

The Board of Trustees of Willis ISD met in regular business session on October 19, 2022 at the Sharon Hill Jennette Administration Building in the Willis ISD Boardroom, 612 N. Campbell Street, Willis, Texas.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

President Cliff Williams called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:40 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: Cliff Williams, presiding, Kyle Hoegemeyer, Chad Jones, Christen Arnold, Paulett Traylor.

Members Absent: Robin Sproba, Charles Perry, Sr.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Diane Hivnor spoke on disenfranchisement of Election Code 201.023 and Education Code 11.060 when the Board filled the vacant board position by appointment rather than placing the position on the November ballot and allowing the people to vote on the position.

Sunday Shibley shared concerns regarding a few books, from a Public Information Act response, that are housed at the Willis High School Library, that in her opinion, go against Texas Penal Code 4323. Ms. Shibley referenced specifically a book titled *Red, White & Royal Blue*, recommended parental advisory for this book and submitted a formal Reconsideration Request for the removal of this book.

Bob Holden thanked the Board for their service and spoke on classic education, the importance of service and the responsibility of the Board to ensure a good education for all students.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board entered into closed session at 5:50 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 Consider Approval of Teacher Appointments. Tex. Gov't Code 551.074.

OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 6:45 p.m.

Motion by Christen Arnold and seconded by Kyle Hoegemeyer to accept the Superintendent's recommendation on the professional personnel as listed. Motion carried unanimously.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – PARMLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Parmley Elementary School Principal, Dr. Kelley Moore, introduced Parmley students who led the pledges and prayer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PROCLAMATIONS/RESOLUTIONS/RECOGNITIONS

Director of Communication Jamie Fails announced that the Students of the Month will be introduced by each principal. Principal Moore introduced the Elementary Student of the Month, Witten Curbo, a Parmley 5th grader, and shared about his character and leadership. Brabham Middle School Principal, Dr. Shukella Price, introduced the Secondary Student of the Month, Valentina Romo, a Brabham 8th grader, and shared about her excellence in class, kindness and how she exemplifies the Brabham Core Values of leadership, integrity and excellence.

Director Fails introduced Assistant Superintendent of Innovation, Teaching and Learning, Sara Goolsby, and Executive Director of Elementary Education Patricia Lynn, who, in honor of National Principal Month, recognized each Willis ISD Principal and Assistant Principal.

STANDING INFORMATION AND AD HOC REPORTS & ITEMS

Leslie Schkade of Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott, L.L.P. presented a power point and discussed the Willis ISD Delinquent Taxes Collection Report. Ms. Schkade shared that he next tax sale is November 1, 2022 with a public tax sale in December.

Lieutenant Leslee Zemlicka, Director of Willis ISD Security, presented an update on safety and security measures at all campuses and throughout the District, regarding audits at each campus. For September, Parmley Elementary and Stubblefield Academy were audited and both received 100 percent compliance.

Assistant Superintendent of Innovation, Teaching and Learning, Sara Goolsby, presented information on the District Improvement Plan.

Superintendent Harkrider reported the student attendance on October 17, 2022 was 8,776 which is an increase of 328 students from that time last year.

There were no questions concerning the Safety Performance Report for September 2022.

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

There were no questions concerning the Bond Projects Summary.

There were no questions concerning the Annual Investment Report.

Willis ISD Board President, Cliff Williams, reported the completed training hours for each board member from November 1, 2021 to Present.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Kyle Hoegemeyer and seconded by Christen Arnold to approve the Consent Agenda items as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

Leslie Schkade of Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott, L.L.P. presented properties related to the Resale Resolution to Sale Tax Trust Properties Pursuant to Tax Code Section 34.05(a), (c) and (d). Dr. Harkrider recommended approval of this resolution.

Motion by Christen Arnold and seconded by Paulett Traylor to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the Resale Resolution of Tax Trust Properties pursuant to Tax Code Section 34.05(a), (c) and (d) as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance, Garrett Matej, discussed the previously approved grant application offered by the Office of the Governor of the State of Texas for the purpose of purchasing Bullet Resistant Shields. Once the grant reaches the fully approved status, these 13 shields would be purchased from Strack, INC, through TIPS contract 210204. Superintendent Harkrider recommended the approval of the shields at a cost of \$59,603.70. This purchase is fully funded by the grant.

Motion by Kyle Hoegemeyer and seconded by Chad Jones to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the purchase from Strack, INC in the amount of \$59,603.70. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director of Student Services, Brad Mansfield, discussed the recommendation of the 2022-2023 Willis ISD School Health Advisory Council Members. Per policy there must be parents of district students on the committee who are not employees of the District.

Motion by Paulett Traylor and seconded by Kyle Hoegemeyer to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve new SHAC members. Motion carried unanimously.

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Operations, Robert Whitman, discussed the need to add a State and Federal Compliance Specialist in the Business Office. This position will monitor applicable state and federal programs for compliance with federal, state, and local regulations, policies, and procedures. This position will be fully funded by Federal and/or State grants/allocations. The individual chosen for the job will sign an understanding that employment is expressly conditioned on the availability of full funding for the position. If full funding becomes unavailable, employment is subject to termination, nonrenewal, or reassignment as applicable.

Motion by Paulett Traylor and seconded by Kyle Hoegemeyer to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to add a State and Federal Compliance Specialist position. Motion carried unanimously.

Assistant Superintendent Sara Goolsby discussed the need of a Class Size Waiver for Class Size. As of October 14, 2022, four (4) classes are over the limit:

Cannan Elementary: one (1) class in 3rd grade

Roark Early Education Center: three (3) Pre-K classes

Motion by Christen Arnold and seconded by Kyle Hoegemeyer to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the class size waiver. Motion carried unanimously.

Board President, Cliff Williams, thanked all the Willis ISD Principals for their hard work on class sizes. Board Vice President, Kyle Hoegemeyer, commented how great it was to have the need of only just one waiver within the elementary campuses. Board Member, Chad Jones commented how difficult it is at this time to find bilingual teachers.

Director of Fine Arts, Ken Labonski, discussed an out of state travel request for the Willis High School Choir to attend a three day choir tour of New Orleans including a tour of the LSU music department and campus, a performance opportunity at St. Louis Cathedral, jazz performances and cultural sites in New Orleans. The proposed dates for the trip would be Saturday, April 22 through Monday, April 24, 2023. Superintendent, Dr. Tim Harkrider, recommended approval of this out of state travel.

Motion by Chad Jones and seconded by Paulett Traylor to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the out of state travel for the Willis High School Choir Program for April of 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

FUTURE BUSINESS MEETINGS

The regular November Board Meeting will be held on November 9, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the Sharon Hill Jennette Willis ISD Administration Building at 612 N. Campbell Street in Willis.

BOARD COMMENTS

Board Member Chad Jones spoke about Executive Director of Athletics and Fine Arts, Jason Glenn, and all those who worked behind the scenes to resolve the swimming pool issue. Mr. Jones commended Mr. Glenn for a job well done for arranging for Willis High School swimmers to use the recreation pool.

ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING

Motion by Christen Arnold and seconded by Kyle Hoegemeyer to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.