

# WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

**Special Meeting, Saturday, March 14, 2009**

**Special Session 1:00 P.M.**

**WILLOWS INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL**

**1145 WEST CEDAR STREET, WILLOWS, CA 95988**

## MINUTES

UNAPPROVED - TO BE ACTED UPON AT NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING
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### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 Roll Call – President Brott called the Meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. All Board Members were present: Mrs. Brott, Mrs. Domenighini, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Geiger, Mr. Parisio

1.2 Flag Salute – Led by Hunter Thompson, WHS student.

### **2. AGENDA**

2.1 Consider approval of Agenda for 3/14/09 – Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mr. Parisio, to approve the Agenda. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.

Mrs. Brott allowed the public to comment before the Board adjourned to Closed Session.

- Mr. Jack Townley, WUTA President presented a letter to the Board in support of Mr. Korling.
- Mr. Mike Fleming, WIS teacher and parent, said he was pleased Mr. Korling was his daughter's teacher. He felt Mr. Korling was a teacher with vision and an open mind.
- Mrs. Landini, parent, spoke in support of Mr. Korling and then said she was glad she didn't have anymore children in school.
- Mrs. Shelley Amaro, Murdock teacher and parent, spoke of the importance of keeping AP English and AP History. She said Mr. Korling motivates and encourages students to learn.
- Mr. Al Rafai, student, said Mr. Korling pushed everyone to their full potential. His classes are hard but he makes the students learn.
- Mr. Tom Kelly said he didn't know Mr. Korling, but he had sat through his presentations at WUSD and GCOE Board Meetings and they were excellent. Mr. Kelly felt people were not comfortable with the way this was being handled.
- Mr. Erik Leal, parent, said students say Mr. Korling is the best teacher they ever had. His son was on an I.E. P. and Mr. Korling was very understanding. He felt the Board should keep Mr. Korling.
- Mr. Al Rafai, student, said his other English teacher did not teach well, but Mr. Korling did.
- Mr. Josh Niehues, long-term substitute at WHS, said Mr. Korling had helped him a lot while he was at WHS. He had the opportunity to watch Mr. Korling and learned a lot from him. He said if this was the way the Board was going to treat people, he would not apply at Willows Unified.

- Ms. Lauren Albert, WHS teacher, spoke in favor keeping Mr. Korling. She had worked closely with him this past year and thought he was great. She said she felt there was a more respectful way to do this.

Mrs. Brott asked three times if anyone else would like to speak.

- Mrs. Dunning, Murdock teacher, said Mr. Korling was on the cutting edge of technology, and we needed teachers like him.
- Ms. Annalise Domenighini, WHS student, said Mr. Korling knows his stuff and was exactly what Willows needs. His classes are like college classes and it would not be smart to let him go.
- Another WHS student said Mr. Korling was a unique teacher who used college-based techniques. He said most of the kids in his classes thought Mr. Korling was too hard and not relevant, but for those who wanted to learn, he was great.
- Ms. Dianna Leal, WHS student, spoke in behalf of Mr. Korling. She was able to succeed in his class and her brother was learning also. She would want all of her siblings to have Mr. Korling as a teacher.
- Ms. Kayla Wilson, said everyone should see how much students are learning in his classes.
- Mr. Korling thanked everyone there. He said he was born in a small town, traveled around extensively and then came back to a small town for his kids.
- Mr. Tom Kelly said the bigger issue is that teachers will not apply at WUSD if this is the way they will be treated.

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 1:25 p.m.

#### **4. CLOSED SESSION**

Pursuant to Government Code §54957: Public Employee Dismissal/Discipline/Release

The Board returned to Open Session at 2:30 p.m. President Brott reported out that the Board had voted 3 yes and 2 no to non-re-elect the employee. Questions were asked and the Board responded, that upon advice of legal counsel, they would say no more about the Closed Session.

#### **5. ADJOURNMENT**

The Meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.