



PRESS RELEASE

DATE: AUGUST 31, 2023
EMBARGO: NONE

RE: WISD OPEN RECORDS REQUEST
CONTACT: TCR | C.G. Willis, Editor/Publisher
chanagailwillis@gmail.com

AMENDED: SEPTEMBER 2, 2023
Per WISD Superintendent Written Request
September 5, 2023 per WISD Written Request (to vet material)

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TRAILS COUNTRY REPORTER OBTAINED A COPY OF WISD Superintendent email and document attachment to the Board of Trustees obtained by Trails Country Reporter through Texas Public Information Act. The pages of Mr. Wilcox's email are in a black outlined box. Any notations outside the box are made by TCR as a courtesy to follow the superintendent's response to of the non-district website, (who wrote what) and sources of material. ANY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC MAY OBTAIN THIS ORIGINAL WILCOX EMAIL DOCUMENT THROUGH OPEN RECORDS BY ASKING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION DIRECTLY

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8/31/23, 9:28 AM

Gmail - Records Request



ChanaGail Willis <chanagailwillis@gmail.com>

Records Request

1 message

Lisa Draper <lisa.draper@winnsboroisd.org>
To: chanagailwillis@gmail.com

Mon, Aug 21, 2023 at 10:48 AM

Mrs. Willis,

Attached are the records you requested.

--

Thank you,
Lisa Draper
Superintendent Secretary
Winnsboro ISD
903-342-3737 ext. 1



Winnsboro
Independent School District

Confidentiality Notice: This e-mail message is confidential communication intended only for the named addressee, is covered by the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, 18 U.S.C. §2510-2521, and is legally privileged. It may not be disclosed, republished or seen by anyone not the addressee. Unauthorized review, use, disclosure, distribution, or storage is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, copying or forwarding of this communication is strictly prohibited, and you must delete this message and any copy of it (in any form) without disclosing it and contact the sender.



Records Request C. Willis.pdf
1111K

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Rugged Red Family

dave.wilcox@winnsboroisd.org Dave Wilcox

Thursday, August 17, 2023 at 2:22:07 PM Central Daylight Time

To: bgreen@winnsboroisd.org Brandon Green, bbusby5Bfarms@gmail.com Brian Busby,
duncan.mcadoo@prosperitybankusa.com Duncan McAdoo (187), chipbrown@yahoo.com Chip Brown,
bsaucier@fnbwinnsboro.com Billy Saucier, kamason64@gmail.com Kristie Amason, jaym@wcec.org Jay Murdock

Dear WISD Faculty and Staff,

I am sure that many of you are aware of the website that has recently been created to promote and invoke negativity throughout the Winnsboro ISD community.

The website is comprised of false information and one-sided point-of-views. This false narrative belongs to a few community members whose apparent hostility and resentment towards our WISD teachers, staff and administration is apparent in the content of the website.

This group of individuals who are fueled by bitterness are relentlessly seeking to tear apart WISD, aiming to disrupt the educational environment and create discord among students, parents, and faculty.

As dedicated educators, our unwavering commitment lies with our students, who remain our top priority.

While this website has generated challenges and distractions, it is crucial that we steadfastly concentrate on our students' growth, well-being, and educational journey. By shifting our attention to the remarkable accomplishments and positive initiatives occurring within our district, which are a direct result of our devoted teachers, we can inspire a sense of unity and purpose among our colleagues and community.

Let us stand united, resiliently focused on the bright futures we are shaping. Together let's make others aware of our unwavering dedication to providing the best possible learning experience for each and every student entrusted to our care.

I acknowledge that mistakes were made regarding the posting of school-board meeting minutes and I assure you the steps have been taken to correct this error moving forward. As a school district, we recognize that perfection is an elusive goal, and we are committed to a culture of continuous improvement.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the website, school policies, or any matter at all, please feel free to reach out to me. My door is always open, and I am here to assist you. You can visit me in person, send me an email, or give me a call – whichever method is most convenient for you. Your feedback and inquiries are important to me, and I am committed to addressing them promptly and effectively. Thank you for your dedication and partnership in ensuring a positive experience within our WISD school community.

—
Dave Wilcox, Superintendent
505 S. Chestnut, Building C
Winnsboro, TX 75494
903-342-3737



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Email from: Mr. Wilcox, Superintendent
This page included in the open records request.

fact sheet for fake website

dave.wilcox@winnsboroisd.org Dave Wilcox

Friday, August 18, 2023 at 2:23:32 PM Central Daylight Time

To: bgreen@winnsboroisd.org Brandon Green, bbusby5Bfarms@gmail.com Brian Busby,
duncan.mcadoo@prosperitybankusa.com Duncan McAdoo (187), chipbrown@yahoo.com Chip Brown,
bsaucier@fnbwinnsboro.com Billy Saucier, kamason64@gmail.com Kristie Amason, jaym@wcec.org Jay Murdock

Attached you should find a document with factual information in regards to the fake website. I do not plan on spending much more time on this, but I wanted to provide the board with some factual information to all of the misinformation being posted on the fake website.

If you have any questions do not hesitate to ask.

--

Dave Wilcox, Superintendent
505 S. Chestnut, Building C
Winnsboro, TX 75494
903-342-3737



Attachments:

realwisd Facts.pdf 1.0M

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Page From: Mr. Wilcox, Superintendent;
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Information in regards to the
information being presented
by therealwisd.com



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"TheRealWISD" screen capture



Response From: Mr. Wilcox, Superintendent
This page included in the open records request.

TAKE A CLOSE LOOK!!

Have you looked at your child's schedule closely? It appears that the pathway/plan that you and/or your child have chosen may not be what they were scheduled. It sure seems that more children are enrolled in the path that directs your child towards the meat processing class and some schedules appear to be altered to help "fill" the class now or in the future. Look closely and make sure your child is on the right path and not just where WISD needs them.

Answer:

There have been zero student pathways affected or changed to add numbers or improve participation in the meat lab pathway. Each student is entitled to their pathway they have chosen and it will remain their course through their high school years.

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"TheRealWISD" screen capture



Should a seasoned educator of 22 years know that a secret meeting about a student at her school is unethical? When you spend Christmas with the School Board President and his wife, the Superintendent and his wife, The School Board Vice President and his wife, and several members of the administration, the rules are applied a little differently!

Answer:

Attached is the picture that was posted on the fake website. This picture was taken while celebrating one of the lady's birthday at a restaurant. The people in the picture did not spend Christmas together at this restaurant. This is another classless example of the people behind this website bringing family members into their grievances and fabricating the truth.

I am not aware of any secret meetings about students, however I did receive a FOI request from Special Agent Danny Kelly on June 3, 2022, John Hardy replied to this request on June 8th, 2022. The response included the following, "You have requested the recordings and the certified agendas of the closed session board discussions that reference our situation. ...

Under the Texas Open Meetings Act, any recording or certified agenda of a closed session meeting of the District Board of Trustees is confidential by statute, and is not available for public release or inspection, Indeed, the law is so well settled on this issue, that the Texas Attorney general has issued a prior determination that those records do not need to be submitted to the Office of the Attorney General for a ruling – the District is automatically permitted to withhold records. For these

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reasons, and in compliance with the law, please take notice that the records will not be provided and the District considers this matter closed."

Dollars and Sense

According to the WISD financial rating and the WISD posted minutes, our school district is in short supply of both.

On November 16, 2021, an agenda item read as follows:

7.F. Consider/Action on the Request to Hire Johnson & Pace, Inc. to Design a Future Meat Processing Educational Lab Facility.

During that "consider" portion of the meeting, two of the WISD board members conveyed their concerns with the future meat processing facility and spoke out, as a board member should, about their concerns and other priorities of the district. Shortly after that discussion, the agenda item was tabled till further discussion could be had.

As reported in the WinnsboroNews.com on November 16, 2021, the following information is attributed to the WISD Superintendent:

Superintendent Dave Wilcox apologized to the architect for wasting his time and said he would not waste his time again. Wilcox said he had entered the pursuit of a design architect with the understanding that all the board members favored the proposal and had heard no opposition until the Monday night meeting.

Encyclopedia.com states the following definition of school board:

Answer:

This statement suggests that WISD is in short supply of money. The fact is that over the last 3 years our district fund balance has increased by \$5,055,313.00. We will respond to this in greater detail in the near future.

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Response From: Mr. Wilcox, Superintendent;
This page included in the open records request.

Email Thread between Joey Keef and Mr. Wilcox, partial screen capture images provided by Wilcox

The information pertaining to the November 16, 2021 agenda item regarding the meat lab is accurate. I was irritated after being lied to again by one of our board members at the time. Below is an excerpt from the email I received on the night of November 16th from Joey Keef and an excerpt from a 2nd email received from Mr. Keef the same day prior to the meeting,

Mr. Wilcox,

After much thought and consideration I will not be posting anything on FB tonight. I do feel that the situation could have been handled alot differently without creating division in our community. It has ZERO to do with what XXXXX said, but 100% to do with how it was handled was my issue. Therefore if I were to post something it would only be creating more division and this is not my desire for our community.

Although I still stand by my decision to put the meat lab on hold, I owe you an apology for not letting you know my feelings sooner. That is what has eat at me today. I looked you in the eye last Friday and told you I would always come to you first, no surprises. Last night, I did not hold my end of the bargain. I sincerely apologize for doing that to you. I should have let you know last Friday of my stance. Again, I apologize.

Sincerely,

Joey Keef

Mr. Wilcox,

As a member of our WISD Board, I respectfully request you to rescind the statement posted on our WISD Facebook page that reads:

On behalf of WISD, we would like to apologize for the language that was used by a community member, who is not an employee or representative of WISD, during last night's public forum portion of the WISD Board Meeting. The language used was offensive and in no way represents the culture of WISD.

The Administration should have acknowledged the vulgarity and addressed it at that time. This kind of language is not acceptable in any capacity or circumstance and again we would like to apologize and assure you that this will not be tolerated.

You and I both know this is misleading at the very least and slanderous at the very worst. Our District is above these standards and we want to promote unity within our community. Actions like these do nothing but divide and tear down. People in the community, from what I can gather, are assuming this statement is a direct reflection on not just administrators, but the WISD Board as well. I was there, and I know what was said and the reason XXXXXX said it, and the above statement does not reflect the truth whatsoever.

I firmly believe in transparency and standing for truth, no matter the outcome. If you refuse to rescind the above statement by midnight tonight, I will be forced to post something on Facebook on behalf of myself only, not the entire Board, sharing exactly what happened in that meeting last night pertaining to XXXXXX remarks.

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Email Thread between Joey Keef and Mr. Wilcox, partial screen capture images provided by Wilcox



"TheRealWISD" screen capture



Response From: Mr. Wilcox, Superintendent.
This page included in the open records request

"TheRealWISD" screen capture

I am an elected official of our School District, elected by the PEOPLE to serve the PEOPLE of this great District. I intend to seek to preserve our great School District reputation as well as protect the citizens of this great community that intend to speak truth.

Sincerely,

Joey Keef

"Look around Winnsboro! It's almost impossible to find a plumber, an electrician, or an HVAC installer and the list goes on....."

Answer: As most of you already know we do offer a very growing electrical program for our students. Mr. Bland and his students even came to a board meeting and did an electrical presentation on electrical phases.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

A conflict of interest occurs when an individual's personal interests – family, friendships, financial, or social factors – could compromise his or her judgment, decisions, or actions in the workplace.

For Example:

A School Superintendent having a business partnership with a department head. A business possibly being financed by a current board member.

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"TheRealWISD" screen capture

WISD School Board Member ----> WISD Superintendent ----> WISD Boys AD

If a complaint is filed against the AD, can the Superintendent and the board members do their jobs as promised to do? Would their judgement and decisions be compromised?

The rules are in place for good reason....you do not supervise family, friends, or business partners for this very reason....and NO, it's a small town does not hold up in the court of public opinion, or court of law.

Answer:

During one of Special Agent Danny Kelly's public forum speeches he stated the following, "I'm concerned the relationship of the stepfather with the athletic director and the Superintendent is a contributing factor to the minimal response we have received to this situation. Furthermore, I respectfully request that the board inquire as to any business relationships between the Superintendent and the Athletic Director that may be prohibitive to the oversight of our athletic programs.

Ultimately, Mr. Kelly's statements during public comment of the Winnsboro ISD Board meeting and his submission of Ms. Kelly's email to the WISD board prompted a complaint by parents of another child in the district.

WISD retained Marianna McGowan with Abernathy, Roeder, Boyd & Hullett, P.C. to provide assistance with an independent investigation regarding allegations raised by the parents of the other child. The district retained the firm to interview the complainants, subjects of the complaints, and relevant witnesses identified in the course of the investigation and provide a written analysis of the findings. Although the district could have hired a non-attorney investigator, or could have assigned an internal employee to conduct the investigation, the district chose to retain the firm in this capacity to benefit from the special legal knowledge.

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Response From: Mr. Wilcox, Superintendent;
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Response by Mr. Wilcox, Superintendent;
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"TheRealWISD" screen capture

Ms. McGowan was also asked to investigate the conflict of interest claims made by Danny Kelly. Included below is her findings:

The Kelly's raised two areas in which they felt Mr. Wilcox and or Mr. Finney, had a conflict of interest in this matter. The first conflict of interest they mentioned was that Mr. Wilcox's adult daughter was dating the adult son of the other family. While their adult children may date, it does not have an impact on the campus level. The second conflict of interest reported by Ms. Kelly was that Mr. Wilcox shares land with Mr. Finney. Mr. Wilcox and Mr. Finney shared in their interviews that they do have cows and in the same pasture and they take turns buying feed and splitting cost. While they may share the same pasture, there is no evidence this would cause a conflict of interest. The Kelly's therefore provided no direct evidence to support their conflict of interest claim.

The website makes several digs at Taylor Huffman.

Answer:

All of coach Huffman's supervisors have a strong opinion of him. In fact, I have only heard complaints about him from the Kelly's and emails from Brett Burnett requesting that I reassign Taylor. Below is an excerpt from an email from Brett Burnett dated December 9, 2020.

Good morning, Mr. Wilcox. I am emailing this morning to voice my concern for the future of boys basketball in Winnsboro.....What is obviously clear to me and many others is that our current Varsity coach and his team of coaches just do not belong as boys basketball coaches. Coach McAfee is my neighbor, and I taught both Bosold and Huffman when I was a high school math teacher, so this is nothing personal against any of those guys....Boys basketball has been a huge JOKE in Winnsboro since I was in high school here in the mid 1990s. I believe with our new high school, a very impressive new superintendent and staff, now is the time to turn that terrible reputation that boys basketball has in Winnsboro around. I urge you, if you haven't already, to strongly consider a change.....Again, thank you for serving here in Winnsboro. Your presence is already positively affecting our community and school and look forward to see what the future holds for Winnsboro ISD.

Respectfully,

Brett Burnett

How much money did WISD spend on the football stadium? Was the construction sent out for bid? Did WISD follow the rules or make their own?

➤ March 29, 2021

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Response believed From: Mr. Wilcox, Superintendent;
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- **Out of 16 requested packets, WISD received four Qualifications (RFQ's) for Design-Build Services for Future Extracurricular Facilities. The district committee met to review the returned RFQ's and recommended that Hellas Construction, Inc. be awarded the contract for Design-Build Services for Future WISD Extracurricular Facilities.**
- **Motion was made by Joey Keef and 2nd by McAdoo to award the RFQ for Design-Build Services for Future WISD Extracurricular facilities to Hellas Construction Inc. The motion carried 6-0**
- **Motion was made by McAdoo and 2nd by Keef to authorize the superintendent to negotiate a Guaranteed Maximum Price not to exceed \$4.2 million with Hellas Construction, Inc. to complete the football stadium, dressing rooms, concessions, restrooms, and parking; and to continue to work with Hellas Construction to explore options for improvements of playing surfaces at the baseball and softball fields and to continue to define the scope of work for an Animal Science Facility. Carried 6-0**
- **October 4, 2021**
 - **Motion made by McAdoo 2nd by Perez to accept the baseball and softball fields synthetic turf playing surfaces and animal science facility construction quote from Hellas Construction, Inc. with a Guaranteed Maximum Price not to exceed \$1,941,055.00. Carried 7-0**

The district paid Hellas \$4,101,351.00 for the Football Stadium.
The district paid Hellas \$1,426,405.05 for the BB/SB surfaces.
The district paid Hellas \$514,649.95 for the Animal Science building.
- **The district spent \$575,000.00 on the building near Pizza Inn. We do have future plans for this building, however office space has not been at the top of our priority list the last couple years. As you all know we hope to resolve our dispute with the insurance company soon and take action on this facility.**
- **The website reads that the voters approved \$36 million for the bond. That is also false.**
 - **August 21, 2017**
 - **Motion made by Yarbrough 2nd by Goodson to move that the trustees amend the motion to change the amount of the bond authorization to \$31,500,000. Carried 6-1. McElyea opposed.**
- **The website states that the FB stadium cost \$10 million. \$4.2 million was the cost.**
- **In reference to the substandard financial rating for the district, this is difficult to answer without throwing mud. We do however feel great about our financial well-being.**
 - **The net change to our fund balance over the last 3 years is +\$5,005,313.00.**
 - **Total Tax rate net change is -\$.3033.**

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Other Notable Expenditures since 2021

\$1,000,000.00 technology upgrades
\$275,000.00 WMIS roof upgrade
\$130,000.00 WMIS HVAC replacement
\$600,000.00 Buses and Vehicles
\$150,000.00 Buddy Hawkins Gym Floor replacement
\$144,522.00 Safety Vestibules

This is a small sampling. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

You should all have a copy of the 2023-2024 Budget Review provided by Dr. Littlefield that has a ton of financial information.

You also should have your Quick Reference Card with a lot of information.

Administrator raises were approved for the 2023-2024 school year. This group is the only employee group that does not get an automatic step raise each year.

As stated on your Quick Reference card the board has approved \$900,000 in employee raises since 2021 and \$700,000 in employee retention stipends. The board also approved \$500.00 stipends for all employees for the 2023-2024 school year. We should know what the other potential raises look like in the next few months at the conclusion of the special sessions.

Winnsboro ISD Land and Cattle Agenda and Minutes

Answer:

July 17, 2023

- Board has not approved those minutes yet because we have not had August board meeting yet.

June 19, 2023

- An agenda item to approve board minutes was not done in the July 17 board meeting. They will be on the August board agenda.

April 17, 2023

- Adjournment time was not listed on the board minutes. The adjourned time was
6:48.

March 21, 2023

- Adjournment time was not listed on the board minutes. The adjourned time was
1:26.

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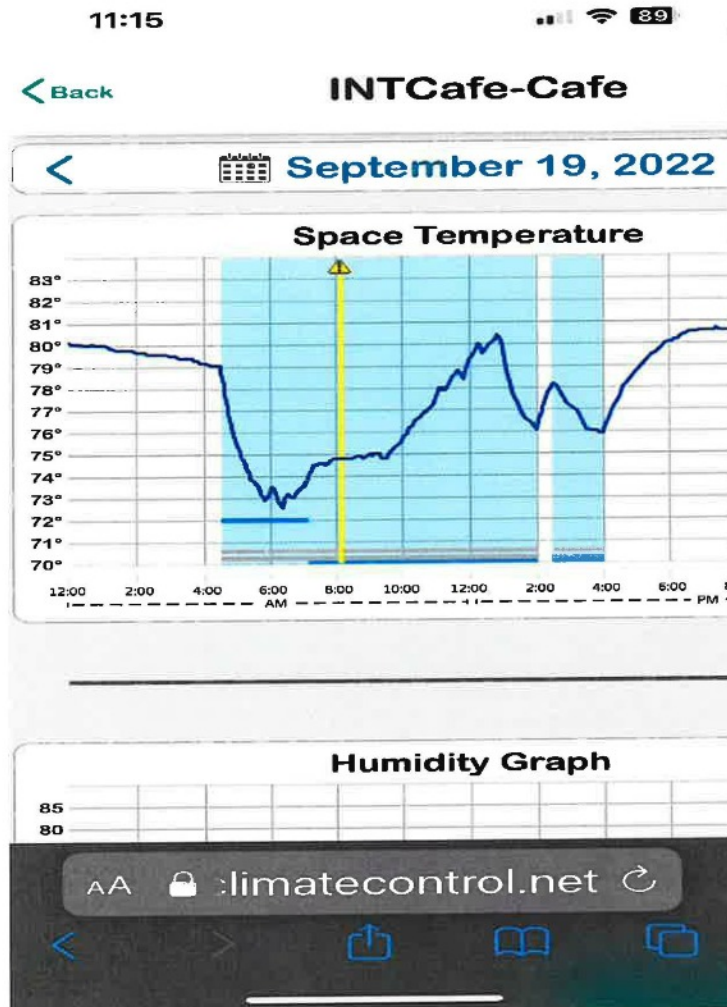
Response believed From: Mr. Wilcox, Superintendent
This page included in the open records request.

October 17, 2022

- The minutes were taken and noted during the October 17th board meeting and approved by the board at the November 15, 2022 board meeting. They are posted on the website for anyone to view now. When Lisa had posted originally they had not correctly loaded and only the agenda was showing up when clicking on the minutes. This issue has been fixed.

September 19, 2022

- Chad Tedford spoke in public forum on an event when Special Agent Danny Kelly drew his weapon on him while his wife, daughter, and son were in the vehicle for no apparent reason.
- The change of venue was due to an air conditioner problem we had at the WMIS Cafeteria. Below are documents showing the spike in temperature. As you can see by noon it was 80 degrees in there. A screenshot is also shown to show we posted the reason and change for everyone to see.



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SOURCE of Screen Capture not known; this was provided in Wilcox's document in the email to the board
This page included in the open records request.



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↑
This page appears to be concerns from the other website, and answers to the Board in Mr. Wilcox document to them.;
This page included in the open records request.

September 14, 2022

- Question—" Board training agenda says it starts at 4pm. The meeting minutes reflect the meeting started at 6:04 pm and adjourned at 5:21 pm."
- This was a typing mistake when making the minutes for the training; the actual start time was 4:06 PM.

August 15, 2022

- The minutes were taken and noted during the August 15th board meeting and approved by the board at the September 19, 2022 board meeting. They are posted on the website for anyone to view now. When Lisa had posted originally they had not correctly loaded and only the agenda was showing up when clicking on the minutes. This issue has been fixed.

August 5, 2022

- We were waiting for the court reporter minutes from the public hearing, but after speaking with John Hardy our school Attorney he sent us what to use and the minutes will be approved at the September board meeting.

June 13, 2022

- The minutes were taken and noted during the June 13th board meeting and approved by the board at the July 18, 2022 board meeting. They are posted on the website for anyone to view now. When Lisa had posted originally they had not correctly loaded and only the agenda was showing up when clicking on the minutes. This issue has been fixed.

May 16, 2022

- "WISD agrees to separate from Assistant Sup Norwood in a quiet, non revealing manner."
- The discussion on Pam Norwood was held in executive session amongst the Board members and Superintendent. Then after executive session a motion was made by Green and seconded by Smedley to approve the separation agreement between WISD and Pam Norwood. Motion carried 7-0.

April 25, 2022

- At the October 17th board meeting amended the minutes from the April 25, 2022 board meeting to show the correct closed session times. This has been updated and added to the minutes from this board meeting.

But the most intriguing item is that little quick line item that states "Direct Superintendent to sell by auction 9.175 acres for a minimum of \$40,000.00." So, surely there is a huge online advertisement campaign to help WISD maximize their potential income on this land sale right?. An exhaustive internet search by our team revealed one webpage 17 listings down. In fact, it was easier to find a WISD auction for file cabinets and old desks several years ago than it was to find any information about a \$40K piece of property being auctioned off. But we did find one listing, one page,

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"TheRealWISD" screen capture



In Email Document to Board from:
Mr. Wilcox, Superintendent;
This page included in the open records request.

"TheRealWISD" screen capture

under TBD 852 W on a United Country Auction Page. This school district auctioned a piece of property, and the WISD FB page and the local real estate company affiliated with the auction posted nothing! A real estate company that has other ties to WISD that we will dive into soon did zero advertisement on behalf of the taxpayers of WISD> The land sold to a local company for \$40,200.00, a whopping \$200 more than the minimum price. And what I can only guess is pure irony, that same company bought the biggest advertisement WISD sold that year at the football stadium. WISD Land & Cattle seems to make moves that benefit a lot of folks other than John Q Taxpayer.

Answer:

The auction was conducted by United Country Auction Services. UCAS is listed as the largest organization of auctioneers and real estate professionals in the nation with more than 5,000 professionals and approximately 500 offices across the United States. UCAS does over 3 billion dollars in gross transaction volume annually.

The land was purchased by Drillrite who according to the website bought the biggest advertisement WISD sold that year at the football stadium. This is false, WISD has 4 sponsors that donate \$7,500.00 annually. Drillrite is a valued sponsor and we appreciate their continued commitment to the students of WISD with their yearly amount of \$4,000.00. We have only had one sponsor not fulfill their commitment and that was Lake Country Windows owned by Joey Keef and Brett Burnett.

In regards to the accusations (most of which have been removed) about Lori Green becoming the WES principal without the job being posted.

Answer: This is false. WES principal job was posted on 5/20/2022 via region 7 service center. We received 13 applicants. The majority of these false allegations in regards to the hiring of Lori Green have been removed.

If I were a teacher...

"What would I be offered for free? For now, I have to pay the administration to wear jeans to school each week. That money is then tossed into a big hat, and later divided up and given back to my friends. See that seems a lot like a corrupt government plan at it's finest. Give us your hard earned money, and we will celebrate with a big to do as we return it back to you and except the praise for our graciousness. But not coaches, they aren't even required to own pants, or hold a certificate it seems."

Answer:

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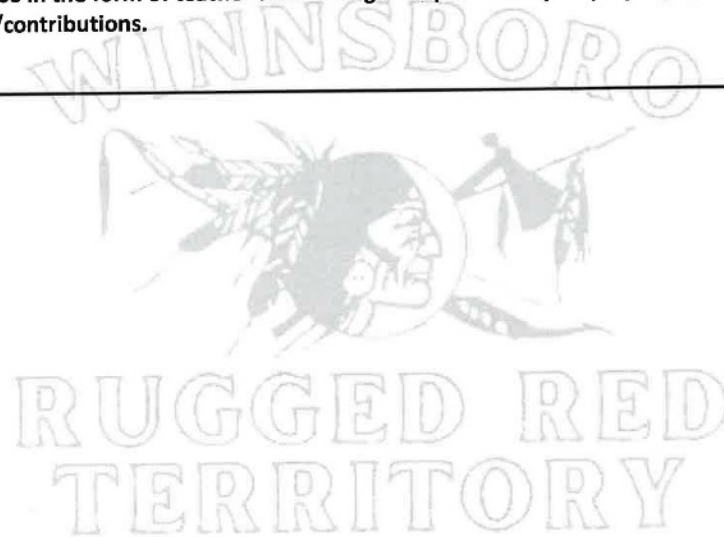
In Email Document to Board from:
Mr. Wilcox, Superintendent;
This page included in the open records request.

During open enrollment for employee benefits for the 2023-2024 school-year, employees were given the option to donate a minimum of \$10 per month to support the Education Foundation. As a thank you, the EF is giving each employee who donates a free t-shirt. To show additional support WISD administration agreed to allow employees to wear their t-shirt with jeans one day a month any day they choose.

The money donated to the WISD Education Foundation does not go the WISD Administration. The money goes directly to the WISD EF.

All money raised through employee contributions will be put with all other donations collected by the Education Foundation during events, mail out marketing letters etc.

All donations are given to employees in the form of Teacher Grants. Last year, the EF gave out over \$22,000 in the form of teacher classroom grants prior to any employee paycheck deduction/contributions.



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No clue who wrote this, but
it was included in Wilcox's
Document to the board

"TheRealWISD" screen capture
This page included in the open records request.

Background

Winnsboro community members have created a website and published potentially damaging information regarding Winnsboro Independent School District. A screenshot of the information posted is below:

Weak Internal Controls.....AND.....high administrative costs.

Of 1019 public schools in Texas, WISD was 1 of 36 schools that had a C for a financial rating!
BOTTOM 3.6% of schools in the State of Texas!

Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas
2021-2022 RATINGS BASED ON 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR DATA
INDICATOR TEST 17
Name:WINNSBORO ISD

Did the external independent auditor report that the AFR was free of any instance(s) of material weaknesses in internal controls over financial reporting and compliance for local, state, or federal funds? (The AICPA defines material weakness.)

Weak Internal Controls Status: TRUE

Was the school district's administrative cost ratio equal to or less than the threshold ratio? See ranges below in the Determination of Points section.

Score 6 out of 10. This score in essence means that the student attendance to administrative costs to operate this school district are not proportional. And so.....June 19, 2023 board minutes reflect:

a raise for the WISD Administrative Staff.

6 schools in Wood County.....5 A's and 1C
*Reference TEA website for full details.

FIRST Rating concerns

Weak Internal Controls

17

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PAGE REDACTED on September 5, 2023
AT THE REQUEST OF THE WISD. (for vetting).

Update 9/2/2023: Screen capture, yet disclaimer notice:
Original source originally not stated in open records document; since publishing 8/31/23, the WISD states this information originates from Ms. Littlefield, CFO, WISD
This page included in the open records request.

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Winnsboro ISD

Market Comparisons, 2021-2022

Positions Sorted by Benchmark Position

Professional

Benchmark Position	District Job Title	Diff in Days	Note	District Reporting	2021-2022 Market Salary	2021-2022 District Salary	2021-2022 District Salary Compared to Market
1 Agriculture Science Teacher	Teacher/Ag Science	0	M	4	\$64,052	\$74,090	116%
2 Athletic Trainer	Teacher/Athletic Trainer	19	E	19	\$62,928	\$53,400	85%
3 Behavior Specialist	Behavior Specialist	-10	E	9	\$54,879	\$50,337	92%
4 Diagnostician	Diagnostician	-8	M	4	\$63,119	\$61,107	97%
5 District Testing Coordinator	Director, Student Services/District Testing Coordinator	6	E	7	\$69,983	\$70,040	100%
7 High School Band Director	Band Director	9	M	5	\$67,138	\$76,107	113%
8 Instructional Coach (Campus Level)	Instructional Coach	5	M	4	\$59,949	\$62,704	105%
9 Instructional Coordinator	ELAR Specialist	-20	E	6	\$66,252	\$62,704	95%
10 IT Coordinator/Manager	Director, Technology	0	M	8	\$74,255	\$67,492	91%
11 Nurse (RN)	District Nurse	39	C,X	8	\$57,065	\$68,907	121%
12 PEIMS Manager	Communications/PEIMS Specialist	0	E	10	\$65,558	\$59,740	91%
13 School Counselor - ES	Counselor, WES/WMIS	-5	M	8	\$56,961	\$54,817	96%
14 School Counselor - HS	Counselor, WHS	19	M	8	\$61,193	\$67,288	110%

Summary

The auditor's response at the end of the 2021-22 audit report was that WISD went from being the last report issued in the prior year to being the first report issued and that we met all goals and objectives established the prior year. Included is a copy of her letter to the board when she presented the audit report in 2021-22.

This will reduce administrative costs for the 2023-24 fiscal year.

RUGGED RED
TERRITORY

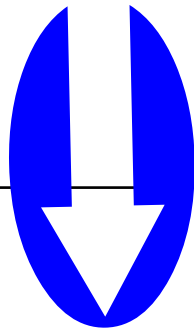
19

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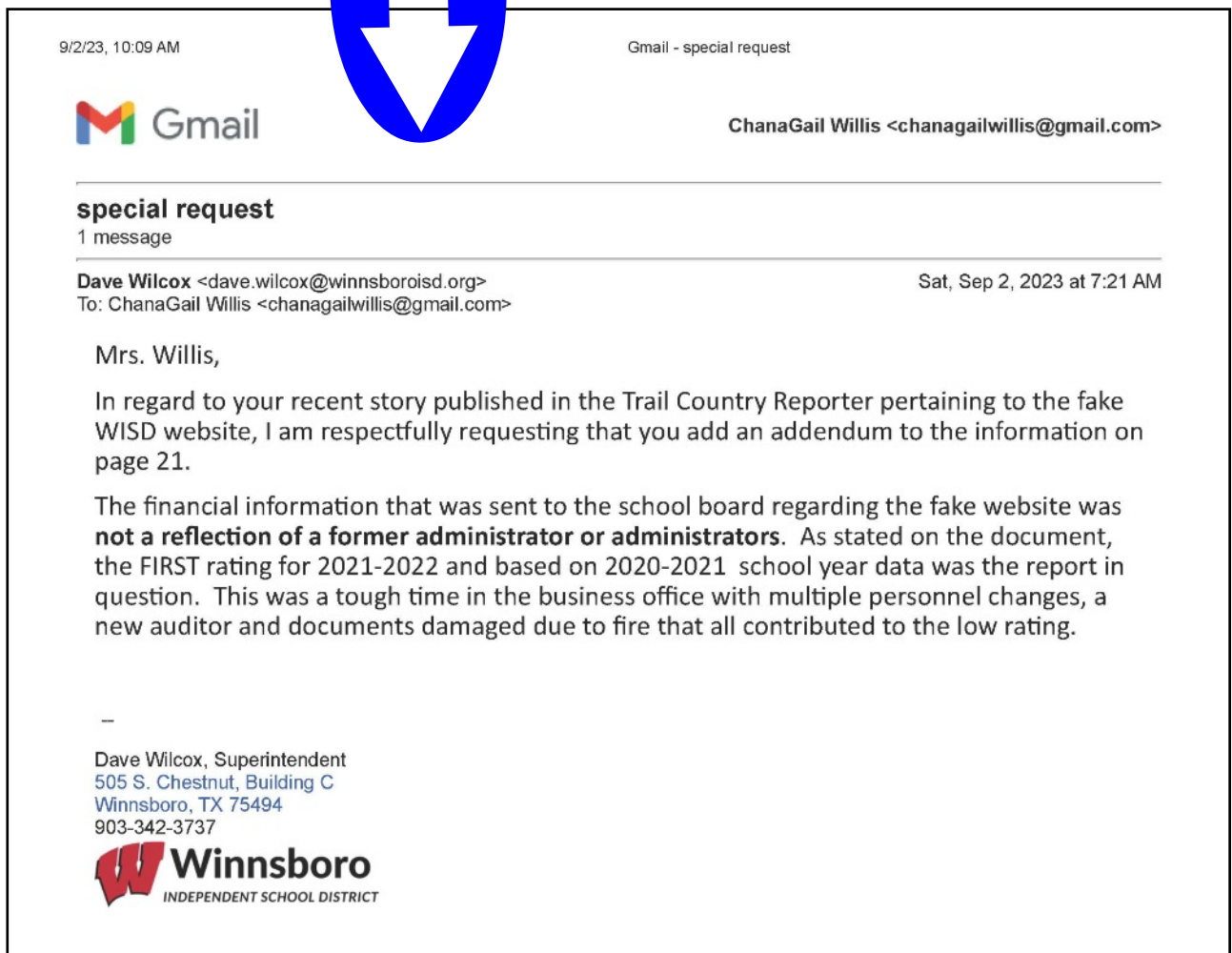
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*"The financial information that was sent to the school board regarding the fake website was **not a reflection of a former administrator or administrators**. As stated on the document, the **FIRST** rating for 2021-2022 and based on 2020-2021 school year data was the report in question. This was a tough time in the business office with multiple personnel changes, a new auditor and documents damaged due to fire that all contributed to the low rating."*

Page 21 of WISD



In 9/2/2023 Email Document to TCR from:
Mr. Wilcox, Superintendent.
This page was not included in the open records request, and is an addendum request by Mr. Wilcox.



Piercing the Veil

OPINION
EDITORIAL

C.G. Willis, Trails Country Editor, Commentary
OP | ED [August 31, 2023]

*The official Winnsboro ISD website is at the url address: <https://www.winnsboroisd.org/>
The at the url address: [TheReadWISD.Com](https://www.TheReadWISD.Com) is NOT the real WISD district website.*

On July 18, 2023, TCR received a text message, “Just curious if you have seen this website? Therealwisdcom?” (Actually, no, not at that time.) Since that date, I’ve looked at the content, and looked at the content less and less; however, there are some factual observations to present to the public and to the anonymous participants behind the website, for consideration and accountability.

TheRealWISD domain name was purchased through GoDaddy (called a domain host) on June 23, 2023. The registrant The registrant then cloaked their name by paying for a private registration; this called privacy domain name registration. In the Internet world, many domain name owners do this privacy to reduce unwanted contact and mail from solicitors, hackers, loan sharks, spammers, etc., or for other reasons.

TheRealWISD began posting blogs sometime the first week of July 2023. The person or people behind the website have stated they wish to remain anonymous. As an opinion editorial, it is probably because the person(s) fear retaliation or retribution. Someone, or group of someones, certainly have a burr in their saddle over a sundry list of topics.

While they blog about transparency, they work behind a dark veil of not only anonymity, but inaccuracies and apparent bitterness for unresolved anger or conflict resolution skills. Maybe this public information and research will begin to pierce the veil, and bring people to the table of peacemaking and fruits of the spirit, and not works and sins of the flesh.

Point 1.

To present oneself with a domain as a “REAL” government entity could be considered a crime under state And federal laws. The site is certainly not set up as satire. To use the name “Real” is blatantly misleading and runs the risk of damaging the district and community image for people who may not know it is NOT authorized, nor the “real” site.

Point 2.

The site uses the logos of the Texas Education Agency. Without a written contract for license for use, This is a violation of LAW and punishable under TEXAS STATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE, quoted:

GOVERNMENT CODE
TITLE 10. GENERAL GOVERNMENT
SUBTITLE B. INFORMATION AND PLANNING
CHAPTER 2054. INFORMATION RESOURCES
SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

(9) "Local government" means a county, municipality, special district, school district, junior college district, or other political subdivision of the state.

Sec. 2054.263. SEAL. The department shall adopt an icon, symbol, brand, seal, or other identifying device to represent the project.

Sec. 2054.269. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS. The department may exercise all intellectual property rights regarding the project, including prevention of other persons from using names or designs similar to those used by the project to market products. (Source: <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/GV/htm/GV.2054.htm>)

(Continued)

Page 1 of 3 of Op | Ed

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Page 23 of 25 of Release

Piercing the Veil - continued

C.G. Willis, Trails Country Editor, Commentary

OP | ED [August 31, 2023]

CONTINUED, PAGE 2 OF 3

Point 3.

The site uses the “Running W” logo of the University of Wisconsin. If it is *without a written contract for license for use of intellectual property*, and certainly not satire, according to research, experience and training, such practice is a violation of LAW and punishable under the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17) and Related Laws Contained in Title 17 of the United States Code (<https://copyright.gov/> and <https://www.copyright.gov/title17/>). “Statutory damages are usually between \$750 and \$30,000 per work, as determined by the court. However, the damage amount can be increased up to \$150,000 per work if the infringement is found to be wilful (intentional).” In fact, criminal copyright infringement charges can result in prison convictions under federal laws.

The University of Wisconsin has proven to take copyright offenders to legal task in the past, as shown in Google searches and legal research.

Point 4. Trails Country Reporter has verified that on “TheRealWISD” site, the image of the WISD school board of trustees was actually lifted (taken) from a website called “Wood County Now” as verified by an owner, and used without permission for use (copyright violation). In other words, plain English, stolen intellectual property. It’s not a victimless crime. The government just doesn’t make laws for the fun of it. It’s when people don’t behave and take things that don’t belong to them, even digital intellectual PROPERTY, or people do things they shouldn’t do. It’s not only about law, but ethics and morality.

Point 5. The “Real” site is certainly not compiled with journalistic skill, conventions or styles. It’s riddled with grammar and punctuation errors, and its difficult to tell where they blog begins and ends and where quoted material begins or ends. It also lacks references and proper citation for materials throughout the entire website. *Vetting the work and citing sources is critical in the integrity of journalism.* An example is an ink well with a blog on the site, and the words, “There Dave, I fixed it for you!” Is the passage above it by Dave Wilcox? When? How? Email? Who knows? It should be something like, “Mr. Wilcox, I updated the content of your letter to us on [date].” T The site talks about Bullying, yet bully’s students for their social media posts. The site talks about transparency but is not. The site itself is named as a fake, fraud, misleading “Real.”

Point 6. This “Real” not real site point problems with little “come to the table, let’s chat over coffee and be peacemaker” resolutions. The structure is in place at school districts across our state, and if talking to people one one one, FIRST, doesn’t work, there’s the public input at meetings. IF that doesn’t work, there’s the polling both and elections. There’s letters to the editor. And there’s running away or giving up and not addressing the conflicts.

Point 7. So, it is pretty interesting the site “screams” of ethics and transparency, and here they are, violating state and federal laws to get their points across. What you are doing, speaks so loudly, in how you are doing it, its difficult to hear a thing they say with their written words. Experience means more to the public than written words.

The experience of the Winnsboro area public is sometimes reeking of discord and arguing, with folks taking sides and making unvetted accusations, unresolved conflict: it just NEEDS TO STOP. The children, the students are watching the adults. The time the administration looks at this site, which probably less and less, takes away from the core focus of education and the students and caring for the districts wonderful faculty and support teams. Resolve conflict peaceably.

In case folks have forgotten the true struggle, I’ll close with a list on the final page of this op ed. I’ve learned the hard way to NOT be a flag bearer, a torch, or fuel flaming the fire of public controversies. Just please stop it, and go to people one-on-one and try to resolve differences. Then vote. If God’s in you, and God’s in them, God gets along with God, then what’s the problem. Yes, even Christians disagree. And Good people. Let’s fine unity. Thank you for your time.

(Continued)

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Page 2 of 3 of Op | Ed

Page 24 of 25 of Release

PRESS ON!

JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

FRUIT of the SPIRIT

- Love Galatians 5
- Joy
- Peace
- Longsuffering
- (Stedfastness)
- Kindness
- Goodness
- Faithfulness
- Gentleness
- Self-Control

Live in the Spirit
Walk in the Spirit

- Blessings come to
- Comfort for poor in spirit and those who mourn
 - meekness
 - Those who hunger/thirst for right eousness
 - The merciful
 - Pure in heart
 - Peacemakers.
 - Those whom are persecuted for right eousness sake

Matthew 5

BE KIND, tender hearted Eph. 4:32

Rejoice
Be glad.

Overcome evil w/ good.

VS.

WORKS of the Flesh

are evident
shown, see-able

Eph. 4:25 Put AWAY



Adultery	ALL
Fornication	BITTERNESS
Uncleanness	WRATH
Lewdness	ANGER
Idolatry	CLAMOR
Sorcery	EVIL SPEAKING
Hatred	

→ Contentions
Jealousies
Outbursts of wrath
→ Selfish Ambitions
→ Dissentions
Heresies
Envy
Murder
Drunkenness
Revelries

And the like.

Don't be conceited.

→ Don't provoke one another.

Don't envy one another.

Revilers, persecutors
spoken words of evil
against others