

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting – February 7, 2013

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 Parisio called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Board members present were:
Mr. Munguia, Mr. Geiger, Mr. Parisio, Mrs. Knight, and Mr. Ward.
- 1.2 Welcome to Visitors
- 1.3 Flag Salute was led by Ashlynn Geiger.

2. AGENDA/MINUTES

- 2.1 Approve Minutes for the Regular Meeting of January 10, 2013, and the Special Meeting of January 12, 2013. Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mr. Munguia, to approve the minutes for the two abovementioned meetings. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.
- 2.2 Approve Agenda for February 7, 2013. Mr. Munguia moved, seconded by Mr. Geiger, to approve the Agenda for tonight's meeting. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.

3. RECOGNITION OF RETIREE

- 3.1 Cherylle Waters – Ms. McLaughlin read the plaque and presented it to Mrs. Waters for her 23 years of service to WUSD. She said that her many years of experience and expertise will be missed. Mrs. Waters thanked the Board and the public and gave a background of her life and teaching career which she started in 1990 at Murdock Elementary School. Mrs. Sherry Brott came to the podium and thanked Mrs. Waters for her many years of service. She said that her son always felt protected in her classroom and loves to read, which she thinks is due to Mrs. Waters' teaching. Dr. Geivett wished Mrs. Waters all the happiness and good health in the future.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Gina Taylor and Sherry Brott addressed the Board to commend the administrators at WIS for implementing and enforcing a stricter dress code. They applauded Mr. Sailsbery and Mr. Gallaty for doing the right thing.

5. REPORTS

5.1 **Employee Associations (WUTA & CSEA)** – No reports.

5.2 **Principals**

(MES) Ms. McLaughlin reported:

- The PTO Spaghetti Feed Fundraiser started at 4:30 p.m. today and she said it was wonderful to see the cafeteria filled with students and their families. The students were putting on a talent show and she applauded the kids that participated. She said this year that the PTO has purchased a portable music system that they play on Fridays during lunch recess and also provided the funding for the March 18th family science night. She mentioned that they need high school volunteers for that evening.
- They are getting ready for their second trimester benchmark testing which ends on March 8th. Implementing the benchmark testing for all students is one of the products of their collaboration efforts. They will start testing next week up until March 8th.

(WIS) – No report

(WHS) Mr. Smith reported:

- He gave the Board a handout of upcoming activities.
- On January 29th they conducted random drug testing on 35 student athletes which is approximately 25% of the athletes participating in winter sports. Only one student tested “dirty” and the administration is working with the student and family in the process.

- On the January 30th collaboration meeting they redesigned the STAR/CST Testing Schedule for the high school. They are stretching out the amount of days for testing, but in shorter time increments because they think it will be more productive at the high school level. The students will also be testing with their teacher that teaches them the particular subject area they are testing on. No one will test longer than 48 minutes per day.
- February 2nd the Academic Decathlon Team took second place in Glenn County. He commended Ms. Mahood for coaching the WHS Team.
- Last Tuesday and Wednesday the CAHSEE was given to all sophomores and to those juniors and seniors who haven't passed yet.
- He introduced Ashlynn Geiger, a ninth grader, who is a FFA member. Last week she finished seventh overall in Creed Speaking at the Arbuckle Field Day. Ashlynn recited the FFA Creed for the audience. The Board thanked Ashlynn and said she did a wonderful job with her recitation.

(WCHS) No report

5.3 Director of Business Services – Mrs. Beymer reported:

- On January 15th Dr. Geivett and she attended the Governor's Budget Conference. There was some good news that the State's economy is on the upswing, but the recovery is not as fast as we had hoped. With the passage of Prop 30 they will not be taking the additional \$441/per ADA this year. It seems that Prop 98 Guarantee for Schools has been manipulated to the point of extinction. With deficits still in place, by the end of the 2013-14 school year, the State will have shorted Willows Unified School District over \$11 million since the 2007-08 school year. We need to move forward with a very conservative mindset.
- The Governor is pushing for a weighted student formula that would provide additional funds to schools who have high poverty levels and populations of English Learners. The new funding formula will use 2007-08 year as the benchmark for implementation. The Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) will also allow districts to make more decisions on a local level on how they can spend their individual allocations.
- Mrs. Beymer held a budget meeting last Monday to begin developing a priority list for the 2013-14 budget. She thanked those who are participating on the committee.
- She has been working on E-Rate to get funding in place for next year: MES and WCHS will be funded at 90% reimbursable rate, while WHS and WIS are at the 80% level.
- She has been meeting with copier companies to start getting proposals. She thinks we will be able to save \$10,000-\$15,000 per year by accepting a better vendor contract.

5.4 Director of Categorical Programs – No report

5.5 Superintendent – Dr. Geivett reported:

- Mr. Bazan has been out since last week with some health issues and we are hoping the best for him. He hopes that he can return on Monday.
- He congratulated the Academic Decathlon Team for taking second place. He thought the kids performed well and it was great to see their excitement. He thanked the students for their participation, Ms. Mahood for coaching, and GCOE for putting the event on.
- Dr. Geivett stated that he met yesterday with the district's attorney, Matt Darlington, on staffing for next year. We will have to look at the Fiscal & Program Sustainability Plan (FPSP - cut list) and layoffs for next year. On March 7th the Board will have to discuss and make decisions of what can stay and what will have to go from the list. He hopes to have met with both bargaining units prior to that date because some items on the FPSP need to be negotiated. Proposition 30 passed, but unfortunately that doesn't get us out of the woods. We are still living on less than 2007-08 dollars.
- The Solar Project is still out there. He spoke with John Petro from IES yesterday and was told that Mr. McLiney said the QZAB dollars have been freed up for the state of California and he is now looking for buyers for bonds. The District is looking at spending little or no money on a multi-million dollar solar project. There is the possibility of a 1% interest loan – which could be paid off over time with the savings from PG&E, so we are still pursuing the project.
- Since the Board will have to discuss the Fiscal & Program Sustainability Plan on March 7th, he asked the Board about the possibility of having a Special Meeting on Monday, March 11th to approve the resolutions for the March 15th deadline. The board members said they could attend a March 11th Special Meeting.

5.6 Governing Board Members

Mr. Ward:

- Mr. Ward said he felt fortunate to attend the January 12, 2013, GCOE workshop with Dr. Geivett and Mrs. Knight. He was very impressed with the speakers. His only regret was that not enough

of the public was in attendance. The topics discussed were very informative. He spoke of the success story of Juniper School with their test scores. He thanked Tracey Quarne for hosting this event.

- On January 28th he attended the DSLT meeting. With each meeting he attends he is more enthused about the goals of all the stakeholders to improve our test scores. He said there is a lot of effort going into it.

Mrs. Knight - No report

Mr. Munguia:

- He congratulated Mrs. Waters on her retirement and stated that 23 years in any field is an accomplishment. He wished her the best.

Mr. Geiger:

- He also thanked Mrs. Waters for her 23 years of service to the District, as well as Maria Mauzey for her 13 years and Marilyn Simlence for 36 years of service to the District.
- He has been attending many sporting events - soccer, wrestling, and basketball games.
- He attended the Budget Committee Meeting and appreciated all the stakeholders in attendance. They want to come up with common goals to benefit the students and staff of WUSD.
- He also attended the Academic Decathlon in Hamilton City and thought the Willows students did a good job in representing WHS.
- He said academics are very important and encourages all students to take advantage of their educational experience.

Mr. Parisio:

- He congratulated Joe Amaro and Christine van Tol for being voted Winter Homecoming King and Queen. He asked if the high school could check with the 4-H Club to see if possibly next year they could schedule homecoming so it is not on the same night as the 4-H Project Night.
- He said all the winter sports teams have been having some success this season and it is good to see.
- He congratulated the Academic Decathlon Team on their recent success.

6. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

A. GENERAL

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Approve Interdistrict request for Student #12-13-35 to attend school in the WUSD for the 2012/13 school year.
2. Approve Interdistrict request for Student #12-13-60 to attend school in another district for the 2012/13 school year.
3. Approve Spring 2013 Butte College concurrent enrollment for WHS students.
4. Approve School Accountability Report Card (SARC) for all schools: Murdock Elementary, Willows Intermediate, Willows High, and Willows Community High.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Approve resignation from Maria Mauzey, MES Cafeteria Helper I, effective January 8, 2013.
2. Approve resignation from Cherylle Waters, MES 3rd Grade Teacher, effective February 1, 2013.
3. Approve resignation from Marilyn Simlence, WHS Math Teacher, effective February 16, 2013.
4. Approve Tara Berens as Temporary MES 3rd Grade Teacher, effective February 1, 2013.
5. Ratify employment of Jaime Thorpe as part-time (3.0 hrs/day) Cafeteria Helper I at WHS, effective February 1, 2013.
6. Ratify employment of Sandra Gibson as part-time (3.5 hrs/day) Cafeteria Helper I at MES, effective February 1, 2013.
7. Approve current Classified Substitute List.
8. Approve Ed Zuckerman as a Varsity Wrestling Volunteer Coach for the 2012/13 school year.

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. Approve budget revisions.
2. Approve warrants from 1/16/13 through 1/30/13.
3. Approve ASB Quarterly Reports – MES/WIS/WHHS.

Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Knight, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.

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 3511.1	Integrated Waste Management
BP 4111/4211/4311	Recruitment and Selection
BP 4112.9/4212.9/4312.9	Employee Notifications
BP 4119.1/4219.1/4319.1	Civil and Legal Rights
BP 4119.21/4219.21/4319.21	Professional Standards
BP 4119.41/4219.41/4319.41	Employees with Infectious Disease
BP 4121	Temporary Substitute Personnel
BP 4154/4254/4354	Health and Welfare Benefits
BP 5112.3	Student Leave of Absence
BP 5117	Interdistrict Attendance
BP 5131.61	Drug Testing
BP 5141.33	Head Lice
BP 6161	Equipment, Books and Materials
BP 6178	Career Technical Education
BB 9321	Closed Session Purposes and Agendas

(COMPLETE POLICIES ARE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE)

This was an information item only at this time. No action was taken.

2. **(Discussion)** School Academic Performance Indexes and possible district-wide impacts. Discussion to include plans for improvement and the roles of the stakeholders in the improvement process. Dr. Geivett stated that Heather Baker, a community member, asked for this item to be placed on the agenda and invited her to address the Board. Mrs. Baker stated that she wanted input from all stakeholders as she was very concerned about our test scores. She said she had also talked to other community members that would like answers also. Some of her questions and concerns are:
- What does the Board feel their role is?
 - She said she knows that DSLT is in place. She would like to know what their plans are to improve our test scores.
 - What happens to schools in Program Improvement (PI) when no change, slow change, or have reversals? How long can you stay in PI? Will the District go into receivership?
 - She has heard the students talk about testing not being important to them.
 - There are other schools that we are rated against that have the same problems we have such as the same socio-economic element and they are improving. Gridley and East Nicolaus have better ratings than WUSD. Have we contacted them to see how they are reaching their goals?
- ✓ Mr. Parisio answered the question stating he thinks the Board’s responsibility is to set policy for the District and that their only employee to supervise is the Superintendent. If they have concerns about the sites or anything in the District, they go directly to Dr. Geivett. Mrs. Knight said the board members do other thing such as sit on committees (budget committee, negotiations, DSLT, etc.) She also commented that the Board supports EDI to improve test scores. The Budget Committee is asking how to best spend their dollars to help support the efforts of raising test scores. Mr. Geiger stated that he calls or comes in to talk to the Superintendent several times a week asking about concerns in the District – he said a lot happens behind the scenes for board members. Dr. Geivett commented that we have a “hands on” board and also community members that act to improve our schools.
- ✓ Mr. Parisio said we are looking for ways to improve – we are implementing programs. He also said he thinks it starts at home with parents and that they need to instill in their children that test scores are important, not only to them and to their school and District, but to the community at large. Dr. Geivett said that the District has implemented the following to help improve our test scores:
- Explicit Direct Instruction (EDI);

- Professional Learning Community (PLC) work has gone on for two years at WIS and for the last year and a half at WHS and MES;
 - New curriculum “CA Treasures”;
 - Common Core Standards;
 - Collaboration Time has continued at all sites;
 - Technology in the Classroom;
 - Interventions for struggling students;
 - Outside provider, Data Works, to help us with EDI.
- ✓ Mrs. Perez stated that the State will not take over. Mrs. Perez explained the different levels of PI. The District has to make sure we are revising our plan that we have in place, look at our goals and see what works, develop our DSLT and always look to improve. In 2014-15 everything will change with the State in testing and it is still the unknown. The District has to continue to try and improve. When the current year testing takes place, it will be our first complete year with the programs we have implemented listed above. With each year you are in PI, there is not necessarily discipline, but there is a lot of work that has to be done and we have to be accountable. Dr. Geivett said we don’t wait for the State to come in, we are being proactive. The administration, Management Team, and Board of Trustees all know we need to do a better job. Mrs. Perez also stated that there are sanctions from the State once we were in PI-Year 3- there is a corrective action needed and the District needed to choose one of seven options – we chose two: Have an outside provider (Data Works) and the District also brought on EDI and also purchased new curriculum and hired consultants that are helping us to improve.
- ✓ Discussion ensued on how to try and make this test important to students, staff, and the community at large, including test participation.
- ✓ Mr. Smith stated that the high school has actually revamped their math program based on Gridley High School to help with the CST testing. Some staff from Gridley has actually visited our schools. The District has also listened to other schools (Juniper School) to help with the improvement.

In conclusion, it was stated that the District has many new programs in place, some teachers are dragging somewhat, but they are coming around, but the majority of teachers are on board and working hard. We need a total community buy-in towards improving test scores. We are giving the teachers strategies to help them with EDI and we have seen improvement. The Hispanic population scores have increased since we bought new materials to improve with our subgroups. Scores went up at WIS. Dr. Geivett said we are NOT happy with our test scores and that is why we have implemented many new ideas and will continue to work to improve. EDI is a proven method. Good teaching and learning in the classroom needs to take place. Mr. Sailsbery, WIS principal, invited Mrs. Baker and any parents to come and talk to Mr. Gallaty or him, and they will share what they have done. The Board welcomes any ideas or solutions to help with raising test scores.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. **(Action)** Approve the 2013/14 Certificated/Student Calendar. Mrs. Knight moved, seconded by Mr. Munguia, to approve the 2013/14 Certificated Student Calendar. Dr. Geivett stated that this is based on a 181 day calendar approved by WUTA. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. **(Action)** Approve Agreement for Professional Services between WUSD and Matt Juhl-Darlington and Associates. Mr. Munguia moved, seconded by Mr. Geiger, to approve the Agreement for Professional Services between WUSD and Matt Juhl-Darlington and Associates. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.
2. **(Action)** Approve Revised WUSD Certificated Teachers’ Salary Schedule for 2012/13. Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Knight, to approve the Revised WUSD Certificated Teachers’ Salary Schedule for 2012/13. The motion passed unanimously with 5 yes votes.

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

8. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 8.1 There will be a District-wide Break from February 18-February 22, 2013.
- 8.2 Kindergarten Registration will be held on March 6th & 7th from 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. in Room 101 at Murdock.
- 8.3 The next Regular Board Meeting on will be held on March 7, 2013, at 7:00 p.m. at the Willows Civic Center.
- 8.4 “Health in Your World, Family Science Night”, will be held on March 18, 2013, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Murdock cafeteria. (The Murdock PTO purchased this program and is run by U.C. Davis.)

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ITEM

Mrs. Brott addressed the Board. She stated that she believes the Board is right in their decision with the Tim Crews lawsuit. Her concern is about the cost of the ongoing liability to WUSD.

At 8:58 p.m., the Board took a short recess after the Regular Meeting before going into Closed Session. Mr. Parisio stated that he will report out in Open Session upon the conclusion of Closed Session.

10. CLOSED SESSION

Closed Session began at 9:18 p.m.

10.1 Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(a): Conference with Legal Counsel: Existing Litigation (3 cases) Tim Crews v. Willows USD, et.al, Case No. 09CV00697 and Case No. 10CV00860; and Muyassar Al-Rifai, on behalf of her children, v. Willows USD, et. al, Case No. 2:10-CV-02526-MCE-CMK

10.2 Pursuant to Government Code §54957, the Board will meet in Closed Session to discuss evaluations of Site Administrators.

11. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

11.1 Announcement of Action Taken in Closed Session

At 10:15 p.m., the meeting reconvened to Open Session. Mr. Parisio reported out:

Item 10.1: Update given to Board.

Item 10.2: Superintendent reported/gave information to Board related to the Site Administrator Evaluation Process and Procedures.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:17 p.m.