

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Office of the Superintendent

Date of Meeting: August 6, 2026

Request For Placement on Board Agenda:

AGENDA TOPIC: Technology Plan

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

Background Information:

Over the past several months, the District Office team, including the Information Technology Department, have been meeting regularly to review, update, and strengthen the District's Technology Plan to better reflect how technology is being used across the District.

The most significant updates include adopting a more developmentally appropriate approach to student device access by distinguishing which grade levels are assigned individual Chromebooks and which utilize classroom Chromebook carts as needed. Additional revisions include creating a clearer instructional technology framework, updating the Chromebook replacement strategy, and adding clearer guidance for cybersecurity, artificial intelligence (AI), and long-term technology planning.

The goal was to develop a practical, sustainable plan that aligns with the District's instructional priorities while maintaining the flexibility to adapt as technology and instructional needs continue to evolve.

Recommendation:

The administration recommends the Board approve this plan.

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY PLAN
July 2026 – June 2031

WILLOWS UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT



Board Approved: [Date]

Emmett Koerperich

Superintendent

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



County:	Glenn County
District Name:	Willows Unified School District
County & District Code:	11626610000000
District Phone Number:	(530) 934-6600
Fax#:	(530) 934-6609
Address:	823 West Laurel Street
City & Zip Code:	Willows, CA 95988

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Shasta Union High School District IT Dept.
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Durell Siplin, Principal, Willows Intermediate School
Mark Huntley, Assistant Principal (TOSA), Willows Intermediate School
Staci Lanzi, Principal, Murdock Elementary School
Sara Cervantes, Assistant Principal (TOSA), Murdock Elementary School

Willows Unified School District's Technology Vision

Our vision is for students, parents, and educators to utilize communication and information technologies to enhance—not replace—the traditional role of education. Technology in WUSD is a supportive instructional tool, implemented thoughtfully and intentionally to strengthen learning outcomes while preserving the essential role of teachers, human connection, and hands-on instruction.

We are committed to developmentally appropriate technology use across all grade levels. In early grades, foundational academic skills, language-rich instruction, and experiential learning remain the priority, with digital tools used in limited and purposeful ways. As students' progress, technology supports deeper academic inquiry, responsible digital citizenship, and preparation for postsecondary education and workforce opportunities.

1. District Summary and Plan Duration

This five-year Technology Plan (2025–2030) outlines Willows Unified School District’s approach to instructional technology, infrastructure planning, and professional development. It establishes clear systems for device management, digital learning practices, and long-term sustainability to support student achievement across all grade levels.

The plan affirms the district’s commitment to balanced technology integration. It provides guidance for instructional alignment, responsible digital use, and strategic planning while maintaining a focus on strong foundational teaching and learning practices.

2. Stakeholder Involvement

The Technology Committee, composed of District Administration and the Technology Department, will review and update this plan annually. Surveys and data collection will support continuous improvement and alignment with district goals.

The committee will also oversee device lifecycle planning, replacement scheduling, refurbishment practices, cybersecurity compliance, artificial intelligence governance, and future program development initiatives as part of its ongoing responsibilities.

3. Curriculum-Driven Technology Goals

Digital Literacy & Research Skills

Technology integration within the district is guided by instructional priorities and developmentally appropriate practices. The following goals outline how digital literacy and technology tools support academic learning across grade levels.

- Teach cyber hygiene, digital ethics, and online privacy.
- Foster data analytics and computational thinking to enhance student problem-solving skills.

TK–4 Instructional Clarification

For Transitional Kindergarten through Grade 4, technology will be integrated as a supportive instructional tool.

Technology use will prioritize:

- Functional device navigation and care
- Keyboarding progression (target 5–15 WPM by Grade 4)
- Foundational word processing skills

- Digital citizenship instruction using Common Sense Media curriculum
- Media balance and safe online behavior

Print literacy, hands-on learning, and language-rich instruction remain the priority in elementary grades.

Grades 5–8 Transition Model

Grades 5–8 serve as a structured transition phase preparing students for advanced secondary coursework.

Students will:

- Use spreadsheets with formulas and data sorting
 - Conduct research using academic databases
 - Apply Boolean search strategies
 - Create multimedia presentations with academic purpose
 - Develop independent file management skills
-

Grades 9–12 Instructional Framework

Grades 9–12 provide structured opportunities for advanced digital skill development aligned with postsecondary readiness and career exploration.

Students may:

- Engage in advanced multimedia production and presentation tools
- Apply data analysis and research strategies using digital platforms
- Utilize productivity and collaboration tools for academic and career preparation
- Participate in technology-focused electives and Career Technical Education (CTE) coursework

High school students will also have access to computer lab environments that support specialized software applications and advanced instructional needs.

Across all grade levels, technology will support instructional assessment and student engagement.

Digital Assessment & Engagement

- Implement digital assessment tools to provide timely feedback and support differentiated instruction.
 - Utilize learning dashboards to monitor student progress and inform instructional decisions.
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4. Technology Access for Special Needs Students

The district is committed to ensuring equitable access to instructional technology for all students. Technology resources and instructional supports will be implemented in ways that address diverse learning needs while maintaining alignment with individualized education plans and district instructional priorities.

- Expand assistive technology, including translation tools, speech-to-text, and accessibility features.
 - Train educators in universal design principles to support inclusive instruction.
-

5. Professional Development and Implementation

Technology Integration Training

Professional development will be aligned to grade-level instructional needs.

TK–4 Educators

- Emphasis on foundational instructional practices
- Training limited to essential classroom technology tools

Grades 5–12 Educators

- Advanced digital integration strategies
 - Industry certification alignment where appropriate
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6. Infrastructure, Hardware, Technical Support, and Software

Repair & Replacement Plan

The district manages approximately 2,000 Chromebooks.

Chromebooks follow a practical 5–6 year replacement cycle to maintain device reliability, software compatibility, and security compliance.

- Maintain a district-wide maintenance and on-site repair program to provide preventative care, reduce downtime, and control costs.
- Maintain loaner devices to minimize instructional disruption.
- Evaluate refurbishment, reuse, and parts recovery opportunities for retired devices where appropriate.

Devices & Platforms

- Elementary classrooms primarily utilize shared Chromebook sets to support classroom-based instruction.
- Secondary students primarily utilize student-assigned Chromebook devices.
- Teachers and staff will operate on Windows devices for instructional and operational consistency.
- High school students will have access to dedicated computer lab environments to support advanced coursework, CTE pathways, and specialized software applications.

Technology Rotation Schedule (Windows Devices)

All Windows-based district devices will transition to Windows 11 in alignment with Microsoft's Windows 10 end-of-support timeline.

The following five-year rotation schedule applies to Windows-based desktop instructional and administrative devices:

Year	MES	WIS	WHS	WHS Labs	DO/WCHS	Total Devices
2028	7	6	6	0	4	23
2029	7	6	7	0	4	24
2030	7	7	7	30	4	55
2031	7	7	8	10	3	35
2032	7	6	8	0	2	23

This schedule aligns with district budget cycles and ensures consistent hardware performance and operating system compliance.

Network & Security

- Maintain high-speed, secure Wi-Fi optimized for digital learning.
 - Implement zero-trust security models, multi-factor authentication, and AI-driven threat detection.
 - Expand secure cloud-based services for remote learning, data storage, and accessibility.
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Technical Support

- Maintain on-site technical support services.
 - Provide digital support resources for staff and students.
-

7. Funding and Budget

The following funding strategies support the implementation and long-term sustainability of the district's technology infrastructure and instructional initiatives.

Primary Funding Sources

- Utilize E-Rate, Title I, II, and IV, and state technology funds to support infrastructure and professional development.
- Seek corporate partnerships, technology sponsorships, and private grants to supplement district funding.
- Implement cost-effective strategies, including bulk purchasing and leasing options, to optimize expenditures.

Sustainability & Long-Term Planning

- Maintain a dedicated technology allocation to support ongoing upgrades, lifecycle replacements, and emergency needs.
 - Maintain lifecycle-aligned budgeting practices to support annual replacement scheduling and long-term device sustainability.
 - Develop and maintain transparent budget reporting practices to track technology expenditures and ensure fiscal accountability.
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8. Monitoring and Evaluation

Annual Technology Audits

- Conduct annual reviews of infrastructure, security systems, and device effectiveness.
 - Use stakeholder feedback to refine digital learning strategies and policies.
 - Review device replacement practices, sustainability measures, and operational lifecycle effectiveness.
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Cybersecurity & Compliance Reviews

- Ensure compliance with FERPA, CIPA, COPPA, and state data protection laws.
 - Provide ongoing cybersecurity awareness training.
 - Maintain zero-trust security principles, multi-factor authentication (MFA), and AI-driven threat detection systems.
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Artificial Intelligence Governance

The district will provide oversight to ensure responsible and compliant use of artificial intelligence in education.

- AI use in TK–4 will remain limited to teacher-directed instructional support.
 - Appropriate student-facing AI tools for Grades 5–12 will be evaluated carefully.
 - Implementation will prioritize ethical use, data privacy, instructional alignment, and regulatory compliance.
 - AI-related tools will be reviewed as part of the district’s annual technology audit process and reported to the Technology Committee.
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9. Future Goals and Innovations

STEM, AI & Emerging Technologies

The district will look into:

- Expanding coursework in artificial intelligence, robotics, and coding in Grades 9–12
 - Exploring cybersecurity training aligned with industry-recognized certifications
 - Evaluating emerging technologies that support innovation and problem-solving
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Career Readiness & Digital Media

The district will explore:

- Expanding CTE pathways in digital arts, software development, cloud computing, and cybersecurity
 - Developing student-run IT service desk opportunities
 - Building partnerships with local businesses, colleges, and industry organizations
 - Aligning coursework with workforce and regional labor market needs
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Industry-Aligned Certifications

The district will evaluate opportunities for students in Grades 9–12 to pursue certifications such as:

- Google IT Support
 - CompTIA Security+
 - AWS Cloud Practitioner
 - Python programming certifications
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Conclusion

Willows Unified School District's Technology Plan reflects a balanced and developmentally appropriate approach to instructional technology. This plan establishes clear structures for curriculum integration, professional development, infrastructure management, and fiscal responsibility while preserving the foundational elements of high-quality teaching and learning.

By aligning instructional practices with sustainable infrastructure planning and responsible oversight, the district ensures that technology remains a purposeful tool in support of student achievement. Through ongoing review and thoughtful implementation, WUSD will continue to adapt to emerging technologies while maintaining its commitment to academic excellence, equity, and long-term stability.

Appendices

Appendix A: Teacher Technology Standards & Professional Development Framework

- Grade-span integration expectations
 - Tiered professional development structure
 - Ongoing review process
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Appendix B: Grade-Level Digital Literacy & Technology Framework

This appendix outlines grade-level digital literacy expectations aligned with the instructional framework described in Section 3.

TK–4

- Basic device navigation
 - Foundational keyboarding
 - Introductory academic applications
 - Digital citizenship
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Grades 5–8

- Research and information literacy
 - Use of productivity tools
 - Responsible digital workflow
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Grades 9–12

- Multimedia production
 - Data analysis tools
 - Academic research platforms
 - Responsible digital independence
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Standards Alignment

This framework aligns, where appropriate, with nationally recognized digital literacy standards, including the ISTE Standards for Students and Educators.

Appendix C: Device Lifecycle & Rotation Schedule

- Windows device rotation schedule
 - Asset management and replacement planning framework
 - Elementary rolling refresh model
 - Secondary cohort-based replacement model
 - Sustainability, refurbishment, and reuse practices
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Appendix D: Cybersecurity & Compliance Overview

- Regulatory compliance
 - Security principles
 - Oversight procedures
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Appendix E: Funding & Sustainability Overview

- Funding sources
 - Long-term planning
 - Accountability practices
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Appendix F: Responsible Use & Artificial Intelligence Guidelines

- Acceptable Use Policy (AUP)
- Digital citizenship standards
- AI usage guidelines
- Data privacy principles