

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting – March 7, 2024

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 pm. Members present were Jeromy Geiger, Kirsten Gray, Lourdes Ruiz, and Gina Taylor. Margaret Parisio was absent.
- 1.2 Welcome to Visitors
- 1.3 Flag Salute was led by Morgan Cirigliano.

2. AGENDA/MINUTES

- 2.1 Approve the Agenda for March 7, 2024.
President Geiger corrected the effective date on item 5.C.6. The effective date should be 6/7/24 not 6/30/24. Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Agenda for March 7, 2024 as amended.
AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: Parisio
MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1
- 2.2 Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 1, 2024.
Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 1, 2024.
AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: Parisio
MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

4. REPORTS

- 4.1 **Associated Student Body President – President Jordan Thomas reported:**
 - Freshmen class is getting ready for the Sadie Hawkins dance which will be held March 18, 2024.
 - The Junior class just recently had a successful Burrito Drive-Thru Fundraiser.
 - The Senior trip has been planned for May 3, 2024. The destination is Santa Cruz.
 - WHS ASB is collaborating with the WIS 8th grade class. They have been meeting so that the 8th grade class can see everything that the high school has to offer to include classes, clubs, and sports.
 - Prom tickets are on sale.
 - ASB will be having a fundraiser on March 27, 2024 at 7:00 pm. It will be a Staff vs. Student basketball game.
 - The Key Club is having a blood drive on March 21, 2024.
 - Spring sports are starting up. ASB is putting up locker décor for the Spring sports athletes.
 - There will be an upcoming rally where it will be the varsity girls volleyball team vs the senior boys.
 - Planning a senior awards assembly in order to give recognition to all seniors and senior athletes. This will be held on May 29, 2024.
 - The new Herkimer mascot uniform has arrived.
- 4.2 **Employee Associations (WUTA & CSEA)**
 - WUTA – President Cathy Fleming reported:**
 - Spoke in regards to the ongoing negotiations between WUTA and the district.
 - CSEA – President Kathleen Morrison reported:**
 - CSEA approved the initial proposal to the district at their last chapter meeting held on February 28, 2024.

- There is a new CSEA Regional Representative – Jody Miller, who attended the chapter meeting. The new chapter officers were sworn in.
- Several members will be attending the Bargaining Academy Training and School Board Elections.
- Kathleen Morrison has been attending the Chapter President Leadership Program.
- Thank you to Debbie Costello for the quick response to the necessary and relevant information request from CSEA for the budget analysis.
- Kathleen Morrison attended a safety meeting on February 26, 2024.
- Hosting a CalPERS pre-retirement seminar on April 13, 2024 in Orland. Members need to rsvp at CSEA.com.
- CSEA Willows Chapter 119 will be participating in the Willows High School Scholarships again this year.

4.3 Principals

WHS – Julie Carriere reported:

- Current is 439 students.
- Up to 86% period attendance rate.
- The Instructional Leadership team is meeting and working on a comprehensive discipline matrix that is clear, concise, and sustainable.
- Spring activities have started. Sports, fair animals, and fair projects are well underway.
- Principal Carriere and the counselors have been working on the student schedules for next year. They have been working through and removing boundaries for all of the students.
- Have been looking into programs that can help to introduce students to SEL lessons, either integrated into the classroom or through advisory or after school programs.
- Hosting the second FAFSA night on March 18, 2024 for parents and students to help them with navigating the FAFSA site.
- School Site Council will be meeting the week of March 11th to review and approve the SPSA.
- Seniors participated in a program put on by Sierra Central Credit Union called Bite of Reality. They utilized their cell phones to “play” at being a grown-up. They were randomly assigned a profession, salary, spouse, and possible children. Then proceeded through the various stations that were set up. It was a very interactive activity put on by Amanda Hutson.
- Next week will be celebrating two of members of the staff as Classified and Certificated Staff Members of the Year. The recipients were voted on by the staff. The Certificated Staff Member of the Year is Robert Stupey and the Classified Staff Member of the Year is Elvira Sandoval.
- Sports reported by Bob Rawles:
 - Spring Sports: Track and Field, JV and Varsity Baseball, Softball, Boys Tennis, and Golf are all in process with practices and games.
 - It’s great seeing all of the student athletes.
 - The high school athletes will be helping with the training of and fostering of the Walden and WIS track teams.
 - Super excited to report a tremendous unification of our sports community.
 - There was recently some project work for Track and Field done by some local community members and student athletes led by Jeremiah Spooner. He is one of the Volunteer Track coaches. There were donations of labor and materials to put in a new long jump, triple jump runway, and a new shotput area. There are more donations expected to put in a high jump area.

WIS – Chris Harris reported:

- Current enrollment is 334 students.
- Chronic absenteeism is up to 18.1% from 15% in January. March 7th is the 120th day of school. Will be sending out letters for students that have missed 12 or more days of school.
- 6th grade girls and boys basketball has begun.
- Sign-ups for track and field will start the week of March 11th.
- Midway through the 3rd quarter. It is always a balance of finishing strong, but also looking into next year and making plans and adjustments to improve.
- Currently working on the Master schedule to include the 5th grade and also more enrichment classes.
- Greatly appreciate Xochitl Rodriguez for organizing the 8th grade trip to the Silver Dollar Fairgrounds for “Leap into Your Future” career Fair that was held on February 29, 2024.
- Michell O’Dell is our district lead for the Community Engagement Initiative Grant. The team met in-person with the rest of the cohort in San Francisco on December 8th. This was the first in-person meeting.

Michelle has done a great job of putting together our team, and is also doing a great job of keeping the team organized and moving forward. There was a Zoom meeting on March 6, 2024 and there will be another in-person meeting in southern California in April.

- Congratulations to Maria Briones and Veronica Feregrino for being recognized as WIS's Certificated and Classified Staff Members of the year, respectively. They were nominated by the WIS staff and their peers. We will have the pleasure of recognizing them at an event sponsored by ACSA next week in Chico.
- Thank you to our students in Mr. Cronin's class that participated in the STEM Expo put on by the Glenn County Office of Education. Hopefully, we can grow these numbers to involve more students in the future.
- At the end of March, Mr. Tate and Mrs. Evans will have all of our students take the Physical Fitness Test. Additionally, Mrs. Briones will have our 55+ EL students take the ELPAC at the end of the month.
- The end of the 3rd Quarter is March 22, 2024.
- 8th grade parents continue to work hard to raise monies for the 8th grade class trip. The next meeting is scheduled for March 28, 2024.
- Everyone is invited to the 6th grade basketball games to be held on March 12th. There will be a survey conducted. Everyone who takes the survey will receive a free barbecued hotdog. Come enjoy the basketball game, take the survey, and enjoy a hotdog. The cost of a hotdog is \$3 if you don't take the survey.

MES – Miguel Barriga reported:

- Focus continues to be academic. The goal in February was to have a high participation in the Glenn County STEM Expo. Happy to report that in addition to the fabulous Miss Mabel Niehues (2nd grade student), Murdock submitted class projects from Mrs. Mascadri's 1st grade class (received 2nd place), Mrs. Trujillo's 3rd grade class (received 1st place), Mrs. Vicky Berens's 3rd grade (received 2nd place), Mrs. Alves's 3rd grade class (received 1st place), Mrs. Cameron's 4th grade class (received 1st place), Ms. Lev's 5th grade class (received 1st and 2nd place), Mrs. Porter's 5th grade class (received 1st place), and Mrs. Kamienski's 5th grade class (received 3rd place and the Glenn County Farm Bureau Award). Ms. Lev was the organizer and inspiration for the re-entry into the Expo. For pictures, videos, and reactions, follow us on Instagram.
- The 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades are continuing to focus on the end of year state assessments to be in early May. The English Learners school wide are currently taking the ELPAC.
- 12 Murdock Instructional Aides are participating in an 18-hour training session on March 6-8, 2024. The course teaches the three-part drill, teaching letter formation, irregular words, and syllable division among other skills. They are learning the IMSE strategies to be able to provide a higher level of support to our students and teachers. Very grateful for their service and for the District and Board support in our efforts to use the best practices for teaching reading.
- Project ARISE is continuing as professional development for all teachers, but targeting 4th and 5th grade. The goal is to inform on strategies in reading and literacy.
- Later in March, the Butte/Glenn ACSA will be recognizing the efforts of Panra Lor, as Classified Employee of the Year, and Kenzie Maszk, as Certificated Employee of the Year, in supporting students with reading interventions. Their practice goes beyond the classroom in partnering with students, parents, and resources.
- Murdock PTO held a successful pulled pork drive thru dinner fundraiser. Thank you to all who helped make this a big success.
- The PTO will be putting on a Movie Night around March 22nd.
- Recently established a relationship with Glenn County Health and Human Services Agency as they expand their efforts with the tobacco education program. Will be working with them on tobacco related issues.
- It's Field Trip season. There are a lot of field trips going on. It's nice to see the extension of our classrooms out into the community that include performing arts, the animal world and habitats, and agriculture.
- Thank you to Mrs. Lanzi for all she has accomplished this past month in getting the staff trained on safety and her work with attendance. Her hard work is appreciated.
- Current enrollment is 618 students:
 - TK – 29
 - K – 90
 - 1st – 88

- 2nd – 84
- 3rd – 91
- 4th – 132
- 5th - 104
- TK and kindergarten registration has opened.
- Grateful for Murdock. It’s a special place.

WCHS – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- Current enrollment is 21 students.
- On January 25th, the staff and students attended the Chico Trades Day at the Silver Dollar Fairgrounds. The students that attended got to experience a wide variety of trades and workplace options.
- There is a field trip scheduled to go to Chico for a Butte County ROP program tour on March 15, 2024. These programs are intended for anyone seeking a new career, a career focus, or an upgrading of current skills. It is a post-secondary option and students need to be 18 to participate. Current programs offered are: Medical Assistant, Registered Dental Assistant, Certified Veterinary Assistant, Phlebotomy Technician, and Professional Welding Academy.
- In efforts to have our students obtain a career certification prior to graduation, 9 students completed the 2-day CPR/First aid training during the February winter break.
- Career Tech, Amanda Hutson, plans to work with our students on Wednesdays to complete their senior portfolios. The portfolios will include a cover letter, resume, standard employment application, work-related documents (employment history, volunteer history, education history), references, career research, and achievements.
- The field trip to Lassen National Park for the Snowshoe hike has been postponed. Expecting to go on March 29th instead.
- The next big engineering/science project will be an egg drop test once the weather warms up.

4.4 Director of Food Services – no report.

4.5 Director of Business Services – Debbie Costello reported:

- Gave a slide presentation on enrollment and ADA information.
 - We haven’t reviewed this in the last couple of years because of the suspension of attendance data in the COVID era and then being funded based on 2019/20 for a number of years.
 - We are now starting to see the ongoing impact of the increased absenteeism and how that is affecting the current year as well as how it will affect future years.
 - We are now being impacted by the significant attendance ratio declines and declining enrollment.
 - The impact of the loss of ADA equates to a loss in funding.
 - When we talk about the impact of funding, and we talk about the impact of revenue, revenue increases through the cost-of-living adjustment, or the factors that drive LCFF, not being mindful of that ADA impact is harmful to the fiscal stability of the district.
 - If we are able to increase ADA and the attendance ratio percentage, this could increase funding.
 - The intent and impact of having meaningful and effective attendance improvement programs is definitely valid and can provide significant resources to the district, which then helps with staffing and all of the other resources that are needed to provide services to our students.

4.6 Director of Instructional Support Services – Michelle O’Dell reported:

- **After School Program**
 - Connected with the Red Cross. They taught our middle school classes hands only CPR and the 3rd-5th grade students the importance of family and personal emergency preparedness and safety skills for emergency situations that could happen in the area they live in.
 - There is a Ballet Folklorico group. It’s an opportunity for WUSD students of all grades to learn the dances and hopefully perform at the Cinco de Mayo Event that will be held on May 3, 2024. Nora Ayala and Maria Briones will be teaching the dance. Registration closes Friday, March 8, 2024. The practices will start the following week. They will be on Wednesdays from 3:45-4:30 at Murdock Elementary.
- **Expanded Learning Opportunities Program Plan**
 - The February 21-23, 2024 TK-6th grade Music and STEM Intersession Camps at Murdock had an average attendance of 45 students. Music Camp learned about rhythm, made instruments like rain sticks and drums, and practiced playing them. The STEM Camp learned about habitats, geology, volcanoes and engineering. Students had fun building their nests and then doing trial drops to see if the nests protected their “bird”.

- **Long-term Independent Study**
 - Enrollment is 21 students: MES – 4, WIS – 2, WHS – 15
- **Engagement Team**
 - The Community Engagement Initiative (CEI) Team from WIS attended the second in-person conference February 1-2, 2024 held in Santa Clara.
 - Able to hear from multiple school districts who have been working on their community engagement, the problem of practice they identified, and what they have implemented to help improve. It gave us many ideas.
 - Continue to make progress in our listening campaign to hear from our parents, family, and community members. Were able to hold some focus groups with WIS parents and students to ask follow up questions as to what was in the Google Form Survey and held grade level student focus groups at WIS to ask follow up questions about the themes of student apathy, homework and class work load, and student stress and anxiety. All were themes that arose from the Google Form Survey that was sent out in December. Will be at the March 12, 2024 WIS 6th grade basketball games to try to gather more input via a survey. There will be a WIS Quality Dog provided to all who complete a survey.
 - Have the opportunity on March 21, 2024 to see a Community School in action as part of a site visit in Anaheim Unified High School District. Will be attending with Aaron Koch, the community Schools County Lead from GCOE.
 - There will be a Family STEM Night at WIS cafeteria on March 15, 2024 6:30-7:30pm. Come participate in one of the engineering challenges.

4.7 Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment – no report.

4.8 Superintendent – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- Saturday, March 16, 2024, 66 people representing the district will be in attendance at the Sacramento Kings game against the New York Knicks. It was a lot of fun last year. Looking forward to another great time with this district team building activity.
- Ginno Construction is set to begin the Murdock TK and ELOP buildings construction project and the high school office modernization project on Monday, March 18, 2024. Both schools have been making the necessary arrangements to move into temporary accommodations for the remainder of the semester.
- The district office nominated Nora Ayala and Nicole Chavez as Classified Employees of the Year. They will be celebrated at the event sponsored by ACSA next week in Chico.
- Want to take this opportunity to celebrate the success of our teachers’ efforts to put into place the essential pieces that will allow all students to be successful in the district.
 - Provided a PowerPoint presentation showing the roadmap that is being used to implement high yield strategies for student achievement. It is really important that these best practices be followed:
 1. Identify essential standards.
 2. Develop multiple assessments to measure Mastery of Essential Standards over time.
 3. Develop Pacing Guides which provide a guaranteed and viable curriculum.
 4. Develop Highly Effective Instruction Aligned to Standards and Assessments.
 5. Develop a District Benchmark calendar.
 6. Use Formative Benchmark Assessments.
 7. Collaboration Day Data Analysis and Implementation of Best Practices.
 8. Summative Unit Assessments.
 9. Develop Department/District Grading Practices that reflect Mastery of Standards.

4.9 Board of Education Members

Kirsten Gray reported:

- Would like to encourage coaches to be positive role models and encourage good sportsmanship.

Lourdes Ruiz reported:

- Would also like to encourage coaches to be positive remodels and encourage good sportsmanship.
- Would like to thank Michaud Aviation, Central Valley Gas Storage LLC, and Jim Domenighini for their donations.

Gina Taylor reported:

- Attended the WHS Boosters Annual Fundraising Dinner. It was well attended and the food was very good.
- Attended the Murdock PTO Pulled Pork Drive-thru fundraiser.
- Congratulations to all the recipients who will be honored at the ACSA Certificated and Classified Employees of the Year events.
- Enjoyed Mr. Koerperich’s PowerPoint presentation and how we are now using data.

Jeromy Geiger – no report.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. Accept donation from Michaud Aviation in the amount of \$500.00 for the WHS Baseball program.
2. Accept donation from Central Valley Gas Storage LLC in the amount of \$750.00 for the WHS Baseball program.
3. Accept donation from Jim Domenighini of a tumbling mat with estimated value of \$200-\$500 for WIS.
4. Approve the WUSD Obsolete Technology Equipment list.
5. Approve the WUSD Surplus Technology Equipment list.
6. Approve the WUSD Obsolete Medical Equipment list.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Approve Interdistrict Request for Student #23-24-54 to attend school in another district for the 2023/24 school year.
2. Approve Interdistrict Requests for Students #24-25-04 through #24-25-09 to attend school in the Willows Unified School District for the 2024/25 school year.
3. Approve Interdistrict Request for Student #24-25-03 to attend school in another district for the 2024/25 school year.
4. Approve the Overnight Field Trip Request for the WHS Student Leaders to attend a Leadership conference at the Ontario Convention Center in Ontario, CA on April 12-15,2024.
5. Approve the Overnight Field Trip Request for the WHS FCCLA to attend the FCCLA State Leadership Conference on April 27-30, 2024 at the Riverside Convention Center in Riverside, CA.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Accept the resignation of Norarose Britton-Cano, After School Program Activity Assistant at MES, effective 3/1/24.
2. Accept the resignation of Gabriela Martinez, After School Program Activity Assistant at MES, effective 3/1/24.
3. Accept the resignation of Mariah Baker, After School Program Activity Assistant at MES, effective 3/8/24.
4. Accept the resignation of Rosalba Flores, Instructional Aide I at MES, effective 3/15/24.
5. Accept the resignation of Leanna Pebley, MES Teacher, effective 6/7/24.
6. Accept resignation of Marissa Willits, MES Teacher, effective ~~6/30/24~~ **6/7/24**.
7. Approve the employment of Mariana Gonzalez, Secretary I at WIS, effective 2/16/24.
8. Approve the employment of the following employees for the ELOP Intersession Sports Camp that runs from 2/21/24-2/23/24:
Camp Counselors Anjelica Medrano, Emanuel Guadiana, Angel Medina
9. Approve the Classified Substitute List.
10. Approve Samantha Brott for WHS Athletic Ticket Sales.
11. Approve the following WHS Spring Sports Coaches for the 2023/24 school year:
JV Baseball Coach Steve Gleason
Baseball Volunteer Coach Richard Welsh
Baseball Volunteer Coach Ryan Welsh
Softball Volunteer Coach Samantha Parisio

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. Approve budget revision summary.
2. Approve warrants from 1/30/24 through 3/4/24.
3. Approve ASB Quarterly Reports – MES & WIS.

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the Consent Calendar.

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AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: Parisio
MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

6. DISCUSSION/ACTION CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

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

BP 0410	Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities
BP 1312.2	Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials
E(1) 1312.2	Complaints Concerning Instructional Materials
BP 1312.3	Uniform Complaint Procedures
E(1) 1312.4	Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures
E(2) 1312.4	Williams Uniform Complaint Procedures
BP 5145.3	Nondiscrimination/Harassment
BP 6143	Courses of Study
BP 6161.1	Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials
E(1) 6161.1	Selection and Evaluation of Instructional Materials
BP 6161.11	Supplementary Instructional Materials
BP 6163.1	Library Media Center

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

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: Parisio
MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

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

BP 1160	Political Process
BP 1330	Use of School Facilities
BP 3312	Contracts
BP 3460	Financial Reports and Accountability
BP 3551	Food Service Operations/Cafeteria Fund
BP 4151/4251/4351	Employee Compensation
BP 5131.9	Academic Honesty
BP 6154	Homework/Makeup Work
BP 6162.5	Student Assessment
BB 9124	Attorney

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

BP 0460	Local Control and Accountability Plan
BP 0500	Accountability
BP 0520	Intervention in Underperforming Schools
BP 1431	Waivers
BP 3400	Management of District Assets/Accounts
BP 5116.2	Involuntary Student Transfers
BP 5131.2	Bullying
BP 6142.8	Comprehensive Health Education
BP 6146.1	High School Graduation Requirements
BP 6146.4	Differential Graduation and Competency
	Standards for Students with Disabilities
BP 6170.1	Transitional Kindergarten
BB 9321	Closed Session

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. **(Action)** Approve the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program Plan (ELOP).

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program Plan (ELOP)

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Parisio

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 2023-2026.

President Geiger opened the Public Hearing at 8:24 p.m.

No Comments/Input.

President Geiger closed the Public Hearing at 8:25 p.m.

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 School District (WUSD) to the California School Employees Association #119 (CSEA) for the 2023/2024 school year.

President Geiger opened the Public Hearing at 8:25 p.m.

No Comments/Input

President Geiger closed the Public Hearing at 8:26 p.m.

3. **(Action)** Approve the renewal of the Job Share of Deidre Romano (50%) and Kayla Hurt Bassetti (50%) for the MES ELA Intervention Teacher, effective 8/6/24 – 6/6/25.

Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the renewal of the Job Share of Deidre Romano (50%) and Kayla Hurt Bassetti (50%) for the MES ELA Intervention Teacher, effective 8/6/24 – 6/6/25.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Parisio

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

D. BUSINESS SERVICES – None.

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

7.1 Glenn County STEM Expo will be held on March 6, 2024 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Glenn County Fairgrounds.

7.2 The WIS Cardinal Band & WHS Honker Band will be attending the Region III Band Festival held at Butte College in Oroville on March 15, 2024

7.3 The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on April 4, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Willows Civic Center.

8. **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 into Open Session upon the conclusion of Closed Session.

9. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session began at 8:37 p.m.

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

9.2 Pursuant to §54957: Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release.

9.3 Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Gov. Code, §54956.9(d)(1))

Name of case: *Willows Residents for Due Process v. Board of Trustees of Willows Unified School District, et al.*; Case No. 23CV03289

10. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

10.1 Announcement of Action Taken in Closed Session.

At 9:47 p.m., the meeting reconvened to Open Session. President Geiger reported out:

9.1: Update given to the Board. Direction given to the Superintendent and Legal Counsel.

9.2: a) In closed session, the Board took action, adopting Resolution #2023-24-09 by a 4-0-1 vote, to issue a notice of non-reelection to probationary certificated employee, identified by employee #1587, and pursuant to Education Code section 44929.21(b), effective at the end of the 2023/24 school year, and directed the Superintendent or designee to send out appropriate legal notices.

The roll call vote was as follows:

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Parisio

b) In closed session, the Board took action, adopting Resolution #2023-24-11 by a 4-0-1 vote, to issue a notice of non-reelection to probationary certificated employee, identified by employee #1696, and pursuant to Education Code section 44929.21(b), effective at the end of the 2023/24 school year, and directed the Superintendent or designee to send out appropriate legal notices.

The roll call vote was as follows:

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Parisio

9.3: During the recently concluded closed session, the Board voted to approve a Settlement Agreement with Willows Residents for Due Process (Willows Residents). The dispute related to alleged violations of the California Environmental Quality Act and City of Willows zoning ordinances regarding the design and construction of the District’s agricultural barn project for Willows High School, anticipated to be constructed in the summer of 2024 (Project).

The vote was: 4-0-1

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Parisio

The Settlement Agreement resolves all disputes alleged in the *Willows Residents for Due Process v. Board of Trustees of Willows Unified School District* litigation. The Settlement Agreement is a compromise of disputed issues, and not an admission of any liability or wrongdoing by either party.

Under the Settlement Agreement, the parties have agreed to waive claims for attorneys’ fees and costs. The Settlement Agreement includes Willows Residents’ release of claims asserted against the District in the litigation, and Willows Residents will dismiss the litigation with prejudice.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:49 p.m.

