

# **WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Regular Meeting – May 7, 2020**

**Regular Session 7:00 p.m.**

**Due to the current “Stay at Home” order,  
the Willows Unified School District  
will hold its regularly scheduled meeting through a virtual meeting.**

To access the meeting, please go to one of the following:

**Computer:**

Log in link: <https://zoom.us/j/375117706>

**Telephone:**

Call In Number: 669 900-9128

Id Number: 375 117 706

**IPad/Mobile Device:**

Id Number: 375 117 706

## **MINUTES**

1. **OPEN SESSION – CALL TO ORDER**

- 1.1 Roll Call – President Parisio called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. Members present: Jeromy Geiger, Alex Parisio, Gina Taylor, and Buck Ward. Members absent: Knight
- 1.2 Welcome to Visitors
- 1.3 Flag Salute was led by Alex Parisio.

2. **AGENDA/MINUTES**

- 2.1 Approve the Agenda for May 7, 2020.  
Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Taylor to approve the Agenda for May 7, 2020.  
**AYES: Geiger, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward**  
**NOES: None**  
**ABSENT: Knight**  
**MOTION PASSED: 4-0-1**

**MICHELLE KNIGHT ENTERED THE MEETING AT 7:03 P.M.**

- 2.2 Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 2, 2020.  
Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Taylor to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 2, 2020.  
**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward**  
**NOES: None**  
**MOTION PASSED: 5-0**

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** - None

4. **REPORTS**

- 4.1 **Employee Associations (WUTA & CSEA)** – No reports
- 4.2 **Associated Student Body Report – Hanna Parisio reported:**
  - Working on a plan for graduation.
  - Trying to find a way to hold ASB elections.
- 4.3 **Principals**  
**MES – Shirley Williams reported:**

- Held a staff appreciation tailgate lunch and spent about two hours talking, sharing, and just connecting with each other. 35 staff members attended.
- Distance learning – feedback from teachers. Some frustration, but overall it’s going well. Teachers are keeping in contact with kids via online, Google Meets, Zoom, and with paper packets. MES has handed out 95 Chromebooks.
- Interviewed a teacher for the Opportunity class and have made a recommendation to hire. In the process of paper screening for 5<sup>th</sup> grade and will be interviewing soon.
- Teacher requests – Once teachers are in place, parents will be allowed to request 3 teachers so classes can be balanced.
- Spring pictures – spent 3 afternoons distributing pictures, with only a handful left.
- Mike Buckley’s 5<sup>th</sup> grade class won 5<sup>th</sup> place in the Cal Water Challenge with its French drain in the garden. The class will receive \$500 that will go towards the garden, and each student will receive a \$50 Amazon gift card
- Enrollment is 619 students.

**WIS – Steve Sailsbery reported:**

- Continuing to work on distance learning through Gmail accounts, Zoom, and Google Classroom. Very few packets are going out. Have not been able to make contact with a small number of students and will continue to work on it. Distributed 50 Chromebooks and continue to distribute them as needed. Student participation rate is good, but are still working to increase it.
- Site secretaries have been working hard to get all parents signed up for parent portal for online registration next year. Only have 24 parents who have not signed up.
- Year-end check out for students will be as follows:
  - Monday, 6/1/2020 – 6<sup>th</sup> grade
  - Tuesday, 6/2/2020 – 7<sup>th</sup> grade
  - Wednesday, 6/3/2020 – 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- Graduation will be held on Thursday, June 4, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. The stage/platform will be set up in front of WIS. Signs have been ordered for every graduate with their name and “WIS - Class of 2020”. Students will be issued gowns and will be allowed two guests with an allotted time of 5 minutes to take pictures.

**WHS – David Johnstone reported:**

- WHS staff is doing everything to reach out to students by either email or telephone. 39 Chromebooks have been issued. Some students are still struggling with accessing internet even with hot spots set up.
- Secretaries have been coming in and working, as are the maintenance and custodial staff.
- Thank you to Sherry Brott who has been helping students with everything from issuing Chromebooks to textbooks and cleaning out lockers.
- Thank you to all the teachers for their hard work.
- Trying to come up with a plan for graduation. Holding meetings with seniors and parents to come up with a plan to include some form of a graduation ceremony and a parade. Senior pictures are hanging on the fence along Wood Street.
- Senior trip is scheduled for July 8, 2020. The cruise will not refund the money if canceled.
- Prom venue will not refund the \$6,300.00. They will allow WHS to schedule another date, but not refund the money. May have the attorney draft a letter to the venue and/or contact news outlets.
- Went over grading and WHS grading policy.
- Greg Kitchen, Athletic Director reported:
  - Working on making sure spring athletes are officially recognized by the school.
  - CIF has not made an announcement about whether fall sports will resume with or without restrictions. Will continue to plan for all sports to resume and schedule accordingly.
  - WHS is entering a new league realignment from 2020-2022. The biggest change has been to the football league, which is now the MVL with Trinity, Modoc, Williams, Mt. Shasta, and Hamilton City. SVL has added Paradise, East Nicolas, and Durham for volleyball, basketball, baseball, and softball.
  - Football schedule has been modified and are back to a 5 home-5 away rotation.

**WCHS – Dr. Geivett reported:**

- Enrollment is 33 students.
- Planning for next year. Enrollment will start with 24 students.
- Held a drop off and pick up homework day. Only five students did not come in and pick up work.

- Teachers have been doing distance learning and packet work and have been staying in contact with students on a weekly basis.
- Will collect and grade work up until June 1, 2020.
- Currently there are 6 graduates, with the possibility of a couple of more.
- Working on holding a potential graduation ceremony on June 17, 2020. Since the numbers are small (less than 50), it will hopefully fall within the guidelines of the reopening plan.

**4.4 Director of Business Services – Debbie Costello reported:**

- Budget updates:
  - Economic budget news from Sacramento continue to deteriorate primarily due to COVID-19. More information will be presented at the May revise coming out May 15, 2020.
  - Will continue to monitor and respond to the updates from Sacramento throughout the budget development process and into the new fiscal year.
  - Continuing to work with site administrators, reviewing current year allocations and balances, and planning for anticipated needs for 2020/21.
  - With postponement of LCAP development and adoption to December, the 2020/21 budget public hearing and adoption can now be held at the same board meeting on June 11, 2020.
  - Statewide facilities bond was not successful this year, which will mean a significant delay in the receipt of the \$8 million in state matching funds. May want to consider completing a Developer Fee justification study to determine if an increase would be appropriate for Willows Unified to help address future facility needs. The cost of the study is approximately \$3,500 and could be funded from existing developer fee funds.
  - Will move forward with the Category II E-rate project in the next couple of months. This project will expand our technology infrastructure on our campuses, providing additional access points, and updated switches and routers.
  - Will need to continue diligence in evaluating reserve balances and program needs as the economy contracts.
- COVID-19:
  - The 2019/20 P-2 attendance report was prepared and submitted last month and was consistent with projections at 2<sup>nd</sup> interim. Because schools will remain closed for the duration of the year, annual attendance reporting will reflect the same ADA as P-2.
  - Currently serving an average of 1,400 meals per day (700 breakfast & lunch) under the Seamless Summer Option food service program. Operating 17 pick-up locations throughout the district and will continue to do so through June 5, 2020. On June 8, 2020 WUSD will transition to the BCOE CalKidz Summer Feeding Program and are working out the details to continue to provide meals to students during the summer.
  - Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) is a food benefit for children who may not have regular access to free or reduced-priced meals because of coronavirus related school closures. The benefit amount will be up to \$365 per eligible child. Households with children who get free or reduced-price meals because they receive CalFresh, Medi-Cal, CalWORKS, or foster care will receive their P-EBT card automatically between May 12 and May 22. Eligible families who were not directly approved will be able to apply online beginning May 22, 2020, but no later than June 30, 2020. All children in WUSD will be eligible because of our CEP participation.
  - WUSD will be receiving \$296,054 from the Elementary and Secondary Emergency Relief (ESSER) Federal Stimulus Package for COVID-19 relief. There are 12 allowable uses for the funds and we do not yet have a timeline for receipt of these funds.

**4.5 Director of State and Federal Programs – Ellen Hamilton reported:**

- The 2020/21 LCAP will be delayed until mid-December. Stakeholder meetings and the public hearing will occur in the fall.
- CDE is now requiring a COVID-19 Operations Written Report be submitted. This report will explain what the District is doing during the school closure and how we are serving unduplicated pupils.
- Schools or districts identified for Differentiated Assistance this year will remain in the same status for next year.
- CDE is still waiting for the state to waive the dashboard for next year.

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

- Green Energy Innovations started the lighting project throughout the district on April 20, 2020.

- Continuing to make reports back to CDE regarding availability of internet and devices for student use during the closure period. Still waiting on word from the state regarding the 150 “hot spots” donated by Google.
- Still waiting for the “Stay at Home” order to be modified or lifted so we can return employees to work.
- Public Health and Office of Emergency Services personnel have put together a 4 phase reopening plan that will be sent to the state for approval.
- Teacher Appreciation Day is May 13, 2020 and Classified School Employees week is May 17-23, 2020. Mailing out flyers of appreciation to those employees.
- Working with David Johnstone and the seniors to plan for graduation.
- Bad News:
  - Budget situation – currently in a recession and will be looking at budget cuts
  - Labor Negotiations will be more intense due to budget issues
  - Facilities needs – in line for \$8 million but may be a few more years before we see that money
  - Effects of COVID-19 and what that will mean for instruction
  - Need to make sure not leaving money “on the table” such as Developer Fees
- Good News:
  - Supportive community
  - Strong, dedicated staff, leadership, and board
  - Strong, positive programs already in place
  - Reserves to address budget issues
  - Addressed similar situations in the past and have prevailed
- Incoming Superintendent Emmett Koerperich reported:
  - Thank you to everyone for making me feel so welcome. Met with Dr. Geivett and several people around the district.
  - Have made a couple of trips to Willows and is looking forward to getting started.

**4.7 Board of Education Members**

**Mr. Ward reported:**

- Thank you to all staff members for their hard work to keep class instruction going.
- Thank you for the efforts in getting all the FFA animals sold.
- Thank you to all the Food Service staff for preparing meals and serving students during this time.
- Would love to see a graduation ceremony.
- Thank you to all the maintenance and custodial crews for keeping the schools looking nice.
- Thank you to Dr. Geivett for all you are doing and have done and am looking forward to working with Emmett Koerperich.

**Mrs. Knight reported:**

- Thank you to staff and students on getting the year completed.
- Thank you to the parents, board members, and staff on working on getting graduation celebrations going for both WIS and WHS.

**Mr. Geiger reported:** No report

**Mrs. Taylor reported:**

- Thank you to the staff for their hard work during this unprecedented time.
- Maintenance and grounds have been doing the best they can keeping the facilities looking nice.
- There are lots of good ideas for graduation and is confident that something special will be put together.
- Working on the Sober Grad party. In the event it cannot happen, the money will be spent on the graduates in some way.
- Concerned about the mental health of our students.
- Thank you to all our teachers and classified staff.

**Mr. Parisio reported:**

- Hoping to hold a graduation ceremony.
- Working on the Senior Trip and hoping to hold it on July 8, 2020. Six flags will refund, but busses and cruise will not refund
- Thank you to Gina Taylor for organizing the yard signs for the 2020 graduates.
- Thank you to Robyn Berglund for organizing the seniors pictures along the track fence on Wood Street to honor the WHS graduates. Thank you to the VFW, Car and Bike Show, and the WHS Boosters for providing the funding for it.

- Thank you to Tony Tapia for his work on the JV Baseball field at Murdock. He installed a dugout fence line.
- It's been a difficult time and students still do not have all the tools needed to do distance learning. There is still a need for internet service and devices.
- Thank you to all the staff who have continued to work during this time.

**5. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A. GENERAL**

**B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

1. Approve Interdistrict Requests for Students #20-21-6 through #20-21-9 to attend school in the Willows Unified School District for the 2020/21 school year.
2. Approve Interdistrict Requests for Students #20-21-1 through #20-21-4 to attend school in another district for the 2020/21 school year.
3. Approve 2020/21 textbook lists for all WUSD schools (MES/WIS/WHS/WCHS).

**C. HUMAN RESOURCES**

1. Approve request for Abigail Ott, WHS Teacher, to teach half-time for the 2020/21 school year.
2. Approve employment of Xochitl Rodriguez, WIS Counselor, effective August 12, 2020.
3. Approve employment of Iovanna Salinas, MES PE Teacher, effective August 12, 2020.
4. Approve employment of Patricia Farrell Chavez, MES Teacher, effective August 12, 2020.
5. Approve employment of Kate Niehues, MES Teacher, effective August 12, 2020
6. Accept resignation from Monica Harrigan, MES Teacher, effective June 5, 2020.
7. Accept retirement from Mark Perkins, WHS Teacher, effective June 6, 2020.
8. Accept retirement from Kristen Schlund, WIS Teacher, effective June 6, 2020.
9. Accept retirement from Inette Howard, WIS Teacher, effective June 6, 2020.

**D. BUSINESS SERVICES**

1. Approve budget revision summary.
2. Approve warrants from 3/31/20 through 4/29/20.
3. Approve ASB Quarterly Reports (MES/WIS/WHS).

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

**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward**

**NOES: None**

**MOTION PASSED: 5-0**

**6. 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 0420.4	Charter School Authorization
BP 3551	Food Service Operations/Cafeteria Fund
BP 4112.2	Certification
BP 5141.52	Suicide Prevention
BP 5144.1	Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process
BP 6157	Distance Learning
BP 6172.1	Concurrent Enrollment in College Classes

Information only – no action taken.

2. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2019-20-07, Lincoln's Birthday Observance.

Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Taylor to approve Resolution #2019-20-07, Lincoln's Birthday Observance.

**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward**

**NOES: None**

**MOTION PASSED: 5-0**

**B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

1. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2019-20-08, Grading During Emergency School Closures.  
Mrs. Taylor moved, seconded by Mr. Geiger to approve Resolution #2019-20-08, Grading During Emergency School Closures.  
**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward**  
**NOES: None**  
**MOTION PASSED: 5-0**
2. **(Action)** Approve the Adoption of the following textbooks for Willows Intermediate School:
  - World History & Geography: Ancient Civilizations ISBN 9780076868940 published by McGraw Hill.
  - World History & Geography: Medieval & Early Modern Times ISBN 9780076849710 published by McGraw Hill.
  - United States History & Geography: Growth & Conflict ISBN 9780076849963 published by McGraw Hill.

Textbooks have been available for preview at the WIS Office by appointment.  
Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Knight to approve the adoption of the aforementioned textbooks for Willows Intermediate School.  
**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward**  
**NOES: None**  
**MOTION PASSED: 5-0**
3. **(Action)** Approve prospective graduates from WIS.  
Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Taylor to approve the prospective graduates from WIS.  
**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward**  
**NOES: None**  
**MOTION PASSED: 5-0**
4. **(Action)** Approve prospective graduates from WHS.  
Mrs. Knight moved, seconded by Mrs. Taylor to approve the prospective graduates from WHS.  
**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward**  
**NOES: None**  
**MOTION PASSED: 5-0**
5. **(Action)** Approve prospective graduates from WCHS.  
Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Taylor to approve the prospective graduates from WCHS.  
**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward**  
**NOES: None**  
**MOTION PASSED: 5-0**
6. **(Action)** Approve Certificated/Student Calendar with Collaboration Days for 2020/21.  
Mrs. Knight moved, seconded by Mrs. Taylor to approve the Certificated/Student Calendar with Collaboration Days for 2020/21.  
**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward**  
**NOES: None**  
**MOTION PASSED: 5-0**

**C. HUMAN RESOURCES**

1. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2020-21-09, Establishing May 13, 2020, as California Day of the Teacher.  
Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Knight to approve Resolution #2020-21-09, Establishing May 13, 2020, as California Day of the Teacher.  
**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward**  
**NOES: None**  
**MOTION PASSED: 5-0**
2. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2020-21-10, Classified Employees Week, May 17-23, 2020.  
Mrs. Knight moved, seconded by Mr. Geiger to approve Resolution #2020-21-10, Classified Employees Week, May 17-23, 2020.  
**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward**  
**NOES: None**  
**MOTION PASSED: 5-0**
3. **(Action)** Approve employment of Certificated Personnel for 2020/21.  
Mr. Geiger moved, seconded by Mrs. Taylor to approve employment of Certificated Personnel for 2020/21.  
**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward**

**NOES: None**

**MOTION PASSED: 5-0**

4. **(Action)** Approve employment of Classified and Confidential personnel for 2020/21.  
Mrs. Knight moved, seconded by Mr. Geiger to approve employment of Classified and Confidential personnel for 2020/21.

**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward**

**NOES: None**

**MOTION PASSED: 5-0**

5. **(Action)** Approve employment of Management personnel for 2020/21.  
Mrs. Taylor moved, seconded by Mrs. Knight to approve employment of Management personnel for 2020/21.

**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward**

**NOES: None**

**MOTION PASSED: 5-0**

**D. BUSINESS SERVICES**

1. **(Action)** Approve Financial Advisory Consulting Agreement, Addendum #1 with Eastshore Consulting LLC to extend the term of service three years, commencing July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023.  
Mrs. Knight moved, seconded by Mrs. Taylor to approve the Financial Advisory Consulting Agreement, Addendum #1 with Eastshore Consulting LLC to extend the term of service three years, commencing July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023.

**AYES: Geiger, Knight, Parisio, Taylor, and Ward**

**NOES: None**

**MOTION PASSED: 5-0**

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 7.1 California Day of the Teacher will be on May 13, 2020.
- 7.2 Classified Employees Week will be May 17-23, 2020.
- 7.3 ~~The COVID-19 Operations Written Report Public Hearing and Preliminary Budget Public Hearing will be held on June 8, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.~~ **President Parisio announced that this meeting has been canceled.**
- 7.4 The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on June 11, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.