

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting – August 6, 2026

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 – Jeromy Geiger called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Jeromy Geiger, Kirsten Gray, Lourdes Ruiz, Jered Shipley, and Gina Taylor.
- 1.2 Welcome to Visitors
- 1.3 Flag Salute led by Carol Martin.

2. AGENDA/MINUTES

- 2.1 Approve the Agenda for August 6, 2026.
Moved by Gina Taylor, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz.
AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Shipley, Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
- 2.2 Approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of June 22, 2026.
Moved by Jeromy Geiger, seconded by Gina Taylor.
AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Shipley, Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
- 2.3 Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 25, 2026.
Moved by Kirsten Gray, seconded by Gina Taylor.
AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Shipley, Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0

3. RECOGNITION OF RETIREES

- 3.1 **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2025-26-12 Appreciation for Carol Martin Varsity Volleyball Head Coach
Jeromy Geiger read the resolution.
Moved by Jeromy Geiger, seconded by Gina Taylor.
ROLL CALL VOTE
AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Shipley, Taylor
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0

Jeromy Geiger called for a brief recess at 7:05 p.m. The meeting was back in session at 7:06 p.m.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Corey Robert spoke about an incident that happened with her child at Murdock Elementary School and her concern about her child's and other children's safety.
Jeromy directed her to set up a meeting with the Superintendent. Corey said she had already spoken with him, and that she wanted to make sure the Board was aware of what was going on.

5. REPORTS

5.1 Employee Associations (WUTA & CSEA)

WUTA – President Cathy Fleming reported:

- She admires the campuses and thanked the teachers, maintenance, custodial and IT departments. She said she is impressed and thankful for the people there.
- She mentioned the new schedules at the sites.

CSEA – No Report

5.2 Principals

Willows Community High School Principal – Emmett Koerperich

- Emmett provided a follow-up report to the Board.

Willows High School Principal – James Lothschutz

- James provided a follow-up report to the Board.

Willows Intermediate School – Durrell Siplin

- Durrell provided a follow-up report to the Board.

Murdock Elementary School – Stacy Lanzi

- Stacy provided a follow-up report to the Board.

5.3 Director of Food Services – Mike Bottarini

- Mike provided a follow-up report to the Board.

5.4 Director of Business Services – Shelby Jones and Diana Baca

- Shelby provided a follow-up report to the Board.

5.5 Director of Community Schools – Julie Carriere

- Julie provided a follow-up report to the Board.

5.6 Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment – Michelle O’Dell

- Michelle provided a follow-up report to the Board.

5.7 Superintendent – Emmett Koerperich

- Click [here](#) for the report Emmett provided to the Board.

5.8 Board of Education Members

Kirsten Gray reported:

- She is looking forward to this year and it’s starting off well.

Lourdes Ruiz reported:

- Excited about the year. She is coaching Cheer and it seems like the kids are happy and the schools are happy. She is concerned if there is no 14U football team then the season for all the ages is canceled.
- She encouraged teachers to continue to love and nurture the children in the classroom.

Jered Shipley reported:

- Acknowledged and appreciated the vibe at the meeting and the first day of school.
- He hopes the last meeting of the year is as positive as this one.

Gina Taylor reported:

- Enjoyed the back to school lunch yesterday and acknowledged the Cafeteria team.
- Appreciated how coordinated the summer meal handout was.
- Attended the City Council meeting about the lack of law enforcement in our town. Appreciated Emmett’s effort to confirm we will have law enforcement support when needed.
- Lourdes talked about how she spoke to students and they seemed happy with their teachers.

Jeromy Geiger reported:

- Special recognition to maintenance, custodial, grounds, IT and all of the supporting staff who get the school ready for the next year.
- Told Mike his staff do an amazing job in the cafeteria.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Approve Interdistrict Request for Students #26-27-27 to attend school in the Willows Unified School District for the 2026/27 school year.
2. Approve Interdistrict Request for Students #26-27-26 through #26-27-34 to attend school in another district for the 2026/27 school year.
3. Approve the Overnight Field Trip Request for WHS Volleyball team to attend the Arcata Volleyball tournament on September 11-13, 2026.

B. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Accept the resignation of Rosa Gonzalez, WIS and MES Yard Duty Supervisor – Crossing Guard, effective July 31, 2026.

2. Accept the resignation of Isabel Robles, WIS After School Program Activity Assistant, effective July 15, 2026.
3. Accept the resignation of Meagan Burt, Library Media Specialist, effective July 10, 2026.
4. Accept the resignation of Jessica Rivera, MES Temporary Expect Success Summer Camp Counselor, effective July 2, 2026.
5. Accept the resignation of Jazmyn Hernandez, WIS After School Program Activity Assistant, effective August 3, 2026.
6. Approve the employment of James Wood, WHS Math Teacher effective August 4, 2026.
7. Approve the employment of Nora Rose Cano, MES Summer Camp Counselor, effective June 8, 2026.
8. Approve the employment of Lukas Harrison, WIS Cardinal S.O.A.R Teacher, effective July 20, 2026.
9. Approve the employment of Dylan Cronin, WIS Cardinal S.O.A.R Teacher, effective July 20, 2026.
10. Approve the employment of Katelyn Guenther, MES Library/Media Specialist, effective August 3, 2026.
11. Approve Classified Sub List.
12. Approve the following 2026/27 WHS Fall Coaches:

Cross Country – Volunteer	Stacy Weston
JV Girls Volleyball – Head Coach	Samantha Paiz
13. Approve employment of extra duty assignments at WHS for the 2026/27 school year. (See attached list)
14. Approve employment of extra duty assignments at MES for the 2026/27 school year. (See attached list)
15. Approve employment of extra duty assignments at WIS for the 2026/27 school year. (See attached list)

C. BUSINESS SERVICES

1. Approve warrants from 6/22/26 through 7/29/26
2. Approve Budget Revision Summary
3. Approve WUSD Technology Plan

Moved by Gina Taylor, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz.

Cathy Fleming made a comment that she does independent study for 5th & 6th grade and it only says 6th grade.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Shipley, Taylor

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

7. DISCUSSION/ACTION CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

1. **(Information)** Williams Uniform Complaint Quarterly Report. (There were no complaints)
2. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2026-27-01 Designating Representatives to the SELPA Governance Committee.

Moved by Gina Taylor, seconded by Jered Shipley.

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Shipley, Taylor

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

3. **(Discussion and Action)** Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the School Board Meeting Start Time. Jered Shipley said he wants to acknowledge several staff work all day and live outside the area and still attend the meetings at 7pm, some having to drive a distance home afterwards. His suggestion is to move the meeting time to 6pm.

Moved by Jered Shipley to change Board meeting times from 7pm to 6pm going forward. Lourdes Ruiz asked for a motion to move the meeting to 5:30pm. Kirsten Gray seconded the motion to have the meeting at 6pm.

AYES: Gray, Ruiz, Shipley, Taylor

NOES: Geiger

MOTION PASSED: 4-1

4. **(Action)** Approval of the Revised Schedule of Regular Board Meetings.

Moved by Gina Taylor, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Shipley, Taylor

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

5. **(Information)** First reading of the following additions/deletions/changes to Board Policies per CSBA's Policy Guide sheet Recommendations.

BP 1240	Volunteer Assistance
BP 2110	Superintendent Responsibilities and Duties
BP 4100	Certificated Personnel
BP 4111	Recruitment and Selection
BP 4112.9	Employee Notifications
BP 4200	Classified Personnel
BP 4300	Administrative and Supervisory Personnel
BP 5131.4	Student Disturbances
BP 5141.4	Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting
BP 5141.75	Weather Safety
BP 5142	Safety
BP 5145.6	Parent/Guardian Notifications
BP 5148	Child Care and Development
BP 5148.3	Preschool/Early Childhood Education
BP 7110	Facilities Master Plan
Bylaw 9200	Limits of Board Member Authority
BP 0441	Artificial Intelligence

6. **(Action)** Second Reading of the following additions/deletions/changes to Board Policy.

BP 4119.21	Professional Standards
BP 4119.24	Maintaining Appropriate Adult-Student Interactions
BP 4156.3	Employee Property Reimbursement
BP 4219.21	Professional Standards
BP 4219.24	Maintaining Appropriate Adult-Student Interactions
BP 4256.3	Employee Property Reimbursement
BP 4319.21	Professional Standards
BP 4319.24	Maintaining Appropriate Adult-Student Interactions
BP 4356.3	Employee Property Reimbursement
BP 5144.1	Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process
BP 5145.2	Freedom of Speech/Expression
BP 6142.7	Physical Education and Activity
BP 6146.4	Differential Graduation and Competency Standards for Students with Disabilities
BP 6173	Education for Homeless Children
BP 6173.1	Education of Foster Youth
BP 6173.2	Education of Children of Military Families
BP 6173.4	Education of American Indian Students
BP 6175	Migrant Education Program
BB 9320	Meetings and Notices
BB 9320.1	Remote Meetings and Attendance
BB 9322	Agenda/Meeting Materials
BB 9323	Meeting Conduct

Moved by Gina Taylor, seconded by Jeromy Geiger.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Shipley, Taylor

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. **(Action)** Approve 2026/27 Bus Routes.

Moved by Lourdes Ruiz, seconded by Jered Shipley.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Shipley, Taylor

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

2. **(Action)** Approve the starting date and times of WUSD schools for the 2026/27 school year.

Moved by Gina Taylor, seconded by Kirsten Gray.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Shipley, Taylor

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

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

C. HUMAN RESOURCES**D. BUSINESS SERVICES**

1. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2026-27-02 Approve Authorized Signers for OPSC Online Applications

Moved by Gina Taylor, seconded by Jered Shipley.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Shipley, Taylor

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

2. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2026-27-03 Approval of the Use of Elementary Pupil Grant Eligibility for the Construction of Classrooms at Willows Intermediate School

Moved by Jeromy Geiger, seconded by Gina Taylor

ROLL CALL VOTE

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Shipley, Taylor

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

8. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- 8.1 Back to School Nights are as follows:

MES Wednesday, August 5th at 5:30 p.m.

WHS Wednesday, August 19th at 5:30 p.m.

WCHS Thursday, August 12th at 5:00 p.m.

WIS Thursday, August 20th at 5:30 p.m.

- 8.2 The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on September 3, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Willows Civic Center. Jeromy made a correction that the next board meeting would be at 6 p.m.

9. **PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

At 7:53 p.m., the Board took a short recess after the Regular Meeting before going into Closed Session. Jeromy Geiger will report out into Open Session upon conclusion of Closed Session.

10. **CLOSED SESSION**

Closed session began at 8:08 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.

11. **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

- 11.1 Announcement of Action Taken in Closed Session

At 8:51 p.m., the meeting reconvened to Open Session. Jeromy Geiger reported:

- 10.1 Update given to the Board

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.