

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting – November 2, 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 Geiger called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Jeromy Geiger, Kirsten Gray, Margaret Parisio, Lourdes Ruiz, and Gina Taylor.

1.2 Welcome to Visitors

1.3 Flag Salute was led by Patricia Chavez.

2. AGENDA/MINUTES

2.1 Approve the Agenda for November 2, 2023.

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the Agenda for November 2, 2023.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

2.2 Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 12, 2023.

Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Kirsten Gray to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 2, 2023.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

3. EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

3.1 Carol Martin – Emmett Koerperich presented Carol Martin with a plaque of recognition for her 30 years of service as a coach to students of Willows High School.

At 7:03 p.m., President Jeromy Geiger called for a brief recess.

During the recess all five board members stepped down from the dais to personally thank Carol Martin for her service.

At 7:04 p.m., President Geiger called the meeting back to open session.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

5. REPORTS

5.1 **Associated Student Body President** – No report

5.2 **Employee Associations (WUTA & CSEA)**

WUTA – Vice President Jennipher Dace reported:

- Reported on the Fall Festival held at Murdock Elementary on October 26, 2023. There were a lot of teachers that attended and ran the different booths. Lots of students came and the teachers all had a great time providing this fun after school activity.
- The next upcoming event is Dessert with Santa which will be held December 12th at 5-7 p.m. There will be treats and picture opportunities with Santa.

CSEA – No report

5.3 **Principals**

MES – Miguel Barriga reported:

- Parent/teacher conferences will be the week of November 13-17, 2023.

- Staff has been working hard to teach and students have been learning. Thank you to all staff for maintaining a good pace and keeping learning goals intact.
- The Murdock Mallards mural in front of the cafeteria is being repainted. It is being changed from red and white to green and white.
- Hope some of you get a chance to come and see how Murdock identifies and supports students. Mr. Koerperich, Mr. Booth, and Mrs. O'Dell have been seen on site. Murdock is proud of their systems and proud of their work.
- Taking some “deep dives” and using data from different sources to get guidance into accomplishing specific goals with English Learners and attendance. The diligence and support are much appreciated from Stacy, Scott and Ron with attendance, Marissa and Nicole for making phone calls, running reports and communicating needs.
- Mr. Barriga and Stacy Lanzi are connected to the California School Leadership Academy as part of a collaborative network.
- PTO “raised the bar” with the success of the Fall Festival. Appreciate all of the support from teachers, parents, maintenance and custodial staff as the campus was transformed for the festival.
- Murdock loves the homecoming parade tradition.
- Continue to work with GCOE in learning about children’s literature and anti-bias in the classroom.
- Had an awesome Halloween parade.
- The controlled entry gate is now operational. Waiting for a couple of final details to make it fully operational.
- Scheduled some dance performances on November 8, 2023 in the cafeteria, in recognition of Native American Month.
- Enrollment is at 597 students with no students on long-term independent study.
 - TK – 25
 - K – 87
 - 1st – 86
 - 2nd – 79
 - 3rd – 91
 - 4th – 128
 - 5th – 101
- Murdock is now on Instagram. It’s called “It’s a Great Day to be a Mallard”

WIS – Chris Harris reported:

- Staff and students had fun participating in Halloween. Students did a great job adhering to the guidelines.
- WIS has monthly staff recognition – “Who Gives a Hoot”
- Teachers had another round of vertical articulation with the high school teachers. It’s an opportunity to develop curriculum maps, identify essential standards, and discuss best practices.
- Current enrollment is 322 students
 - **6th – 106**
 - **7th – 112**
 - **8th – 104**
- Still experiencing chronic absenteeism which is currently around 15.3%. It is coming down but still high.
- Girl’s basketball is nearing the end of their season.
- Boy’s basketball has had signups and are looking at possibly having four teams.
- Appreciate the efforts of the Parent Engagement Team and the Wellness Walk held on October 19, 2023.
- There was a WIS PTO meeting held on October 19, 2023 as well as a WIS Athletic Boosters meeting on October 25, 2023.
- The school counselor, Xochitl Rodriguez, and Mr. Harris continue work on the Hatching Results. Mr. Booth is leading a series of workouts for the School Accountability Report Card (SARC)
- The school counselor, Xochitl Rodriguez, helped organize teen mentors to come and present for the Great American Smokeout.
- Michelle O’Dell, the district lead for the Community Engagement Initiative Grant continues with meetings and trainings and has been great in keeping everyone on track.

- Super proud of staff and the coordination that they have and their undying efforts to provide support to students.

WHS – Julie Carriere reported:

- Mr. Pogue, Ms. Carriere, and Mr. Zintzun have finished the grading reform and are planning a debriefing soon and will then meet with the WIS Team.
- Held a successful vertical alignment collaboration at WIS with the grades 5-12 teachers.
- FFA is off to Nashville. They looked fantastic in their uniforms.
- 1st quarter grading period ended October 13, 2023, with less Fs than this time last year.
- Continuing to work on chronic absenteeism.
- Continuing work as part of the Glenn2Greatness Coalition.
- Homecoming was a huge success.
- The 80s decade reunion was a huge success. Over 50 alumni came to the football game the night before. The event the following evening was well attended with over 400 alumni.
- The Kiwanis Club has offered the use of a converted trailer to the Key Club to be able to sell popcorn and drinks at sporting events not held in the Honker stadium.
- The Key Club hosted a very successful Blood Drive on October 25, 2023.
- The third annual College and Career Fair was held on November 1, 2023. There were over 40 presenters to talk about the many different career and college opportunities.
- Sports Update:
 - The last football game will be held in Trinity.
 - Volleyball playoffs at Foothill against UPrep on Saturday. They will move on to state regardless of the UPrep outcome.
 - Swimming and Tennis have finished.
 - Cross Country finished yesterday at the SVL championships. The JV won the championships.
 - Soccer will be starting Monday.
 - Wrestling has started. The WHS Boosters will be buying new mats which should be here around May 1st.
 - Basketball had a lot of signups and have been practicing the last couple of days
 - Looking forward to moving from Fall to Winter sports.

WCHS – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- Current enrollment is 22.
- The field trip to Chico State to see the Mariachi performance at Laxson Auditorium was a lot of fun.
- There are a few students on track to graduate or return to high school at the end of this semester.
- The career tech, Amanda Hutson, is working with students to obtain an Employability Skills micro-credential course in Major Clarity every Wednesday. This is a three to four hours course covering the foundational knowledge and competencies of soft skills and general employability skills for students. Amanda is also in communication with the Willows Fire Department to do a CPR/First Aid training session with the students.
- The Scarecrow Competition was held on October 27, 2023. The students had fun building and presenting their scarecrows.
- WCHS had a fantastic Halloween Carnival and planning has already begun for next year. The students were amazing. Mrs. Soeth and Maria deserve credit for the wonderful job they are doing with the class. A huge thank you to our Engagement Team for coming up with the idea.
- Butte College is coming next week to get Seniors registered for college.
- The annual Thanksgiving Feast is scheduled for Friday, November 17, 2023. They will start serving at 10:30-11:45. The Board is welcome to attend.

5.4 Director of Business Services – No report**5.5 Director of Instructional Support Services – Michelle O’Dell reported:**

- **After School Program**
 - Staff reviewed the ASES grant’s quality standards and chose two point-of-service goals and two programmatic quality standards to focus on this year. Brainstormed ways to improve in those areas: healthy choices and behaviors (point-of service); diversity, access and equity (point-of service); clear vision, mission and purpose (programmatic quality standards; collaborative partnerships (programmatic quality standards).

- Working to update the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program Plan. The state doesn't approve purchases, but have been advised to have large purchases included in the plan. Will need to include our desire to acquire modular classrooms dedicated to ELO-P. As there currently isn't enough staffing to accommodate all after school program requests, will need to include waitlist language in the plan as well. The funding requires we accommodate all who request access.
- **Independent Study**
 - Long term ISP enrollment: MES – 0 students, WIS: 2 students, WHS – 11 students
- **Engagement Team**
 - Participating in the Tri Counties Community Action Partnership Work Group Meetings.
 - The group has done four different assessments in Glenn County to determine the needs of the citizens. After reviewing the results, came up with four top strategic issues: medical provider shortage, access to behavioral health, access to resources (knowledge of resources), and transportation.
 - With the approval of the Superintendent, participating in the work groups for the behavioral health and access to resources.
 - Know what is available and then connect students and families.
 - Know who to potentially partner with in the future.
 - To not duplicate resources and services that are already available.
 - Partnered with WCHS to put on the Halloween Carnival for children ages 0-4.
 - WCHS students planned seven different activities for the children. There were games and trunk or treat. It is estimated that there were about 70 children and 40 adults who attended.
 - The Wellness Walk went very well. Thank you to all those who participated and gave their time. There was a lot of District support. There were 26 different booths from the community.
 - The November 4, 2023 Multicultural Event has been cancelled. Struggled to find people or groups from the community who would be willing to create displays or information booths that represented their culture. There were also only two groups willing to perform at the event. Consulted with Mr. Koerperich and it was determined it would be best to cancel the event.

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

- November is filled with State and Federal activities. There is Fall 1 cleanup and certification. On track for certifying at the end of this month. Also prepping files for the Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC).
- The first DELAC meeting was held on October 18, 2023, with an agenda which included a review of the Title I Parent Engagement policy, assessment results, a review of the ELD Master Plan, an introduction to the LCAP, and gathering feedback for the development of our Ethnic Studies course. Will be offering dinner at the next meeting which will be held January 17, 2023.
- The first LCAP Advisory of the year, was hosted on October 25, 2023. This offered an opportunity to begin the journey in the development of the next generation of the LCAP, specifically focusing on the review, revising and development for the 2024/25 LCAP.
- The October CIA Meeting was held on October 24, 2023 and featured an opportunity to map, by site, the current MDMTSS (Academic, SEL, and Behavioral) supports for students. The next CIA meeting is scheduled for November 28, 2023.
- Completed the 2nd Articulation meeting for grades 5-12 (November 1st). The goals of this round were to finish the “Ins-and-Outs” by grade-level, while transitioning to the review of the CCSS and state testing blue-prints, to support mapping Essential Standards for each grade level. This, completing the Curriculum Maps, is a continued effort which will require additional release time, starting with the core subjects.
- The next window for Map Growth testing is set to open on November 27, 2023, the second round for this year.
- Current CAASPP scores from 2022/23 are now public through CDE’s Dataquest. The California School Dashboards are due for release on December 15, 2023. A scoring pamphlet was distributed to the Board.

5.7 Superintendent – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- There have been a lot of fun and engaging activities happening at all of the schools the past few weeks. It’s exciting to see the faculty and staff plan these activities, which include the homecoming parade and halftime show, Murdock Fall Festival, the pumpkin decorating contest, the Community

Wellness Walk, the Halloween Carnival at WCHS, the WIS teachers wearing their t-shirts with student sayings, and best of all was the staff and student costumes on Halloween.

- Erin Taylor and Mr. Koerperich have attended two ACSA Personnel Academy weekend sessions this past month. This academy has been very relevant with topics such as job descriptions, classifications, compensation, bargaining, credentialing and investigations, to name a few.
- Held district vertical articulation meeting on November 1, 2023. Mr. Koerperich facilitated the science department, Mr. Booth the math department, and Mr. Harris the social science department. Ms. Carriere was responsible for the CTE and electives meeting and Mr. Barriga worked at Murdock with the elementary teachers. The purpose of the meetings was to discuss the process of planning instruction and assessments to improve academic achievement for all students. Mr. Koerperich provided two documents to the Board: Science Articulation Meeting Agenda and Planning Instruction and Assessments for the Success of all Students. Having highly effective instruction doesn't just happen automatically. Need to identify the students who are struggling academically and find a way to provide support, whether it's in class, lunchtime, before or after school, or by intervention program.
- On the district website, there is a press release and a FAQ sheet with responses posted regarding the Ag Learning Facility.
- District enrollment is 1,389 students.

5.8 Board of Education Members

Kirsten Gray reported:

- Thanked Carol Martin for her dedication to our district.
- Enjoyed homecoming. The floats were very creative

Lourdes Ruiz reported:

- Enjoyed homecoming. Thought it was good to have that extra week during October break for float building. It kept the students busy.
- Attended Senior Night.
- Attended the Wellness Walk.
- Made a site visit to WIS.
- Made a shout out to the Spelling Bee participants.
- Thanked Carol Martin for her service.
- Joined Murdock's Instagram.

Margaret Parisio reported:

- Thanked Carol Martin for her service.
- Homecoming was great. The floats were impressive.
- Attended Senior Night for football and volleyball.

Gina Taylor reported:

- Homecoming was great. Saw lots of enthusiasm.
- Senior Night was great.
- Congratulations to Carol Martin and her volleyball team. There are good life lessons learned in these programs.
- Attended part of a day at the GSRMA Rolling Hills event.
- Thank you to Kristi Hill and FFA for having the trailer at Saint Monica's church trunk or treat.

Jeremy Geiger reported:

- Spoke about Carol's volleyball program and her success as a coach by starting small and building the program from the ground up.
- Thank you to all WUSD staff.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. Approve WUSD Obsolete Technology Equipment List.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Approve Interdistrict Request for Students #23-24-44 to attend school in the Willows Unified School District for the 2023/24 school year.

- 2. Approve Interdistrict Request for Students #23-24-41 through #23-24-47 to attend school in another district for the 2023/24 school year.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

- 1. Approve employment of Janett Rodriguez Barajas, Account Clerk (Cafeteria), effective 10/30/23.
- 2. Approve employment of Rosa Lomeli, After School Program Activity Assistant at MES, effective 11/6/23 (pending clearance).
- 3. Approve employment of Tyler Lee, WHS Teacher, effective 10/30/23.
- 4. Approve the following Extra Duty Assignment for WHS:

Ernesto Rodriguez	Saturday School
-------------------	-----------------
- 5. Approve the employment of the following coaches for the 2023/24 school year:

Martin Castillo	Girls Soccer Head Coach
Baduel Ramirez	Volunteer Girls and Boys Soccer Coach
Bill Weller	Volunteer Golf Coach

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

- 1. Approve budget revision summary.
- 2. Approve warrants from 10/10/23 through 10/30/23.
- 3. Approve ASB Quarterly Reports – MES/WIS/WHS.

Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the Consent Calendar.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

7. DISCUSSION/ACTION CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

- 1. **(Information)** First Reading of the following additions/deletions/changes to Board Policies per CSBA’s Policy Guidesheet Recommendations:

BP 1113	District and School Websites
BP 4112.2	Certification
BP 4140/4240/4340	Bargaining Units
BP 5117	Interdistrict Attendance
BP 5141.5	Mental Health
BP 5141.6	School Health Services
BP 5145.6	Parent/Guardian Notifications
BP 6146.4	Differential Graduation and Competency Standards for Students with Disabilities
BP 6159.2	Nonpublic, Nonsectarian School and Agency Services for Special Education
BP 6174	Education for English Learners
BB 9322	Agenda/Meeting Materials

Information only – no action taken.

- 2. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #23-24-07 Veterans Day Observance.
Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve Resolution #23-24-07 Veterans Day Observance. (Roll call vote was taken.)

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES – None

C. HUMAN RESOURCES - None

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

- 1. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2023-24-06 Adoption of the “Gann Limit”. (Annual Requirement)

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Jeremy Geiger to approve Resolution #23-24-06 Adoption of the “Gann Limit”. (Roll call vote was taken.)

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

2. **(Action)** Approve the Unaudited Actuals Financial Report for the Fiscal Year 2022-23.

Jeremy Geiger moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the Unaudited Actuals Financial Report for the Fiscal Year 2022-23.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

3. **(Discussion/Possible Action)** HMC Agreement for Architect & Engineering – Murdock Cooling Tower HVAC Replacement.

Discussion ensued regarding the Murdock Cooling Tower HVAC Replacement which includes the demolition and removal of the existing cooling tower and boiler systems which serves the 100 through 500 wings. Split system units comprised of heat pumps and condensers will be installed for each room and office space to improve ventilation, system management and controls. The projected costs are currently \$1.3 million, the vast majority of which will come from the CalSHAPE Ventilation Program.

Jeremy Geiger moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the HMC Agreement for Architect & Engineering - Murdock Cooling Tower HVAC Replacement.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

4. **(Discussion/Possible Action)** HMC Agreement for Architect & Engineering – Willows High School Agricultural Facility.

Emmett Koerperich gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Willows High School Agricultural Facility which included steps taken to address issues raised by the neighborhood to mitigate potential project impacts. Debbie Costello went over the proposed project costs and funding sources.

Jeremy Geiger moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the HMC Agreement for Architect & Engineering – Willows High School Agricultural Facility.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

5. **(Discussion/Possible Action)** HMC Agreement for Architect & Engineering – Willows High School Front Office Modernization.

Emmett Koerperich gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Willows High School Front Office Modernization. This project includes the rebuild of the current non-certified (not DSA approved) counseling center and modernization of the administrative front office. The current projected cost of the project is \$1.5 million.

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the HMC Agreement for Architect & Engineering – Willows High School Front Office Modernization.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

8. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

8.1 Veterans’ Day Holiday (no school) will be observed on November 10, 2023.

8.2 Murdock Elementary will be holding Parent-Teacher Conferences November 13-18, 2023. School will be dismissed at 12:00 p.m.

8.3 There will be a district-wide Thanksgiving break from November 20 – November 24, 2023.

8.4 The next Regular & Organizational Board Meeting will be held on December 7, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

9. **PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ITEMS** – None

At 8:49 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 conclusion of Closed Session.

10. **CLOSED SESSION**

Closed Session began at 8:57 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**

10.1 Announcement of Action Taken in Closed Session

At 9:55 p.m., the meeting reconvened to Open Session. President Geiger reported out:

10.1 Update given to the Board.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 9:56 p.m.