



# Willows High School

203 N Murdock Ave. | Willows, CA 95988 | 530-934-6611 | [www.willowsunified.org](http://www.willowsunified.org)

Chris Harris, Principal

John Calonico, Assistant Principal

May 7, 2026

## Board Report:

- ★ Establish a high-performing District culture with quality teaching and learning.
  - ★ ALL students have access to grade level classes and high school students are enrolled in college or academic/CTE aligned course sequences. At-risk students will be identified by certificated staff using various assessments to provide academic support at each site.
  - ★ The schools and district will develop and maintain a systematic method of partnering with students, parents, county resources and community members to improve student engagement.
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- Currently, we are at 443 (131, 104, 102, 106) students total at WHS. (up one from last month)
  - For chronic absenteeism, we are currently at 12.4% which equates to 55 students. This has gone up a bit from previous months.
  - Congratulations to our Boys Tennis Team for bringing home the Division II section championships. A job well done.
  - I was able to attend the prom on the boat and what an experience for those students! Spendy, but amazing experience. We literally had ZERO issues and it was great to see the 131 young people dance the night away while cruising the bay!
  - Very proud of our 11th graders and EL students who have been putting in the time and effort with state testing and the ELPAC. We proctored the test a bit differently this year and the feedback has been positive. We are hopeful that this will help move the needle on the dashboard in a positive direction.
  - Thank you to those that were able to attend Open House and the FFA Banquet. We are brainstorming ideas to improve Open House and we will most likely have these two events on separate nights, and also organize Open House where families can tour the campus to see student work in the classrooms. This will greatly benefit our CTE programs and highlight those projects.
  - We continue to work on our WASC document. I/we will be sending out some feedback forms for you to provide input if you would like. Basically, we are trying to get input from our educational partners and you, the Board of Trustees, are a key component to our school community. So, when you do receive that, please let me know if you have any questions. Mr. Street is doing the big push to get the document written, and I am hopeful we receive a positive review when WASC visits in November.
  - At our most recent PLC, I reflected with the staff at the amazing work THEY have done this year. I am incredibly proud of the work this staff has done, and I truly believe we are on a good path. Furthermore, I encouraged them that THEY are a key part to carrying the torch into next year. The focus that we developed this year has truly been special. A focus on the 4 main questions of WHAT we want our students to know, HOW do we know if they learned it, and WHAT are we doing when they learned it? WHAT are we doing when they don't learn it? From these

questions, we are creating assessments to gather data to inform our instruction on whether students learned the essential standard. This will continue to be the focus leading into next year, and the plan is to interweave a schoolwide focus on literacy (reading, writing, speaking and listening).

- As this may be one of my last communications to you as principal of Willows High School, I want to thank you for your support. I am incredibly grateful for the past 5 years. Am I proud of the work we have accomplished? Absolutely! Am I satisfied? No, the work is not done, and I trust the work will continue for improvement in all areas. Thank you for your trust and the opportunity to serve the Willows community.

# FCCLA State Leadership Conference

On Thursday- Sunday, April 23-26, Mrs. Poldervaart & seven students attended the FCCLA State Leadership Conference in Riverside, CA. We attended workshops and the college & career expo and we ran our Region 2 Meeting. We received 58 Golden State Degrees and a 100+ Chapter Member Award. We were all voting delegates and we got to meet and vote for the new State Officer team. We had a banquet dinner, rec. night and dance that followed the dinner. Mrs. Poldervaart was awarded a 10-years pin, Region Coordinator plaque, Outstanding Advisor - Gold award, Region STAR Advisor Award and then was recognized for her retirement. We learned a lot and we had a great time!  
From Anthony Xiong, FCCLA Chapter Reporter

