



# SAUSALITO MARIN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Superintendent:*  
*Board of Trustees:*

*Itoco Garcia, Ed. D*  
*Ida Green(President), Joshua Barrow, Bonnie Hough,*  
*Debra Turner and Caroline Van Alst*

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Sausalito Marin City School District and Willow Creek Academy Bay Area Settle Prop. 39 Lawsuit**

In a critical positive step for unification, the Sausalito Marin City School District (SMCSD) board and board of Willow Creek Academy (WCA) have settled the legal dispute over facilities. This agreement comes at a critical time when both school communities are working to maintain a strong remote educational program and provide meals for all children during the school closures.

To maintain stability at Willow Creek, SMCSD has agreed to provide funding based on previously budgeted enrollment and will be providing custodial staff and continued maintenance for WCA. This much needed funding for Willow Creek helps to significantly reduce the impact of recently announced reductions in programs and staffing for the next school year. The agreement allows WCA to stay on its current campus as the schools work to unify.

WCA will continue to pursue fundraising efforts and the budgetary savings needed to maintain strong resources for its students as unification efforts continue. In exchange for the District's funding commitment, WCA has agreed to drop its claims against the District related to facilities under Proposition 39, and to proceed with finalizing the arrangements for facilities and special education with the District. SMCSD Board President Ida Green said, "We can now focus our energy on supporting classrooms and student outcomes where it matters most".

WCA Board Chair Kurt Weinsheimer stated, "Families can now be confident that their children will return to Willow Creek next year with the classrooms and curriculum needed to support our diverse school community. This agreement demonstrates how District and Willow Creek leaders can support all students in our public schools through collaboration."

Superintendent Itoco Garcia commented that, “I am encouraged by the collaboration of the respective boards and the ongoing engagement of our community. We are particularly focused on our role as a full service community school district and the needs of our students and families. We remain fully committed to: maintaining fiscal solvency; ensuring excellent education; and the spirit of consensus building, collaboration, and community engagement in unifying the two schools.

Willow Creek Academy Board member Alena Maunder noted, “We are living in an unprecedented crisis and this is the time to work together for all the children and parents of our communities. I feel we can now provide parents with the assurance of stability for next school year, allowing us to hone in on unification and program development”.