

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting – September 11, 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 Erin Taylor.

2. AGENDA/MINUTES

- 2.1 Approve the Agenda for September 11, 2025.
President Jeromy Geiger requested to rearrange the order of two agenda items. He requested that items 5.3 and 5.4 be moved down in the agenda order to become 6.9 and 6.10 respectively.
Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Kirsten Gray to approve the agenda as amended for September 11, 2025.
AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
- 2.2 Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 7, 2025.
Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 7, 2025.
AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0

3. RECOGNITION OF RETIREES

- 3.1 ERIN TAYLOR
Retiree Erin Taylor (17 years of service) was in attendance. Superintendent Koerperich presented her with a plaque and he and the Board thanked her for her years of service to the district, students, and community.
A short recess was taken at 7:03 p.m. for pictures and cookies and open session resumed at 7:06 p.m.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joyce Walsh Ksander thanked the board for all they do and asked that retirees be permitted to go to games within the district for free. President Jeromy Geiger asked Mr. Koerperich to investigate that for the Board so they can make a decision at a future time.

5. REPORTS

5.1 Associated Student Body President – President Aiden Chavez reported:

- Great turnout and energy at the freshman orientation.
- Sent out a school survey and received a response rate of 75%. He plans to use the feedback to help determine event planning and addressing student concerns.
- He highlighted the importance of school spirit, diversity, and community involvement.
- The ASB plans to improve rallies, assemblies, and social media presence.
- He was asked by the Board to share his personal take on the seminar period. He said that while he can't speak for everyone, he finds it helpful for seniors to use that time to work on their portfolios.
- He was asked by the Board if a homecoming theme was chosen. He shared that the homecoming theme is "Once Upon a Time" and the homecoming floats theme is "Disney".

5.2 Employee Associations (WUTA & CSEA) – No report.**6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

- 6.1 **Murdock Elementary School Principal – Stacy Lanzi:** Stacy provided a follow-up report to the board.
- 6.2 **Willows Intermediate School Principal – Durell Siplin:** No follow-up report.
- 6.3 **Willows High School Principal – Chris Harris:** Chris provided a follow-up report to the board.
- 6.4 **Willows Community High School Principal – Emmett Koerperich:** Emmett provided a follow-up report to the board.
- 6.5 **Director of Food Services – Mike Bottarini:** Mike provided a follow-up report to the board.
- 6.6 **Director of Business Services – Diana Baca:** Diana provided a follow-up report to the board.
- 6.7 **Director of Community Schools – Julie Carriere:** Julie provided a follow-up report to the board and gave a handout to the board. Click [here](#) for handout.
- 6.8 **Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment – Michelle O'Dell:** Michelle provided a follow-up report to the board.
- 6.9 **Superintendent – Emmett Koerperich:** Click [here](#) for report that Emmett provided to the board.
- 6.10 **Board of Education Members**

Kirsten Gray reported:

- Thanked Erin Taylor for her service.
- Loves to see the social media presence of the school sites including the information on the phone policies at WHS.
- Thanked the families who made a large donation to the WHS football program.

Lourdes Ruiz reported:

- Acknowledged all of the good things happening at all sites across the board, and specifically mentioned WCHS doing so many great things.
- Enjoys attending the youth football games on the weekends and is delighted that students from MES are involved in healthy activities.
- Acknowledged that the loss of Monica Throm is a loss for the community.

Margaret Parisio reported:

- Congratulated and thanked Erin Taylor.

Gina Taylor reported:

- Thanked Erin Taylor for her service to the Board.
- Thanked everyone for submitting the board reports early as they help the Board understand and prepare for the meeting.
- Excited to see Julie Carriere representing our district at the state level with the Department of Finance as it's good to share our rural needs to state leaders.
- Thanked Diana Baca for being on track with solar monitoring.
- Attended the WHS football game in Hamilton City where her perspective was that it looked like a much more positive environment and atmosphere on the sidelines. She is hopeful and excited to see how they grow the program with our students. She gave special shoutouts to the WHS football cheerleaders for staying positive and the WHS volleyball coaches for being excellent at what they do and serving our community well.
- Reminded everyone to attend the Golden State Risk Management Authority's annual conference on October 9th and 10th at Rolling Hills Casino in Corning. She has a copy of the agenda and stated that all board members and administrators are invited to attend and it is free of charge since we are a member.
- Requested a list of our staff members at each site and what their assignment is. Emmett Koerperich said he could get her that list.
- Stated that Monica Throm will be missed.

Jeromy Geiger reported:

- Stated that many great things are happening in the district.
- Discussed the generational impact of Erin Taylor's position and welcomed Shelby Jones to the position.
- Stated that Monica Throm has left a legacy and will be missed.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. Approve the WUSD Obsolete Technology Equipment List.
2. Approve the Damaged Textbooks and Class Novels List from Willows Intermediate School.
3. Approve the Obsolete Textbooks List from Willows High School.
4. Accept donation from Brenden & Ashlee Boise in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the WHS Football Program.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Approve Interdistrict Request for Students #25-26-21 through #25-26-46 to attend school in the Willows Unified School District for the 2025/26 school year.
2. Approve Interdistrict Request for Students #25-26-33 through #25-26-41 to attend school in another district for the 2025/26 school year.
3. Approve the Fall 2025 Butte College Concurrent (Non-CCAP) Enrollment for WHS students.
4. Approve the Overnight Field Trip Request for the WHS volleyball team to attend a volleyball tournament in Arcata, CA on September 12 - September 14, 2025.
5. Approve the Overnight Field Trip Request for the WHS FFA to attend the FFA National Convention in Tennessee, Kentucky, and Indianapolis on October 25 - November 2, 2025.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Approve resignation of Kimber Klutsenbaker, After School Program Activity Assistant, effective 8/19/25.
2. Approve resignation of Daisy Carrillo, After School Program Activity Assistant, effective 8/22/25.
3. Approve resignation of Paul Adams, Campus Supervisor at WHS, effective 8/28/25.
4. Approve the following 2025/26 WHS Fall Coach:

Football – Volunteer
William Vader
5. Approve employment of the extra duty assignments at MES for the 2025/26 school year. (See attached list)
6. Approve employment of the extra duty assignments at WIS for the 2025/26 school year. (See attached list)
7. Approve employment of the extra duty assignments at WHS for the 2025/26 school year. (See attached list)
8. Approve employment of Jill Clemins, Yard Duty Supervisor/Crossing Guard, effective 8/5/25.
9. Approve employment of Jodie Rose, After School Program Activity Assistant, effective 9/2/25 (pending clearance).
10. Approve employment of Gabriela Hernandez, After School Program Activity Assistant, effective 9/2/25 (pending clearance).
11. Approve employment of Veronica Martinez-Preciado, Instructional Aide II-Bilingual, effective 9/8/25 (pending clearance).
12. Approve prep period buy out of Ernesto Rodriguez (Spanish – purple days) for 2025/26 school year.
13. Approve prep period buy out of Christine Kamienski (P.E.) for A days for the 1st semester of the 2025/26 school year.
14. Approve prep period buy out of Jennifer Porter (P.E.) for A days for the 2nd semester of the 2025/26 school year.
15. Approve prep period buy out of Patricia Lev (P.E.) for B days for the 2025/26 school year.
16. Approve the Revised Classified Sub List.

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. Approve warrants from 8/5/25 through 8/26/25.
2. ASB Quarterly Reports – MES/WHS.

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

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

8. DISCUSSION/ACTION CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. **(Information)** First Reading for the addition of Board Policy on Recognition of Deceased Students at High School Graduation Ceremonies.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

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1. **Public Hearing:** A Public Hearing will be held at this time to allow for public input regarding the Sufficiency of Textbooks or Instructional Materials, pursuant to the requirements of Education Code 60119 (Public Hearings, Instructional Materials).

President Jeromy Geiger opened the Public Hearing at 7:36 p.m.

No comments.

President Jeromy Geiger closed the Public Hearing at 7:36 p.m.

2. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2025-26-03, Sufficiency of Instructional Materials 2025/26. (Annual Requirement).

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the Resolution #2025-26-03, Sufficiency of Instructional Materials 2025/26. (Roll call vote was taken.)

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

3. **(Action)** Approve College and Career Access Pathways Partnership Appendix with Butte College for the 2025/26 school year.

Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Margaret Parisio to approve the College and Career Access Pathways Partnership Appendix with Butte College for the 2025/26 school year.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

President Jeromy Geiger stated that the contact information would need to be updated on the application as Erin Taylor will only be here for a portion of the school year.

4. **(Action)** Approve the WUSD Master Plan for English Learners.

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Margaret Parisio to approve WUSD Master Plan for English Learners.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

5. **(Action)** Approve District and School Site Parent and Family Engagement Policies.

Margaret Parisio moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve the District and School Site Parent and Family Engagement Policies.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

6. **(Action)** Approve the Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement for Participation in The Center For Teacher Innovation Induction Program by and between Riverside County Superintendent of Schools and Willows Unified School District regarding a partnership in providing and coordinating services as part of the Center for Teacher Innovation Induction Program.

Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Margaret Parisio to approve the Memorandum of Understanding and Agreement for Participation in The Center For Teacher Innovation Induction Program by and between Riverside County Superintendent of Schools and Willows Unified School District regarding a partnership in providing and coordinating services as part of the Center for Teacher Innovation Induction Program.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

Vice President Gina Taylor asked for clarification to see if this is who we normally have an MOU with. She was answered with that we have multiple partnerships but that this is a 3-year partnership renewal.

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C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. **(Action)** Approve the Memorandum of Understanding By and Between The California School Employees Association and Its Willows Chapter #119 (CSEA) and The Willows Unified School District regarding a new job classification including placement on the Classified Job Classification list and job description in the CSEA bargaining unit, the Bilingual Community Outreach Liaison.

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the Memorandum of Understanding By and Between The California School Employees Association and Its Willows Chapter #119 (CSEA) and The Willows Unified School District regarding a new job classification including placement on the Classified Job Classification list and job description in the CSEA bargaining unit, the Bilingual Community Outreach Liaison.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

President Jeromy Geiger added that this is a grant-funded position and stated that while it is unfortunate that it is a temporary position, he loves that it is grant-funded.

2. **(Action)** Approve the establishment of the District Plan for Committee on Assignments in accordance with Education Code §44258.7 (c) and (d) for the 2025/26 school year.

Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Kirsten Gray to approve the establishment of the District Plan for Committee on Assignments in accordance with Education Code §44258.7 (c) and (d) for the 2025/26 school year.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

3. **(Action)** Approve the assignments of the following teachers per designated Education Code §44258.3/§44258.7/§44865 as noted:

Griffin Boyd	Guided Study	Grades 7-8
Cathy Fleming	Social Studies;	Grade 8
	Guided Study	Grades 5-8
Marisa Rodgers	Life Skills	Grades 7-8
Pam Steward	Art	Grade 5
Levi Funderburk	Independent Study	Grades TK-12
Amanda Hutson	ASB Leadership	Grades 9-12
Rachel LaGrande	Study Skills	Grades 9-12
Eloise Lengyel	Computer Apps	Grades 9-12
Victoria Prickett	Health;	Grade 9
	Yearbook	Grades 9-12
Michaela Soeth	Alternative Ed High School	Grades 10-12
Robert Stupey	Anatomy	Grades 11-12

Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve the assignments of the following teachers per designated Education Code §44258.3/§44258.7/§44865 as noted above.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. **(Action)** Approve agreement with Alternative Energy Solutions for a one-year solar operations and maintenance agreement.

Jeromy Geiger moved noting that the contract states that they will freeze the dollar amount for a three-year period, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve the agreement with Alternative Energy Solutions for a one-year solar operations and maintenance agreement.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

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NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

2. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2025-26-04 Certification of the Number of Unhoused Pupils to be Housed by Walden Academy Charter School Under the State School Facility Program.

President Jeromy requested clarification prior to any motion being made. The President referred to the documents provided, noting they outlined an option to allocate up to 188 pupils. However, concern was raised that allocating the full 188 could result in a loss of funding. A key question was posed: If other districts are choosing to allocate zero pupils, what would the implications be if this district followed suit? It was clarified that allocating zero may allow the district to retain those 188 pupils for future funding eligibility, particularly if additional construction takes place within the next five years. There was further discussion on whether that allocation locks in future funding potential regardless of when state funds are distributed. Diana Baca confirmed the resolution allows the board to choose any number between 0 and 188 pupils. The number must be explicitly written in the resolution.

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to submit Resolution #2025-26-04 Certification of the Number of Unhoused Pupils to be Housed by Walden Academy Charter School Under the State School Facility Program with zero pupils. (Roll call vote was taken.)

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Parisio, Ruiz, Taylor

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

9.1 The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on October 9, 2025.

10. **PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ITEMS** – none

At 7:46 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.

11. **CLOSED SESSION**

Closed Session began at 8:01 p.m.

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

11.2 Pursuant to Government Code §54957: Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release.

12. **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

12.1 Announcement of Action Taken in Closed Session.

At 8:26 p.m., the meeting reconvened to Open Session. President Jeromy Geiger reported out:

11.1: Update given to the Board.

11.2: Update given to the Board.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.