

WILLCOX UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 13
480 NORTH BISBEE AVENUE
WILLCOX, ARIZONA 85643

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present: Bill Ryan Mark Hopkins Rachel Garza Homer Hansen Cliff Shipley	Others Present: Kevin Davis, Tammy Hall, Erin Bowlby, Shane Couch, Elena Whetten, Leisha Smyer, Sree Pillai, Shannon Martinez, Jayden Smith, Maria Guerrero
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**March 5, 2024
6:00 PM**

I. Opening of Meeting

A. Call to Order and Roll Call

Mr. Ryan called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Hopkins led the Pledge of Allegiance

C. Invocation for the Governing Board

Mr. Ryan led the Invocation

D. Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Hopkins moved to adopt the agenda, Ms. Garza seconded the motion.

Voting	Aye	Nay
Mr. Ryan	X	
Mr. Hopkins	X	
Mrs. Garza	X	
Mr. Hansen	X	
Mr. Shipley	X	

II. Call To The Public

The public is invited to address the Board on any issue within its jurisdiction, subject to reasonable time, place and manner restrictions. Governing Board members are not permitted to discuss or take legal action on matters raised during open call to the public unless the matters are properly noticed for discussion and legal action. However, Arizona law permits Governing Board members to do the following at the conclusion of the

open call to the public: (a) Respond to criticism made by those who have addressed the Board; (b) Ask staff to review a matter; or (c) Ask that a matter be placed on a future agenda. Persons desiring to address the Board must first be recognized by the Board President. Before speaking, the individual must state his/her name. Duration of comments may be limited by the Board President. Persons with specific problems or concerns regarding personnel are encouraged to utilize Governing Board Policy KEB, "Public Concerns and Complaints Against Personnel".

There was no call to the public participants.

III. Presentations

A. High School FFA –

Marisa Paz, Secretary and Kathy Bell, President: Report that FFA Chapter competed Arizona FFA State CDE competitions. Last week was FFA week, had different activities during lunch, some of the activities were: dodgeball, volleyball, five base, and at the end of the week we had our staff breakfast, which we also opened up to first responders in Willcox. Later that night we had our FFA blowout, also served our community and served hot dogs and burgers. We had more activities. Monthly Chapter meeting and we opened our officer applications for next year. Talked about our banquet and chose county fair theme.

B. High School Student Council

Jayden Wilson, Vice President – reports math department is going to EAC for a competition. They have attended for the last 5 years in a row. Freshman roundup kids from Cochise Bonita and Pearce will be to coming sign up. We will be showcasing tomorrow night from 5:15pm to 7:00pm. Pep assembly and we are having an honorable kids award. 53 freshman, 64 sophomores, 58 juniors, 49 seniors, adds up to 224 students in attendance which is more than half the school population. Student Council blood drive was a success, 54 people signed up, 47 actually donated, great support from staff and students. We were over our goal so that is great. Now moving on to science. Chemistry bowl is going to be on March 26th, wishing them luck in that. Discussing fundraiser ideas like a bake sale and carwash. Culinary, nothing new to report. Sports baseball doing a raffle, softball doing a beef jerky fundraiser. Won 20-1 against Madison. Tournament during spring break. Track is doing a merchandise sale, its cool so go support. Tennis not doing fundraisers. Spanish, passing out some materials for the board to look at. Spanish is doing various activities to practice their Spanish.

IV. Administrative Reports / Summary of Current Events

Auditor General's Spending Report

Went over the report during work session.

The Superintendent and/or the Governing Board members may present a brief summary of current events. The Board will not propose, discuss, deliberate or take legal action on any matter on the summary, unless the specific matter is properly noticed for legal action.

Mr. Davis states that what he has every year, the auditor general comes out the school district spending report. They take all of our expenditures for the previous year and they compare them to the state and compare them to peer group averages. I would like to share what I can each year. So, the amount that we spend in the classrooms 62% went toward instruction that has been about the same each year, increasing

some, our highest was in 2005. In 23' it was 57.4 so it went up quite a bit in our classroom spending. We want our money going into our teachers and into our kids and students in the classroom. We are on average compared to other schools similar to us, we spend more money in the classroom than they do. And our other operational expenses are traditionally lower than those other schools. Teacher salaries, as we talked about earlier, we are approaching the state average, not quite with the state but we moved up quite a bit. Our teacher experience, our average teacher experience has 17.3 years. From 2017 to 2023 we have had a 47% increase in salary.

Academically we performed the best against other districts in science. We still have work to do in our academics but we have had big leaps in growth. We increasing in our proficiency across the board.

V. Consent Agenda

Mr. Ryan asks for a motion to consent agenda. Mr. Shipley makes a motion, Ms. Garza seconds. Call to vote. All in favor, motion passes.

Voting	Aye	Nay
Mr. Ryan	X	
Mr. Hopkins	X	
Mrs. Garza	X	
Mr. Hansen	X	
Mr. Shipley	X	

- A. Approval of Minutes – Consideration of approving the minutes of the Regular Meeting and the Executive Hearing dated February 6, 2024 as noted in the board backup.
- B. Ratification of Expense and Payroll Vouchers – Consideration of approving the following expense and payroll vouchers as noted in the Board backup:
 - 1. Expense – #2420, \$117,898.60; #2421, \$79,251.55; #2422, \$22,702.07
#2423, \$125,461.92
 - 2. Payroll - #16, \$370,382.48; #17, \$376,193.13
- C. Approval of Student Activity Accounts – Consideration of approving the student activity accounts for the month of February, 2024 as noted in the Board backup.
- D. Personnel -
 - 1. Hiring – FY 2023-2024 - Consideration of approving the following hiring for FY 2023-2024, contingent upon approval of fingerprint background check/clearance card when required:
 - a. Eliana Garcia, MS Game Duty, effective 1/18/24.

- b. Yesenia McClure, ESS Paraprofessional, effective date 2/26/24.
 - c. Vanessa Ramos, Night Elementary Custodian, effective date 2/13/24.
 - d. Raydia Martin, Substitute teacher, effective date 2/27/24.
 - e. Jeston Lotts, Volunteer Golf Coach, effective 2/25/24.
 - f. Sam Cadaret, Bus Driver Trainee, effective 2/25/24.
 - g. Garrett Douglas, Game Worker, effective 3/7/24.
 - h. Extra Duty List
2. Hiring – FY 2024 -2025 - Consideration of approving the following hiring for FY 2024-2025, contingent upon approval of fingerprint background check/clearance card when required:
- a. Jeston Lotts, High School Football Head Coach, effective July 1, 2024.
3. Resignations – FY2024-2025 – Consideration of approving the following resignations.
- a. Eric Hjalmarson, High School Teacher and Head Football Coach, effective 5/23/24.
- E. FY 2024-2025 Student Handbooks – Consideration of approving the FY 2024-2025 High School and Middle School Student Handbooks as noted in the board backup
- F. Fund Raisers – Consideration of approving the fundraisers as listed in the Board backup.
- G. Donations – Consideration of approving the donations as listed in the Board backup.

VI. New Business

- A. Issuance of bonds – To consider and, if deemed advisable, to adopt a resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of school improvement bonds of the district.
Mr. Shipley made a motion to approve the 2324 - 65 - Resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of Bonds for the District. Mr. Hopkins seconded the motion.

Voting	Aye	Nay
Mr. Ryan	X	
Mr. Hopkins	X	
Mrs. Garza	X	
Mr. Hansen	X	
Mr. Shipley	X	

- B. Lease Agreement – Consideration of approving the lease with Cochise Technology District for use of High School classroom space as presented in the Board backup materials, and authorize the superintendent to sign.

Mr. Hopkins made a motion to approve the teaching and classified 12-month employee calendars for FY 2024-2025 as noted in the Board backup. Mr. Shipley seconded the motion.

Voting	Aye	Nay
Mr. Ryan	X	
Mr. Hopkins	X	
Mrs. Garza	X	
Mr. Hansen	X	
Mr. Shipley	X	

- C. Contracts and Classified Notice of Appointment Templates – Consideration of approving the employment contract templates and the notice of appointment templates as listed in the board backup and authorize the Superintendent to sign them.

Mr. Shipley made a motion to approve the employment contract templates and the notice of appointment templates as listed in the board backup and authorize the Superintendent to sign them, Mr. Hansen seconded the motion.

Voting	Aye	Nay
Mr. Ryan	X	
Mr. Hopkins	X	
Mrs. Garza	X	
Mr. Hansen	X	
Mr. Shipley	X	

- D. List of Renewals and Authorization to issue Teacher Contracts – Consideration of approving the issuance of teacher contracts, as presented in the Board backup.

Ms. Garza made a motion to approve the issuance of teacher contracts, as presented in the Board backup. Mr. Mr. Hansen seconded the motion.

Voting	Aye	Nay
Mr. Ryan	X	
Mr. Hopkins	X	

Mrs. Garza	X	
Mr. Hansen	X	
Mr. Shipley	X	

- E. Certified, Classified and Administrative Staff salary increases for FY 2024-2025 – Consideration of approving the district’s certified, classified and administrative staff salary increases for the year as noted in Board backup.

Mr. Hopkins made a motion to approve the district’s certified, classified and administrative staff salary increases for the year as noted in Board backup. Ms. Garza seconded the motion.

Voting	Aye	Nay
Mr. Ryan	X	
Mr. Hopkins	X	
Mrs. Garza	X	
Mr. Hansen	X	
Mr. Shipley	X	

- F. Employee Insurance Benefits for FY 2024-2025- Consideration of approving the district’s employee benefits plans for FY 2024-2025 as noted in the Board backup.

Mr. Shipley made a motion to approve the district’s employee benefits plans for FY 2024-2025 as noted in the Board backup. Ms. Garza seconded the motion.

Voting	Aye	Nay
Mr. Ryan	X	
Mr. Hopkins	X	
Mrs. Garza	X	
Mr. Hansen	X	
Mr. Shipley	X	

- G. Future Meeting Dates – The Board may set additional meeting dates as needed and discuss agenda items to be included in future agendas and the next regular meeting is scheduled for April 2, 2024, 6pm.

VII. Adjournment

Action to adjourn meeting

Ms. Garza made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Shipley seconded the motion.

Voting	Aye	Nay
Mr. Ryan	X	
Mr. Hopkins	X	
Mrs. Garza	X	
Mr. Hansen	X	
Mr. Shipley	X	

I certify that this Notice and Agenda was posted on line on the District website and at the following location(s): District Office Building – Front Display Box on Monday March 6, 2023 by 5:00 p.m.

By: _____
Kevin Davis, Superintendent