

**WICHITA FALLS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
WFISD ADMINISTRATION BUILDING – BOARD ROOM
REGULAR SESSION MEETING OCTOBER 16, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING STATEMENT:

The Board of Trustees of the Wichita Falls Independent School District met in a work session meeting on the above date. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Ms Katherine McGregor, board president.

Board members present: Ms. Katherine McGregor, Mr. Jim Johnson, Mr. Dale Harvey, Ms. Sandy Camp and Ms. Diann Scroggins. Ms. McGregor noted that a quorum was present and the meeting had been duly called and notice of the meeting had been posted for the time and manner required by law.

Staff members present: Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Peter Griffiths, Associate Superintendent, Ms. Dayna Hardaway, Director of Human Resources, Ms. Deb Dipprey, Executive Director of School Administration, Ms. Ashley Thomas, Communications Officer, Ms. Leah Horton, Chief Financial Officer, Mr. Scot Hafley, Executive Director of Operations, Ms. Vanessa Dishman, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, Ms. Keli Sims, Administrative Assistant- HR, Chief Anthony Smith, WFISD Police, Ms. Lauren Zotz, Director of Purchasing, Mr. Grant Freeman, Director of Athletics, Ms. Kelly Strenski, Director of Fine Arts, Ms. Michelle Wood, CTE Director, Mr. Larry Menefee, Director of Student Services and Mr. Salvador Montez, WFHS JROTC Instructor

Also present: a KFDX reporter and Trish Choat, TRN reporter

PRESENTATION OF COLORS:

WFHS JROTC presented the colors.

INVOCATION:

Mr. Jim Johnson gave the invocation.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

PRESENTATIONS:

None.

REPORTS OR SPECIAL DISCUSSION ITEMS:

INFORMATION REGARDING CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS:

Ms. Michelle Wood, CTE Director, gave a detailed report using photo slides on the latest information regarding the current CTE programs and future plans to expand the number of programs at the Career Technology Center and across the district in the future. Information presented:

- When the CEC opened in 17-18, enrollment was 1,242 in 22-23 is was 1,491
- 22-23: 413 students earned a recognized IBC
- CTE Audit Sept. 2023 Findings: Several areas that could be captured for additional revenue funding due to CTE course being funded at a higher rate.
- Major CTE Support Activities are:
 - Advisory Committees
 - Endorsement Road Show
 - 8th Grade Tours
 - CEC open house in February 2024

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Dr. Donny Lee gave a detailed report using photo slides on the following:

- Current Enrollment 12,909, ADA 94.64%
- Legislative Update on Vouchers:

- Money taken from public schools and given to private schools
 - Public schools must take all students, private schools may choose
 - Public schools have accountability for academic and financial performance, private schools do not
 - Students lose many of their federal protections when attending a private school, such as those with disabilities or need for special accommodations
 - Current basic allotment of \$6,160 per student has not changed since 2019.
 - Inflation has increased by 19% in same time frame
 - \$10 billion in funding not allocated
 - Public school systems are not afraid of competition, just want fair competition and to be fully funded
- Legacy and Memorial High Schools Staff Announced
 - WF Legacy Assistant Principals
 - Dr. Troy Farris
 - Dr. Shannon Cunningham
 - Ms. Tami Davis
 - Mr. Nicholas Mims
 - Ms. Brittany Bailey
 - WF Legacy Secretary
 - Ms. Jessica Garcia
 - WF Memorial Assistant Principals
 - Mr. Patrick Moore
 - Ms. Misty Speer
 - Mr. Michael Forney
 - Ms. Kim Stutz
 - WF Memorial Secretary
 - Ms. Emily Espinoza
- New High School Spirit Committees
 - Students were selected to be on the new high school Spirit Committee
 - Met with each principal of the new high schools
 - Discussed ideas for traditions
 - Ways to motivate school spirit
- Campus visits since last report:
 - WFHS
 - Kirby
 - Hirschi
 - Rider
 - Fain
 - Sheppard
 - Haynes HS
 - CEC
 - McNiel
 - Milam
 - Burgess
 - Denver
- Homeschool/8 week surveys
 - Sent out survey to every homeschool parent who had a student enrolled in 22-23
 - Please complete 8 week survey
- Principal for a Day
 - District wide: October 18, 2023
 - Lunch at CEC after 11:30 am, Board welcome to attend
 - Reflection and debrief with community after lunch

CONSENT AGENDA:

DEC (LOCAL) REVISIONS
 CONSOLODATION OF CAMPUSES
 CLOSURE OF CAMPUSES
 SEPTEMBER BOARD MINUTES

Mr. Jim Johnson, seconded by Ms. Diann Scroggins, motioned that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees approve items placed on the Consent Agenda at the October 10, 2023 meeting.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 5 – 0

FINANCIAL SERVICES:

RFP 23-14 ENGERGY CONTROLS (BARWISE PROJECT)

Ms. Sandy Camp, seconded by Ms. Diann Scroggins, moved that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees award RFP #23-14 for the purchase of Energy Management Controls and Installation at Barwise Middle School to Ferguson Veresh for \$296,574.60 as submitted by Leah Horton, Chief Financial Officer, and as recommended by Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 5 – 0

TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY WAIVER APPLICATION FOR EXPEDITED AND GENERAL STATE WAIVER FOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Dale Harvey, seconded by Ms. Diann Scroggins, moved that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees approve the request to submit an application for expedited and general state waiver for a reduction in instructional days for 2023-2024 in order to provide staff development as presented by Ms. Ashley Thomas, Communications Officer, and as recommended by Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools

Carried unanimously by a vote of 5 – 0

HUMAN RESOURCES:

TEACHER APPLICANT POOL

Mr. Dale Harvey, seconded by Mr. Jim Johnson, moved that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees approve the proposed teacher applicant pool (Exhibit B.)

Carried unanimously by a vote of 5 – 0

BOARD MATTERS:

BOARD OF TRUSTEE CONTINUING EDUCATION TRAINING

Ms. Katherine McGregor informed the audience of the number of required board training of each board member and the number that needs to be completed by October 18, 2023

RESOLUTION AGAINST VOUCHERS

Resolution against any and all mechanisms that reduce public education funding was read by Ms. Katherine McGregor.

Mr. Dale Harvey, seconded by Ms. Diann Scroggins, moved that the Wichita Falls Independent School District Board of Trustees approve the resolution opposing vouchers, education savings accounts, taxpayer savings grants, and other mechanisms that reduce public education funding as recommended by Dr. Donny Lee, Superintendent of Schools.

Carried unanimously by a vote of 5- 0

RECESS:

Ms. Katherine McGregor, board president, recessed the meeting to go into closed session at 6:52 pm.

CLOSED SESSION:

1. Personnel Matters Including the Appointment, Evaluation, Reassignment, Duties, Discipline, Dismissal and/or Compensation of Individual District Employees (Pursuant to Texas Government Code 551.074)
2. Team of Eight-Goal Setting

ADJOURNED

No further action was taken and Ms. Katherine McGregor, board president, adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.