

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting – August 5, 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 Ashlynn Geiger.

2. AGENDA/MINUTES

- 2.1 Approve the Agenda for August 5, 2021.
Michelle Knight moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the Agenda for August 5, 2021.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
- 2.2 Approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of June 14, 2021, the Regular Meeting of June 17, 2021, and the Special Meeting of June 23, 2021.
Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Gina Taylor
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS – 10 people shared their concerns about the District requiring students to wear face masks at school. They feel it should be personal choice.

4. REPORTS

4.1 Employee Associations (WUTA & CSEA)

WUTA –Karen Colombo, Treasurer, reported:

- Thank you to the board for recent negotiations.
- Welcome all new employees.
- Looking for an update on the air conditioning at MES.

CSEA – Kathleen Morrison, President, reported:

- Looking forward to meeting all the new employees.
- CSEA held a virtual conference.
- Looking forward to a new school year.
- Fencing and marquee looks great.

4.2 Principals

MES – Miguel Barriga reported:

- Group of teachers are taking the Jen Jones “Hello Literacy” covering reading strategies and explicit phonics instruction strategies.
- Staff attended a two-day seminar on the History Social Science framework presented by GCOE.
- 5th grade team collaborated and planned out their year
- Kindergarten Round-Up that usually happens in the spring took place on August 4, 2021. Already scheduling the dates for next Spring.
- Teachers and staff have been on campus preparing for the upcoming school year.
- Had a good management team meeting to start the year off.
- Ron Bazan convened the first district-wide meeting that included School Wellness and SMART team members from the county.

- WUSD will be attending the Willows Street Fair on Tuesday, August 10, 2021.
- Approaching readiness to start the school year. Still in need of a math intervention teacher and a school counselor.
- Enrollment is 584.

WIS – Chris Harris reported:

- Feeling welcomed and looking forward to getting students on campus.
- Appreciated the management team meeting on July 27, 2021.
- Almost ready – still filing positions.
- Held a new student orientation where 35-40 people attended.
- Teachers return on August 10, 2021. Thank you to custodial and maintenance staff for their hard work this summer to get school ready. Additionally, thank you to Erin Taylor and Stephanie Southam for all their help.
- Working to develop the most effective and efficient manner to utilize the resources available to help address the learning loss brought on by the pandemic.
- Enrollment hovers around 300.
- Scott Booth has been and will be instrumental in desegregating the data and achievement numbers to help the focus on closing the achievement gap.
- Ron Bazan gave a tour of Willows and the district boundary.
- Back to School Night will be August 26, 2021.

WHS – David Johnstone reported:

- Excited to be fully back to in-person instruction.
- Current enrollment is 479.
- Welcome 9 new staff members to WHS.
- Still looking for a math teacher, ELD Aide and English Language Arts Intervention Aide.
- Goal is to prepare all students for A-G with a C or better. Promoting B's are better to the students. Focusing and fine-tuning the career pathways forms to ensure students and parents understand pathway sequencing to fulfill the pathway choice and take the complete course.
- English and math students will be taking the NWEA assessments three times a year which will provide data to help students who are struggling.
- Hopeful the power will be back on in the shop and excited about the new scoreboard for the baseball field.
- Greg Kitchen, Athletic Director reported:
 - Attended a NSCIF meeting on August 4, 2021. CIF has taken the stance that they will wait for guidelines issued by the CDPH before disseminating those guidelines out to the north section schools. Therefore, WHS is currently operating under relatively normal conditions. The highly restrictive CDPH guidelines of last year's condensed athletic seasons have expired without replacement. Asking coaches to continue to cohort in position groups when applicable, manage numbers in closed spaces, and continue to sanitize equipment. Have not received any masking guidance at this time.
 - New bylaw was approved that outlines stiffer penalties for players, coaches, and parents who are ejected from contests for fighting and/or leaving the bench during a fight and/or gross unsportsmanlike conduct.
 - Football – 50 players
 - Volleyball – 26 players
 - Cheer – 25 players
 - Tennis, Cross Country and Swimming are unknown at this time.
 - WHS admin team has deemed it appropriate to grant academic waivers to students in light of the academic difficulties experienced last year believing that by virtue of promoting athletic participation, there will be an increase in academic performance. In many cases, athletics are the primary motivation for students to maintain eligibility level grades.
 - Working on Winter season schedules and continuing to recruit for coaches.

WCHS – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- Goal is for all students to receive some kind of vocational education certification.
- Current enrollment is 24 students with one teacher. Still recruiting for a second teacher.
- Four portable classrooms are in the process of being remodeled and should be completed next week.

- Planning on serving meals to students this year as opposed to last year's model of dropping off packaged breakfast and lunches.

4.3 Director of Business Services – Debbie Costello reported:

- Welcome to Erin Taylor as the new District Accounting & Payroll Technician.
- Year-end closing for 2020/21 is under way.
- Distributed and reviewed enrollment data with a comparison to prior years. Current projections indicate that there will be increased enrollment as compared to the end of the 2020/21 school year.
- The impact of enrollment and staffing changes and other factors will be incorporated into future budget updates and reflected in the First Interim Budget Update.
- Federal and State COVID relief funding have allowed us to implement safety measures and instructional strategies with new staffing and other resources to provide improved services to our school community. As of June 30th, we have utilized \$1,872,467 of the \$6,769,805 allotted to WUSD. We have allocated \$1,844,464 for use in 2021/22 and will be developing and presenting plans for the remaining \$3,052,574 which is to be used by June 30, 2024.
- Food Service Department is working on menu improvement where not more than 20% of food will be packaged. Planning on serving meals to WCHS students this year as opposed to last year's model of dropping off packaged breakfast and lunches.
- Bus route will continue at Cedar Hills for the 2021/22 school year.

4.4 Director of Instructional Support Services – No report

4.5 Director of Student, Family & Community Engagement – Ron Bazan reported:

- Been making home visits or calls to all new students/parents to the District.
- WUSD will have a booth at the Willows Street Fair on Tuesday, August 10, 2021. All sites have prepared flyers to be distributed.
- Distributing school flyers and visiting preschools to promote WUSD.
- Glenn County was awarded a Wellness Grant to meet the social-emotional needs of students. All sites will meet together once a month to discuss issues and remedies. Each site will meet to review students once a week and possibly bring forward those names to the District Wellness Team.
- SMART Team will be making presentations to all school sites to discuss their duties and processes.
- After School Program
 - Will begin on Monday, August 16, 2021.
 - Call to parents will go out on August 6, 2021.
 - Call and email will go to parents of students who are accepted into the program next week.
 - MES has 100 students; WIS has 10 students
- Met with site admin teams to review the SARB process. All sites have Aeries generated letters to send out.
- Took new administrators on a tour of Willows and surrounding area.

4.6 Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment – Scott Booth reported:

- Thank you to Ellen Hamilton for all her help, patience and encouragement.
- State & Federal:
 - Completed the Consolidated Application
 - Continuing to submit the bi-weekly AB86 California Safe School Data to the state.
 - Will be working on the Title III Survey.
 - Working on the template of the ESSER III Expenditure Plan.
- CI&A:
 - Great management team meeting on July 27, 2021.
 - Working on formalizing the District Instructional Materials Adoption Process with the CIA Advisory. Currently going through the adoption for the History & Social Sciences
 - History-Social Science Frameworks workshop held August 5-6, 2021.
 - History-Social Science review committee will meet on August 9, 2021.
 - Scheduled a meeting on August 9, 2021 to review and update the ELD Master Plan.
 - CAASPP score preview was released earlier today. Will have information at the next board meeting.

4.7 Superintendent – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- Looking forward to the start of the school year with great excitement and anticipation.
- Comparison from last year to this year is quite a contrast.
 - Last year, we started with distance learning. Had to write a waiver to be able to open Murdock for in-person instruction, with many safety requirements such as masks, social distancing, desk

- dividers, and intensive cleaning multiple times a day. WIS and WHS could not open to in-person instruction until November 12, 2021. There were no sports or extracurricular activities. Distance learning was a struggle for many students.
- This year, students and staff are being asked to wear masks while indoors. Much further ahead than last year.
 - Two priorities are safety and student achievement.
 - Safety for all students – students and staff will be required to wear masks indoors.
 - In-Person instruction – only required to wear a mask indoors.
 - Student Achievement Goals:
 - All students reading at grade level by the 3rd grade.
 - 70% of students meet or far exceed standards for ELA and math scores in 8th grade.
 - All students graduate with either “A-G” completers or “A-D” with a CTE Certification.
 - Facilities Update:
 - Murdock:
 - New fence looks great.
 - New marquee installed.
 - Individual air coolers have been ordered for the 100-500 buildings at MES
 - Carpets should be installed and finished by August 9, 2021.
 - Gates scheduled to be installed August 10, 2021 as final phase of the fence project.
 - WIS:
 - New marquee is installed – awaiting electrical set up.
 - HVAC project is scheduled to begin in September.
 - WHS:
 - Electricians from Sacramento located a faulty power line to the Ag building. Hopefully can be repaired on Saturday, August 7, 2021.
 - WHS Boosters Fundraisers:
 - Tri tip booth at all football games
 - Golf Tournament on September 11, 2021
 - Wine and Dine Dinner on January 22, 2021

4.8 Board of Education Members

GCOE Board Member Walter Michael reported:

- Participated in the Pipeline trip.
- Attended the Superintendent’s Retreat.
- GCOE sent a letter to Governor Newsom.

Lourdes Ruiz reported:

- Excited for schools to start with in-person instruction.
- Thank you to the community for coming to the meeting to show support.
- Board members are here for students first and foremost.

Michelle Knight reported:

- Thank you to the community for coming to the meeting. Decisions are not easy to make.
- Thank you to all staff members for the work they did all summer.

Alex Parisio reported:

- Glad for sports and graduation to be held at the end of the school year due to the protocols that were put in place.
- Congratulations to Monica Throm for receiving the WIS “Gift of Time Award” for 2021.
- Grounds look good around the District. Safety fence at MES is coming along. Marquees at WIS and MES look great. New projects at WHS are the shade structure over the WHS Boosters barbecue and the new scoreboards for baseball field.
- Been on the Board for 19 years, and two things that have been very difficult are budget cuts and COVID. State makes the rules, and we have to abide by them in order to get funding. These decisions are not easy. While the Board may agree with many parents, we need to follow the state’s guidelines.

Gina Taylor reported:

- The MES fence looks very nice.
- Mission of the Board is to keep students and staff safe, followed by educating students to the best of our ability. The situation is taken very seriously.

Jeromy Geiger reported:

- Public comments to the Board regarding COVID have not gone unheard. As much as the board members may agree with parents, Board members have a fiduciary responsibility to the District.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. Accept donation from the Knight of Columbus in the amount of \$1,000.00 for WHS Football.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Approve Interdistrict Request for Students #21-22-18 through #21-22-23 to attend school in the Willows Unified School District for the 2021/22 school year.
2. Approve Interdistrict Request for Student #21-22-20 to attend school in another district for the 2021/22 school year.
3. Approve the 2020/21 CARS (Consolidated Application and Reporting System) Spring Collection.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Approve the employment of Justin Robinett, Maintenance II, effective July 1, 2021.
2. Approve the employment of Bibiana McNeil, WHS Counselor, effective July 22, 2021.
3. Approve the employment of Erin Taylor, District Accounting & Payroll Technician, effective August 2, 2021.
4. Approve the employment of Elisa Gomez, After School Program Activity Assistant (3.9 hrs/day), effective August 10, 2021.
5. Approve the employment of Luis Perez Vargas, WIS Teacher, effective August 11, 2021.
6. Approve the employment of Claudia Cruz, WHS Teacher, effective August 11, 2021.
7. Approve the Prep Period Buy Out for Claudia Cruz, WHS Teacher, effective August 11, 2021.
8. Approve the employment of Lisa Pence, Career Education Technician II at WHS, (6 hrs/day), effective August 12, 2021.
9. Approve the increase in hours for Emanuel Guadiana, WIS Instructional Aide II from 3.9 hrs/day to 6 hrs/day, effective August 12, 2021.
10. Approve the employment of Ryan Southam, Instructional Aide I at WHS (3.9 hrs/day), effective August 12, 2021.
11. Approve the employment of Karissa Lutz, Instructional Aide I at MES (3.9 hrs/day), effective August 12, 2021.
12. Approve the employment of Caitlin Hill, Instructional Aide I at MES (3.9 hrs/day), effective August 12, 2021.
13. Approve the employment of Panra Lor, Instructional Aide I at MES (3.9 hrs/day), effective August 12, 2021.
14. Approve the employment of Erika Johnstone, Behavior Intervention Aide at MES (6 hrs/day), effective August 12, 2021.
15. Accept the resignation of Jennifer Carriere, WHS Teacher, effective 6/11/21.
16. Accept the resignation of Maria Garcia, After School Program Activity Assistant, effective June 11, 2021.
17. Accept the retirement of Tom Bryant, WHS Counselor, effective June 14, 2021.
18. Accept the resignation of Dina Ibrahim, District Bookkeeper/Cafeteria Coordinator, effective August 5, 2021.
19. Approve request for unpaid leave for Michelle Thomas Cafeteria Helper I, from August 12, 2021 through December 17, 2021.
20. Approve the Classified Sub list.
21. Approve the following Coaches for the 2021/22 school year:

Varsity Assistant Football	Rich Warren
JV Assistant Football	Paul Adams (pending clearance)

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. Approve warrants from 6/12/21 through 7/20/21.
2. Approve ASB Quarterly Reports (MES/WIS/WHHS).

Alex Parisio moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve the Consent Calendar.

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

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

6. DISCUSSION/ACTION CALENDAR

An Equal Opportunity Employer

A. GENERAL

1. **(Information)** First Reading of the following additions/deletions/changes to Board Policies per CSBA’s Policy Guidesheet Recommendations:
BP 6157 - Delete Distance Learning
BP 6158 Independent Study
Information only – no action taken.
2. **(Action)** Approve the College and Career Access Pathways Partnership Agreement and Appendix with Butte College.
Michelle Knight moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the College and Career Access Pathways Partnership Agreement and Appendix with Butte College.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
3. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2021-22-01 Adopting a Conflict of Interest Code.
Alex Parisio moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve Resolution #2021-22-01 Adopting a Conflict of Interest Code.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
4. **(Action)** Approve the Disposal of Obsolete or Surplus Equipment.
Alex Parisio moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve the Disposal of Obsolete of Surplus Equipment.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
5. **(Information)** Williams Uniform Complaint Quarterly Report. (There were no complaints) – Information only – no action taken.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. **(Action)** Approve 2021/22 Bus Routes.
Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve the 2021/22 Bus Routes.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
2. **(Action)** Approve the starting date and times of WUSD schools for the 2021/22 school year.
Michelle Knight moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the starting date and times of WUSD schools for the 2021/22 school year.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. **(Action)** Approve the Form for Public Disclosure of Proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement in accordance with the requirements of AB-1200 and Government Code §3547.5 between Willows Unified School District and the Willows Unified Teachers Association.
Michelle Knight moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Form for Public Disclosure of Proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement in accordance with the requirements of AB-1200 and Government Code §3547.5 between Willows Unified School District and the Willows Unified Teachers Association.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
2. **(Action)** Approve the Tentative Agreement between the Willows Unified School District and the Willows Unified Teachers Association and related salary schedules.
Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Tentative Agreement between the Willows Unified School District and the Willows Unified Teachers Association and related salary schedules.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0

3. **(Action)** Approve the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators for the 2021/22 school year. (Annual requirement)
Alex Parisio moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators for the 2021/22 school year.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
4. **(Action)** Approve the Job Description for the After School Program Coordinator.
Michelle Knight moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve the Job Description for the After School Program Coordinator.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
5. **(Action)** Approve the Job Description for the Bilingual Parent Liaison.
Michelle Knight moved, seconded Lourdes Ruiz to approve the Job Description for the Bilingual Parent Liaison.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
6. **(Action)** Approve the Classified Job Classifications List.
Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Classified Job Classifications List.
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. **(Information/Discussion)** FY 2021/22 Adopted Budget – 45 Day Revision. Debbie Costello reviewed the revisions to the budget since its adoption.
2. **(Action)** Approve the Independent Auditors Report for Period Ending June 30, 2020 (2019/20).
Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve the Independent Auditors Report for Period Ending June 30, 2020 (2019/20).
AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Ruiz, and Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 7.1 The WHS Boosters Golf Tournament Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, September 11, 2021.
- 7.2 Freshman Orientation will be held on August 9, 2021, from 9:30 a.m.-11:00 noon.
- 7.3 Welcome Back Staff Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. in the WHS Cafeteria.
- 7.4 Back to School Nights are as follows:

WHS	Wednesday, August 18 th at 5:30 p.m.
MES	Wednesday, August 25 th at 5:30 p.m.
WIS	Thursday, August 26 th at 5:30 p.m.
WCHS	Wednesday, September 1 st at 6:00 p.m.
- 7.5 The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on September 2, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at the Willows Civic Center.
- 7.6 Monday, September 6, 2021 is a school holiday – Labor Day.
- 7.7 Monday, September 20, 2021 is a non-instructional student day and professional development day for employees.

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

At 8:56 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 9:10 p.m.

9.1 Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6: Conference with Labor Negotiator – Agency Negotiator: Emmett Koerperich. Employee Organizations: WUTA, CSEA, Management, Confidential, and Non-Represented.

10. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

10.1 Announcement of Action Taken in Closed Session

At 9:33 p.m., the meeting reconvened to Open Session. President Geiger reported out:

9.1: Update given to the Board.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

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