

March 8, 2023

The Board of Trustees of Willis ISD met in regular business session on March 8, 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 5:30 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, Cliff Williams, Scott Carson, Charles Perry, Sr., Paulett Traylor, Nikita Lagway, Chad Jones.

Members Absent: None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Diane Hivnor spoke on property acquisition. Ms. Hivnor also discussed the reserved seating at board meetings.

Tommy Gaskins spoke on late arrival at Willis High School requesting and sharing reasons to reconsider the decision to remove the choice of late arrival for Willis High School students.

Phillip Cash spoke on safety and security in the school district.

Steve Scott spoke on safety and security.

Wesley Doolittle spoke on school security.

Robert Holden spoke on education and library book choices made by district employees.

President Hoegemeyer expressed a thank you to those who spoke for taking their time to speak on something they are passionate about.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board entered into closed session at 5:48 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).

- A. Discuss Teacher Resignations and Consider Approval of Teacher Appointments. Tex. Gov't Code 551.074.
- B. Discuss, Consider and Possibly Take Action Regarding the Contract Abandonment of a Teacher at Willis High School
- C. Consideration and Possible Action to Adopt a Resolution and Approve the purchase of real property (surface only) described as A0026 – Martin Neal, Tract 31-A, Acres 2.721, commonly known as 14011 Longstreet Road, Willis, Texas 77318, together with all improvements, if any, thereon and all rights, title and interest of Seller in and to adjacent

March 8, 2023

roads, alleys, rights-of-way, drainage facilities, easements and utility facilities (“Property”), from Carol P McAnally, for \$625,000.00, plus the costs of the transaction, said property to be used for future expansion to support the educational mission of the District.

- D. Safety and Security Campus Evaluation and Review of Findings. (Closed Session Pursuant to Texas Government Code § 551.076 and § 551.089 – Deliberation Regarding Security Devices or Security Audits)

OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 7:05 p.m.

Motion by Cliff Williams and seconded by Scott Carson to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation on the professional personnel listed. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Cliff Williams and seconded by Paulett Traylor to, based on Texas Education Code 21.105, find that good cause did not exist for Ashley Craig to abandon her probationary employment contract and authorize our Board President to file a written complaint to the State Board for Educator Certification. Motion carried unanimously.

There was no motion regarding the resolution and purchase of real property.

There was no motion regarding the Safety and Security Campus Evaluation and Review of Findings.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dr. Harkrider introduced the Principal of Brabham Middle School, Dr. Shukella Price.

Dr. Price introduced Brabham students who led the pledges and invocation.

RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Price introduced the Brabham Middle School Ambassadors whose motto is Leading with a Purpose.

Principal Price recognized the Secondary Student of the Month, Kristen Eillers, an eighth grade student at Brabham Middle School who is an outstanding ambassador, helper and leader.

Meador Elementary School Principal, Tamara Good, recognized the Elementary Student of the Month, Victoria Gaspar, a 3rd grade student at Meador Elementary School who is a shining star, a good listener and always a helper.

Ms. Fails introduced Executive Director of Athletics and Fine Arts, Jason Glenn, who recognized Willis High School Coaches and Athletes of the Girls Basketball Team, Boys Basketball Team, Student Athletic Trainers, Swim and Dive Team and Wrestling Team. Executive Director Glenn commended these amazing athletes and amazing coaches. WHS Girls

March 8, 2023

Basketball Coach Shelby Abercrombie thanked the Board for recognizing these girls who have worked so hard this year with outstanding improvement. WHS Boys Basketball Coach Jeremy Clark thanked the Board for honoring these boys who have worked so hard as leaders on and off the court. WHS Athletic Trainer Scott McClatchy recognized a group of kids that he is honored and privileged to work with, the dedicated student athletic trainers. WHS Swim and Dive Coach Dana Fossmo shared that the swim team had a great season and recognized swimmers and one diver. WHS Wrestling Coach Bryan Thomas introduced Assistant Coach Bridgett Thomas and he recognized the wrestling athletes present. Coach Bryan also shared that there were sixty-six students on the wrestling team and that forty-five of those earned Academic All District.

STANDING INFORMATION AND AD HOC REPORTS & ITEMS

Leslie Schkade of Perdue, Brandon, Fielder, Collins & Mott, L.L.P. presented and discussed the delinquent tax collections analysis. There were no questions about the report.

Director of Transportation, Shannon Calltharp, and her team shared an update on transportation routing. Director Calltharp and her team shared some of the challenges in regards to transporting Willis ISD students due to the new growth in our district. The Transportation Department houses a 79 bus fleet and services 252 daily routes. Double runs and creating pool stops in several subdivisions have been utilized to deal with growth but there is a need for additional options to be explored. Director Calltharp shared information about a one or two mile no transportation radius and that other school districts have implemented the one or two mile no transportation radius. Dr. Harkrider shared that increasing staff pay for drivers as they train has helped but ridership continue to increase and varies. He concluded with appreciation for the great job done by bus drivers and the campuses in dealing with these transportation issues.

Board President, Kyle Hoegemeyer, shared appreciation for Transportation Department thinking now for next year.

Executive Director of Support Services and Construction, Paul Dusebout, shared that Willis ISD participated in the 2022 Commercial Solutions Energy Efficiency Program sponsored by Entergy Texas earning a total of \$22,748.15 in cash incentives by installing energy efficient LED lighting in the most recent construction projects (Lucas Middle School Addition, Lagway Elementary and Roark Early Education Center).

Superintendent Dr. Harkrider reported there are 8,820 students enrolled at Willis ISD as of March 3, 2023; which is 226 students more than this time last year.

Superintendent Dr. Tim Harkrider reviewed the Safety Performance Report for February 2023; sharing that only 52 district employees did not complete safety training for February.

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

There were no questions concerning the 2020 Bond Projects Summary and information regarding the 2022 and 2015 Bond Issue Funds.

March 8, 2023

Meador Elementary Principal, Tamara Good, introduced the Meador Elementary Collaborative Team. The Meador Elementary Third Grade Team presented a powerpoint and information regarding their collaborative process.

Brabham Middle School Principal, Dr. Shukella Price, introduced the Brabham Middle School Collaborative Team. The Brabham Middle School 8th grade RLA Team presented a power point and information regarding their collaborative process.

Assistant Superintendent of Innovation, Teaching and Learning, Sara Goolsby, presented an update on MAP Data. This academic update highlighted tremendous progress along with the areas that need work. The data shared is used by teachers to see where their students are and this data is improving daily.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes

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

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

Director of Child Nutrition, Michael Northey discussed the bid related to Request for Proposal (RFP) #020923 – Serving Line at Turner Elementary. Dr. Harkrider recommended approval of this bid at a cost of \$111,948.

Motion by Chad Jones and seconded by Scott Carson to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to award the bid related to RFP 020923 to Kommercial Kitchen and approve the purchase of \$111,948 from the Child Nutrition Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director of Support Services and Construction, Paul Dusebout, discussed the need for Improvements at the Yates Stadium Fieldhouse for new paint, tile and flooring. Superintendent Harkrider shared that this field house serves seventh and eighth grade boys every day and recommended this purchase with a total cost of \$954,572. Dr. Harkrider also noted that the AC will need to be addressed in the future.

Motion by Scott Carson and seconded by Cliff Williams to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to expend \$954,572.00 from 2015 Bond Issue Funds for the Yates Stadium Fieldhouse Improvements. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director Dusebout discussed the need for professional consulting services for 2022 Bond Project – Willis High School Baseball / Softball Complex Improvements. Superintendent Harkrider recommended Sports Design Group, LLC, for these improvements.

Motion by Cliff Williams and seconded by Charles Perry to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to accept the proposed scope of professional consulting services and fee proposal

March 8, 2023

from Sports Design Group, LLC, for 2022 Bond Project – Willis High school Baseball / Softball Complex Improvements. Motion carried unanimously

Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources and Operations, Robert Whitman, discussed the need of adding an Assistant Director of Special Education position. Dr. Harkrider recommended the addition of this position.

Motion by Paulett Traylor and seconded by Chad Jones to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to add an Assistant Director of Special Education position. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Harkrider discussed and recommended the need for changes to Local Board Policy BE in regards to regular monthly board meetings and Local Board Policy CO in regards to lunch charges.

Motion by Scott Carson and seconded by Chad Jones to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and adopt Local Policies BE (Local) and CO (Local) as presented, replacing all previous versions of these policies. Motion carried unanimously

Superintendent, Dr. Tim Harkrider, reviewed the proposed 2023-2024 Regular School Board Meeting Schedule with meetings recommended for the second Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m.

Motion by Scott Carson and seconded by Paulett Traylor to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the 2023-2024 Board Meeting Schedule. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

There were no board member comments.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The regular April Board Meeting will be held on April 12, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING

Motion by Cliff Williams and seconded by Paulett Traylor to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.