

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting – December 9, 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 Alex McDonald.

2. ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

- 2.1 **(Action)** Election of Officers – President; Vice-President; Clerk
Gina Taylor nominated Jeromy Geiger for the office of President.
Jeromy Geiger nominated Gina Taylor for the office of Vice President.
Michelle Knight nominated Lourdes Ruiz for the office of Clerk.
Nominations were closed. The abovementioned nominations were elected with 5 yes votes.
- 2.2 **(Action)** Appoint Secretary to the Board
Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Alex Parisio to appoint Emmett Koerperich as Secretary to the Board.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
- 2.3 **(Action)** Authorization of Signatures
Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to authorize the newly elected officers to sign documents on behalf of the board.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
- 2.4 **(Action)** Designate Board Representatives as needed
 - a. Educators’ Hall of Fame Committee (2 members) – Alex Parisio and Michelle Knight
 - b. Budget Committee (1 member) Jeromy GeigerLourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to appoint the abovementioned Board members as representatives to the listed committees.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0

3. AGENDA/MINUTES

- 3.1 Approve the Agenda for December 9, 2021.
President Geiger requested to amend Item #6C-6 “Varsity Girls Basketball – Head Coach” from Carissa Gokay to Carol Martin.
Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the Agenda for December 9, 2021, as amended.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
- 3.2 Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 4, 2021.
Alex Parisio moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 4, 2021.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Kathleen Morrison expressed concerns about requiring a high school diploma or equivalent in the hiring of new employees. She feels education shouldn't be a factor, if they're a good worker.
- Jose Cano read a letter to the board expressing his concern about being released as the Varsity Softball and Varsity Football coach.

5. REPORTS

5.1 Employee Associations (WUTA & CSEA)

WUTA – President Cathy Fleming reported:

- Thank you to the superintendent for setting up forums at each school site.
- Teachers are asking for the 2022/23 calendar to be put on the district website.
- Still awaiting for a finalized contract. Waiting on language.
- Hoping the board has seen the results of the staff surveys that went out.

CSEA – President Kathleen Morrison reported:

- Officers are:
 - President – Kathleen Morrison
 - Vice President – Evelyn Niehues
 - Secretary – Bev Appleton
 - Treasurer – Kathleen Balsler
- Looking forward to the District Christmas Party.
- CSEA Initial Proposal is on the agenda.
- Working on getting after school program employees professional development.
- Attended the Superintendent's Forum at WIS on December 8, 2021.
- Chapter meeting was held on November 18, 2021.
- Attended the LCAP Advisory meeting on November 17, 2021.
- Will Pope, CSEA Labor Representative, will be in the district on December 15, 2021, meeting with new members.

5.2 Associated Student Body President – President Alex McDonald reported:

- Winter Homecoming will be held on January 28, 2022.
- Winter Ball will be held on January 29, 2022.
- Christmas themed rally is scheduled for December 17, 2021.
- Senior class is currently planning their Senior trip to Disneyland in May.
- Junior class is working on Prom, which will be held on April 16, 2022 at Tuffy's Town in Glenn.
- Sophomore class is planning the Sadie Hawkins dance in March.
- Freshman class is planning a number of fundraisers.
- FFA – pigs will arrive January 7th or 8th.

5.3 Principals

WCHS – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- Thank you to Liz Beck and Food Services for organizing and cooking the Thanksgiving feast.
- Will be having a Christmas pancake breakfast.
- Will be making some adjustments to the daily format at the semester to help with student motivation.
- Will be implementing a student recognition program either on a weekly or bi-weekly basis.
- Counselor is working on tracking academic performance in the hopes of students graduating or even transferring back to WHS.
- Talk to seniors about post-secondary plans, whether college, career, or military.

MES – Miguel Barriga reported:

- Administration meets with Glenn County Behavioral Health every Monday who help identify students as well as communicate and collaborate with parents and their counselors.
- Many staff members, to include GCOE staff, provide tier 2 and 3 interventions to students. Classroom teachers not only provide tier 1 but also tier 2.
- Working on adding another Kindergarten teacher. Met with two prospective candidates. Hoping they can start in January.

- Met with members of the Chico State Education and Teacher Credentialing departments to establish a mutually beneficial relationship and better communication for placement of student teachers and interns.
- Hosted two sessions of “Coffee with the Principal” this past month.
- Attended the Glenn County Administrator’s Network last week. Great opportunity to network and collaborate with other administrators in the county.
- School culture is amazing at MES. Staff participates in fun Fridays once a month where different grade levels or groups coordinate and bring lunch for the staff.
- Student culture is also impressive. Staff leads the way and creates the culture we want. An example of this includes the “Kindness Bingo” game to encourage more random acts of kindness.

WIS – Chris Harris reported:

- Enrollment is 312. 104, 101, and 107 students in grades 6, 7, 8 respectively.
- Attendance rate through the first four months of school is just over 95%.
- WIS Holiday concert will be held on December 15, 2021 outside.
- Girls’ basketball has wrapped up, and boys’ basketball is holding tryouts.
- Teachers have taken data from the most recent MAP Growth and are analyzing that data in comparison to previous MAP tests and grades to determine next semester’s placement for students.
- Teachers are also reviewing standards taught in each core subject and then will develop pacing guides for each class/subject. Additionally, WIS will be evaluating assessments and grading practices as the year progresses.
- Site Student Wellness Team continues to meet to identify and discuss the most at-risk students. This information is then incorporated with the PRISM team. The networking with outside agencies is greatly appreciated.
- WIS will be hosting an ASB E-Waste event on Saturday, January 22, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Went over the survey results with the Superintendent.

WHS – David Johnstone reported:

- District WHS Enrollment is 485, to include 21 students on long-term independent study.
- County program (SDC/Eagle) enrollment is 23.
- Average daily attendance is hovering between 93-97 percent.
- Gearing up the end of the semester, preparing for finals, and students are taking the math and English MAP Growth tests.
- Winter Concert was well attended even though it was outside. The band performed well.
- 54 students attended a Nor Cal Agricultural tour sponsored by Glenn County Office of Education. Visited several organizations such as CalPlant and Rumiano Cheese.
- FFA update:
 - Animals will start coming the first week of January. Over 100 animals will be taken to the fair.
 - A new electrical panel and additional lights were installed at the school farm thanks to Nate Jones. The school farm also has new gutters, thanks to the Ag Boosters.
 - 27 students will be attending the MFE/ALA conference in mid-January.
 - A new Ag student teacher will start in January.
- Traci Torres, who teaches the Health pathway courses, will be placing students in hospital positions next semester.
- FCCLA:
 - Worked the Willows Pheasant Association dinner, preparing food, setting up, and serving around 600 people.
 - Members made 100 homemade Christmas cards for the patients in the Willows Care Center.
 - Members will be attending the FCCLA Region 21 Leadership meeting in January at Oroville High School. Students will be getting information to start working on the Chapter degrees.
- Gear Up News:
 - Will be taking 50 students (9th and 10 grades) to UC Davis on January 19, 2022, with plans for more college visits in the spring.
 - Fish tanks for the salmon project will be coming next week.
 - College and Career sign has arrived and will be installed soon.
 - A new Block W sign will be placed on the gym.
- Greg Kitchen reported:
 - CIF, in partnership with CDPH, is allowing indoor athletes to test rather than wear a mask while playing.

- Scheduling has been a bit of a challenge due to a referee shortage in both basketball and soccer.
- Since returning to in-person instruction, there has been a massive increase in tardies. The outdated policy is not working. Will be implementing a more clear, progressive policy. Teachers have been consulted and are in favor of the change.

5.4 Director of Business Services – Debbie Costello reported:

- Budget Committee has resumed and held one meeting so far.
- 2021/22 First Interim budget update is included later in the agenda. Significant staffing and program changes have been incorporated, reflecting additional resources made available by State budget measures enacted after the 2021/22 Adopted budget was completed and the impact of additional COVID relief funding and other needs and priorities that have arisen in recent months.
- Information and resources are now being released on additional instructional support programs authorized in the 2021/22 State budget. Working on plans and developing budgets for Educator Effectiveness, A-G Completion Block Grant, Expanded Learning Opportunity Program, Food Service Professional Development and Equipment Programs, and evaluating how we might access and utilize Pre-K and TK facilities funding as we move toward Universal TK in the coming years.
- Haven't had any updates on the applications for the California Energy Commission CalSHAPE ventilation or plumbing programs. Hope to have more definitive news in early 2022.
- Working with the E-Rate consultant and GCOE IT staff on a Category 2 plan to address technology infrastructure needs at WCHS and the District Office. Will also determine if additional measures are needed on the MES, WIS, or WHS campuses for the 2022/23 E-Rate year.
- The legislature has started looking at education funding in advance of the Governor's January State Budget Proposal. Key issues include the 2022/23 ADA cliff, where districts will feel the full impact of significant enrollment declines as compared to the 2019/20 P-2 funding guarantees. Alternative funding models are being discussed.

5.5 Director of Instructional Support Services – No report**5.6 Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment – Scott Booth reported:**

- The State Board of Education approved the use of shortened Smarter Balanced English language (ELA) and mathematics assessments for this spring, including CAST (science). These are the same shortened versions from this last spring. Preparing for the upcoming testing season, the window for the SBAC testing is March 7-June 10. Sites are working on their exact testing dates.
- WUSD will be performing the Physical Fitness Testing (PFT) this year for grades 5, 7, and 9, with a window that opens in February. This is the annual test that had been suspended for the last two years.
- Working to complete their School Accountability Report Cards (SARC), site administration are being very patient awaiting the State's release of student achievement data. The data should be pre-populated into the templates on December 16, 2021. SARCS will be presented at the January board meeting.

MICHELLE KNIGHT LEFT THE MEETING AT 8:09 P.M.

- Beginning on November 29, 2021, all students and teachers are working hard to complete the second round of Map Growth testing.

5.7 Superintendent – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- Attended the basketball games in Biggs.
- Attended the Winter Concert at WHS. Turned out very well.
- Attended the NSCIF Executive Committee meeting on December 8, 2021. They made a recommendation to the section commissioner that top 8 seeds will be in the playoffs based on seeding criteria. Hopefully this will help alleviate in the future, what happened to the WHS Varsity Football team this year.
- Held a Superintendent's Forum for WHS and WIS, and will be holding a forum for MES next week. Each site shared areas of concern and areas needing improvement, along with possible solutions.

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

- Attended the last football game.
- Participated in the Junior class burrito fundraiser.
- Participated in the 8th grade paint night fundraiser.
- Attended the Thanksgiving Feast at WCHS and was able to spend time with students.
- Attended soccer and basketball games.
- Attended the football awards program.

Alex Parisio reported:

- Enjoying all the fundraising events, especially the food.
- Things are busy, and kids are enjoying being back in school.
- FFA animals are coming.
- Thank you for the detailed reports.

Gina Taylor reported:

- A common theme in the site reports, which is continuous improvement, is important. Appreciate the unique solutions.

Jeromy Geiger reported:

- Flying under the radar during these challenging times might be the best way to go.

Michelle Knight – No report

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. Accept donation from Thunderhill Raceway in the amount of \$100.00 for the WHS Senior Class.
2. Accept donation from Quilt Corral in the amount of \$25.00 for the WHS Senior Class.
3. Accept donation from Jeanne Carney in the amount of \$200.00 for WHS Girls Tennis.
4. Accept donation from Wilbur Ellis in the amount of \$100.00 for WHS FFA in memory of Duke Hurlburt.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Approve Interdistrict Requests for Students #21-22-35 through #21-22-36 to attend school in another district for the 2021/22 school year.
2. Approve Overnight Field Trip Request for WHS FFA to attend the MFE/ALA FFA Conference in Monterey on January 22 – 24, 2022.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Approve employment of Alondra Lopez-Renteria, Instructional Aide II at WIS (6 hrs/day), effective November 8, 2021.
2. Approve employment of Mariah Baker, Yard Duty Supervisor/Crossing Guard at WIS (2 hrs/day), effective November 10, 2021.
3. Approve employment of Quennita Helm, Yard Duty Supervisor/Crossing Guard at WIS (2 hrs/day), effective November 10, 2021.
4. Approve the reclassification for Nora Ayala from Cafeteria Cook at MES to Cafeteria Assistant Manager, effective November 29, 2021.
5. Approve the Classified Substitute List.
6. Approve the following 2021/22 WHS Winter Coaches:

Varsity Boys Basketball – Head Coach	Drew Sanchez (approved on 9/2/21)
JV Boys Basketball – Head Coach	Rosendo Zepeda (approved on 9/2/21)
Boys Basketball – Volunteer Coach	Grant Caldwell (pending clearance)
Varsity Girls Basketball – Head Coach	Carissa Gokay (approved on 9/2/21) Carol Martin
JV Girls Basketball – Head Coach	Amanda Hutson (approved on 11/4/21)
Girls Basketball – Volunteer Coach	Danielle Quinley (pending clearance)
Varsity Wrestling – Head Coach	Dominic Mercado (approved on 9/2/21)
Varsity Wrestling – Volunteer Coach	Anthony Neuhauer Ortiz
Varsity Boys Soccer – Head Coach	Jose Barajas (approved on 11/4/21)
Varsity Girls Soccer – Head Coach	Kristi Hill
Varsity Girls Soccer – Volunteer Coach	Martin Castillo

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. Approve warrants from 11/3/21 through 12/1/21.

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

AYES: Geiger, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Knight

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

7. DISCUSSION/ACTION CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. **(Action)** Approve the Adoption of the K-5 McGraw-Hill Education, 2019 Impact: California Social Studies Curriculum.
Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the Adoption of the K-5 McGraw-Hill Education, 2019 Impact: California Social Studies Curriculum.
AYES: Geiger, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: Knight
MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1
2. **(Action)** Approve the Educator Effectiveness Block Grant Implementation Plan.
Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Alex Parisio to approve the Educator Effectiveness Block grant Implementation Plan.
AYES: Geiger, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: Knight
MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. **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 California School Employees Association #119 (CSEA) to the Willows Unified School District (WUSD) for the 2021/22 school year.

President Geiger opened the Public Hearing at 8:24 p.m. There were no comments. President Geiger closed the Public Hearing at 8:25 p.m.

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. **(Action)** Annual Developer Fee Report.
Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Alex Parisio to approve the Annual Developer Fee Report.
AYES: Geiger, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: Knight
MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

MICHELLE KNIGHT ENTERED THE MEETING AT 8:25 P.M.

2. **(Action)** Approve the 2021/22 First Interim Budget Report.
Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the 2021/22 First Interim Budget Report.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPCOMING EVENTS

- 8.1 WIS Holiday Lights Concert will be held on December 15, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.
- 8.2 December 17, 2021 is a district-wide Minimum Day.
- 8.3 WUSD Christmas Open House for all employees will be held at Casa Ramos on December 17, 2021 from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- 8.4 There will be a district-wide break from December 20, 2021 – December 31, 2021. School resumes on January 3, 2022.
- 8.5 The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on January 6, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ITEMS - None

At 8:27 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.

10. **CLOSED SESSION**

Closed Session began at 8:35 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.

11. **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

11.1 Announcement of Action Taken in Closed Session

At 9:41 p.m., the meeting reconvened to Open Session. President Geiger reported out:

Item 10.1: Update given to the Board. Direction given to the Superintendent.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.