Knight moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the installation of new HVAC air conditioning units in the Willows Intermediate School Gym based on the preliminary cost estimate of \$186,203.00.

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

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

3. **(Action)** Second 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

Alex Parisio moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the additions/deletions/changes to Board Policies per CSBA's Policy Guidesheet Recommendations.

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

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

4. **(Information/Discussion)** Williams Uniform Complaints Quarterly Report. (There were no complaints) – Information only – no action taken.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. **(Action)** Approve the After School Program Coordinator and After School Program Activity Assistant Job Descriptions.

Michelle Knight moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the After School Program Coordinator and After School Program Activity Assistant Job Descriptions.

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

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

7.1 WHS Wind Ensemble/Young Alumni “Concert in the Park” will be held on April 22, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

7.2 The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on May 6, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

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

At 8:17 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 8:23 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 §48915: Recommendation for Student Expulsion #2020-21-02.

10. **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

10.1 Announcement of Action Taken in Closed Session.

At 8:49 p.m., the meeting reconvened to Open Session. President Geiger reported out:

Item 9.1: Update given to the Board.

Item 9.2: Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Michelle Knight to approve the expulsion of student #2020-21-02 to enroll at William Finch Charter School through the fall semester of the 2021/22 school year.

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

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.