

WILLOWS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting – April 2, 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 - President 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 was led by Gina Taylor.

2. AGENDA/MINUTES

- 2.1 Approve the Agenda for April 2, 2026.
Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Kirsten Gray to approve the Agenda for April 2, 2026.
AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Shipley, Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
- 2.2 Approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 5, 2026.
Kirsten Gray moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 5, 2026.
AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Shipley, Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None

4. REPORTS

- 4.1 **Associated Student Body President – Vice President Logan Elliot reported:**
 - The annual Student vs. Staff Basketball Game was held; staff team won.
 - The freshman class is organizing a “Tattoo a Teacher” fundraiser to support class activities.
 - Staff and student recognition activities are being planned.
 - Field Day and volleyball tournament scheduled for May; 8th grade students will be invited to attend.
 - Senior Awards event in development.
 - Mental health assembly and associated spirit week planned to help reduce stigma around mental health.
- 4.2 **Employee Associations (WUTA & CSEA)**
WUTA – No report.
CSEA – No report.
- 4.3 **Principals**
Murdock Elementary School Principal – Stacy Lanzi: No follow-up report.
Willows Intermediate School Principal – Durell Siplin:
 - Durell provided a follow-up report to the Board.**Willows High School Principal – Assistant Principal John Calonico:**
 - John provided a follow-up report to the Board.**Willows Community High School Principal – Emmett Koerperich:**
 - Emmett provided a follow-up report to the Board.
 - A binder of local wildlife informational flyers created by WCHS students was shared with the Board.
- 4.4 **Director of Food Services – Mike Bottarini:**
 - Mike provided a follow-up report to the Board.
- 4.5 **Director of Business Services – Diana Baca:**
 - Diana provided a follow-up report to the Board.

- Gina Taylor inquired about the location of the planned shade structure; Diana noted that a final decision has not yet been made.
- 4.6 **Director of Community Schools – Julie Carriere:**
- Julie provided a follow-up report to the Board.
- 4.7 **Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment – Michelle O’Dell:**
- Michelle provided a follow-up report to the Board.
- 4.8 **Superintendent – Emmett Koerperich:**
- Click [here](#) for the report that Emmett provided to the Board.
- 4.9 Board of Education Members
- Jered Shipley reported:**
- Attended Brown Act training in Orland, noting it was helpful to hear from an attorney and other board members, and that he gained valuable insight into the nuances as it applies to education.
- Gina Taylor reported:**
- Apologized to Durell Siplin for missing the open house and requested that such events be included in future agendas.
 - Expressed appreciation to donors for their support.
 - Thanked Michelle and her team for completing the RMAP project through GSRMA, noting its value in helping minimize risk across the district.
 - Shared appreciation for receiving board reports in advance, stating it allows time to prepare and review information.
 - Wished everyone a good vacation.
- Kirsten Gray reported:**
- Gave a shout-out to the Wellness Walk event, expressing hope that it becomes an annual event and noting positive feedback from the community and parents.
 - Thanked the generosity of community members and the PTO for supporting schools, including efforts to provide shade structures.
 - Wished everyone a happy Easter and a pleasant break.
- Lourdes Ruiz:** No report.
- Jeremy Geiger reported:**
- Spring has arrived and the school year is in the home stretch with fair and Lamb Derby events approaching.
 - He discussed the Little Aggie event with Julie Carriere, noting that high school students did an outstanding job working with younger students and expressed hope that the Little Aggie event becomes an annual tradition.

5. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

A. GENERAL

1. Accept donation from St. Monica’s YLA for \$250.00 for the hygiene closet at MES.
2. Accept donation from Knights of Columbus for \$500.00 for the hygiene closet at MES.
3. Accept donation from Safety Tire Service for \$250.00 for the WHS Baseball Program.
4. Accept donation from Central Valley Gas Storage LLC for \$750.00 for the WHS Baseball Program.
5. Accept donation from Willows Alumni Association for \$1,000.00 for the WHS Softball Program.

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. Approve Interdistrict Request for Student #25-26-65 through #25-26-67 to attend school in the Willows Unified School District for the 2025/26 school year.
2. Approve Interdistrict Requests for Students #25-26-57 through #25-26-65 to attend school in another district for the 2025/26 school year.
3. Approve Interdistrict Request for Students #26-27-11 through #26-27-19 to attend school in the Willows Unified School District for the 2026/27 school year.
4. Approve Interdistrict Requests for Students #26-27-11 through #26-27-13 to attend school in another district for the 2026/27 school year.

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. Accept resignation of Julia Medina-Nava, After School Program Activity Assistant, effective 3/20/26.
2. Approve employment of Walter Sanchez, Custodian - Site at MES, effective 3/13/26.

- 3. Approve the following 2025/26 Coaches:

Baseball Varsity Head	Mike Rakestraw
Baseball JV Head	James Holvik
Softball Varsity Head	Samantha Parisio
Softball Volunteer	Samantha Paiz
Track Boys Head Coach	Mike Biggs
Track Girls Head Coach	Rachel LaGrande
Track Volunteer	Robert Rawles
Track Volunteer	Jakob Munguia
Track Volunteer	Baduel Ramirez
Track Volunteer	Joseph Schykerynec
Track Volunteer	Stacey Weston
Track Volunteer	Juan Puente
Golf Head Coach	Emily McDonald
Golf Volunteer	Mariah Baker
- 4. Approve the following 2026/27 Coaches:

Football Varsity Assistant	Joseph Schykerynec
Football JV Head	Jeremy Bill
Football JV Assistant	Michael Ramirez
- 5. Approve the employment of the following employees for the ELOP Intersession Camp that runs from 4/9/26 - 4/10/26:

Camp Cook	Sarah Hill
Camp Food Service Assistant	Jamie Hashman
Camp Engagement Staff	Abigail Grill, Gene Smith, Gloria Barragon, Jazmyn Hernandez, Isabel Robles, Jodie Rose, Jayden Coleman
- 6. Approve the employment of the following Expect Success Summer Camp positions that runs from 6/8/26 – 7/10/26:

Teachers	Haley Thomas, Lucero Malagon, Patricia Chavez, Carissa Thuemler, Yesenia Diaz, Patricia Feeney, Elizabeth Hansen, Jennifer Porter, Tiffanie Hoffhenke
Coordinator	Gene Smith
Clerical	Leeci Camarena
Wellness Coach	Daniel Macias
Aides	Marissa Medina, Tanya Medina-Mercado, Rosa Esparza
Counselors	Abigail Grill, Jayden Coleman, Karlee Lavalle, Erin Pflum Pasero, Brenda Valenzuela, Jodie Rose, Isabel Robles, Karissa Lutz, Jazmyn Hernandez
- 7. Approve employment of the revised extra duty assignments at WHS for the 2025/26 school year.
- 8. Approve the Classified Substitute List.

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

- 1. Approve warrants from 3/2/26 through 3/30/26.

Lourdes Ruiz pulled Item C7 from the Consent Calendar to be voted on next month.

Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Jered Shipley to approve the amended Consent Calendar.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Shipley, Taylor

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

6. DISCUSSION/ACTION CALENDAR

A. GENERAL

- 1. **(Information)** First Reading of the following additions/deletions/changes to Board Policies per CSBA’s Policy Guide Sheet Recommendations:

BP 0450	Comprehensive Safety Plan
BP 1340	Access to District Records
BP 5125	Student Records

- BP 5125.1 Release of Directory Information
2. **(Action)** Second Reading of the following additions/deletions/changes to Board Policies per CSBA’s Policy Guide Sheet Recommendations:
BP 0420.4 Charter School Authorization
Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve the Second Reading of the following additions/deletions/changes to Board Policies per CSBA’s Policy Guide Sheet Recommendations.
AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Shipley, Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0
3. **(Information)** Williams Uniform Complaints Quarterly Report. (There were no complaints.)
4. **(Action)** Accept selection committee’s recommendations for the 2026 Glenn County Educator’s Hall of Fame Award recipients.
Jered Shipley announced the committee’s recommendation for the 2026 recipients as Preston Persky and No Ying Thor. The committee met on March 17th where there was thoughtful consideration given to the selection process. Jeromy Geiger thanked the board members who served on the committee.
Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to accept the selection committee’s recommendations of Preston Persky and No Ying Thor as the 2026 Glenn County Educator’s Hall of Fame Award recipients for WUSD.
5. **(Action)** Approve John Calonico and Chris Harris as California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) League Representatives for the 2026/27 school year.
Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Jered Shipley to approve John Calonico and Chris Harris as California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) League Representatives for the 2026/27 school year.
AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Shipley, Taylor
NOES: None
MOTION PASSED: 5-0

B. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

C. HUMAN RESOURCES

1. **Public Hearing:** In accordance with Government Code §3547, a Public Hearing will be held at this time to allow for public input regarding the Initial Proposal from the Willows Unified Teachers Association (WUTA) to the Willows Unified School District (WUSD).

Jeromy Geiger opened the Public Hearing at 7:31 p.m.

No comments.

Jeromy Geiger closed the Public Hearing at 7:31 p.m.
2. **Public Hearing:** In accordance with Government Code §3547, a Public Hearing will be held at this time to allow for public input regarding the Initial Proposal from the Willows Unified School District (WUSD) to the Willows Unified Teachers Association (WUTA).

Jeromy Geiger opened the Public Hearing at 7:31 p.m.

No comments.

Jeromy Geiger closed the Public Hearing at 7:32 p.m.
3. **(Action)** Approve the Form for Public Disclosure of Proposed Agreement in accordance with the requirements of AB-1200 and Government Code §3547.5 between the Willows Unified School District (WUSD) and the Willows Unified Teachers Association (WUTA) Employees.
Gina Taylor moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve the Form for Public Disclosure of Proposed Agreement in accordance with the requirements of AB-1200 and Government Code §3547.5 between the Willows Unified School District (WUSD) and the Willows Unified Teachers Association (WUTA) Employees.
AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Shipley, Taylor
NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

- 4. **(Action)** Approve the Agreement between the Willows Unified School District (WUSD) and the Willows Unified Teachers Association (WUTA) regarding salary schedules for Certificated employees (C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4 and TOSA) for the 2025/26 school year, retroactive to 7/1/25.

Lourdes Ruiz moved, seconded by Jeromy Geiger to approve the Agreement between the Willows Unified School District (WUSD) and the Willows Unified Teachers Association (WUTA) regarding salary schedules for Certificated employees (C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4 and TOSA) for the 2025/26 school year, retroactive to 7/1/25.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Shipley, Taylor

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

D. BUSINESS SERVICES

- 1. **(Action)** Approve Audit Report of June 30, 2025 from Christy White Certified Public Accountants.

Diana Baca reported that her goal for the 2025/26 audit cycle is to achieve zero findings. Jeromy Geiger provided an overview of the current audit results, noting that the findings are small, minimal, and readily fixable, with nothing of major concern identified. He also extended kudos to all staff who contributed to the audit process and supported the preparation of the report.

Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Lourdes Ruiz to approve the Audit Report of June 30, 2025 from Christy White Certified Public Accountants.

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Shipley, Taylor

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

- 2. **(Action)** Approve Resolution #2025-26-07 authorizing the issuance and sale of one or more series of its 2026 General Obligation Refunding Bonds in the aggregate principal amount of not to exceed \$6,500,000 and authorizing the execution of necessary documents and certificates and related actions.

Presentation from Eastshore Consulting on General Obligation (GO) Bond Refunding. Shin Green presented. Discussion ensued.

Gina Taylor clarified that approving the resolution authorizes Eastshore Consulting to proceed with entering into an agreement once the required savings threshold is met. This approval provides the flexibility to move forward in a timely manner without needing to return to the Board for additional authorization.

Jeromy Geiger moved, seconded by Gina Taylor to approve Resolution #2025-26-07 with the addition of if the savings to the district is not more than \$300,000, they do not proceed. (Roll call vote was taken.)

AYES: Geiger, Gray, Ruiz, Shipley, Taylor

NOES: None

MOTION PASSED: 5-0

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

7.1 There will be a district-wide break from April 6-10, 2026.

7.2 WIS Spring Band Concert will be held on Wednesday, April 29, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the WIS Cafeteria.

7.3 WHS FFA Banquet will be held on Wednesday, April 22, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

7.4 The following are the dates and times for Open House at the different school sites:

Wednesday, April 1, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. Willows Intermediate School

Wednesday, April 22, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. Willows High School

Wednesday, April 22, 2026 at 5:00 p.m. Willows Community High School

Thursday, April 23, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. Murdock Elementary School

7.5 Educators' Hall of Fame will be held on Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. at the Glenn Success Square Conference Room (131 E. Walker Street, Orland).

7.6 The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on May 7, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

7.7 Lamb Derby festivities will take place May 7-10, 2026.

7.8 Glenn County Fair will be held May 14-18, 2026.

7.9 WHS Spring Band Concert will be held on Wednesday, May 27, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the Veteran's Memorial Hall.

- 8. **PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING CLOSED SESSION ITEMS** – None

At 7:57 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

9. **CLOSED SESSION**

Closed session began at 8:05 p.m.

9.1 Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6: Conference with Labor Negotiator – Agency Negotiator: Emmett Koerperich. Employee Organizations: WUTA, CSEA, Management, and Confidential.

10. **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

10.1 Announcement of Action Taken in Closed Session.

At 8:55 p.m., the meeting reconvened to Open Session. Jeromy Geiger reported:

9.1 Update given to the Board.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.