



August, 2008

This has been a very unusual summer with so many fires burning in our area. Even though the smoke lingered for a while, I hope everyone enjoyed their well deserved summer vacation. It is hard to believe we have already begun yet another new school year. As always the summers are a busy time of year for school districts. I would like to take this opportunity to let everyone know what has been going on in the District this summer. We have had a busy summer.

- Our summer school program ran smoothly this summer with Kathy Parsons and Teresa Woods taking charge of the program. This summer we also offered enrichment programs at the middle school. We offered rocketry, scrapbook, and Accordion Book. They were well received and attended by the students. Unfortunately, the American Sign Language class and choir had to be canceled due to lack of enrollment. We are going to try to run enrichment camps at the middle school during our off weeks during the school year.
- We have completed many maintenance projects throughout the District this summer. We completed a roofing project at the high school as well as removed the asbestos from the gym foyer. The “new” foyer at the high school looks incredible. Our maintenance personnel did an incredible job. The District has also completed four classroom asbestos abatement projects at Murdock. The four classrooms at Murdock look great with a new coat of paint and new carpeting.
- Betty Skala has been hired as our new Director of Business Services. She started with the District on July 1. Betty previously worked with Glenn County Office of Education in the business office as the Coordinator of Fiscal Oversight (Internal). She will be a valuable asset as we navigate through these difficult financial times.

- Kim Welsh will be joining the Willows Unified staff as our new Independent Study teacher. Kim has been a valuable sub for many years for our District. I look forward to her building and growing our IS program.
- Raina Arnold has accepted the position of Health Aide at Murdock for this coming year. Raina has often filled in for that position in the past.

I look forward to a wonderful year as we get the 2008/2009 school year off to a great start.

Sincerely,

*Steve Olmos*

Steve Olmos, Ed.D.  
Superintendent  
Willows Unified School District