



# What's Up, Wildcats?



## Welcome back!

Greetings Wildcat Families!

Welcome to School Year 2025-26! As we begin a brand new school year, we are excited to welcome our students, staff, and families back to campus!

This year promises to be one of growth, achievement, and excellence across every corner of our school community. At Willow Canyon High School, we believe in the power of a Winning Culture—one that champions academics, athletics, arts, and activities. Whether you're performing on stage, competing on the field, excelling in the classroom, or leading a club, we expect every Wildcat to rise to high standards, support one another, and strive for greatness in everything you do.

We're also excited to introduce a dynamic and passionate leadership team, with three of our Willow Canyon administrators new to their roles this year. Each member brings fresh perspective, high expectations, and an unwavering belief in our students' potential. Together, we're committed to continuing Willow Canyon's Winning Culture.

We are looking forward to building partnerships with our families and community members and committed to taking Willow Canyon to the next level in all that we do.

Let's make this year one to remember—one win at a time. Let's go, Wildcats!

*Lisa Parachini -*  
principal 



### Upcoming Events

Freshman  
Orientation -  
July 30, 7:15-12:15

First Day of  
School - July 31,  
7:15am

Open House -  
Aug 5, 5:30

Picture day -  
Aug 12



# Meet Your Wildcat Admin...



**Lisa Parachini**  
**Principal**

Ms. Parachini is returning to WCHS after 20 years. Both of her boys graduated from the district, so this community holds a special place in her heart. Ms. Parachini has served DUSD as a teacher, assistant principal and principal. She is looking forward to building partnerships with families, working together to support students and continuing Wildcat Winning Culture!



**Kim Lo Mazzo**  
**Assistant Principal**

This marks Ms. Lo Mazzo's 20th year as an assistant principal at Willow Canyon, each one dedicated to supporting students and strengthening the school's Winning Culture and community. She is passionate about helping students grow both in and out of the classroom. She looks forward to another great Wildcat year.



**Mike Burrola**  
**Athletic Director**

Mr. Burrola is excited to join the Willow Canyon family and looks forward to supporting students, teachers, and staff on their educational journey. He has served DUSD as a teacher and was athletic director in a neighboring district. He's eager to contribute to the school's winning culture in his first year—Go Wildcats!



**Kallie Cashatt**  
**Assistant Principal**

Thrilled to join the Wildcat family, Mrs. Cashatt is an Arizona native proud to call Surprise home and serve the Dysart community. With two daughters—one a recent graduate and the other a high school junior and volleyball player—family and education are at the heart of her life. She has served DUSD as a teacher and assistant principal and excited to be part of Willow Canyon's winning culture and looks forward to a great year ahead.

## Important Reminders



- Arizona has a new law regarding **cell phones** in schools. DUSD's cell phone policy support this law. Student cell phone use during instructional times is prohibited.
- **Dress code** remains the same and will be enforced starting from day one. Please be aware of guidelines when shopping for back-to-school.
- **Attendance matters!** Please communicate when your student is in need of being absent. State law allows 10% absences for the year. Exceeding that amount could be cause for loss of credit impacting graduation.
- Check us out on **social media:** **@willowcanyonhs**

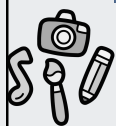


# Academics

**Schedules and schedule changes:** Please be aware that our master schedule is built based on student choice. Students select their classes and courses are built based on that. Due to this, schedule changes will only be granted if there is an error (ex: doubled courses), student took a course over the summer and no longer needs that class, etc. Teacher choice is not a viable reason for a schedule change.

The results are in! Students taking **IB** or **AP** courses are scoring well. These students have earned college credit based on their scores. Congratulations! When taking an IB/AP course, it is the expectation that the culminating test is taken.

Did you know that everything you do in the classroom is representative of **our school's letter grade**? Thank you for showing up and doing the work to keep Willow Canyon a top-tier school you can be proud of!



## Arts

Start now to earn your **arts seal**. "The Arizona State Seal of Arts Proficiency is awarded to high school students who have demonstrated high levels of competency in media arts, visual arts, dance, theatre, or music." - DUSD.



## Activities

Be on the lookout for our **Club Rush Week** happening Aug 4-8. Students will have the opportunity to learn about all the various clubs on campus and how to get involved.

**Homecoming** will be September 19 with a dance on September 20. More information coming soon.

Freshmen - interested in joining **Student Council**? Be on the lookout for information at the beginning of the year!



## Athletics

Students interested in participating in athletics must register through **Register My Athlete** at [registermyathlete.com](https://registermyathlete.com).

Fall sports include:

- Football
- Flag Football
- Cross Country
- Swim & Dive
- Badminton
- Golf
- Volleyball (girls)
- Spiritline (pom and cheer)





# Did you know...

Every year Willow Canyon reviews student and teacher performance, survey feedback and other forms of data to help guide our course for the following year. We use this information to set goals that align with our mission, vision and values. Collectively, these drive all that we do to ensure a Winning Culture.

## Mission - Vision - Values - Goals

**MISSION:** To provide a safe learning environment where students *WIN* everyday—mastering rigorous academics through strong *work ethic*, *innovative thinking*, and *noble character*.

**VISION:** Willow Canyon sets the standard as a premier high school relentlessly pursuing excellence and a winning culture.

**VALUES:** Winning Culture

### Goal #1

Willow Canyon will achieve a 1.0 growth score from Aspire to ACT (baseline .8 ELA, .86 math)

Willow Canyon will increase AzSci proficiency rates by 1% and/or be above state average.

### Goal #2

All collaborative teams at Willow Canyon will implement PLC processes with fidelity with focus on student learning, collaborative culture/collective responsibility and results driven, as evidenced in the PLC self assessment on identified shifts.

### Goal #3

Willow Canyon will increase the quality of relationships and communication between staff, students, families and community as indicated on DUSD annual survey.



**WILLOW CANYON**  
HIGH SCHOOL

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