

WILLITS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Regular Meeting

Willits High School Media Center  
299 North Main Street, Willits, California

Wednesday, March 2, 2016

Closed Session- 3:30p.m.

Open Session-4:30p.m.

MINUTES

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

1. Call Meeting to Order

Board President Neary called the meeting to order at 3:36 p.m.

2. Closed Session Agenda Approval

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

Ayes: Neary, Croskey, Bowlds, Carni, Harris,

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

3. Public Comments on Closed Session Items

No comments were received

4. Recess to Closed Session

Board President Neary recessed to closed session at 3:37 p.m.

5. Reconvene to Open Session

Board President Neary reconvened to open session at 4:30 p.m.

6. Report out of Closed Session

A. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release (G.C 54957)

Superintendent Johnson reported per Ed Code 44951B that the board took action by unanimous decision for the Superintendent or designee to notify school administrators that they may be released or reassigned for the 2016/17 school year. The board also approved by unanimous decision per Ed Code 44954B for the release of one temporary certificated .4 FTE employee for the 2016/17 school year.

Conference with Labor Negotiators: WTA: Superintendent (G.C. 54957.6)

Nothing to report out

B. Consideration of Leave of Absence Request (1) Certificated (G.C. 54957)

MSP (Bowlds/Carni) to approve the leave absence as presented.

Ayes: Neary, Croskey, Bowlds, Carni, Harris,

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

D. Consideration of Leave of Absence Request (1) Classified (G.C. 55957)

MSP (Carni/Bowlds) to approve the leave of absence as presented.

Ayes: Neary, Croskey, Bowlds, Carni, Harris,

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

## E. Approval of Inter-district Transfer Requests (E.C. 35146)

MSP (Bowlds/Croskey) to approve the inter-district transfers as presented.

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

### 7. Flag Salute

Board Clerk Croskey led the flag salute.

### 8. Agenda Approval

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

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

### 9. Public Comments for Items Not on the Agenda

Stephanie Roelling teacher/librarian at Willits High School shared the concerns from teachers over the lack of administrative leadership at Willits High School, ATTACHMENT A

School Psychologist, Yvonne Winters wished to commend Director of Special Education Kelley Labus for her tremendous support, knowledge and dedication to the students and staff.

Clarence Rhine expressed his concerns over the surplus of 3 of the 5 school buses and outsourcing of repairs. He stated it was with a sad heart that he resigned but it was necessary for health reasons.

Community member Ray Bean spoke about his concerns in the transportation department, his discontent with the Director of Transportation, student safety and the dedication his wife has had to the district for the past twenty five years.

Teacher, Paula Nunez, wished to advise the Board of Trustees that their beliefs of employee loyalty to the district does not exist. This is primarily due to the lack of fair treatment to employees and correct procedures not being followed regarding complaints.

### 10. Information

#### A. Focus on Special Education: ATTACHMENT B

Director of Special Education Kelley Labus reported on the number of students receiving services, types of disabilities and programs serving our students. April 2, 2016 is Autism Awareness Day. Kelley presented a video clip showcasing several students and the programs offered. Student, Nadith Medina Santa Maria spoke about the workability program and the trainings she has received, Nadith also gave appreciation to her teacher Sue James.

#### B. Elementary Counseling Grant Update

A power point was presented displaying students' art work, working through tough issues.

#### C. Board Policy Review BP 1240: Volunteers in the Classroom

Superintendent Johnson described the current policy and process. A discussion with community member involvement took place about the procedures, cost involved and possibility of a mobile lab before the start of the next school year. Board Member Harris commended the current policy.

#### D. Charter School Participation in Athletics Update

Willits High School Principal Robert Chavez did a power point presentation with more information about expenses and requirements for athletic participation from local Charter Schools. Several members of the community and staff spoke against the consideration of this allowance. One community member spoke in favor. After great discussion, Board President Neary thanked all for their input-this was an informational item only. No action taken.

#### E. Board Policy Review BP 6145/Code of Conduct: Extracurricular Activities, Eligibility Requirements

ATTACHMENT C

Willits High School Principal Robert Chavez presented a power point with details about board policy and the code of conduct for athletics for Willits High School students. A discussion took place about both policies and the need for direction from the board about the policies which need to support each other. No action taken, information only.

F. Career Technical Education Program Presentation: ATTACHMENT D

John Putt, CTE teacher at Willits High School showcased a few projects done by students in the Construction and Woodworking courses and also presented a power point with pictures.

11. WTA Comments

John Haschak expressed his appreciation to the board for their commitment to the interview process in the Superintendent search. He stated that negotiations are going well and noted that work from both sides of the bargaining teams are occurring to make the district a better place. John also thanked Board President, Chris Neary for his visit to Blosser Lane School on Read Across America Day and reading to the students.

12. CSEA Comments: ATTACHMENT E

Deb Bean gave board members CSEA negotiations proposal: No action taken.

13. Site Administrator Comments

Brookside Principal, Anne Hammond reported on the following events: one of the teachers at Brookside had her baby, Pajama day was held today and so was Read Across America Day. Vision testing is tomorrow, Dr. Earl Myers does this service for free, Thank You to Gaye Orvis for setting this up. Thursday is family game night, Thank You to Superintendent Johnson, Tanya Michel and Roberta Watkins for the new chairs at school. Anne shared her appreciation to the staff at Brookside for always coming together.

Blosser Lane and Sherwood Elementary School Principal Nancy Runberg also thanked Board President Neary for coming to the school and reading to students. The end of 2nd trimester is this Friday. Nancy shared her appreciation to Geraldo Nieto and Dan Green for their assistance with the fire alarms that were malfunctioning. The following field trips are scheduled: 3rd grade students will be riding the Skunk train, 4<sup>th</sup> grade students will be going to the Academy of Science in San Francisco and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade students will be visiting Baechtel Grove Middle School. Reporting on Sherwood Elementary, the students enjoyed the focus on Dr. Seuss and Teacher, Gina Hirsch had 11 students qualify for the County Science Fair.

Baechtel Grove Middle School Principal Maria Mungia thanked the devoted parents for providing food to the Valentines dance. Math concerns were addressed at a meeting held on February 29<sup>th</sup>, Maria gave thanks to teachers Ms. Hendrix and Ms. Ford along with Superintendent Johnson for their dedication. Summer School is scheduled for June 15<sup>th</sup> -July 8<sup>th</sup>. Odyssey of the Mind, 6<sup>th</sup> grade team competes on March 12<sup>th</sup>, Mary Colvig is the advisor. The school received good news from the auditor, she was impressed with the student council notes and thank you to Jenni Wyatt, for a great job on attendance records. On Friday students who reached their AR goals will be rewarded with a movie at Noyo Theatre. March 14<sup>th</sup> will be visitation day: a panel of students will greet parents of incoming 5<sup>th</sup> graders, followed by a tour of the school campus. Curriculum and Instruction committee will be meeting on March 7<sup>th</sup>, this is the last day for ELA review and March 10<sup>th</sup> is the last day for the math review. Recruitment for the AVID program is taking place at Blosser Lane, Baechtel Grove and Willits High School. Current AVID students from Willits High will be visiting UC Berkeley.

Ms. Mungia wanted to express that athletics are a positive program for students at Baechtel Grove and she would not like to see it opened up to the charter schools. Pie challenge is happening on March 14<sup>th</sup>, this is an attendance challenge- some lucky or unlucky staff member will be getting a pie in the face.

Willits High School Principal Robert Chavez stated that spring sports has begun and invited all to come out and support the students, he thanked the many volunteers helping with Senior Portfolio Night. Student Board representative, Will Switzer presented a power point on WHS activities including Spirit Week, athletics and club events.

14. Superintendent Comments

Superintendent Johnson thanked the Special Ed Department, Elementary Counseling Grant and Mr. Putt for their presentations and the connections it brings to our students. She attended math night, it was a meaningful meeting and noted with new curriculum that support is needed for our students and the families as well. Superintendent Johnson thanked the WTA negotiations team for their work and is looking forward to March 15<sup>th</sup>. She gave appreciation to the Human Resource Department for the Superintendent search and the Fiscal Department for their work in negotiations.

The next board meeting is March 16<sup>th</sup> beginning at 4:30 p.m. where the focus will be strategic plan and fiscal.

## 15. Board Comments

Board Member Laurie Harris thanked Principal Chavez for bringing forth the information concerning Willits High School, she was glad to hear that Board President Neary was at Blosser Lane School today. Ms. Harris stated that she would like to clear up the following misconceptions from the last regular board meeting:

- buses sent to Sacramento were under warranty and the board was not aware of that
- employee with the excessive absences had a doctor's note excusing him from work.

Board Member Harris feels her requests are not being addressed and the district office is acting bias in not providing information she has been requesting. She thanked Laura Sleeper and all involved in their work on the interview process and lastly she wants to insure all students are treated fairly.

Board Member Alex Bowlds, shared that he is proud of the school sites staff and administration for making all the exciting things that are happening. He is hopeful that having Mr. Chavez back full time will improve all the issues happening at Willits High School and hopes the Superintendent will take a direct role in assuring the needs will be addressed. Mr. Bowlds also expressed his concern with the ELD coordinator requirement linked to our WASC accreditation and would like to see Superintendent Johnson follow through on this to make sure this stipulation happens.

Board Clerk Georgeanne Croskey said she really enjoyed the woodworking/construction presentation and it is great to hear all the happenings at the sites

Board Member Cynthia Carni, shared her appreciation for the Special Ed presentation and is happy to see all the good changes that have happened in that department. She acknowledges the frustration at Willits High School and appreciated that the teachers went to Principal Chavez first prior to bringing it to the school board. Ms. Carni thanked the teachers for coming together and sharing their input with opening up athletics to our local charter schools. She expressed it is nice to see the CTE pathways coming together and is hopeful to make it to the sites with so many dates of exciting activities ahead.

Board President Neary shared that he really enjoyed being at Blosser Lane School today and wished he could do it more, he found it very refreshing. Mr. Neary commented that he chuckled that he was referred to as President Trump by a young student as he was leaving campus.

Short recess break 7:35/ reconvened at 7:41

## 16. Action Discussion

### A. Public Comments on Consent Agenda Items

No comments were received

### B. Consent Agenda

The consent agenda included the following items: Approval of Minutes from the Regular Meeting held on February 3, 2016, Approval of Minutes from the Special Meeting held on February 19, 2016, Approval of Employee Status Changes (3), Warrant Registers from January 28, 2016 through February 18, 2016, Approval of Winter Release CARS, Approval of Investment Report December 31, 2015, Second Reading and Final Approval of BP and AR 5141.31 Immunizations, Second Reading and Final Approval of BP and AR 5112.2, Exclusions from Attendance, Second Reading and Final Approval of BP 6153, School Sponsored Trips, Second Reading and Final Approval of BP and AR 6146.1, High School Graduation Requirements

MSP (Bowlds/Carni) to approve the consent agenda as presented with the omission of the minutes for the Special Board Meeting, February 19, 2016

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

MSP (Bowlds/Croskey) to approve the minutes for the Special Board Meeting, February 19, 2016.

Ayes: Neary, Croskey, Bowlds, Harris  
Noes: None

Absent: None  
Abstain: Carni

- C. \*Approval of Engineering Contract with SHN: Parking Lots and Access Roads at Willits High School.

MSP (Carni/Croskey) to approve the contract for services as presented.

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

- D. \*Approval of Job Description: Department of Maintenance/Operations, Administrative Assistant

Item was tabled for further discussion at next regular board meeting.

- E. \*Approval of Support Letter to Howard Foundation for Mental Health Facility

MSP (Carni/Harris) to approve support letter for Howard Foundation, Mental Health Facility.

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

- F. Approval to Designate Five School Buses as Surplus to Facilitate Disposal

MSP (Bowlds/Croskey) to approve surplus of five (5) **ACTION WAS CHANGED TO TWO (2)** school buses to facilitate disposal.

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

Discussion took place about the surplus of five (5) buses. Board took action to only surplus two buses (due to emission/law regulations) the other 3 buses will be kept in fleet and further information will be provided to board before approval to surplus.

- G. \*Board Policy Revision: First Read AR 5121: Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement  
ITEM WAS TABLED TILL NEXT MEETING

- H. \*Board Policy Revision: First Read AR 3311: Bids  
ITEM WAS TABLED TILL NEXT MEETING

- I. \*Board Policy Revision: First Read BP 5131.2: Bullying  
ITEM WAS TABLED TILL NEXT MEETING

- J. \*Board Policy Revision: First Read AR 4112.23: Personnel, Special Education Staff  
ITEM WAS TABLED TILL NEXT MEETING

- K. \*Board Policy Revision: First Read BP and AR 4031: Personnel, Nondiscrimination in Employment  
ITEM WAS TABLED TILL NEXT MEETING

- L. \*Board Policy Revision: Deletion AR 4031: Complaints Concerning Discrimination in Employment  
ITEM WAS TABLED TILL NEXT MEETING

- M. \*Board Policy Revision: First Read BP 2121: Superintendent's Contract  
ITEM WAS TABLED TILL NEXT MEETING

- N. \*Approval of Skipping Criteria with Share Seniority Dates as presented

MSP (Bowlds/Harris) to approve the skipping criteria as presented.

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

O. \*Approval of Resolution to Eliminate the equivalent of 2.0 (F.T.E.) Multiple Subject Instructional Services, Resolution Number 2015/16-12

MSP (Carni/Croskey) to approve Resolution Number 2015/16-12 as presented

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

17. Recess to Closed Session

Board President Neary recessed to closed session at 8:20 p.m.

18. Reconvene to Open Session

Board President Neary reconvened to open session at 8:45 p.m.

19. Report out of Closed Session

President Neary reported that the board is moving forward with the Superintendent search process and will be interviewing three candidates tomorrow.

20. Adjournment

MSP (Croskey/Bowlds) to adjourn at 8:46 p.m.

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

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Patricia Johnson, Superintendent

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Georganne Croskey, Board Clerk