

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting – August 7, 2025

Regular Session 7:00 p.m.

Willows City Council Chambers

201 N. Lassen Street, Willows, CA 95988

MINUTES

1. OPEN SESSION – CALL TO ORDER

- 1.1 Roll Call – President Jeromy Geiger called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All Members were present.
- 1.2 Welcome to Visitors
- 1.3 Flag Salute was led by Shelby Jones.

2. AGENDA/MINUTES

- 2.1 Approve the Agenda for August 7, 2025.
Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Agenda for August 7, 2025.
AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
- 2.2 Approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of June 23, 2025
Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Kirsten Gray to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of June 23, 2025.
AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
- 2.3 Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 26, 2025.
Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 26, 2025.
AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

4. INTRODUCTION OF NEW ADMINISTRATOR

4.1 Durell Siplin Jr – Willows Intermediate School Principal

Durell Siplin, the new principal at Willows Intermediate School (WIS), introduced himself. He shared his personal background — originally from Inglewood, a father of three daughters, and now in his 19th year in education. He has taught various grades and served as an assistant principal at Oroville High and Bidwell Junior in Chico. He expressed a strong passion for junior high education.

He shared his positive first impressions of WIS, where he's felt warmly welcomed. He praised the enthusiastic teachers, positive school environment, and students who eagerly introduced themselves. He closed by expressing excitement for the upcoming school year and gratitude for the opportunity.

5. REPORTS

- 5.1 Employee Associations (WUTA & CSEA)
WUTA – President Cathy Fleming reported:

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- The school year has started well, with a positive atmosphere on campus and students happy to return.
- She emailed principals about following the contract for PLCs (Professional Learning Communities).
- The COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) contract will open again this year. Additionally, this year includes a review of new evaluation procedures implemented last year to assess their effectiveness. She will coordinate with Emmett on this.

CSEA – No report**5.2 Board of Education Members****Kirsten Gray reported:**

- Welcomed everyone back from the break and is looking forward to the new year.

Lourdes Ruiz reported:

- Welcomed back principals and welcomed the new phases of all of the campuses and thinks it's going to be an exciting year!

Margaret Parisio reported:

- Welcomed back everyone, the new principal, and the new team member at the District Office.
- Seniors are excited to have Mr. Harris at the high school.

Gina Taylor reported:

- Thanked the janitorial maintenance teams for their hard work over the summer.
- Thanked the food service staff for the back-to-school lunch, noting the positive energy and excitement among staff during the event.
- Congratulated the service award recipients.
- Shared enthusiasm for the new Ag facility.
- Golden State Risk Management Authority announced the upcoming October conference and encouraged district staff to attend.
- Highlighted updates to the RMAP program. It's a voluntary program where members can earn the district up to \$50,000 in awards, and reminded everyone of the September 1 deadline to submit a letter of intent.
- Shared positive feedback on the new agenda format and timely report distribution but requested better access to shared documents.

President Jeromy Geiger reported:

- Acknowledged all staff for their collective efforts. Emphasized the idea that "it takes a village" to educate our youth for the future.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR**A. GENERAL**

1. Principal Reports
2. Director of Food Services Report
3. Director of Business Services Report
4. Director of Instructional Support Services Report
5. Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Report
6. Superintendent Report
7. Approve Revised California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) League Representatives for the 2025/26 school year to add Chris Harris as a League Representative.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Approve Interdistrict Request for Students #25-26-16 through #25-26-20 to attend school in the Willows Unified School District for the 2025/26 school year.
2. Approve Interdistrict Request for Students #25-26-25 through #25-26-32 to attend school in another district for the 2025/26 school year.
3. Approve 2025/26 textbook list for Willows Intermediate School.
4. Approve the Overnight Field Trip Request for Willows FFA to attend the Superior Region COLC at Diamond Arrow Camp in Nevada City August 17-19, 2025.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Accept the resignation of Sheyenne Munguia, After School Program Activity Assistant, effective June 30, 2025.
2. Accept the resignation of Sarai Godina Figueroa, Yard Duty Supervisor/Crossing Guard at WIS, effective July 23, 2025.

3. Accept the resignation of Mariah Baker, Yard Duty Supervisor/Crossing Guard at WIS, effective July 25, 2025.
4. Accept the resignation of Bob Rawles, WHS English Teacher, effective July 28, 2025.
5. Accept the resignation of Joanna Gonzalez, Instructional Aide II, effective August 4, 2025.
6. Approve the employment of Chris Harris, WHS Principal, effective July 1, 2025.
7. Approve the employment of Dario Renteria Quezada, Temporary Summer Maintenance Helper, effective July 25, 2025.
8. Approve the employment of Durell Siplin Jr., WIS Principal, effective August 1, 2025.
9. Approve the employment of Amanda Hutson, WHS CTE Art Teacher, effective August 5, 2025.
10. Approve the employment of Jazmyn Hernandez, After School Program Activity Assistant, effective August 5, 2025.
11. Approve the employment of Kimber Klutsenbaker, After School Program Activity Assistant, effective August 5, 2025 (pending clearance).
12. Approve the employment of Shelby Jones, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent/HR Specialist, effective August 6, 2025.
13. Approve Classified Sub List.
14. Approve the following 2025/26 WHS Fall Coaches:
JV Football – Assistant
Jeremy Bill

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. Approve warrants from 6/24/25 through 8/4/25.
2. Approve ASB Quarterly Report (WIS).

Jeromy Geiger stated he would like to pull item 6.C.8 Approve the employment of Durell Siplin Jr., WIS Principal, effective August 1, 2025 for further discussion. Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to pull item for further discussion.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

At this time, President Jeromy Geiger took the opportunity to introduce and welcome the new WIS Principal, Durell Siplin to our Willows Unified School District community. After introduction and welcome, President Jeromy Geiger put the item back on the consent calendar.

Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Consent Calendar.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

7. DISCUSSION/ACTION CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. **(Information)** Williams Uniform Complaint Quarterly Report. (There were no complaints)

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. **(Action)** Approve 2025/26 Bus Routes.

Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the 2025/26 Bus Routes.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

2. **(Action)** Approve the starting date and times of WUSD schools for the 2025/26 school year.

Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the starting dates and times of WUSD schools for the 2025/26 school year.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

3. **(Information)** WUSD Workplace Violence Prevention Plan.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. **(Action)** Approve Job Description for Director of Community Schools.

Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Job Description for Director of Community Schools.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

2. **(Action)** Approve Job Description for Temporary Grant-Funded Family, School, and Community Engagement Coordinator.

Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Margaret Parisio to approve the Job Description for Temporary Grant-Funded Family, School, and Community Engagement Coordinator.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

3. **(Action)** Approve the Updated Management Salary Schedule 2025-26.

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve the Updated Management Salary Schedule 2025-26.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

4. **(Action)** Approve appointment of Julie Carriere to Director of Community Schools, effective August 8, 2025.

Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the appointment of Julie Carriere to Director of Community Schools, effective August 8, 2025.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

5. **(Action)** Approve the employment of Ron Bazan, Part-time Temporary Grant-Funded Family, School, and Community Engagement Coordinator, effective August 8, 2025.

Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the employment of Ron Bazan, Part-time Temporary Grant-Funded Family, School, and Community Engagement Coordinator, effective August 8, 2025.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

6. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #25-26-02 Conflict of Interest Code.

Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Margaret Parisio to approve Resolution #25-26-02 Conflict of Interest Code. (Roll Call Vote was taken).

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

7. **(Action)** Approve the employment of Mallorie Vasquez, Murdock TK Teacher, on an Internship, effective August 5, 2025.

Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the employment of Mallorie Vasquez, Murdock TK Teacher, on an Internship, effective August 5, 2025.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

8. **(Action)** Approve the employment of Bailey Bean, Murdock TK Teacher, on an Internship, effective August 5, 2025.

Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Margaret Parisio to approve the employment of Bailey Bean, Murdock TK Teacher, on an Internship, effective August 5, 2025.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. **(Information)** 5-Year Master Facilities Plan.

Diana Baca gave a brief description.

- To apply for reimbursements for the Willows High and Murdoch Kitchen projects, a five-year master facility plan is now required under new Prop 2 rules. Although applications haven't been submitted yet, the plan must be in place beforehand. The team can build on the previous Facilities Master Plan, but it's important to present a strong proposal. She recommends to involve consultants to ensure quality and avoid losing funding.

2. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #25-26-01 Five-Year Facilities Master Plan.

Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve Resolution #25-26-01 Five-Year Facilities Master Plan. (Roll Call Vote was taken).

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

3. **(Information)** WIS Kitchen Improvements.

Diana Baca and Mike Bottarini gave a brief description.

- Over the summer, several upgrades were made to the kitchen using available infrastructure funds. These included installing new flooring and adding two serving stations, each equipped with both hot and cold wells. Additionally, the kitchen began using reusable trays. Overall, the changes were successful, with today's performance exceeding expectations.

8. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 8.1 Back to School Nights are as follows:

MES	Wednesday, August 6 th at 5:30 p.m.
WHS	Wednesday, August 13 th at 6:00 p.m.
WCHS	Thursday, August 14 th at 5:00 p.m.
WIS	Thursday, August 14 th at 6:00 p.m.

- 8.2 The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on September 4, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. at the Willows Civic Center.

9. **PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ITEMS** - None

At 7:21 p.m., the Board took a short recess after the Regular Meeting before going into Closed Session. President Jeromy Geiger will report out into Open Session upon conclusion of Closed Session.

10. **CLOSED SESSION**

Closed Session began at 7:35 p.m.

10.1 Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6: Conference with Labor Negotiator – Agency Negotiator: Emmett Koerperich. Employee Organizations: WUTA, CSEA, Management, and Confidential.

10.2 Pursuant to Government Code §54957: Evaluation of Performance of a Public Employee: Superintendent

11. **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

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11.1 Announcement of Action Taken in Closed Session

At 9:01 p.m., the meeting reconvened to Open Session. President Jeromy Geiger reported out:

10.1: Updated given to the Board.

10.2: The Board evaluated the Superintendent. Based on that evaluation, the Board elected to extend the Superintendent contract by 1 year.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.