

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting – June 15, 2023

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 Jeromy Geiger called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Jeromy Geiger, Kirsten Gray, Margaret Parisio, and Gina Taylor. Lourdes Ruiz was absent.

1.2 Welcome Visitors

1.3 Flag Salute led by Julie Carriere

2. AGENDA/MINUTES

2.1 Approve the Agenda for June 15, 2023.

Jeromy Geiger added action item B.1.a. to the agenda to approve the Local Control Indicators for the California School Dashboard which is an element of the LCAP on the agenda.

Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Agenda for June 15, 2023.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ruiz

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

2.2 Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 5, 2023.

Jeromy Geiger stated that there is a typo on the agenda for the date of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting in May. It should be May 4, 2023.

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 4, 2023.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ruiz

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

3. RECOGNITION OF RETIREES

3.1 SHARON BUSLER

3.2 JULIE SOETH

3.3 NO YING THOR

Mrs. Busler, Mrs. Soeth and Mr. Thor were not present. Mrs. Busler and Mrs. Soeth each had 20 years of service and Mr. Thor had 31 years of service. Board members shared their appreciation for their years of service to WUSD.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Crystal Ferrer, the Labor Relations Representative for the California School Employees Association from the Sacramento Field Office spoke in regards to ongoing negotiations between the Unit and Willows Unified School District.

5. REPORTS

5.1 Employee Associations (WUTA & CSEA)

WUTA - No Report.

CSEA – Kathleen Morrison reported. Thank you to the members who were on the Educators Hall of Fame Committee. Last meeting was held during Classified Employees Week at Jensen Park. Family members joined and delicious food was enjoyed by all. Everyone who attended received a gift, card, or prize. CSEA awarded

a scholarship to two graduating seniors at the Scholarship Awards Night. Kathleen read an essay from one of the scholarship applicants talking about Classified Members and how important they are to the school and the students' education.

Kathleen read a document in regards to ongoing negotiations between the unit and the District, the cost of health benefits, all of the new items that have been added such as backpack racks, lighting over water fountains that attract bugs, etc., that affect the amount of work required to clean and maintain. Thank you to all the secretaries at the sites that speak Spanish and what a help that is. The greatest population in our district is Spanish speaking and it's a huge help.

Kathleen read another essay from a scholarship applicant.

Kathleen spoke about the increase in the number of classified jobs and how good that is especially the instructional aides and how much that helps the students.

5.2 Principals

MES-Miguel Barriga reported:

- All of the K-3 teachers have completed a week-long course on teaching reading, the IMSE (Institute of Multisensory Education).
- Look forward to supporting the 5th grade through the Project ARISE work with GCOE.
- The whole Murdock staff has been instrumental in making positive changes happen by taking leadership roles and accepting greater responsibility, and maintaining a positive growth mindset.
- Identified and reclassified double from last year the number of English Learner students.
- The ELA achievement data using DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) shows significant growth in every grade level.
- The Nor Cal ELC (Educational Leadership Consortium) group is finishing the year with a two-day institute in conjunction with Chico State.
- The staff has examined the teacher to student connections with the intent of creating a more inviting classroom and school.
- It has been an exceptional year for partnering. Mr. Barriga is grateful for our parent engagement team, GCOE, PTO and other partnerships.
- There have been many events since the last board meeting to include Open House, Book Fair, a farewell party for retirees, a staff no limit taco lunch, the Healthy Me Jubilee, the find the ducks staff week, the alphabet countdown dress up days, the caller trivia for ice cream, and being the first to complete SBAC testing.
- Finished the year with 610 students.

WIS – No Report.

WHS – Julie Carriere reported:

- Celebrated Teacher Appreciation Week each day with something small – a vase of flowers, thank you cards, a picture, donuts, and a dress up day.
- The WHS Band marched in the Lamb Derby Parade and hosted a joint WIS/WHS Spring concert that was enjoyed by all.
- Survived fair week with over 150 students participating. The students did very well with their projects.
- The Key Club had three successful blood drives this year.
- The Scholarship Night handed out over \$100,000 to our seniors with over 50 community members, service organizations, staff organizations and alumni presenting.
- Implemented a Senior Awards assembly and honored Senior students in every subject area.
- Hired a new Varsity Football Coach, Paul Adams. Looking forward to a successful season.
- Summer conditioning for football, volleyball and cheer are ongoing.
- Graduation went smoothly.
- Introduced MTSF training to teachers at the final staff meeting.
- Still in need of teachers – Art, English and Science.
- The Football program is hosting a Poker Night- Texas Hold 'em tournament at the Hernandez Building on Yolo Street this Saturday night.
- **WHS Athletics - Julie Carriere reported:**
 - Baseball were section quarterfinalists.
 - Coach Buck has resigned as Varsity Baseball Coach
 - Boys tennis were league champions.
 - Coach Thompson has resigned as the boys' tennis coach

- Track and Field were league champions in the boys varsity division.
- Golf finished as a runner up for a league championship.
- Softball finished as a runner up for a league championship.

WCHS – Mr. Koerperich reported:

- Graduation last week was awesome. A great job was done by Liz Beck, Maria Garcia and Bibi McNeal of organizing the event. Mr. Rawles’ speech as personalized and included every student by name.
- Last day of School Pot Luck BBQ and taco lunch was fun.
- Mr. Rawles is moving to WHS next year.

5.3 Director of Business Services - Debbie Costello reported:

- The Willows Unified proposed 2023/24 budget is on the agenda for approval.
- Had follow-up conversations with Shin Green of Eastshore Consulting to fine-tune the timeline for potential issuance of a COP (Certificate of Participation) to facilitate additional funding for future projects.
- Wrapping up data collection with Interwest to solicit proposals for alternative health insurance coverage options. Must notify CVT by August 1st if a change will be made.
- The Business Office will be busy this summer closing out 2022/23 and prepping for the 2023/24 school year.
- The punch walk has been completed for the WHS Kitchen & Staff Room Modernization project. A date will be scheduled in early August for an open house/ribbon cutting ceremony.
- We have now transitioned to the Summer Food Service Program in partnership with Butte COE.
- BCM Construction is making good progress on the kitchen project at Murdock.
- Started summer deferred maintenance projects.
- Cal Shape opened the window for replacement funding of up to \$2 million for replacing HVAC units.

5.4 Director of Instructional Support Services-Michelle O’Dell reported:

- SPARK
 - The After School Program finished the year strong. Had celebrations for the junior staffers and the SPARKlers of the quarter.
 - 2023-24 registration is still open. We currently have 167 applicants.
- Expect Success Summer Camp
 - Registration is currently 194.
 - Thank you to Debbie Costello and Nekki Batemen for rushing requisitions and orders to meet the increase in enrollment.
 - Thank you to the Food Service, Maintenance, and Custodial teams for their help.
 - The camp counselors received PE and Skillastics training.
 - New MathCamp and LitCamp curriculum for the teachers
- Engagment Team
 - Hosted their first Cinco de Mayo celebration.
 - Working on planning the Multi-Cultural Event in the Fall.
 - Helped with the first day of summer camp.
 - Starting to learn more about the Community Schools initiative which encourages schools to partner with community agencies and local government to improve student outcomes.

5.5 Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment-Scott Booth reported:

- CALPADS end of year is underway with a deadline of July 28th.
- Just completed the CARS/ConApp Winter reporting),
- Preparing for the Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC)
- Wrapping up the 2023/24 LCAP season.
- Completed the introductory training for McGraw Hill Science at Murdock. More in-depth training to come on August 8, 2023.
- The last Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Advisory (CIA) meeting was held on May 11th.
- Test completion rates were given for each site.
- Score reports should be coming through the TOMS system in July.

5.6 Superintendent-Emmett Koerperich reported:

- Exciting news – the High School kitchen should be ready to serve meals next Friday.
- The WIS projects are now back on schedule.

- We will have two recommendations from our Architect next week for the proposed Ag facility on the WHS campus.
- Visited a potential site option for the Ag facility with the Architect and Debbie Costello.
- Met with a representative from SitelogiQ. Considering using their services to evaluate our energy usage and develop a long-term energy savings plan.
- It has been a good year. There are a lot of things to be proud of in the District this year. Proud of the Certificated and Classified efforts to continue to make this District better. Looking forward to some summer time off.

5.7 Board of Education Members

Kirsten Gray reported:

- Attended the fair. Thought we were well represented by FFA and 4H.
- Attended the Murdock last day of school BBQ. Helped serve all of the students.
- Attended WIS and WHS graduation ceremonies.
- Thanked the retirees for their service.

Margaret Parisio reported:

- Attended the concert and was impressed with the Band.
- Attended all three of the graduation ceremonies – WIS, WHS, and WCHS.
- Helped serve breakfast and lunch with Kirsten. They served 400 plus lunches.
- Attended the fair. Students were impressive with their showmanship and care of their animals.
- Congratulated the retirees.

Gina Taylor reported:

- Congratulated everyone on a successful school year.
- Encouraged everyone to rest and reflect to get ready for the challenges of the new school year.
- Attended all three of the graduations – WIS, WHS, WCHS.
- Thanked everyone for their hard work and to enjoy the summer.

Jeromy Geiger reported:

- Attended the fair and participated in the auction.
- A privilege to shake hands with the graduates as they come off the stage at graduation.
- A personal thank you to each and every staff member.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. Accept donation from McCorkle Farms in the amount of \$250.00 for the WHS Trap Club.
2. Accept donation from Regenald Michaud Aviation in the amount of \$650.00 for the WHS Trap Club.
3. Accept donation from Gandy & Staley Oil Company in the amount of \$300.00 for the WHS Trap Club.
4. Accept donation from the WHS Boosters in the amount of \$4,500.00 for the Multi-Cultural Event for next school year.
5. Approve the WUSD Obsolete Technology Equipment list.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Approve Interdistrict Requests for Students #23-24-14 through #23-24-18 to attend school in another district for the 2023/24 school year.
2. Approve the Overnight Field Trip Request for the WHS FCCLA to attend the Region Officer Leadership Training in Fresno July 24-27, 2023.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Accept resignation of Hunter Thompson, Head Boys Tennis Coach, effective May 9, 2023.
2. Accept resignation of Bryan Buck, WHS Teacher, effective June 9, 2023.
3. Accept resignation of Meghan Cohan, MES Instructional Aide I, June 9, 2023.
4. Accept resignation of Claudia Cruz, WHS Teacher, effective June 9, 2023.
5. Accept resignation of Daniel Domenighini, WIS/WHS Teacher, effective June 9, 2023.
6. Accept resignation of Briar Fleming, MES Yard Duty Supervisor/Crossing Guard, effective June 9, 2023.
7. Accept resignation of Caleb Fleming, WHS Teacher, effective June 9, 2023.
8. Accept resignation of LaDeana Luster, MES Teacher, effective June 9, 2023.
9. Accept resignation of Leah Nunes, WHS Teacher, effective June 9, 2023.
10. Accept resignation of Katie Rasmussen, WHS Instructional Aide I, effective June 9, 2023.

11. Accept resignation of Joseph Schantz, WHS Teacher, effective June 9, 2023.
12. Accept resignation of Nicholle Schmidt, WHS Teacher, effective June 9, 2023.
13. Accept resignation of No Ying Thor, MES Instructional Aide II, effective June 9, 2023.
14. Accept resignation of Traci Torres, WHS CTE Teacher, effective June 9, 2023.
15. Accept resignation of Alexandra White, MES Instructional Aide I, effective June 9, 2023.
16. Accept resignation of Alma Pina, WHS Teacher, effective June 23, 2023.
17. Approve employment of Luciano Garcia, Conrad Hoffman, Jesse Lytle, effective June 12, 2023 for Maintenance Department Summer Help.
18. Approve employment for the Summer Food Program staff to be billed to BCOE CalKidz Summer Feeding Program, effective June 12, 2023 through August 4, 2023:
Assistant/Cook Sarah MacDonald
Food Service Assistants Trudy Pimblett, Rosa Gonzalez, Mariah Baker, Cristina Dueñas
19. Approve employment of the following Expect Success Summer Camp positions (22 days, June 12 – July 14):
Administrative Coordinator Stacy Lanzi
Counselor Valeria Chavez
20. Approve employment of Stacy Lanzi, MES Assistant Principal, effective July 1, 2023
21. Approve employment of Matthew Alcina, WHS History/Government Teacher, effective August 8, 2023.
22. Approve employment of Rebecca Ayala, MES Instructional Aide I, effective August 8, 2023.
23. Approve employment of Leeci Camerana, MES Instructional Aide I, effective August 8, 2023.
24. Approve employment of Yesenia Diaz, MES Opportunity Teacher, effective August 8, 2023.
25. Approve appointing Mark Huntley as a Teacher on Special Assignment at WIS for 3 periods (2 periods/1 prep period buy out) - Administrative Coverage Support for the 2023/24 school year.
26. Approve employment of Conrad Nystrom, WIS 6th Grade Teacher, effective August 8, 2023.
27. Approve employment of Ernesto Rodriguez, WHS Spanish Teacher, effective August 8, 2023.
28. Approve employment of Marisa Rodgers, WIS 7/8 Grade Math Teacher, effective August 8, 2023.
29. Approve employment of Aaron Vought, WIS Social Studies Teacher, effective August 8, 2023 (pending clearance).
30. Approve employment of Cathy Yang, MES Instructional Aide II, effective August 8, 2023.
31. Approve the following 2023/24 WHS Fall Coaches:
Varsity Football – Head Coach Paul Adams
Varsity Football – Assistants Andrew Lederer & Zachery Lopeteguy
Varsity Football – Volunteers James O’Reilly, Armando Bautista, Mike Biggs & Bill Vader (pending clearance)

JV Football – Head Coach Juan Puente
JV Football – Assistant Pedro Bobadilla
JV Football – Volunteer Adam Neuhauser, Anthony Arendt, Dave Rieck & Juvenal Sandoval (pending clearance)

Varsity Volleyball – Head Coach Carol Martin
JV Volleyball – Head Coach Kaylin Sheppard (pending clearance)
Varsity Girls Tennis – Head Coach Bibiana McNeil
Varsity Girls Tennis – Volunteer Maria Garcia
Cheerleading – Head Coach Freddy Vargas
Cheerleading – Volunteer Yisel Veloz (pending clearance)
Swimming – Head Coach Patrick Sears
Cross Country – Head Coach Robert Stupey
Cross Country – Volunteer Rachel LaGrande
32. Approve the Classified Substitute List.

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. Approve warrants from 5/2/23 through 6/12/23.

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

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ruiz

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

7. DISCUSSION/ACTION CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. **(Action)** Approve Bob Rawles, Julie Carriere, Anne Stearns, and Emmett Koerperich as California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) League Representatives for the 2023/24 school year.

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve Bob Rawles, Julie Carriere, Anne Stearns, and Emmett Koerperich as California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) League Representatives for the 2023/24 school year.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ruiz

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

2. **(Action)** Second Reading of the following additions/deletions/changes to Board Policies per CSBA’s Policy Guidesheet Recommendations:

BP 0420.4	Charter School Authorization
BP 3555	Nutrition Program Compliance
BP 4030	Nondiscrimination in Employment
BP 4218	Dismissal/Suspension/Disciplinary Action
BP 6146.1	High School Graduation Requirements
BP 6173	Education for Homeless Children
BP 6173.1	Education for Foster Youth
BP 6177	Summer Learning Programs
BB 9270	Conflict of Interest
BB 9320	Meetings & Notices

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve the Second Reading of the following additions/deletions/changes to Board Policies per CSBA’s Policy Guidesheet Recommendations.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ruiz

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

3. **(Action)** Authorize the Superintendent to approve the Agricultural Career Technical Education Incentive Grant 2023/24 Application for Funding upon completion.

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Kirsten Gray to authorize the Superintendent to approve the Agriculture Career Technical Education Incentive Grant 2023/24 Application for Funding upon completion.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ruiz

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

4. **(Action)** Approve the Schedule of WUSD Regular Board Meetings for the 2023/24 school year

Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Schedule of WUSD Regular Board Meetings for the 2023/24 school year.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ruiz

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. **(Action)** Approve the 2023/24 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP).

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Margaret Parisio to approve the 2023/24 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP)

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ruiz

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

- a. **(Action)** Approve the Local Control Indicators for the California School Dashboard

Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Kirsten Gray to approve the Local Control Indicators for the California School Dashboard.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ruiz

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

2. **(Action)** Approve the 2023/24 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Federal Addendum.

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Margaret Parisio to approve the 2023/24 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Federal Addendum.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ruiz

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

3. **(Discussion/Possible Action)** Percentile Ranking for Graduation of WHS for the 2023-24 School Year.

Mr. Koerperich went over the current WUSD Board Policy AR 5127. The issue is the equity of the way our classes are set up. We have weighted classes that the only students who can really compete for valedictorian and salutatorian are the Ag students due to the volume of weighted classes in the Ag department due to dual enrollment. There are a couple of options-dual enrollment, college classes, and advanced placement classes. Currently, several of the Ag classes are dual enrollment so those students receive college credit. The student who takes AP History, AP Literature, pre-calculus, chemistry, and physics are out of the competition even though they take the most rigorous course of study. The recommendation is to phase out the title of valedictorian and salutatorian with the incoming class of 2027 and move towards decile ranking immediately. Next year's Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors will continue to compete for valedictorian and salutatorian but will also be recognized as being in the top 10% of the class. Next year, the students taking the AP classes could be recognized as rank #1 and be in the top 10%. These students would be recognized as honor graduates and would sit in the front row along with the valedictorian and salutatorian. Mr. Koerperich's recommendation would be to move towards the same language in the Board Policy as Chico Unified School District and Shasta Union High School District, which reads that the superintendent or designee may identify school sponsored awards which may be given at graduation exercises and separate awards to recognize graduating students receiving other school and non-school awards. That would allow us to do the decile ranking and we could put that into place in our AR 5127. Mr. Geiger stated that this would be helpful for student entrance into the CSU and UC systems as the #1 ranked students get first consideration. There was further discussion about graduation speeches and identification of valedictorian and salutatorian and the benefits of decile ranking. The class of 2024 would have the top 10% and have the class rank of #1 and still have the class valedictorian and salutatorian until the class of 2027.

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Jeremy Geiger to eliminate the valedictorian and salutatorian recognition for the class of 2027 and immediately implement decile ranking to recognize the top 10% as honor graduates and receive a class rank of #1.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ruiz

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. **(Action)** Approve the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators for the 2023/24 school year.

Jeremy Geiger moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators for the 2023/24 school year.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ruiz

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

2. **Public Hearing:** In accordance with Government Code §3547, a Public Hearing will be held at this time to allow for public input regarding the Initial Proposal from the Willows Unified Teachers Association (WUTA) to the Willows Unified School District (WUSD) for the 2023/24 school year.

President Geiger opened the Public Hearing at 8:21 p.m.

No Comments

President Geiger closed the Public Hearing at 8:22 p.m.

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2022-23-10 and the 2023/24 Spending Plan for the Education Protection Account.
Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Margaret Parisio to approve Resolution #2022-23-10 and the 2023/24 Spending Plan for the Education Protection Account. (Roll call vote was taken.)
AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, and Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: Ruiz
MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1
2. **(Action)** Approve the Willows Unified School District’s 2023/24 Original Budget.
Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Margaret Parisio to approve the Willows Unified School District’s 2023/24 Original Budget.
AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, and Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: Ruiz
MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1
3. **(Information/Discussion)** Disclosure of Reserves in Excess of Minimum Requirement
Debbie Costello gave an annual update of the District’s reserves. We are well above the required minimum. This would allow us to have more flexibility and be able to sustain our programs and operations for a longer period of time if our state did have an economic downturn.
4. **(Information)** Agreement for Professional Services with Dannis Woliver Kelley for the 2023/24 school year. This item for information only as we are currently in a two-year agreement for professional services with Dannis Woliver Kelley for July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2024.

8. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 8.1 The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on August 3, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
- 8.2 School Starts on August 10, 2023.

9. **PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

Crystal Ferrer, the Labor Relations Representative for the California School Employees Association from the Sacramento Field Office spoke again in regards to ongoing negotiations between the Unit and Willows Unified School District.

At 8:28 p.m., the Board took a short recess after the Regular Meeting before going into Closed Session. President Geiger will report out into Open Session upon the conclusion of Closed Session.

10. **CLOSED SESSION**

Closed session began at 8:39 p.m.

- 10.1 Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6: Conference with Labor Negotiator – Agency Negotiator: Emmett Koerperich. Employee Organizations: WUTA, CSEA, Management and, Confidential.
- 10.2 Pursuant to Government Code §54957: Evaluation of Performance of a Public Employee: Superintendent

11. **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

11.1 Announcement of Action Taken in Closed Session.

At 10:17 p.m., the meeting reconvened to Open Session. President Geiger report out:

- 10.1: Update given to the Board.
- 10.2: Update given to the Board.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 10:18 p.m.

