

**WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting
Willits High School Media Center
299 North Main Street, Willits, California
Wednesday, January 8, 2014
Open Session – 4:30 p.m.
Closed Session to follow Open Session.**

Public Comments- Individuals may address the Board on regular session agenda items at the time they are under consideration.

MINUTES

1. Call Meeting to Order

Board President Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

2. Flag Salute

Board President Rodriguez led the flag salute.

3. Agenda Approval

MSP (Harris/Bowlds) to approve the agenda, striking Items 5.A., and 8.E. and F.

Ayes: Rodriguez, Bowlds, Neary, Harris

Noes: None

Absent: Carni

Abstain: None

4. Informational

A. Mid Year Student Achievement Data Review

Superintendent Johnson explained that this item will be presented at the February meeting.

B. Strategic Plan Update

Superintendent Johnson stated that the Strategic Plan needs revision, and that she asked the board for direction, noting that she would like to form a committee and get input from stakeholders in the content and development of the plan. She reported that she would like to conduct a special meeting of the board at the end of February for Strategic Plan work, and bring a draft of the revisions to the board in March.

The Board directed Superintendent Johnson to obtain input from stakeholders concerning the Strategic Plan revisions.

C. Presentation of CSEA Initial Sunshine Proposal to WUSD 14/15

This item was stricken at the request of CSEA.

D. Presentation of WTA Initial Sunshine Proposal to WUSD 14/15

WTA President Paula Nunez presented the board with the WTA Initial Sunshine Proposal for the 2015-2017 Collective Bargaining Agreement Negotiations, explaining that the successor contract is open in its entirety. See ATTACHMENT C.

The board asked for clarification that the whole contract was open for negotiations. Superintendent Johnson confirmed the agreement is open.

WTA President Nunez confirmed that the CBA is open for negotiations, and that the WTA team will bring their items to the first session.

6. Public Comments for Items Not on the Agenda

Superintendent Johnson read a statement concerning public comment. SEE ATTACHMENT A.

Yvonne Winter shared why she feels there is a culture of mistrust in the district, and her concerns about the Measure B shortfall. She stated that it is not fair for the employees to be penalized for the former administrations' failure to read the fine print. SEE ATTACHMENT B. She stated that while she understands that MAA funding is frozen at this time, but that Laytonville has a dedicated MAA Coordinator. She suggested Willits USD have this dedicated position in our district, as it could help reduce the encroachment of Special Education on the General Fund.

Board President Rodriguez thanked Paula Nunez and Superintendent Johnson for meeting with her. She stated that she appreciated the open dialogue that took place. She thanked the school sites for welcoming her to their sites. She stated that her comments in December were made to address concerns raised by individuals and not meant to target any particular bargaining unit.

7. Reports and Updates

A. WTA President Comments, Report, and Requests

WTA President Paula Nunez addressed rumors about the perceived disconnect in the association. She stated that over the course of this year's board meetings there have been a multitude of WTA members in attendance and that of the entire membership of WTA; only 4 members have not been able to attend a meeting. She expressed her appreciation for the teachers who have shown their support, and given their time to attend. She stated that the membership wishes to have equity, unity and what is best for students. She stated that she needs respect, honesty, and transparency to rebuild trust. She noted that she disagrees with the statement made that board meetings are "our meeting held in public". She stated that these are public meetings. She shared her concerns about the Budget Advisory Committee and asked how the new committee will look. She stated that the Executive Committee has lots of ideas on how to combine positions, and reconfigure to save money. President Nunez thanked Superintendent Johnson and Board President Rodriguez for the time spent with her in positive and productive meetings. She thanked Cynthia Brown for the J90. She thanked Lynda Walker in Payroll for the speedy resolution of some recent issues. She stated her appreciation for the May 23 inservice offering. .

B. CSEA Comments

CSEA was not present for comment.

C. Administrator Comments

Brookside Principal Olga O'Neill reported that the students came back from break ready to learn. She stated that this is a great time of year for learning, and teaching. She explained the Leadership model used in our district.

Baechtel Grove Middle School Principal Maria de los Angeles Munguia recognized the BGMS Band students for an excellent performance, and the ceramics class at BGMS for voluntarily setting aside their beloved ceramics classes to help in the conservation of water. She stated that BGMS is beginning to teach students about the difference between the Growth Mindset versus the Set Mindset. She complimented her teaching staff for their work on Quarter 2 assessments and data analysis.

Willits High Principal Dr. Jeff Ritchley stated that he enjoyed his Tea with the Principal this evening. He shared the successes of the WHS sports teams, and how much he enjoyed Hot Winters Night. He thanked Jered Sherrill and Carolyn Bakewell for their hard work on this fabulous event. He reported the FAFSA nights and exit exams scheduled. He commented on his observation and how impressed he was with the PLCs in 3rd grade at Brookside.

D. Superintendent Comments

Superintendent Johnson reported that she attended the Willits Charter School Board meeting. She updated the board on recent facility issues resulting from the severe winter weather. She complimented Director of Maintenance, Operations and Transportation Sandy Eddy, and her maintenance staff for the incredible work they have done of prioritizing and fixing the issues. She thanked Christy Wisdom for coming in over the break to help with the water damage in the WHS kitchen. She stated that the 60 day notice is approaching concerning the property sale of 317 East Commercial St. Superintendent Johnson reported that she is working with the City of Willits with water issues. She complimented the administrators for their work on the SARC and Safety Plans included in tonight agenda. She welcomed Mary Hatfield, MFT, and Jackie Herz, Social Worker, to the district as part of the Elementary Counseling Grant. the grant will serve Brookside, Blosser Lane, and Sherwood.

E. Board Comments

Board Member Neary stated that he has noticed that the public input procedures for WUSD board meetings are very rigid. He stated that he feels that public input is a very important part of the meeting and that three minutes per person does not serve the board well. He stated that he would like the board to revisit this procedure. He suggested the board eliminate the comment cards, and allow an exchange of ideas, leaving speakers a reasonable amount of time, allowing a more facilitative process. He stated that he believes this will improve the relationship with the public.

Board Member Harris agreed with Board Member Neary.

Board Member Bowlds concurred.

Board President Rodriguez stated that she agrees the process should be more flexible. She noted that the perception is that the board has had time to discuss the agenda prior to the meeting and that this is not the case. She stated that the board meetings are the only opportunity for the board to have conversations about agenda items, and that they do need to be allowed that time to have their discussions during the meeting. She added that board meetings are also the forum for board members to share the concerns and views of the community that they represent. She welcomed Jackie Herz, and Mary Hatfield to WUSD. She stated her appreciation for the extra time and effort of staff preparing and presenting the holiday performances.

Jerry Rich thanked Board Member Neary for his comments. He stated that he has attended many meetings and was intimidated by the three minute and comment card process. He stated that he cares about this district, staff, students and community, and that we are all in this together. He thanked Paula Nunez for her advocacy. He stated that he is passionate about 6th grade remaining at BGMS.

8. Action Discussion

A. Public Comment on Consent Agenda Items

Paula Nunez asked if the actuarial study will take into consideration of savings when a veteran teacher retires and is replaced with a new teacher at a lesser cost.

Director of Fiscal Services Cynthia Brown stated that the scope of the study is narrow and deals only with retiree health benefit costs.

B. Consent Agenda

MSP (Harris/Bowlds) to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Ayes: Rodriguez, Bowlds, Neary, Harris
Noes: None
Absent: Carni
Abstain: None

The Consent Agenda included the following items: Minutes of the Regular/Organizational Meeting held on December 4, 2013, Minutes of the Special Meeting held on December 12, 2013, Warrant Registers from November 27, 2013 through December 19, 2013, Williams Quarterly Report, Approval of School Accountability Report Cards, Approval of School Safety Plans, Approval of Annual Audit Report-Christy White Accounting, Approval of Contract for Services-Christy White Associates, Approval of Local Control Accountability Plan, Authorization to Enter into an Agreement with Nicolay Consulting Group for Actuarial Services, and Approval of Overnight Field Trip to Angel Island.

C. PUBLIC HEARING-WUSD SUNSHINE PROPOSAL TO WTA 5:45

The Willits Unified School District will hold a Public Hearing to seek input on a Sunshine negotiations proposal from Willits Unified School District to the Bargaining Unit Willits Teachers Association (WTA), in order to begin negotiations for 2014/15, for the 2015-2017 CBA.

Board President Rodriguez opened the public hearing at 5:51 p.m. She encouraged public input. No comments were received.

Board President Rodriguez closed the public hearing at 5:54 p.m.

D. Adoption of WUSD Sunshine Proposal to WTA 14/15

MSP (Neary/Bowlds) to adopt the 14/15 WUSD Initial Sunshine Proposal to WTA for the 2015-2017 CBA.

Ayes: Rodriguez, Bowlds, Neary, Harris

Noes: None

Absent: Carni

Abstain: None

E. PUBLIC HEARING-WUSD SUNSHINE PROPOSAL TO CSEA 6:00

This item was tabled until the February meeting at the request of CSEA.

F. Adoption of the WUSD Sunshine Proposal to CSEA 14/15

This item was tabled until the February meeting at the request of CSEA.

G. *Approval of Willits Charter School (WCS) Charter Annual Report

Superintendent Johnson reported that per the MOU between WUSD and WCS, WCS must make an annual report to the board using the criteria specified in the MOU. The WCS report is attached and was submitted on time. Jason Erlick, Kara McClellan, and John Kirchero were introduced.

MSP (Neary/Bowlds) to approve the Willits Charter School Annual Report.

Ayes: Rodriguez, Bowlds, Neary, Harris

Noes: None

Absent: Carni

Abstain: None

H. *Approval of Willits Elementary Charter School (WECS) Annual Report

Superintendent Johnson reported that per the MOU between WUSD and WECS, WECS must make an annual report to the board using the criteria specified in the MOU. The WECS report is attached and was submitted on time.

MSP (Neary/Bowlds) to approve the Willits Elementary Charter School Annual Report.

Ayes: Rodriguez, Bowlds, Neary, Harris

Noes: None

Absent: Carni

Abstain: None

I. *Deferred Maintenance Project List Discussion

Superintendent Johnson reported that the board asked administration to bring the deferred maintenance list of projects to the board for an update and for re-prioritization. She reported that she would like to involve Steve Turner from MCOE to assist on a committee, in the prioritization and pricing of the list. She stated that she would like to bring this back with a committee recommendation in April.

J. Reconfiguration of Schools Update

Superintendent Johnson reported that at the May 1, 2013 Board meeting, the board took action to reconfigure schools. As part of the motion, she was given the assignment of investigating the 6th grade move to Blosser Lane for the 14/15 school year. Superintendent Johnson held open forums for parents, staff, and the community, as

well as conducted an online survey. She found that there is little support for the move of 6th grade to Blosser Lane, and strong support for the 6th grade to remain at BGMS.

MSP (Rodriguez/Bowlds) to keep 6th grade at BGMS with the option of revisiting the issue if needed.

Ayes: Rodriguez, Bowlds, Neary, Harris
Noes: None
Absent: Carni
Abstain: None

K. *Approval of Elementary Counseling Grant PPS Job Descriptions

Superintendent Johnson explained that the PPS Lead and the PPS Counselor positions are two of four positions that are part of the Federal Elementary Counseling Grant. Unlike the PPS positions, the Social Worker and the MFT positions are contract for services positions, with Request for Proposals, and paid through accounts payable as independent contractors. Both the Social Worker and MFT contracts have been developed and qualified independent contractors hired. The PPS positions are posted.

MSP (Bowlds/Harris) to approve the job descriptions as presented.

Ayes: Rodriguez, Bowlds, Neary, Harris
Noes: None
Absent: Carni
Abstain: None

L. *Approval of District Delivery Driver Position

Superintendent Johnson explained that to support the need for daily food delivery and inventory control in food services, this job description has been created. Additional, as needed deliveries are also included in this job description. Salary placement of this position will be negotiated with CSEA, prior to posting.

MSP (/) to approve the district delivery driver position as presented.

Ayes: Rodriguez, Bowlds, Neary, Harris
Noes: None
Absent: Carni
Abstain: None

9. Closed Session Agenda Approval

MSP (Bowlds/Neary) to approve the Closed Session Agenda as presented.

Ayes: Rodriguez, Bowlds, Neary, Harris
Noes: None
Absent: Carni
Abstain: None

10. Public Comments on Closed Session Items

No comments were received.

11. Recess to Closed Session

Board President Rodriguez recessed to closed session at 6:15 p.m.

- A. Public Employment, Superintendent Evaluation (G.C. 54957)
- B. Labor Negotiations, WTA, CSEA, Administration, Confidential Classified, (G.C. 54957.6) District Representative, Superintendent
- C. Request for Approval of Algebra Waiver Ca Ed Code §56101
- D. Request for Classified Leave of Absence (1) (G.C. 54957)

12. Reconvene to Open Session

Board President Rodriguez reconvened to open session at 7:20 p.m.

13. Report out of Closed Session

Superintendent Johnson reported that the following action was taken during closed session:
Regarding:

C. Request for Approval of Algebra Waiver Ca Ed Code §56101
MSP (Bowlds/Harris) to approve the algebra waiver request as presented.
Ayes: Rodriguez, Bowlds, Neary, Harris
Noes: None
Absent: Carni
Abstain: None

Regarding:

D. Request for Classified Leave of Absence (1) (*G.C. 54957*)
This item was tabled.

The board reached a consensus to authorize the superintendent to enter into a contract with School Services.

MSP (Bowlds/Rodriguez) to add Item 15. Action to Direct Counsel
Ayes: Rodriguez, Bowlds, Neary, Harris
Noes: None
Absent: Carni
Abstain: None

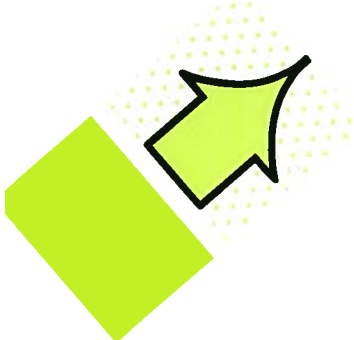
15. Action to Direct Counsel
MSP (Bowlds/Rodriguez) to take action to direct counsel.
Ayes: Rodriguez, Bowlds, Neary, Harris
Noes: None
Absent: Carni
Abstain: None

16. Adjournment

MSP (Neary/Bowlds) to adjourn at 7:40 p.m.
Ayes: Rodriguez, Bowlds, Neary, Harris
Noes: None
Absent: Carni
Abstain: None

Patricia Johnson, Superintendent

Cynthia Carni, Board Clerk



Attachment A

Public Comments for Items Not on the Agenda Statement:

This is an opportunity for citizens to address the School Board on any item that is not on the agenda and other school related matters, or suggest topics for future agendas. Because concerns expressed are not agendaized for tonight, the Board cannot take action on items introduced under the Public Comments Sections, per state law.

Those wishing to address the Board are invited to fill out a "request to Speak" card (available at the door), and present it to the Board Secretary (Superintendent) prior to this portion of the agenda. Instructions for making public comment are noted on the front of the card. The Board President may rule on the appropriateness of a topic. If the topic would be more suitably addressed at a later time, the president may indicate the time and place when it should be presented.

The Board shall not prohibit public criticism of its policies, procedures, programs, service, acts, or omissions (Government Code §54954.3). In addition, the Board may not prohibit public criticism of district employees. Please note: it is requested that statements critical of personnel or students, or specific actions of personnel or students, be made in accordance with Board Policy 1312.1.

Members of the public are asked to check with the Superintendent, Board President, or Clerk of the board regarding the District Complaint Procedure prior to making statements referring to personnel or students. Employees of the district who wish to make statements related to contractual issues need to file the appropriate grievance procedure statements. Speakers are cautioned that under California law, no person is immune from liability for making intentionally false or defamatory comments regarding any person simply because those comments are made at a public meeting.

Please limit comments to three minutes per individual. Total time for public input on each item is 20 minutes.

Some of the reasoning behind the developed mistrust of WUSD-made decisions

Willits

Year	UA Budget		1 st Interim		2 nd Interim		Un. Actuals
08-09 Tot. Rev.	\$16,290,375		\$16,762,161		\$16,403,805		\$16,568,487
Tot. Exp.	\$17,141,133		\$17,704,208		\$17,449,491		\$16,714,683
Unr. E. Bal.	\$802,185	4.68%	\$709,901	4.01%	\$292,881	1.68%	\$775,126 4.64%
09-10 Tot. Rev.	\$15,392,912		\$		\$15,890,520		\$15,389,968
Tot. Exp.	\$15,451,328		\$		\$16,425,227		\$15,644,466
Unr. E. Bal.	\$802,239	%5.19	\$	%	\$1,004,888	6.12%	\$1,254,047 8.02%
10-11 Tot. Rev.	\$14,950,349		\$16,360,333		\$16,821,531		\$16,153,086
Tot. Exp.	\$15,867,153		\$16,554,826		\$16,791,580		\$15,577,336
Unr. E. Bal.	\$575,590	3.63%	\$1,022,961	6.18%	\$1,606,709	9.57%	\$1,928,907 12.38%
11-12 Tot. Rev.	\$14,542,449		\$14,942,943		\$15,405,604		\$15,732,023
Tot. Exp.	\$15,695,059		\$16,221,619		\$15,982,795		\$16,004,243
Unr. E. Bal.	\$690,346	4.40%	\$509,375	3.14%	\$1,429,112	8.94%	\$1,682,656 10.51%
12-13 Tot. Rev.	\$14,314,704		\$15,532,834		\$15,297,367		
Tot. Exp.	\$15,206,470		\$16,173,534		\$16,037,103		
Unr. E. Bal.	\$633,563	4.17%	\$932,696	5.77%	\$834,336	5.20%	



5 day given up

ATTACHMENT D

We were: **EXPLOITED AND TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF.**

I.E

**BEING SOLD A PIG IN A POKE, TAKEN FOR A RIDE, BEEN BURNED, GULLED,
RIPPED OFF, LED DOWN THE GARDEN PATH,**

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE
WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

FROM: THE WILLITS TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

WE ARE READY TO SUNSHINE THE WTA
CONTRACT FOR 2015 -- 2017.*

*THE SPECIFIC ARTICLES WILL BE DISCUSSED
AT THE FIRST NEGOTIATION SESSION.

Patricia Johnson
Superintendent

Willits Unified School District

Board of Trustees
Saprina Rodriguez
Cynthia Carni
Alex Bowlds
Christopher J. Neary
Laurie Harris

January 8, 2014

To: The Public

Willits Teachers' Association

From: Willits Board of Trustees

In accordance with state law, the District has a duty to “sunshine” its reopeners for upcoming negotiations. Although negotiations for 2013-14 have not yet concluded, the parties have an agreement to present their openers in January. The collective bargaining agreement between the Willits Unified School District and the Willits Teachers' Association expires as of June 30, 2014. It is the understanding of the District that the Association intends to reopen the entire contract. The District gives similar notice to the public that each article and all related attachments to the existing collective bargaining agreement are opened for 2014-15 negotiations, for the 2015-2017 Collective bargaining Agreement.