

January 11, 2023

The Board of Trustees of Willis ISD met in regular business session on January 11, 2023 at the Sharon Hill Jennette Administration Building in the Willis ISD Boardroom, 612 N. Campbell Street, Willis, Texas.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

President Kyle Hoegemeyer called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:36 p.m. and announced that a quorum was present and that notice of the meeting had been posted for the time and manner required by law.

Members Present: Kyle Hoegemeyer, presiding, Paulett T aylor, Chad Jones, Scott Carson, Nikita Lagway.

Members Absent: Cliff Williams, Charles Perry, Sr.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Diane Hivnor spoke on misinformation regarding her being informed that the School Board had decided that she would no longer be able to place her feet on the chairs and would need to bring her own furniture to elevate her feet.

Jessica Coker, a Willis ISD alumnus, and her local Girl Scout Troup presented an appreciation gift of Girl Scout cookies to each board member. Ms. Coker expressed a thank you to the Board for allowing them to hold meetings at district facilities and for the support they give the Girl Scout activities.

Robert Holden spoke on classic education and shared concerns regarding materials available to students.

Sunday Shibley spoke on community standards, traditional education and shared community concerns that have been shared with her.

President Hoegemeyer addressed the fact that board members do not respond to public comments. Mr. Hoegemeyer explained that this meeting is not intended to be a meeting just between speaker and the board members. He shared that the Board appreciates and values the time community members give in order to come to speak.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board entered into closed session at 5:49 p.m. for the purpose of considering matters for which closed sessions are authorized by Title 5, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code Sections (.071 - .084): 551.074

- A. Discuss Teacher Resignations and Employee Appointments. Tex. Gov't Code 551.074.
- B. Pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 5651.071 and 551.0821 and 551.129, deliberation of matter regarding a public school student where personally identifiable information about the student will necessarily be revealed by the deliberation and consultation with school attorney concerning pending litigation and possible settlement of matters styled Student v. Willis Independent School District, Dkt. No. 110-SE-1222A and Student v. Willis Independent School District, Dkt. No. 110-SE-1222B (Before a Special Education Hearing Officer for the State of Texas).
- C. Pursuant to Texas Government Code sections 551.071 and 551.129, the school board may convene in closed session to obtain advice from legal counsel regarding the proposed Second Amendment to

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Development Agreement with Ravella Sound, Limited, concerning the approximately 85.518 acres of Willis ISD property in the Neal Martin Survey, Abstract No. 26, in Montgomery County, Texas.

OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 6:50 p.m.

Motion by Paulett Traylor and seconded by Scott Carson to accept the Superintendent's recommendation on the professional personnel listed. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Scott Carson and seconded by Paulett Traylor to approve the Second Amendment to Development Agreement with Ravella Sound, Limited, concerning the approximately 85.518 acres of Willis ISD property in the Neal Martin Survey, Abstract No. 26, in Montgomery County, Texas. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Scott Carson and seconded by Chad Jones to accept the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and the School District's Attorney and to direct the Superintendent and the School District's Attorney to proceed, as discussed in closed session, in the matters styled Student v. Willis Independent School District, Dkt. No. 110-SE-1222A and Student v. Willis Independent School District, Dkt. No. 110-SE-1222B (Before a Special Education Hearing Officer for the State of Texas). Motion carried unanimously.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Lagway Elementary School Principal Kameron Wilder turned program over to Lagway fifth grade students who led the pledges to the flags and the invocation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PROCLAMATIONS/RESOLUTIONS/RECOGNITIONS

Principal Wilder introduced Cathy Hurst, a Lagway First Grade Teacher who has taught in Willis ISD for 30 years. Ms. Hurst introduced and honored the Elementary Student of the Month, Cassidy Allen, 1st grader, at Lagway Elementary School. Cassidy is mentor for student in her class, accepts any challenge and helps her classmate with kindness and patience.

Director of Communications, Jamie Fails, greeted the board members and welcomed Brabham Middle School Principal, Dr. Shukella Price, to the podium.

Principal Price introduced and honored the Secondary Student of the Month Owen Landaverde, an 8th grader at Brabham Middle School. Owen received the most nominations from the Brabham teachers. He is hardworking, possesses good skills, supportive, kind and always willing to help.

STANDING INFORMATION AND AD HOC REPORTS & ITEMS

There were no current audits to report. The next Safety and Security Update will be reported at the February meeting.

Superintendent, Dr. Tim Harkrider, reviewed the Safety Performance Report for December 2022; there was one accident and one employee out on workers compensation.

There were no questions concerning the financial reports and bill payment report.

Superintendent Harkrider reported the student enrollment on Monday, January 6, 2023, was 8,813 students which is up about 291 students from the same time last year.

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There were no questions concerning the Bond Summary.

There were no questions regarding the Quarterly Investment Report.

Parmley Elementary Principal, Dr. Kelley Moore, introduced the Parmley Elementary Collaborative Team. The Parmley Elementary First Grade Team presented information regarding their collaborative process. The Team concluded by thanking the Board for allowing them to share information about Parmley and their team.

Superintendent Harkrider thanked the Parmley Team for the incredible job they have done. He commented that the depth of what they shared shows that they do what it takes to get the job done. He concluded by saying that Willis ISD kids are better because of the Parmley Collaborative Team's commitment.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Paulett Traylor and seconded by Chad Jones to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance Garrett Matej shared that Whitley Penn, our external auditors, have completed the annual financial audit ending August 31, 2022. A power point was presented and a copy of the report and the management letter was given to each board member. A representative from Whitley Penn discussed the audit. The representative concluded with kudos to the district management team and a thank you to Mr. Matej and his team for a job well done. Superintendent, Dr. Tim Harkrider, recommended approval of this audit.

Board President, Kyle Hoegemeyer, expressed his appreciation to Mr. Matej and his staff. Board Member Chad Jones shared his thoughts of an awesome job and a thank you.

Motion by Scott Carson and seconded by Chad Jones that the Board of Trustees accepts the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the district's annual financial audit for the year ending August 31, 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

Assistant Superintendent Matej discussed the need of a Purchase over \$50,000 for a Security Resource Office Vehicle. Superintendent Harkrider recommended this purchase of a total cost of \$65,538.00.

Motion by Chad Jones and seconded by Scott Carson to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the purchase from Caldwell Country Chevrolet in the amount of \$65,538.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Operations, Robert Whitman, discussed that Innovation, Teaching, and Learning Department have requested the addition of seven temporary, part-time instructional support positions. The positions will be fully funded out of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) grant funds, thus the positions will end at the conclusion of the 2023-2024 school year. Superintendent Harkrider recommended three positions that will provide support and interventions for students struggling with learning loss, three positions that will provide prevention and

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intervention strategies to students with emotional struggles and one position that will provide academic intervention to students and teachers that serve ESL students.

Board Member Chad Jones shared that this is going to be phenomenal in our district and expressed his support of these positions.

Motion by Paulett Traylor and seconded by Scott Carson to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to add seven temporary, part-time instructional support positions that will be utilized through the 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Board Member, Chad Jones shared that last week we lost a long time employee, Ron Ragsdale, who did a great job for Willis ISD and the community. Mr. Jones requested a moment of silence for Mr. Ragsdale's family.

Board President, Kyle Hoegemeyer, recognized that Board Member, Charles Perry, was absent and asked that Mr. Perry and his family be kept in prayers since his wife is going through some treatment at this time. He concluded that Mr. Perry is a valued part of our team.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The regular February Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 8, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING

Motion by Scott Carson and seconded by Paulett Traylor to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.