

# WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting – February 6, 2014

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 Ward called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Board members present were:

Mr. Geiger, Mrs. Knight, Mr. Ward, Mr. Parisio & Mr. Munguia.

1.2 Welcome to Visitors

1.3 Flag Salute was led by Jim Lambert.

### 2. AGENDA/MINUTES

2.1 Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 16, 2014. Mr. Parisio moved, seconded by Mr. Munguia, to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 16, 2014.

**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Ward, Parisio & Munguia**

**NOES: None**

**MOTION PASSED 5-0**

2.2 Approve the Agenda for February 6, 2014. Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mr. Munguia, to approve the Agenda for February 6, 2014.

**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Ward, Parisio & Munguia**

**NOES: None**

**MOTION PASSED 5-0**

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None

### 4. REPORTS

4.1 **Employee Associations (WUTA & CSEA)** – No reports

4.2 **Principals**

**(MES) Mrs. Brown reported:**

- She welcomed Mr. Drury as the new Elementary School Assistant Principal. Today was his first day on the MES campus after spending a couple of days at WIS.
- She appreciates the maintenance team for all they do to keep our facilities safe and wanted to thank them publicly. She said she couldn't function without them.
- She thanked the PTO for putting on the Spaghetti Feed, especially Monica Throm, Kristina Hutson and Corey Richards for organizing the event. She also thanked all the teachers and parents who volunteered their time and for those who donated raffles prizes.
- The end of the second trimester is coming up so assessments will be forthcoming to see where the students are and how they have progressed.
- There will be a professional development day over the break and several MES teachers are planning to attend. Adolfo Melara will conduct a Common Core Training and she is excited to go. This professional development opportunity is open to all teachers in the district.
- Science Night is coming up in March – she will let everyone know the date soon.
- The 5 IPOD Touches and 5 Chrome Books have arrived from the money they received from PTO and the Umpqua Bank Award. Roberto is busy configuring them. They are piloting them to see which ones the teachers prefer for their classrooms.

**(WIS) – No report**

**(WHS) Ms. McLaughlin reported:**

- During Collaboration Days and staff meetings they are brainstorming on the master and bell schedules with an end goal of improving student achievement. If they can enhance improved instruction with some changes to either or both, that is what they plan to do.
- They had a successful homecoming week with good spirit days and rally. The ASB Team did a great job.
- They also had a successful random drug testing for 40 winter athletes.

- She read an update from Amanda Samons on FFA activities. Ms. Samons said in her letter that she appreciates the support and guidance that is offered from the Board, administration, and community.

**(WCHS) Dr. Geivett reported:**

- The school has enrolled two more students this week. Enrollment is now at 25.
- The students and staff have been discussing a reward system. Some ideas the students came up with included a visitor pass to a WHS dance, a fundraising activity, or possibly a field trip.
- They have also been discussing changing their mascot from a Knight to a type of bird to be more consistent with the other schools (MES Mallards, WIS Cardinals, and WHS Honkers).
- The students are continuing with their relationship with the Willows Care Center residents by building them bird houses, garden flower boxes, and doing art projects. He would like the students to provide a Power Point presentation or video to share with the Board about their interaction with the Care Center patients sometime in the future.

**4.3 Director of Business Services – Mrs. Beymer reported:**

- She shared that the LCFF for next year looks very promising but the State will not get the final calculation tools in place for school districts for this year until June. Currently, the proposed State budget plans to fully fund COEs, but school districts have to wait seven years.
- The Ag Incentive Grant falls under the umbrella of the LCFF without any extra funding, which is a loss of \$20,000 for our District.
- We are down 31 students this year. She felt that we will have to look seriously at programs that work and those that don't.
- ROP/CTE/Ag Related Education – 100% on districts next year at \$219/per student – this barely covers the cost of one teacher for us.

**4.4 Director of Categorical Programs – No report**

**4.5 Superintendent – Dr. Geivett reported:**

- He informed everyone that the solar project has reached substantial completion – in two to three weeks the final walk through should happen.
- He attended the Academic Decathlon last Saturday – WHS took second place with Orland Unified finishing in first and William Finch taking third. He said he was very proud of our students for their efforts. He commended the students for a job well done and Ms. Mahood for having them prepared. He also thanked Susan Meeker for the nice article she wrote on the event in the Glenn County Transcript.
- He attended the Superintendent's Symposium three days last week in Monterey and he heard a lot on:
  - The LCFF and LCAP
  - Preparation for spring testing (the test of the test)
  - Budget planning (in light of the LCFF)
  - The Affordable Care Act – still many questions
  - Technology in the classroom – infrastructure is needed which is a key goal for our bond dollars
  - Distance Learning – incorporating course work for WHS (AP classes, etc.)
- He had the opportunity to hear an outstanding/motivational speaker – Flip Flippin. He is a very unique gentleman and reminded everyone why we got into education – we are here for the kids – to help them succeed!
- He thanked the Board and said he appreciated the opportunity to attend the symposium – it was a great experience.

**4.6 Governing Board Members**

**Mr. Geiger:**

- He read an article regarding CTE and the Ag Incentive Grant. With the Ag Incentive Grant going away and being lumped in with the LCFF, the Board will have to make a decision in the very near future whether or not to maintain that program because it will be a direct hit to the general fund. He commented that agriculture is very important to our community and state. He had an article that stated there are currently 74,000 students enrolled in more than 300 programs statewide. Schools that have those agricultural educational programs send more students to post-secondary colleges and training institutions and graduate with degrees in larger numbers and in shorter time frames than their peers in the general academic programs.

**Mrs. Knight:** No report

**Mr. Parisio:**

- He stated this is a busy time of year and bringing back positions/programs that have been previously cut is very hard. As nice as it is to bring things back, there is always a lot to think about. Whether the Board brings an item back, or if we pass a bond to get things done, or items are negotiated, there is a lot of work to do. With our great staff he is confident that we will get it done.

Mr. Munguia – No report  
Mr. Ward – No report

5. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A. GENERAL**

**B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

1. Approve Interdistrict Request for Student #13-14-63 to attend school in another district for the 2013/14 school year.
2. Approve the Spring 2014 GCOE Adult Education Program (GAP) concurrent enrollment for WHS students.
3. Approve School Accountability Report Cards (SARCS) for all schools: Murdock Elementary, Willows Intermediate, Willows High, and Willows Community High.

**C. HUMAN RESOURCES**

1. Accept resignation from Alex Xanthus, WHS Certificated Teacher, effective June 7, 2014.
2. Accept resignation from Lillian Xanthus, WHS Certificated Teacher, effective June 7, 2014.

**D. BUSINESS SERVICES**

1. Approve budget revisions.
2. Approve warrants from 1/15/14 through 1/29/14.
3. Approve ASB Quarterly Reports – MES/WIS/WHS.

Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Knight, to approve the Consent Calendar.

**(CONSENT VOTE)**

**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Ward, Parisio & Munguia**

**NOES: None**

**MOTION PASSED 5-0**

6. **DISCUSSION/ACTION CALENDAR**

**A. GENERAL**

**B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

**C. HUMAN RESOURCES**

1. **(Action)** Approve extended child-rearing unpaid leave request from Jessica Campbell from February 6, 2014 through February 14, 2014. (returns February 24, 2014) Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mr. Munguia, to approve the extended unpaid leave request from Jessica Campbell.

**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Ward, Parisio & Munguia**

**NOES: None**

**MOTION PASSED 5-0**

2. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2013-14-12, Week of the School Administrator. Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Knight, to approve Resolution #2013-14-12. Roll call vote was taken.

**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Ward, Parisio & Munguia**

**NOES: None**

**MOTION PASSED 5-0**

**D. BUSINESS SERVICES**

1. **(Action)** Approve Agreement for Bond Counsel Services for General Obligation Bond Election with Matt Juhl-Darlington & Associates. Dr. Geivett introduced Meredith Johnson, an associate of Matt Juhl-Darlington & Associates to address the Board. She gave her background as to her expertise with acting as bond counsel with general obligation bond elections and what her role as bond counsel will be. She also stated that her fees are paid from bond proceeds – no expenses come out of the general fund. Mrs. Knight moved, seconded by Mr. Geiger, to approve the Agreement for Bond Counsel Services with Matt Juhl-Darlington & Associates.

**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Ward, Parisio & Munguia**

**NOES: None**

**MOTION PASSED 5-0**

2. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2013-14-11, Calling for an Election Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds of the District at an Election to be held June 3, 2014. Ms. Johnson stated that with this resolution the District is asking the County to hold an election on the District's behalf on June 3, 2014. The parameters of the election can be found in this resolution. The first one is that this election is being called under Proposition 39. Bond elections can be either approved by 2/3 vote or by 55%. Prop. 39 is a 55% statute. Prop. 39 has certain accountability requirements which are found in the resolution: The District is required to appoint a citizens oversight committee, with designated community members that have to be on it, which would be formed after a successful election. Also, under Proposition 39, a Project List has to be given to the voters on which the bond proceeds can be used. The language in bold print on page two of the resolution is the ballot measure - what the voters will be voting on.

The District is asking for a \$14 million bond measure. Realistically, voters would not see this on their tax statements for approximately 18 months. Most likely, it would be on the tax rolls approximately two years before it would be on the tax rolls. Dr. Geivett expressed that the District has to do a better job on the communication piece with educating the public. Ms. Johnson stated that the Education Code states that unified school districts cannot be levied in excess of \$60 per \$100,000 of assessed value. Discussion ensued regarding the difference between a parcel tax and a general obligation bond election.

Parcel Tax

- Harder to pass – need 2/3 majority vote
- Proceeds can be used for operating expenses, including salaries/benefits.

General Obligation Bond

- Need 55% to pass
- Proceeds can **NOT** be used for operating expenses (**salaries/benefits**)

Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mr. Parisio, to approve Resolution #2013-14-11. Roll call vote was taken.

**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Ward, Parisio & Munguia**

**NOES: None**

**MOTION PASSED 5-0**

Dr. Geivett introduced Jim & Ann Lambert who have agreed to be the leads for the bond campaign. He also recognized Sherry Brott and Gina Taylor who are very involved bond committee members, both past and present.

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 7.1 There will be a district-wide break from February 17- 21, 2014.  
7.2 Kindergarten Registration will be held on March 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. in Room 101 at Murdock Elementary School.  
7.3 The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on March 6, 2014, at 7:00 p.m., at the Willows Civic Center.

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

At 8:06 p.m., the Board took a short recess after the Regular Meeting before going into Closed Session. Mr. Ward stated he will report out in Open Session upon the conclusion of Closed Sess.

9. **CLOSED SESSION**

Closed Session began at 8:15 p.m.

- 9.1 Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9(a): Conference with Legal Counsel: Existing Litigation (1 case) Tim Crews v. Willows USD, et. al, Case No. 09CV00697  
9.2 Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6: Conference with Labor Negotiator – Agency Negotiator: Mort Geivett. Employee Organization: WUTA/CSEA, Non-Represented: Management and Confidential

10. **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

10.1 Announcement of Action Taken in Closed Session

At 9:04 p.m., the meeting reconvened to Open Session. Mr. Ward reported out:

Item 9.1:            Update given by the Superintendent

Item 9.2:            Update given by the Superintendent. Direction given to the Superintendent

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.