

September 14, 2022

The Board of Trustees of Willis ISD met in Regular Business Session on September 14, 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 5:30 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: Cliff Williams, presiding, Kyle Hoegemeyer, Paulett Traylor, Christen Arnold, Charles Perry, Sr., Chad Jones and Robin Sproba*.

Members Absent: None.

*Robin Sproba arrived during Public Comments.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: John Jinkerson spoke on gender confusion.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board entered into closed session at 5:33 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

- Discuss Teacher Resignations and Consider Approval of Teacher Appointments. Tex. Gov't Code 551.074.
- Discuss, Consider and Possibly Take Action Regarding the Contract Abandonment of Teacher at Lynn Lucas Middle School

OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 6:53 p.m.

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

No Action taken regarding the Contract Abandonment of Teacher at Lynn Lucas Middle School

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – HARDY ELEMETARY

Superintendent, Dr. Tim Harkrider, introduced Hardy Elementary Principal Susan Fossler who introduced the Hardy Assistant Principal, Counselor, Receptionist and Registrar. Hardy students shared their school motto and they led the pledges and prayer.

RECOGNITIONS

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Arleth Navarrette, 5th grader at Hardy Elementary was recognized as the Elementary Student of the Month.

Monica Moreno, a Willis High School 9th grader was recognized as the Secondary Student of the Month.

Director of Communications, Jamie Fails, introduced Director of Fine Arts, Ken Labonski, who discussed the Fine Arts program in Willis ISD and shared a short video highlighting the Fine Arts programs.

STANDING INFORMATION AND AD HOC REPORTS & ITEMS

Willis ISD Assistant Superintendent of Business and Finance, Garrett Matej, presented preliminary information regarding the Willis ISD FIRST Rating (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas). The time frame for this report is Sept 1, 2020-August 31, 2021.

There were no questions regarding the Safety Performance Report for August 2022.

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

Superintendent Harkrider reported the student enrollment for September 12, 2022 was 8,756 students, 345 students more than this time last year.

Superintendent Harkrider reviewed the Bond Projects Summary.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

Executive Director of Support Services and Construction, Paul Dusebout, discussed the need to consider a Proposed Contract with VLK Architects, Inc. for the New Middle School # 3 with Ancillary Facilities Project (a May 2022 bond project). Administrators will visit a Middle School in College Station soon; the site survey should be completed this week; should have permits by early spring and move dirt in May/June. This should be an 18 month project but may be pushed to 24 months based on enrollment trends.

Motion by Christen Arnold and seconded by Kyle Hoegemeyer to accept and approve the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the contract between VLK Architects, Inc. and Willis Independent School District as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

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Assistant Superintendent of Innovation, Teaching and Learning, Sara Goolsby, discussed the need to enter into an agreement with Paper Education America Inc. who offers an online chat-based platform to provide students access to educators in order to obtain tutoring in connection with their courses. This agreement will allow all students Grades 3-12 to have access to tutoring services 24/7. Willis ISD would utilize ESSER III funding specifically targeted to address learning loss. Superintendent Harkrider recommended this agreement at a cost of \$18.66 per student, with a total of \$245,865.28 for a 2-year contract.

Motion by Paulett Traylor and seconded by Chad Jones to accept the Superintendent's recommendation and approve the agreement with Paper Education America Inc. for tutoring services in the amount of \$245,865.28 using ESSER III funds. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Director of Support Services and Construction, Paul Dusebout, discussed the need for for eighteen air handler unit replacements at Willis High School. Dr. Harkrider recommended this purchase of \$1,210,352.00 to be paid from 2020 Bond Issue Funds.

Motion by Robin Sproba and seconded by Charles Perry to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to expend \$1,210,352.00 from 2020 Bond Issue Funds, for the replacement of the air handler units at Willis High School. Motion carried unanimously.

Lieutenant Leslee Zemlicka discussed the need to apply for a grant offered by the Office of the Governor of the State of Texas for the purpose of purchasing Bullet Resistant Shields for use within the District. Superintendent, Dr. Tim Harkrider, recommended that the Board approve the resolution approving the submission of the application.

Motion by Robin Sproba and seconded by Chad Jones to accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the resolution for the submission of the application for the Bullet- Resistant Shield Grant Program to the Office of The Governor of the State of Texas. Motion carried unanimously.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The regular October Board Meeting will be held on October 19, 2022 at 5:30 p.m., one week later than usual due to Fall Break.

ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING

Motion by Robin Sproba and seconded by Christen Arnold to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.