

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting – August 3, 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-Vice President Gina Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Member present were Gina Taylor, Kirsten Gray, Margaret Parisio, and Lourdes Ruiz. President Jeromy Geiger was absent.
- 1.2 Welcome to Visitors
- 1.3 Flag Salute led by Julie Carriere

2. AGENDA/MINUTES

- 2.1 Approve the Agenda for August 3, 2023.
Gina Taylor corrected a typo of the date on Consent Calendar Item C.9. The effective date is July 31, 2023 not August 8, 2023.
Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Margaret Parisio to approve the Agenda for August 3, 2023.
AYES: Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: Geiger
MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1
- 2.2 Approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of June 12, 2023 and the Regular Meeting of June 15, 2023.
Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Margaret Parisio to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of June 12, 2023 and the Regular Meeting of June 15, 2023.
AYES: Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: Geiger
MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Crystal Ferrer, the Labor Relations Representative for the California School Employees Association from the Sacramento Field Office spoke in regards to the recent Tentative Agreement between the Willows Unified School District and the California School Employees Association Willows Chapter #119.
- Madelyn Coffman spoke about the Boys & Girls Club of America and about bringing the Club to Willows. She explained what the Boys & Girls Club is all about. It is a national nonprofit organization which provides programs and services to promote and enhance the development of boys and girls and provides youth with a safe, constructive, supportive environment when they are not at home or at school. There is a local community group that would like to bring this to Willows. The group started out as the Pool Adhoc Committee. They would like to see the City Pool open again for our youth by summer of 2024. They would like keep the momentum going and give back to our youth. They turned themselves into a Town Hall Meeting. They would really like to see something for our older children. They would like to focus on the junior high and above age group by providing places and activities for these children after school and in the summer. She stated that the Club will not compete with the After School Program provided by the District. The Boy & Girls Club will be creating a feasibility report to see if it is feasible for the Boys & Girls Club to come to Willows. The local community group created a survey. She brought the community survey of which she left copies of with the Board Members and for the public. They will be going to local businesses to ask for donations to help fund and having gatherings for people to express any concerns and to share ideas. She would be happy to answer any questions.

4. REPORTS

- 4.1 **Employee Associations (WUTA & CSEA)**
WUTA – No Report

CSEA – Kathleen Morrison reported:

- Spoke in regards to the Tentative Agreement. It has been approved by CSEA. There were a record number of CSEA members who voted.
- They are happy about the offering of the HSA. Tova Miracle of CVT is coming to the District to present.
- Our Chapter has been nominated/selected to attend the Member Unity Program in southern California in September.
- Cafeteria members had been told that there would be training.
- Thank you to the District for the new state of the arts kitchens at Murdock and the High School.
- Irma Weinrich (local member) hopes to attend the Annual Paraeducator Conference training March 12-13, 2024.
- Kathleen had two student helpers through GCOE this summer.

4.2 Principals**WHS – Julie Carriere reported:**

- Would like to introduce Gary Pogue as our new Assistant Principal and welcome him to the Willows Family.
- We have been working constantly on the staffing and scheduling needs of the High School and are close to getting the schedules out to the students.
- We start next week with our 2nd annual Freshman Orientation and another wonderful hotdog luncheon cooked by our own WUSD Board President Jeromy Geiger.
- Looking forward to welcoming over 5 new teachers to the Honker Family this year.
- Inservice days are planned and school starts in one week.
- **WHS Athletics – Bob Rawles reported:**
 - Fall Sports started July 31, 2023.
 - Busy clearing student athletes and creating an event staff.
 - Swim – practice starts August 10th with Coach Sears. Schedule will be available soon.
 - Cross Country – practice starts August 10th with Coach Stupey and new Coach LaGrande. We will have our 1st Home Cross Country Meet, which we haven't had in a long, long time. Carriere Family Farms is offering up the site.
 - Cheer – Coach Vargas reports that the squad is estimated to be 28-30. First performance will be August 25th at Home game against Durham.
 - Girls Tennis – Coaches McNeil and Garcia returning. Schedule packets were handed out to the Board. Number of participants is way up.
 - Volleyball – Varsity Coach Martin returns and there is a new JV Coach Sheppard. First home game in August 15th.
 - Football – 2 teams between 30-35 players. Coach Adams has assembled a staff of 12 coaches to help between the 2 teams. First Home game is on August 25th against Durham.
 - Thanked the Boosters who has offered to purchase away game day polo shirts as well as individual player backpacks for all the different programs.
 - The annual WHS Boosters Golf Tournament is this Saturday at Glenn Golf & Country Club.
 - Planning to have the Fall Sports Street Festival on August 23rd in conjunction with the Farmers Market.
 - Asking the Board and Mr. Koerperich for help in moving to Go Fan digital ticketing. Every sport that we charge ticketing for will be digital ticketing. Forced by the League and our growing referee expenses to raise the price to \$7 per ticket. Digital ticketing removes all worry about actual cash money at our site. Other league members also going with digital ticketing. Looking for help in getting this information out on the new system. Ideas discussed were: on the District website, putting out banners, social media, post at local businesses such as Marval, Boards Galore, Carte Blanche, at the school site in visible areas, and the local Chamber of Commerce website.

WIS – Chris Harris reported:

- Getting the finishing touches on construction on campus. Absolutely phenomenal the way it has all turned out. Working on getting everything in shape for next Thursday. The construction projects have completely transformed the school. Incredibly grateful for the Board to support such endeavors.
- Asking for patience and flexibility while the finishing touches are being put on.
- Asking for patience and flexibility in regards to the finalization of the Master Schedule.

- There is a good balance in each grade level. There is quite a bit of flux with new students enrolling and some students leaving. We are currently at 312 students (106-6th, 104-7th, 102-8th). It will take a few weeks to get an accurate assessment of our real numbers.
- Thank you to the ladies in the office for hitting the ground running when they returned to work.
- Many teachers have already been on campus gearing up for the new year.
- WIS is welcoming 5 new teachers this year, possibly a 6th.
- Appreciated our Management Team meeting we had on July 31st. The absolute focus in on safety and student achievement.
- Mr. Booth has been and will be instrumental in desegregating our data and achievement numbers to help our focus on closing the achievement gap.
- Thank you to our Engagement Team for organizing the Community Back to School event to be held on August 8th for students in our community.
- Back to School Night will be on August 17th
- Learning the new mass communication system - Parent Square.
- The new rooms and front office will be use on the 1st day of school.

MES – Miguel Barriga reported:

- Will continue with the whole school MTSS, will introduce the new Project Arise with our 4th & 5th teachers, continue the implementation of a structured reading program for K-3 integrating IMSE strategies into the curriculum, refining our PLC process in grade levels, curriculum alignment and articulation vertically, and refining our standards based teaching and learning.
- A group of 7 attended the MTSS Conference two weeks ago in Anaheim. We all took something home to put into place. We will continue to grow in the area of academic and social emotional interventions. We are continuing to grow with Hatching Results and expanding the role of the school counselor in include academic, social, and career education.
- We are continuing our partnership with Chico State and the NorCal ELC project. Our focus will continue in SEL but expand to academic as well as our problems of practice.
- We will continue to work with GCOE and Glenn County Behavioral Health to take full advantage of the available resources in SEL Social Emotional Learning.
- We will continue to create fun and engaging opportunities for our students.
- We currently have 614 students enrolled:
 - TK-27
 - K-82
 - 1st-87
 - 2nd-84
 - 3rd-95
 - 4th-135
 - 5th-104
- Welcome to our “newish” staff joining us from WIS. Mrs. Barley, Mrs. Kamienski, and Mrs. Ksander.
- Thank you to Stacy Lanzi and Michelle O’Dell who worked with the summer school staff; Scott Booth for working through curriculum; Debbie and Emmett; and the custodial crew.
- We will be continuing to serve our meals outside for the first couple of weeks until the cafeteria facility is completed.
- Looking forward to a great school year.

WCHS – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- Welcome back everyone.
- Pleased to announce Michaela Soeth as our new teacher. She will also teach two periods of Dance at the High School.
- Maria Garcia will be returning as the Instructional Aide.
- We will be holding the 1st faculty meeting next Wednesday.
- Our goal this year is to continue to improve upon the academic rigor and relevance, focus on increasing the number of CTE opportunities and certificates so that they are career ready upon graduation.
- Would like to plan some engaging academic field trips and cultural events.
- We have 15 returning students: 14 seniors and 1 junior.

4.3 Director of Business Services – No Report

4.4 Director of Instructional Support Services – No Report.**4.5 Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment – Scott Booth reported:**

- Aeries End of Year reporting was completed and certified prior the July 28th deadline.
- CALPADS is prepping for the upcoming Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC) set to kickoff in August. Current year enrollments which include the annual CBEDS and Fall 1 reporting.
- Consolidated Application Reporting (CARS) is annual reporting for federal categorical programs, that is completed in two parts. Winter reporting usually happens in late January/February, while Spring reporting takes place in the summer. The schedule for 2022/23 reporting resulted in a delay from normal. We are bringing the completed CARS Winter submission to the Board this evening, while working on the completion of the Spring reporting, which the submission is due by August 31st.
- Will be meeting with all of the ELD Teaching staff from our sites tomorrow, August 4th to finalize site schedules for our ELAC, review the EL Curriculum Master Plan and prepare for the annual ELAC and DELAC training scheduled for August 30th.
- At Murdock, we are hosting a Back-to-School prep for our recently adopted Inspire Science program, with Darren Massa (GCOE) in August 8th. We had one training at the end of last year. This will be the 2nd training session.
- We are super excited for the K-12 launch of our Curriculum Mapping project throughout the district. Which includes ongoing data analysis and the identification of Essential Standards with vertical articulation (the In's and Out's for each grade-level). These curricular maps will be maintained on a CIA District webpage of which we are currently in the midst of creating.
- Preliminary assessment preview results for the 2023 testing season have been released and I am providing to you a general overview for our schools. Will continue to share as more detailed data is released and disaggregated. Handed the testing preview sheets out to the Board and went over the results.

4.6 Superintendent – Emmett Koerperich reported:

- A big thank you to the summer staff: maintenance and grounds, custodial and Food Service. It was a long hot summer.
- Appreciate the patience and flexibility everyone has been showing with all of the district modernization projects.
- It has been an amazing summer checking in on all of the projects each week. Transformation is amazing.
- The High School kitchen is ready to go..
- Our Food Service will be catering the Back To School Luncheon on August 8th serving brisket, teriyaki chicken, various salads, and dinner rolls. WUTA will be providing the drinks and CSEA the desserts. The School Board is welcome to attend.
- There is also a new faculty room with two restrooms.
- The front office at WIS and the Quad in front of the new classrooms have completely transformed that campus. There are a few minor things for the contractors to finish but school will open next week in all of the upgraded facilities. Very exciting for WIS! It is spectacular.
- The Murdock kitchen/cafeteria project is couple of weeks behind schedule but the expectations are high for these projects as well.
- Last Friday, Mr. Booth, Mrs. O'Dell and I attended the GCOE Academic Summit. The County is establishing academic goals and targets to improve student achievement. Mr. Booth and I presented on our experience in Shasta County where we witnessed the power of establishing county goals and the steady growth that was achieved in grades K-12. Glenn County has adopted this initiative. The whole idea behind the academic summit is to set goals county-wide so that everyone in the County has the same goals for student achievement.
- Last Monday was our Admin Retreat at the Sierra Nevada Cheese Company. We established a theme of "Trust and Inspire" Leadership. We covered a lot of information and it was a good day.
- This Saturday is the WHS Boosters Golf Tournament. Mr. Booth and I will be joining Mr. Geiger.

4.7 Board of Education Members**Kirsten Gray reported:**

Hope everyone had a good summer.

Would like to tour all of the school sites to see the new facilities.

Would like to wish everyone a great school year.

Lourdes Ruiz reported:

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Grateful for the graduation ceremonies that she attended.

Would like to give a shout out to Murdock for the great Last Day of School. Food Service did a great job serving lunch that day.

Thank you to Maintenance, Custodial, and all summer workers.

Margaret Parisio reported:

Thanked everyone for their commitment to our schools and students and to everyone who worked so hard all summer to get ready for the new school year.

Looking forward to seeing all of the campuses.

Gina Taylor reported:

Thank you to Maintenance and Custodial for all of their preparation in getting ready for the new school year. Confident that we have talented and enthusiastic staff ready to greet our students on the 1st day of school.

Congratulations to all those who will be receiving Years of Service Awards at the Back-to-School Luncheon.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. Approve Revised California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) League Representatives for the 2023/24 school year to remove Anne Stearns and add Gary Pogue as League Representative.
2. Approve the WUSD Obsolete Technology Equipment List.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Approve Interdistrict Request for Students #23-24-19 through #23-24-32 to attend school in the Willows Unified School District for the 2023/24 school year.
2. Approve Interdistrict Request for Students #23-24-19 through #23-24-26 to attend school in another district for the 2023/24 school year.
3. Approve the 2022-23 CARS (Consolidated Application and Reporting System) Winter Collection.
4. Approve the Overnight Field Trip Request for Willows FFA to attend the Officer Retreat at Shasta Lake August 18-20, 2023.
5. Approve the Overnight Field Trip Request for WHS Volleyball Team to attend the Arcata High School Volleyball Tournament in Arcata September 8-10, 2023.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Accept the resignation of Anne Stearns, WHS Assistant Principal, effective June 30, 2023.
2. Accept the resignation of Heidi Vasquez, WHS Teacher, effective June 9, 2023.
3. Accept the resignation of Vincent Hjerpe, WIS/WHB Band Teacher, effective July 31, 2023.
4. Approve the employment of Nora Rose Britton-Cano, MES After School Program Activity Assistant, effective August 8, 2023.
5. Approve the employment of Noe Cabrera, Groundskeeper II, effective June 20, 2023.
6. Approve the employment of Dylan Cronin, 6th Grade Teacher, on a Short-Term Staff Permit (STSP), effective August 8, 2023.
7. Approve the employment of Julianna Downard, WHS Art Teacher, effective August 8, 2023.
8. Approve the employment of Alexia Mercado-Parra, MES After School Program Activity Assistant, effective August 8, 2023.
9. Approve the employment of Gary Pogue, WHS Assistant Principal, effective ~~August 8~~, July 31, 2023. (pending clearance)
10. Approve the employment of Sean Reynolds, WIS 6th Grade Teacher, effective August 8, 2023.
11. Approve the employment of Michaela Soeth, WCHS/WHB Teacher, effective August 8, 2023.
12. Approve the employment of Sophia Triance, MES Yard Duty Supervisor/Crossing Guard, effective August 8, 2023.
13. Approve the employment of Eric Yoder as a Volunteer JV Football Coach for the 2023/24 WHS Football Season. (pending clearance)

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. Approve warrants from 6/13/23 through 7/31/23.
2. Approve ASB Quarterly Reports (MES/WIS/WHB).

Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Margaret Parisio to approve the Consent Calendar.

AYES: Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None
ABSENT: Geiger
MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

Vice President Taylor asked WHS Principal Julie Carriere to introduce Mr. Gary Pogue the new WHS Assistant Principal. Mr. Pogue stated that he is happy to be here. He is familiar with our community as he worked at Johns Manville as a college student as his dad was the Plant Engineer. He has been in education for approximately 26 years between Administration and School Counseling. He has moved to Willows and is looking forward to being a part of the town. Everyone welcomed him to WUSD and the community.

6. DISCUSSION/ACTION CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. **(Information)** Williams Uniform Complaint Quarterly Report. (There were no complaints)

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. **(Action)** Approve 2023/24 Bus Routes.

Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Kirsten Gray to approve the 2023/24 Bus Routes.

AYES: Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Geiger

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

2. **(Action)** Approve the starting date and times of WUSD schools for the 2023/24 school year.

Margaret Parisio moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the starting date and times of WUSD schools for the 2023/24 school year.

AYES: Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Geiger

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

3. **(Action)** Approve the New Visual and Performing Arts Course Description for Dance at Willows High School.

Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Kirsten Gray to approve the New Visual and Performing Arts Course Description for Dance at Willows High School.

AYES: Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Geiger

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. **PUBLIC HEARING:** In accord with Government Code §3547, a Public Hearing will be held at this time to allow for public input regarding the Initial Proposal (see attached) from the Willows Unified School District (WUSD) to the Willows Unified Teachers Association (WUTA) for the 2023/2024 school year.

Vice President Taylor opened the Public Hearing at 7:56 p.m.

No Comments

Vice President Taylor closed the Public Hearing at 7:57 p.m.

2. **(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 California School Employees Association Willows Chapter #119.

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Margaret Parisio 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 California School Employees Association Willows Chapter #119.

AYES: Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Geiger

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

3. **(Action)** Approve the Tentative Agreement between the Willows Unified School District and the California School Employees Association Willows Chapter #119 and the 2022/23 Classified Salary Schedule (Retro to 7/1/22).

Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Kirsten Gray to approve the Tentative Agreement between the Willows Unified School District and the California School Employees Association Willows Chapter #119 and the 2022/23 Classified Salary Schedule (Retro to 7/1/22).

AYES: Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Geiger

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

4. **(Action)** Approve Accounting Manager Job Description.

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Margaret Parisio to approve the Accounting Manager Job Description,

AYES: Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Geiger

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

5. **(Action)** Approve the Addition of Accounting Manager Position to Management 2022/23 Salary Schedule. Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Kirsten Gray to approve the Addition of Accounting Manager Position to Management 2022/23 Salary Schedule.

AYES: Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Geiger

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. **(Information/Discussion)** FY 2023/24 Adopted Budget – 45 Day Revision.

.Debbie Costello distributed and reviewed changes to the adopted budget.

2. **(Action)** Approve proposal with Rainforth Grau Architects for Architectural and Engineering Services at Murdock Elementary School – Modular Classroom Buildings.

Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve proposal with Rainforth Grau Architects for Architectural and Engineering Services at Murdock Elementary School – Modular Classroom Buildings.

AYES: Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Geiger

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

3. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #23-24-01 of the Board of Education of the Willows Unified School District Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of 2023 Certificates of Participation In An Aggregate Principal Amount of not to exceed \$11,000,000, Authorizing the Distribution of an Official Statement in connection Therewith, and Authorizing the Execution of Various Documents and Related Actions.

Mr. Koerperich introduced Mr. Shin Green of East Shore Consulting to present on this item. Mr. Green then presented information on this resolution.

Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve Resolution #23-24-01 of the Board of Education of the Willows Unified School District Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of 2023 Certificates of Participation In An Aggregate Principal Amount of not to exceed \$11,000,000, Authorizing the Distribution of an Official Statement in connection Therewith, and Authorizing the Execution of Various Documents and Related Actions. (Roll call vote was taken.)

AYES: Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: Geiger

MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 7.1 Freshman Orientation will be held on August 7, 2023, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.
- 7.2 Welcome Back Staff Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, August 8, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. in the WHS Cafeteria.
- 7.3 Back to School Nights are as follows:
 - MES Wednesday, August 9th at 5:30 p.m.
 - WHS Wednesday, August 16th at 6:00 p.m.
 - WIS Thursday, August 17th at 6:00 p.m.
 - WCHS Wednesday, August 24th at 6:00 p.m.
- 7.4 The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on September 7, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Willows Civic Center.

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

At 8:19 p.m., the Board took a short recess after the Regular Meeting before going into Closed Session. Vice President Taylor will report out into Open Session upon the conclusion of Closed Session.

9. **CLOSED SESSION**

Closed Session began at 8:35 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.

10. **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

10.1 Announcement of Action Taken in Closed Session

At 9:26 p.m., the meeting reconvened to Open Session. Vice President Taylor reported out:

- 9.1: Update given to the Board.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.