



MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
WILLIAMS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2 GOVERNING BOARD  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2020



Roll call:

Board Members:

Carla Dent, President, Present  
Ann Wells, Vice President, Present  
Leah Payne, Present  
Herman Nixon, Present  
Michael Fleishman, Present

Administration:

Rick Honsinger, Superintendent, Present  
Eric Evans, WHS Principal, Present  
Carissa Morrison, WEMS Principal, Present  
Jessica Guzman, Special Education Director, Present  
Joyce McNelly, Business Manager, Present  
Brienne Ford, Admin; Assistant/ Board Minutes - Absent  
Guest, 6

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

**OPENING ITEMS**

- A. Call to Order
- B. Pledge of Allegiance
- C. Reorder Agenda
- D. Adopt Agenda
- Mrs. Dent called the meeting the order at 6:00PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Motion made by Mrs. Wells to adopt the agenda, second by Mrs. Payne.
- Motion approved 5/0.

**DISCUSSION**

School reopening –general discussion

- Mr. Honsinger explained we are awaiting word from the Governor, he is scheduled to hold a briefing tomorrow Thursday, July 23 at 3PM.
- We are currently set to start school on August 10<sup>th</sup> with remote learning and August 17<sup>th</sup> in brick and mortar. Registration is currently in progress at both schools.
- Mr. Evans surveyed parents of WHS and received 89 responses, 18 said they will register for distant learning, 1 said they will not return to the district and the remaining 70 want to return to campus.
- Mrs. Morrison also surveyed WEMS student families, 212 responded to the survey, 57 will register for distant learning, 149 wanting to return to campus and 6 will not return to the district.
- Mr. Nixon said it was hard to believe, I come in contact with many parents daily and they all say get them back to school, keep them clean but get them back.
- Mr. Nixon said as the Police Chief he is informed of every positive COVID case in our zip code, there have not been more than 7 active cases at one time.
- Mr. Honsinger mentioned the Coconino County website statistics show a much higher number.
- Mrs. Wells said the public and parents look to the County for the number of cases.
- Mr. Fleishman mention two weeks ago there were 9 cases and tonight 42 cases. Our responsibility is to do the utmost of protection for our student's safety. The Trust and ASBA have medical guidelines to plan a safe opening. I would like our plan to be reviewed by our attorney, we owe it to our students and staff.
- Mrs. Wells said we have to do what is right for our staff, students and community. We need to move forward and see what the Governor says tomorrow.
- Mrs. Dent said we can discuss this for hours but we need to wait until the Governor speaks. We need to make the best decision for students, staff and community. We know our current plan is a living document and we must use good judgement with our planning.
- Mr. Honsinger said we will need to schedule a special meeting before school starts and after the Governors briefing for Wednesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Mr. Nixon asked how will staff training be set up this year and how many classes do we have that can't be taught online? Mr. Honsinger responded, staff training will be online for teachers and staff and we want to say we have zero classes that can't be taught on line. Our professional development will be time to brain storm, all classes have a certain amount of book work that must be completed, this will not be as good as in person but we will get creative in our methods of teaching online.
- Mr. Honsinger said we currently have two staff members who will not be coming back and two that have asked for accommodations.
- Mrs. Wells asked hypothetically, if we are told we must teach remote for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter what happens to the Athletic programs? Mr. Evans said AIA will follow up after the Governors address with a plan.

- Mrs. Dent acknowledged a request to speak from parent Susan Daly. Mrs. Daly thanked the Board for their hard work and the hard decisions they must make. I have a student who will not do well online, and I'm concerned with how do we do remote as parent when both parents work? There are lots of decision to make but we must move on.
- Mr. Honsinger said we are not going to do any more than the Governor ask us to do. Know you are being heard, we understand, we have employees who work and also have young students.

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

1. Accept and acknowledge the following donations: Accept donation of 30 pairs of scissors from Circle K valued at \$1.36.
  - **Motion made by Mrs. Payne to accept the donation, second by Mrs. Wells**
  - **Motion approved 5/0.**
2. Discussion and possible action re: Approve the Athletic and /or Code of Conduct policy currently in the Student /Parent Handbook.
  - **Motion made by Mr. Nixon to approve for discussion, second by Mrs. Payne.**
  - **Mr. Nixon Thank all for their hard work, it is pretty well done and we did the right thing having parents involved.**
  - **Mr. Fleishman questioned item 8, Academically ineligible athletics will travel with team? Mr. Evans said the Committee said no, the athlete should not travel but the AD and coaches thought it is more of a consequence to travel and not play.**
  - **Mrs. Dent asked why did the coaches not join the committee in the meetings? Example, # 3 Admission of guilt, the coaches want to see "may be taken into account", this is why we asked for a committee to review the Code of Conduct, we cannot be flexible.**
  - **Mrs. Payne agreed, I was at every meeting and I was disappointed we did not all meet as a committee. The committee wants #3 to read Student know rules and consequences along with expectation ahead of time, does not reduce consequences.**
  - **Mr. Nixon said #6, Coaches and AD would like to see police report added as further definition of burden of proof, we cannot always provide police report, this cannot be included.**
  - **Mr. Nixon revised his motion to follow what committee recommend and not what the coaches and AD suggest on item 3,6 and 8, second by Mrs. Wells.**
  - **Motion approved 5/0.**
3. Discussion and possible action re: WUSD Employee Handbook for FY21.
  - **Motion made by Mrs. Wells to approve the Employee Handbook, second by Mrs. Payne.**
  - **Motion approved 5/0.**
4. Discussion and possible action re: Approve Theresa Benjamin as a Paraprofessional Substitute for SY21.
  - **Motion made by Mrs. Payne to approve Theresa Benjamin, second by Mrs. Wells.**
  - **Motion approved 5/0.**
5. Discussion and possible action re: Approve IGA with Coconino County Education Service Agency for Professional development for SY21. 8 sessions of Remote Learning Professional Development in the month of August from CCESA in the amount of \$3,450.00.
  - **Motion made by Mrs. Wells to approve IGA with Coconino CESA, second by Mrs. Payne.**
  - **Motion approved 5/0.**
6. Discussion and possible action re: Approve IGA with City of Williams for the SRO for FY21.
  - **Motion made by Mrs. Payne to approve the IGA for the SRO, second by Mrs. Wells.**
  - **Motion approved 4/0.**
  - **Mr. Nixon abstained.**
7. Discussion and possible action re: Approve Agreement with Yavapai County School Superintendent for FY21.
  - **Motion made by Mrs. Payne to approve Agreement with Yavapai County School Superintendent, second by Mrs. Wells.**
  - **Motion approved 5/0.**
8. Discussion and possible action re: Approve Governing Board Resolution authorizing who can approve and sign legal documents for WUSD.
  - **Motion made by Mrs. Payne to approve Resolution, second by Mrs. Wells**
  - **Motion approved 5/0.**
  - **Mr. Nixon asked who is designated to sign, Mrs. McNelly indicated only WUSD Superintendent and Governing Board President.**
9. Discussion and possible action re: Approve Legal representation of the Coconino County Attorney for FY21

- Motion made by Mrs. Wells to approve Coconino County Attorney as legal representation, second by Mrs. Payne.
- Motion approved 5/0.
- Mr. Honsinger said there are certain items where the County Attorney is more feasible to use than our District Attorney.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** – The Governing Board may identify items they would like placed on a future agenda.

- Schedule special meeting for August 5, 2020.
- Add call to the public to all board agendas.
- Superintendent to do a questionnaire of employee and parents if needed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

- Motion made by Mrs. Payne to adjourn, second by Mrs. Wells
- Motion approved 5/0.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:02