

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Office of the Superintendent

Date of Meeting: August 6, 2026

Request For Placement on Board Agenda:

AGENDA TOPIC: Resolution #2026-27-03

PRESENTER: Shelby Jones, Director of Business Services
Diana Baca, Director of Business Services

Background Information:

The District is requesting Board approval of a resolution as the next step in the State School Facility Program process for reimbursement of the Willows Intermediate School (WIS) modular classroom project completed in 2023. This is a required procedural step and does not represent a new project or request.

Recommendation:

The administration recommends adoption of the resolution to maximize available state funding and continue the process toward securing reimbursement for the WIS modular classroom project.

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

PLAN FOR HOUSING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GRADE PUPIL GRANTS BEING UTILIZED FOR FUNDING OF MIDDLE SCHOOL CLASSROOMS AT WILLOWS INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

The Willows Unified School District (District) constructed new middle school classrooms, which were occupied in 2023: Willows Intermediate School with 3 total classrooms of added capacity (Project). The District applied for state new construction grants in August 2023 and it is expected to receive approval for funding under the State School Facilities Program (SFP) this year.

The District has updated its eligibility for new construction grants as required under the SFP regulations and has determined that it does *not* have any eligibility at the middle school (7th-8th grade) or high school levels (9th-12th grade). However, it does have eligibility at the elementary (Kindergarten-6th grade) level to support the construction of up to 13 classrooms at the 7th-8th grade level. Under the provisions of the SFP *Use of New Construction Grants*, Regulation Section 1859.77.3(b), the District may request new construction grant eligibility determined at a different grade category/level than the proposed classrooms in the Project, provided the grant request does not exceed the capacity of the Project. Therefore, the District may choose to use elementary school grade level pupil eligibility to fund construction of three middle school classrooms, to receive SFP funding for the Project.

The District is proposing to utilize eligibility available for elementary school pupils to assist with the construction of the middle school classrooms in the Project, subject to the Office of Public School Construction's (as staff to the State Allocation Board) approval of the District's eligibility for new construction grants. The District can accomplish the housing of the additional elementary school pupils by loading its Transitional Kindergarten (TK) through sixth grade classrooms at the 'average class size' of 28 pupils per classroom pursuant to the collective bargaining *Agreement between Willows Unified School District and Willows Unified Teachers Association*, 7.1.23-6.30.26. This average exceeds the State loading standard of 25 for K through 6th grades. In effect, the District can house on average and if needed, three additional pupils per TK through 6th grade classroom at its existing elementary school.

The District currently has approximately 38 elementary school classrooms that serve Transitional Kindergarten through sixth grade, as shown on its classroom inventory documents, which are available to house the additional pupils. Thus, these classrooms provide the following additional housing capacity:

Grade Category	Number of existing classrooms	Additional pupils that can be housed in each classroom	Additional pupil capacity
TK/Kinder - 6th	38	$28 - 25 = 3$	$38 \times 3 = 114$
Total number of additional pupils that can be housed:			114

In conclusion, this excess capacity of 114 students for grades K-6 is more than enough to house the elementary school pupils that may require housing under this plan, when diverting the elementary school eligibility for use at the middle school level.

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Willows, CA

**APPROVAL OF THE USE OF ELEMENTARY PUPIL GRANT ELIGIBILITY FOR THE
CONSTRUCTION OF CLASSROOMS AT WILLOWS INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL**

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-27-03

WHEREAS, the Willows Unified School District (District) has been approved, and will be reviewed and updated, for new construction grant eligibility under the Leroy F. Greene School Facility Program (SFP) by the Office of Public School Construction and State Allocation Board (SAB); and

WHEREAS, the District has identified a need and constructed new classrooms, adding capacity within three new classrooms at Willows Intermediate School (Project) in 2023; and

WHEREAS, Education Code 17072.35 stipulates how SFP new construction grant funds can be utilized and SFP Regulation Section 1859.77.3(a) stipulates that a district may request new construction grants that exceed the pupil capacity of the project based on state loading standards pursuant to Education Code 17071.25(a)(2); and

WHEREAS, the SAB Regulation 1859.77.3(b) also permits districts to assign pupil grants from available pupil grant new construction eligibility at grade levels not being served by the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Project includes the construction of three new middle school classrooms at the seventh through eighth grade level, and in accordance with state loading standards of 27 pupils per classroom, it has a pupil capacity of 81 students; and

WHEREAS, the State Allocation Board changed its rules and now requires districts to justify eligibility for new construction grants at the time the application is reviewed instead of when the application is submitted, and it is currently taking approximately three to 3 ½ years from the time of submittal of an application for it to be reviewed; and

WHEREAS, the District filed an application for this Project in August 2023 but only recently determined that it does not have eligibility for middle school new construction grants; and

WHEREAS, the District wants to maximize the amount of state grants it will receive for the Project and wishes to utilize pupil grants under the new construction program for the construction of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the District plans to assign *up to* 81 school pupil grants from the eligibility provided to the Kindergarten through sixth grades to maximize the state grants for the Project; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Willows Unified School District does hereby affirm the following:

- The filing of an application under Chapter 12.5, Part 10, Division 1, commencing with Education Code 17070.10; and
- The District acknowledges that funds for the purpose of housing pupils at the elementary school level will be diverted to fund these Projects; and

- The District’s plan to house these students will be to accommodate them in existing elementary school classrooms throughout the District. The District has an average class size of 28 students per classroom for Transitional Kindergarten (TK) through sixth grade, versus the State loading standard of 25. By SFP Regulation Section 1859.77.3, the maximum district loading standard that can be used is 33 students per classroom; therefore, the District’s lower loading capacity of 28 (for TK through 6th grade) will be used as further delineated in the attached housing plan; and
- The District acknowledges that the State has satisfied its obligation, pursuant to Regulation Section 1859.50, to house the pupils receiving grants in the Projects.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 6th day of August, 2026, by the governing board of the Willows Unified School District of Glenn County, California by the following vote:

AYES: _____

NOES: _____

ABSENT: _____

ABSTAINING: _____

State of California

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County of Glenn

I, Kirsten Gray, Clerk, of Governing Board of Willows Unified School District, State of California, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the said Board at a regular meeting held on August 6, 2026.

Kirsten Gray, Clerk