

Wasco Union High School District
Board of Trustees
Regular Board Meeting
January 12, 2006
6:00 p.m.
Adopted Minutes

I. Call To Order

A regular meeting of the Wasco Union High School Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Boardroom by President Barry Braun.

Board Members Present

Mr. Barry Braun, President
Mr. Craig Fulwyler, Clerk
Mr. Tim Holtermann

Mr. Ernie Sanchez
Mr. Tom Schulte

Administrators Present

Mrs. Elizabeth McCray
Mr. Joseph Elwood
Mr. Martin Lonza

Mrs. Lori Albrecht
Mr. Gary Cheatwood

Secretary Present

Mrs. Jan Wright

Visitors

Mrs. Chris Alaniz, Mr. Ron Anderson, Mr. John Albertson, Mrs. Juanita Albertson, Mrs. Anna Balentine, Ms. Valerie Black, Mrs. Robin Butterfield, Mr. Russell Cherry, Mr. Tim Chernabaeff, Mr. Robert Cobb, Mrs. Merrilee Desatoff, Mr. Walt Desatoff, Mr. Sunny Ekanem, Mrs. Sandra Fisher, Mr. Tom Frantz, Mr. Gary Garcia, Mr. David Lucas, Mrs. MaryAnn Lucas, Eric Lowe, Mr. Alex Morales, Mrs. Denise Morales, Mrs. Katie Moreno, Issac Murrieta, Mrs. Denise Ortiz, Mr. Leonard Ortiz, Mr. Larry Pearson, Mrs. Judy Phillips, Mrs. Maria Raya, Mr. Frank Russell, Mrs. Balbina Sanchez, Ms. Carleen Street, Mr. Jose Torres, Mr. Tom Ware, Mrs. Jadene Watson, Mrs. Angie Wedel, Aaron Wheeler, Television Channels 29 and 17

Flag Salute

The flag was saluted.

II. Adopt Agenda

It was moved by Fulwyler and seconded by Holtermann to adopt the original agenda as presented. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0.

III. Executive Session

The meeting convened in executive session at 6:05 p.m.

Regular Session

The meeting reconvened in regular session at 7:08 p.m.

Announcement of Executive Session Actions

No action was taken.

IV. Reading and Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Schulte and seconded by Sanchez to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 8, 2005. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0.

V. Public Comments

Mrs. Desatoff stated that many of our senior students have passed the recent exit exam. The counselors are scheduling the students into the remedial tutoring program exit exam classes and the students are rising to the challenge. She wanted to publicly complement the students' hard earned efforts. Also, there are plans to bring back the Lunch Bunch program to support student achievement.

Mrs. Fisher commented that an awards assembly will be held on January 23rd and 24th at 9:00 a.m.

Mrs. Sanchez stated that 95% of the students in the Spanish Department have passed the AP language assessment test and the AP literature test the last four years.

Mrs. Morales reported from the public speaking contest held last month, Wasco High's FFA will be sending two representatives to the regional competition in February. Also, one student will go to the regional extemporaneous competition. She said this had been a group effort with the English Department helping the students with their writing and helping her with the scoring and grading.

Mr. Albertson stated the teachers were here to voice their displeasure and dissatisfaction with the lack of progress in the negotiations. He said Taft received a salary increase of 6%, Kern High received 5.4% and Wasco Elementary received 3.5% plus retro activity. It is now up to the Board. One third of our staff has indicated they are leaving. You have heard the comments from other teachers about the academic excellence which has been achieved in the classrooms. If you want to sacrifice that, then maintain your stance. Teachers are here to see student academic growth and to see students succeed.

Mr. Garcia stated he was on the negotiating team a few years ago when the contract language was changed to state that if an agreement was not reached by a certain time the employee would pay for the increase in benefits. At that time a Board member on the district's negotiating team stated "Oh it's just in there; other districts also have it in there. We don't mean to utilize it. Don't worry about it". Now we are paying out of pocket for the increase in benefits. He is saddened that the district is using that as leverage.

Mr. Desatoff stated he understood the color of the football field grass had been a great issue with the Board, but he would like to see a track around the field. This will be the third year without a track. It's embarrassing there's no longer home meets, and the Wasco Relays are now held in Bakersfield. He would like to know the reason why.

Mr. Torres stated there seems to be a feeling among the staff that the Board doesn't care about the teachers receiving a raise. The teachers are just asking for their fair share. They feel the district can afford it. They need to feel they are respected. He is very disappointed that the Board has not been willing to negotiate. The Board has offered 2% and they have not budged from that. Mr. Torres also reported the students in his journalism class will be doing articles for upcoming Wasco Tribune editions.

Mrs. Butterfield stated she doesn't live in Wasco, but chose to send her children to Wasco High School. She feels this high school has quality teachers and the Board needs to meet their demands so they don't leave Wasco High. What they are asking for is not unreasonable.

Mrs. Balentine said the issue for most of the teachers is less about the money, but more about the feeling that they are respected and valued.

Mr. Ware stated the teachers are committed, dedicated and work extremely hard. The Board needs to take that into consideration when they negotiate. We have a fantastic staff here that is committed to doing their best in working with the students.

Mr. Frantz stated he is one of the teachers that have applied for a job with another school district. It's not really the money issue, but the lack of respect shown to the teachers.

Mrs. Alaniz wanted to publicly thank and commend the staff for their support of ELD this year. They feel they are finally a real department. She wanted to share her thanks to the staff and especially to Mrs. Desatoff for everything with the ELL class and exit exam.

Aaron Wheeler said that if we lose any one of the teachers, it would be a great loss to the student body. He respects the teachers; they are awesome teachers.

Mrs. Moreno addressed the Board with her concerns regarding students participating in the graduation ceremony if they did not pass the exit exam. She would like them to take into consideration the students with learning disabilities. The students would be devastated if they are not allowed to participate in the ceremony. If they have met all the other requirements for graduation, they should be able to participate.

Mrs. Desatoff said she was one that strongly supported the exit exam as a requirement for graduation, but her heart supports Mrs. Moreno and the other special education teachers and the special education students. She asked the Board to please consider all elements when making the final decision for our graduation ceremony.

Mr. Garcia thanked Mr. Braun and the Board for allowing the teachers to express their concerns.

Public Hearing on Annual Accounting of School Facilities Fees

Mr. Braun declared the hearing open for comments from the public on the adoption of the annual accounting for school facilities fees.

Hearing no comments, the hearing was closed.

VI. Items from Board Members

Mr. Holtermann reported all classes at NKVTC are open and have room for enrollment except the nursing and medical assistant classes. The construction class has started working on the house project. He stated he was unable to attend the recent music concert, but understood it was a great program. It was suggested that the schools do another joint concert.

Mr. Schulte stated although the negotiations have not been favorable for the teachers, it is not an indication that he has any lack of respect for them. He wanted to assure them he does respect them, for the commitment they have made and the job they are doing. He thanked them for coming to the meeting and participating.

Mr. Sanchez stated he appreciated the teachers coming to the meeting. He said the Board appreciates what the teachers do and they are respected. He hopes that teachers do not leave the district and would like to see this get resolved soon.

Mr. Fulwyler thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and sharing their comments. He stated these are challenging times with increased enrollment, needing to house these students in classrooms and hiring new teachers. We don't want to be too liberal in our spending and get into trouble like some other districts have. We want to be consistent in continuing on so that we don't run into problems and have to cut the budget. Our efforts in the negotiations have been fair if you look at the things we have talked about then there is more to the story. Let's go on and get this resolved.

Mr. Braun explained the negotiation process was where we sent our representatives to the table and the teachers sent their representatives to the table. Through the course of the day yesterday with a mediator there was a tentative agreement reached and signed. This was the second tentative agreement that had been signed. There seems to be some miscommunication that when the tentative agreement is signed by the committee it is not representative of what the unit wants.

VII. Reports

Eric Lowe reported on the following: the Economic International Summit conference he attended at USC, Snowball on January 21st at the Bakersfield Women's Club, and the KASC conference hosted by Wasco High.

Mrs. McCray reported the fiber pathway project has been completed on Palm Avenue with no down time because it was completed during the Christmas break. She stated escrow was opened on the property for the new high school on December 15 and she hopes it will close in February or March. She reported the district's attendance at this time last year was 1512 with 1280 at Wasco High and 232 at Independence High. Last month the district's attendance was 1595 with 1388 at Wasco High and 207 at Independence High. This month's attendance is 1572 in the district, 1344 at Wasco High and 228 at Independence High. For a construction update she said our plans for the wing of classrooms was submitted to the Department of State Architect on August 8. We received a letter in September stating they would read our plans beginning December 12. At this time, our architect has received information back from DSA regarding life, health and safety issues and access issues. We have yet to receive information regarding the structural issues of the plan. We are looking at help from various agencies to see if we can speed up this process. We do need that wing of classrooms in by fall. She stated the sense in the room is a lack of respect and she is sorry that people feel that way. This is not an easy process as we all know. We are still committed to come to an agreement as we were committed to come to an agreement last night with the mediator. We are open to bringing the mediator back and continuing negotiations. Her hope is that whatever your feelings may be, they do not enter into the classroom. Keep it with us and do not let it affect any students who come into your classrooms.

VIII. Discussion and Action

It was moved by Fulwyler and seconded by Sanchez to approve the following personnel items. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0.

- a. Accept Letter of Retirement from Mr. Alejandro Morales, Mathematics Teacher
- b. Accept Letter of Retirement from Mr. Michael Morton, Groundsman
- c. Approve Athletic Coaches
 1. Greg MacLean as Head Track Coach, Paid
 2. Tilo Cortez as Boy's Basketball Assistant Coach, Walk-on, Volunteer
 3. Ed Moreno, J.V. Boy's Tennis Coach, Paid
- d. Approve Teachers for Exit Exam, After School Tutoring and PASS Classes

Exit Exam

1. Chris Alaniz ELD
2. Sunny Ekanem Special Education
3. Brian Bell Mathematics
4. Anna Balentine English

After School Tutoring

5. Anna Balentine English and Social Studies
6. Katie Moreno Special Education
7. Julie Pineo Mathematics
8. Violeta Castro ELD
9. Michele Brand Science

PASS

10. Merrilee Desatoff English
11. Willie Fields Mathematics/Electives

e. Approve Adult Education Teacher

1. Elmer Epps English

f. Approve Migrant Work-Study Students (Each student will work 2 hours a day for a total of 10 hours a week. The rate will be \$6.75 an hour)

1. Melissa Duran: Main Office (7:00 a.m.-7:45 a.m. and 3:10 p.m.-4:25 p.m.) Supervisor: Rena Ruddell
2. Fernando Sanchez: Bus Garage (7:00 a.m.-7:45 a.m. and 3:15 p.m.-4:15 p.m.) Supervisor: John Sliznoff
3. Arnaldo Gutierrez and Erica Rivera: Student Custodians (on campus): (3:10 p.m.-5:10 p.m.) Supervisor: Chris Beelner
4. Leyda Hurtado and Valentin Medina: Public Library (off campus)

*These students will work 2.5 hours Mon.-Thurs (3:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m.) Supervisors: Linda Anderson and Shelly Ornelas

Alternative Workers

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| Maria Machado | Esteban Magallon |
| Maria Cortez | Hugo Ibarra |
| Nancy Velásquez | Leobardo Ibarra |
| Yuriria Solorio | Ruby Medina |

g. Approve Richard Reveles as Student Worker for Cafeteria

It was moved by Schulte and seconded by Fulwyler to approve the Resolution for Annual Accounting of School Facilities Fees. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0.

It was moved by Schulte and seconded by Sanchez to approve the submission of the quarterly report for Williams Uniform Complaints with no formal complaints filed. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0.

It was moved by Holtermann and seconded by Schulte to approve the revised District's Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators for 2005-06 school year. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0.

It was moved by Sanchez and seconded by Fulwyler to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Kern County Superintendent of Schools for CLAD exam and the AB2913 ELD/SDAIE training preparation courses. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0.

It was moved by Sanchez and seconded by Fulwyler to approve the Orientation and Behavior Intervention course outlines for Independence High School. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0.

It was moved by Schulte and seconded by Holtermann to approve the acceptance of the following Paramount Farming Company grants. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0.

Real Life Mathematics	\$3,000	Russell Cherry
Art Horses & Drawing Boards	\$3,000	Julie Pineo
College & Career Counseling Guides	\$3,000	Sandra Fisher

It was moved by Sanchez and seconded by Schulte to approve the donations received by the Migrant Parent Scholarship and Swim Club with letters of appreciation to be sent by the recipients. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0.

It was moved by Holtermann and seconded by Fulwyler to approve the interdistrict transfer requests submitted by the parents of Pedro Gonzalez, Mary Helsley and Kevin Quinonez. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0.

It was moved by Sanchez and seconded by Schulte to approve the field trip requests submitted by Mr. Elwood, Mr. Cobb and Mr. Shafer to Las Vegas on February 26-28 to attend the College Board Western Regional forum, the Counseling Department to Cal Poly San Luis Obispo on February 9-10 for an overnight visit and the FFA to Vallejo on January 20-21 for a breeding swine competition. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0.

IX. Discussion and Information

A proposed classified job description for an Activities Coordinator was introduced for the Board's review.

A textbook for Freshmen Requirements I was introduced for the Board's review.

X. Claims, Transfers and Accounts

It was moved by Fulwyler and seconded by Sanchez to approve the claims, transfers and accounts for Batches 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34 and Payrolls in the amount of \$890,092.73. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0.

Mr. Braun called a recess at 8:20 p.m.

XI. Executive Session (cont'd)

The meeting reconvened in closed session at 8:30 p.m.

XII. Regular Session

The meeting reconvened in open session at 9:00 p.m.

XIII. Adjournment

It was moved by Schulte and seconded by Sanchez to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Ayes: 5; Noes: 0; Absent: 0. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.