

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Office of the Superintendent

Date of Meeting: September 11, 2025

Request For Placement on Board Agenda:

AGENDA TOPIC: Walden Academy Charter School Expansion

PRESENTER: Diana Baca, Director of Business Services

Walden Academy intends to file an application with the OPSC for new construction funding. Their desire is to build a facility on a five-acre parcel located at 815 Pacific Avenue in Willows. Applications can be submitted from July 3, 2025 to October 30, 2025. Their application will request funding for up to 200 TK-6th grade students and 81 7-8th grade students. They currently have a student population of 167.

The application process requires the District to provide an updated form SAB 50-01 Enrollment Certification/Projection which shows past enrollment data for the purposes of establishing a baseline for future enrollment and potential capacity needs. Future enrollment is determined by using an “alternate weighting” methodology that the District consultants, Hancock, Park and Delong have calculated for us. This calculation is then used to determine what the future capacity needs may be for the District.

The Board is required to pass a school resolution certifying the number of “unhoused students” (pupil grants) and how many pupil grants the District will allocate to Walden Academy (“unhoused” does not mean homeless for the purposes of this application). The pupil grant number is derived through a calculation from the form SAB 50-01 noted above. The number of pupil grants the District allocates will permanently lower the number of students eligible for future new construction application consideration.

Based on discussions with the District consultant, administration is providing three options to the board to consider with regard to allocating the new construction pupil grants to Walden Academy:

1. The District can allocate **188 pupil grants** to the charter (this number is based on a calculation from form SAB 50-01 discussed above). If their project is funded, 188 grants come off of the District baseline permanently. This gives them the best advantage in getting their project funded, because the use of District’s eligibility gives them higher preference, but reduces the District’s ability to get future new construction projects funded.
2. The District can allocate **any number up to 188 pupil grants**. If their project is funded, that number of grants come off of the District baseline permanently. This still gives them an advantage in getting their project funded, because the use of District’s eligibility gives them higher preference, and also leaves some eligibility on the District baseline.
3. The District can allocate **0 pupil grants** to the charter. If their project is funded, there is no effect on the District eligibility baseline for new capacity at a site in the future. This gives them a lower advantage in getting their project funded, because they are not using the District’s eligibility to relieve District “need”.

Recommendation:

Administration recommends the board carefully consider the impact of allocating pupil grants and note the allocation number directly on the resolution.

**WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Resolution No. 2025-26-04

Certification of the Number of Unhoused Pupils to be Housed by Walden Academy
Charter School under the State School Facility Program.

WHEREAS, the Walden Academy Charter School is applying on its own behalf to the State Allocation Board/Office of Public School Construction for funding under the Charter School Facilities Program pursuant to Article 12, Chapter 12.5, Part 10, Division 1, commencing with Section 17078.52, et. seq. of the Education Code for its Charter School serving grades kindergarten through eighth grade in the boundaries of the Willows Unified School District ("District"); and

WHEREAS, at least 30 days prior to the submission of the application for funding under Education Code 17078.52, et. seq., Walden Academy Charter School has provided a letter of intent to file a new construction application to the Superintendent of the District and its Governing Board pursuant to Education Code 17078.53; and

WHEREAS, Education Code Section 17078.53(d)(2) requires the governing board of the district where the proposed charter school will be located to certify to the number of unhoused students that will be served by the proposed charter school at a publicly held Board meeting; and

WHEREAS, the District has completed the required documents to update its new construction eligibility baseline for the 2024/2025 school year under the School Facilities Program pursuant to Article 3, Chapter 12.5, Part 10, Division 1, commencing with Section 17070.10, et. seq., of the Education Code; and

WHEREAS, the District has 188 unhoused elementary school pupils and 0 unhoused 7th through 8th grade pupils according to the State formula for the determination of District unhoused pupils; and

WHEREAS, the District has determined that Walden Academy Charter School will serve _____ unhoused elementary school pupils, and 0 unhoused 7th through 8th grade pupils calculated as shown on the Attachment; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Board of the Willows Unified School District hereby certifies that there will be _____ Kindergarten through 6th grade in-District students that will be housed by the Walden Academy Charter School project.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the Governing Board of the Willows Unified School District at a meeting held this 11th day of September, 2025, at Willows, California, by the following vote:

Ayes:	_____
Noes:	_____
Abstentions:	_____
Absences:	_____

I, Jeromy Geiger, President of the Governing Board of the Willows Unified School District in Glenn County, California, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board at a meeting thereof held at its regular place of meeting on, and by the vote above stated, which resolution is on file in the office of said Board.

President, Board of Education

ATTACHMENT

As indicated in the resolution, the below-referenced charter school is independently applying to the State Allocation Board and Office of Public School Construction (OPSC) under the Charter School Facilities Program (CSFP) for the construction of new classrooms, as follows:

Charter School	Number of New Classrooms to be Constructed
Walden Academy Charter School (K-6 th grade)	8 classrooms (200 pupils)
Walden Academy Charter School (7 th -8 th grade)	3 classrooms (81 pupils)

Under the provisions of CSFP Regulation Sections 1859.162.1 and 1859.162.2, the Willows Unified School District must indicate the number of “unhoused pupils” the charter projects will serve including supporting documentation at how this number was derived.

In order to determine the number of “unhoused pupils” under the School Facilities Program, a district must demonstrate, by K to 6, 7 to 8, 9 to 12 grade levels, and non-severe and severe special day class (SDC) categories, that existing seating capacity within the district is insufficient to house the pupils existing and anticipated in the district using a five or ten-year projection of enrollment. Five-year projections of enrollment can also be augmented by tentative and final tract maps (housing developments or “units”) that have been approved by the local jurisdiction. If the number of pupils anticipated in the future *exceeds* the existing seating capacity, there are “unhoused pupils,” meaning that eligibility for construction funding exists.

Based on current 2024/2025 year enrollment data, historical enrollment trends, and considering various options on the use of approved housing developments within the District’s boundaries, the district-wide eligibility or “unhoused pupils”^[1] is as follows:

Baseline Eligibility (Unhoused Pupils) \ Grade Level	K to 6	7 to 8	9 to 12	Non-Severe SDC	Severe SDC
Baseline Eligibility as of 2024/2025 School Year	344	(131)	(402)	(2)	23
New Construction Projects on OPSC Workload List	(75)+(81)		0	0	0
Remaining Baseline Eligibility	188	(131)	(402)	(2)	23

The District’s resulting “unhoused” pupil eligibility after the new construction projects are taken off of the baseline consists off: 188 unhoused elementary pupils, zero (0) middle and high school pupils, zero non-severe SDC, and 23 severe SDC (special education) pupils. The District has determined that _____ pupils are needed by the district to account for future growth, leaving the remainder for the charter school.

The District therefore believes that the charter school project will house _____ “unhoused pupils” at the Kindergarten through 6th grade level, and 0 unhoused pupils at the 7th through 8th grade level.

SCHOOL DISTRICT Willows Unified	FIVE DIGIT DISTRICT CODE NUMBER (see California Public School Directory) 62661
COUNTY Glenn	HIGH SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AREA (HSAA) OR SUPER HSAA (IF APPLICABLE) n/a

Check one: ☒ Fifth-Year Enrollment Projection ☐ Tenth-Year Enrollment Projection

HSAA Districts Only - Check one: ☐ Attendance ☐ Residency

☐ Residency - COS Districts Only - (Fifth Year Projection Only)

<input type="checkbox"/> Modified Weighting (Fifth-Year Projection Only).	3rd Prev. to	2nd Prev.	Previous to
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alternate Weighting - (Fill in boxes to the right):	2nd Prev.	to Prev.	Current
	8	1	1

Part G. Number of New Dwelling Units

(Fifth-Year Projection Only) 0

Part H. District Student Yield Factor

(Fifth-Year Projection Only) 0.7

Part I. Projected Enrollment

1.Fifth-Year Projection

Enrollment/Residency - (except Special Day Class pupils)

K-6	7-8	9-12	TOTAL
1261	238	468	1967

Special Day Class pupils only - Enrollment/Residency

	Elementary	Secondary	TOTAL
Non-Severe	0	24	24
Severe	7	16	23
TOTAL	7	40	

2.Tenth-Year Projection

Enrollment/Residency - (except Special Day Class pupils)

K-6	7-8	9-12	TOTAL

Special Day Class pupils only - Enrollment/Residency

	Elementary	Secondary	TOTAL
Non-Severe			
Severe			
TOTAL			

Part A. K-12 Pupil Data

Grade	7th Prev. 17/18	6th Prev. 18/19	5th Prev. 19/20	4th Prev. 20/21	3rd Prev. 21/22	2nd Prev. 22/23	Previous 23/24	Current 24/25
K	143	149	156	116	120	141	140	148
1	133	120	122	134	107	115	108	112
2	118	135	123	116	144	111	102	113
3	115	124	127	124	113	148	109	110
4	129	115	117	119	119	117	148	111
5	112	121	110	110	115	119	116	154
6	125	114	123	109	112	119	121	119
7	140	131	111	119	107	112	124	121
8	112	142	133	100	117	99	115	117
9	116	116	138	127	106	113	104	108
10	118	112	112	127	122	106	124	102
11	117	119	104	100	139	115	86	105
12	106	115	107	104	99	127	107	80
TOTAL	1584	1613	1583	1505	1520	1542	1504	1500

Part B. Pupils Attending Schools Chartered By Another District

7th Prev.	6th Prev.	5th Prev.	4th Prev.	3rd Prev.	2nd Prev.	Previous	Current
170	183	201	190	163	192	189	167

Part C. Continuation High School Pupils - (Districts Only)

Grade	7th Prev.	6th Prev.	5th Prev.	4th Prev.	3rd Prev.	2nd Prev.	Previous	Current
9								
10	4	2	12	2	7			
11	5	5	5	14	4	12	7	12
12	7	8	17	8	13	12	14	12
TOTAL	16	15	34	24	24	24	21	24

Part D. Special Day Class Pupils - (Districts or County Superintendent of Schools)

	Elementary	Secondary	TOTAL
Non-Severe	0	22	22
Severe	5	15	20
TOTAL	5	37	

Part E. Special Day Class Pupils - (County Superintendent of Schools Only)

7th Prev.	6th Prev.	5th Prev.	4th Prev.	3rd Prev.	2nd Prev.	Previous	Current
17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25

Part F. Birth Data - (Fifth-Year Projection Only)

<input type="checkbox"/> County Birth Data			<input type="checkbox"/> Birth Data by District ZIP Codes			<input type="checkbox"/> Estimate	<input type="checkbox"/> Estimate	<input type="checkbox"/> Estimate
8th Prev.	7th Prev.	6th Prev.	5th Prev.	4th Prev.	3rd Prev.	2nd Prev.	Previous	Current

I certify, as the District Representative, that the information reported on this form and, when applicable, the High School Attendance Area Residency Reporting Worksheet attached, is true and correct and that:

•I am designated as an authorized district representative by the governing board of the district.

•If the district is requesting an augmentation in the enrollment projection pursuant to Regulation Section 1859.42.1 (a), the local planning commission or approval authority has approved the tentative subdivision map used for augmentation of the enrollment and the district has identified dwelling units in that map to be contracted. All subdivision maps used for augmentation of enrollment are available at the district for review by the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC).

•This form is an exact duplicate (verbatim) of the form provided by the Office of Public School Construction. In the event a conflict should exist, then the language in the OPSC form will prevail.

NAME OF DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE (PRINT OR TYPE)

Diana Baca

SIGNATURE OF DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

DATE

TELEPHONE NUMBER

(530)934-6600

E-MAIL ADDRESS

dbaca@willowsunified.org

OPSC Online - Additional Attachment for Part A, B, and C

Part A. K-12 Pupil Data

	17th Prev.	16th Prev.	15th Prev.	14th Prev.	13th Prev.	12th Prev.	11th Prev.	10th Prev.	9th Prev.	8th Prev.
Grade	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17
K	137	129	136	125	126	134	147	144	146	146
1	146	140	117	102	142	130	113	117	119	119
2	132	133	136	108	113	135	125	100	123	115
3	142	131	135	125	118	109	147	127	111	124
4	121	142	126	119	133	118	106	144	123	106
5	134	109	137	121	134	122	105	108	149	125
6	131	125	105	128	125	127	109	107	108	143
7	129	134	130	101	121	122	117	113	113	109
8	131	121	131	115	96	120	123	112	124	114
9	154	124	142	133	124	97	116	110	118	123
10	133	119	112	125	128	122	78	113	119	116
11	128	125	110	117	118	110	88	72	116	106
12	114	126	121	103	117	126	106	87	83	106
TOTAL	1732	1658	1638	1522	1595	1572	1480	1454	1552	1552

Part B. Pupils Attending Schools Chartered By Another District

17th Prev.	16th Prev.	15th Prev.	14th Prev.	13th Prev.	12th Prev.	11th Prev.	10th Prev.	9th Prev.	8th Prev.
				119	145	178	164	168	167

Part C. Continuation High School Pupils - (Districts Only)

Grade	17th Prev.	16th Prev.	15th Prev.	14th Prev.	13rd Prev.	12nd Prev.	11th Pre	10th Prev.	9th Prev.	8th Prev
9	3	1	1							
10	15	8	8	5	5	5	3	1	2	2
11	9	14	8	8	7	15	7	11	6	8
12	8	15	14	10	5	7	13	12	17	9
TOTAL	35	38	31	23	17	27	23	24	25	19