



## SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

4400 Cathedral Oaks Road  
P.O. Box 6307  
Santa Barbara, CA 93160-6307

**REGULAR MEETING**  
March 14, 2024 – 2:00 p.m.

### MINUTES

***The Santa Barbara County Board of Education held this meeting on Thursday, March 14, 2024 at the SBCEO North County Office, 402 Farnel Road, Santa Maria, CA.***

#### UNAPPROVED

#### GENERAL FUNCTIONS

**1. Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the County Board of Education was called to order at 1:59 p.m. by Board President Judy Frost.

**2. Spanish Interpretation/Interpretación**

The president announced that Spanish interpretation of the board meeting was available online via Zoom.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

Board Vice President Porter led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. Roll Call**

Board Members Present

Vedamarie Alvarez Flores  
Marybeth Carty  
Michelle de Werd  
Nadra Ehrman  
Judith Frost  
Joe Howell  
Bruce Porter

Staff Members Present

Susan Salcido, superintendent  
Austin Payne, legal counsel (via Zoom)  
Anna Freedland, executive assistant

Camie Barnwell	Mari Gonzales	Cindy Neal
Kirsten Escobedo	Don Lockwood	Kelley Persons
Nicole Evenson	Luis Medina	Steve Torres

Others Present

Ellis Gonzalez, interpreter (via Zoom)  
Shilo Gorospe, auditor, Eide Bailly LLP (via Zoom)  
Hugo Santos-Gomez, interpreter (via Zoom)

**5. Changes to the Agenda**

The president stated that there were no changes to the agenda; however, she noted that for item 16, regarding the financial (audit) report, the auditor would be available online via Zoom to answer any questions from the board. Mrs. Frost also stated that a PDF packet from the recent California School Boards Association (CSBA) County Board Governance workshop would be shared with the full board in the near future.

**6. President and Board Comments**

The president and board members commented on various topics, including:

- The president shared that she, the superintendent, and Board Member Alvarez Flores attended a recent announcement and celebration event about the Allan Hancock College Promise Program.
- Board Member Carty shared that she attended a recent Foundation Roundtable meeting at which the superintendent presented along with the executive directors of SBCEO's 3 non-profit programs. She also highlighted the mock job interviews flyer in the board book and the need for volunteers. Mrs. Carty mentioned an article in the recent California Schools magazine called, "Bridging the Gap: How career technical education unites job training and academies."
- Board Member de Werd shared that she recently attended two board committee meetings – policy and budget, the First 5 Governance Brunch, the CSBA County Board Governance workshop in Sacramento, and the Cabrillo High School Aquarium open house.
- Board Member Howell shared about a recent event to launch the new mobile hub for the Computers for Families program.

## **7. Public Comments**

None.

## **PRESENTATION**

### **8. Presentation on the Special Education Division**

Associate Superintendent of Special Education Kirsten Escobedo provided a presentation about the Special Education division.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **9. Superintendent's Report**

The superintendent's report was presented as an information item. Dr. Salcido highlighted the following items in the written report:

- SBCEO Facilities – The superintendent invited Associate Superintendent of Administrative Services Steve Torres to provide an update on SBCEO facilities and SBCEO's ability to issue a bond: Proposition 39 included county offices of education (COEs) as eligible entities for general obligation bonds, but a companion bill to that proposition, AB 1908, restricted COEs from general obligation bonds. AB 1908 supersedes the proposition, so COEs are not eligible for general obligation bonds.
- The superintendent reported that the Board Legal Committee would be convening in the coming weeks to help review aspects related to space needs for the Early Care and Education program and the Special Education division.
- Reading and Literacy Supplemental Authorization Incentive Grant Program – Dr. Salcido provided more details about the newly attained grant program.

The superintendent also commented on the following:

- Handouts/invitations at board member places
- Countywide education job fairs – 176 people attended both fairs, with a majority of people at the Santa Maria fair. The superintendent thanked Associate Superintendent of Human Resources Mari Gonzales and Director of Human Resources Amy Ramos and the HR team for staffing the job fairs.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

The board approved all consent items:

**10. Minutes of Meeting Held February 8, 2024**

**11. Registration of Credentials and Other Certification Documents: Issuance of Temporary County Certificates**

Registration of credentials and other certification documents registered in the Santa Barbara County Education Office from January 7, 2024 to February 6, 2024, and the issuance of temporary county certificates for that same time period.

**12. 2024-25 Central Office Calendar**

**13. Acceptance of Donations**

Acceptance of donations for the following department:

- Transitional Youth Services

**14. Declaration of Surplus**

Declaration of surplus for the following department:

- Information Technology Services

Motion to approve all consent items:

MOVED: **Ms. Ehrman**

SECONDED: **Mr. Howell**

VOTE: **Passed 7-0**

**ACTION ITEMS**

**15. Recommended Approval of Second Interim Report**

The Second Interim Report was presented by Board Budget Committee Chair Frost. It was approved as part of the budget monitoring process.

MOVED: **Mrs. de Werd**

SECONDED: **Mrs. Alvarez Flores**

VOTE: **Passed 7-0**

**16. Accept and File Annual Financial (Audit) Report**

The 2022-23 Annual Financial (Audit) Report was presented by Board Budget Committee Chair Frost. Associate Superintendent of Administrative Services Steve Torres and a representative from the audit firm Eide Bailly LLC, Shilo Gorospe, responded to board questions about the report and the management letter that accompanied the report.

The superintendent shared that there had been a question from a board member about the management letter that accompanied the financial (audit) report. She reported that the letter had been posted online on the board materials webpage, after it had been mailed to the board. Dr. Salcido stated that Board Member de Werd requested that copies of previous management letters going back to 2019 be posted online. The superintendent stated that she would post previous management letters, along with their accompanying audit reports.

The board acknowledged receipt of the 2022-23 Annual Financial (Audit) Report and ordered it filed.

MOVED: **Mr. Porter**

SECONDED: **Mrs. Alvarez Flores** VOTE: **Passed 7-0**

Board adjourned for a brief recess at 3:42 p.m. Board reconvened at 3:52 p.m.

## **17. Board Policies, Reading and Adoption**

The following board policies were presented by the Board Policy Committee for reading and adoption:

- BP 5145.6 – Parent/Guardian Notifications (new)
- BP 9010 – Public Statements and Board Endorsements (new)
- BP 9011 – Disclosure of Confidential/Privileged Information (new)
- BP 9100 – Organization (revised)
- BP 9130 – Board Committees (revised)
- BP 9200 – Limits of Board Member Authority (new)
- BP 9220 – Governing Board Elections (revised)
- BP 9222 – Resignation (new)
- BP 9223 – Filling Vacancies (revised)
- BP 9224 – Oath or Affirmation (new)

Board Policy Committee Chair Porter reported that existing BP 2009 – Request for Board Endorsements, was incorporated into new BP 9010 – Public Statements and Board Endorsements. Similarly, existing BP 1010 – Organization: Ad Hoc Committee, was incorporated into revised BP 9130 – Board Committees. Mr. Porter also reported about the discussion at the committee meeting about BP 9220 – Governing Board Elections, and BP 9223 – Filing Vacancies.

The following motion was made:

MOTION: Approve all of the board policies listed above as written.

MOVED: **Mr. Porter**

SECONDED: **Mrs. Carty**

VOTE:

The board had discussion after the motion and before a vote was taken. Subsequently, Mr. Porter withdrew his motion.

Then, the following motion was made:

MOTION: Approve all of the board policies listed above except for BP 9100 – Organization, and BP 9220 – Governing Board Elections.

MOVED: **Mrs. Frost**                      SECONDED: **Mrs. de Werd**      VOTE: **Passed 7-0**

The board discussed Board Policy 9100 – Organization, and the following motion was made:

MOTION: Approve BP 9100 – Organization, as written.

MOVED: **Mr. Porter**                      SECONDED: **Mrs. Carty**              VOTE: **Passed 7-0**

The board discussed Board Policy 9220 – Governing Board Elections, and the following motion was made:

MOTION: Approve BP 9220 – Governing Board Elections, as written.

MOVED: **Mr. Porter**                      SECONDED: **Ms. Ehrman**              VOTE: **Passed 6-1**  
**Mrs. de Werd voted no**

**18. Reimburse Expenses for Board Members to Attend the Santa Barbara County School Boards Association (SBCSBA) Annual Dinner**

The board approved the reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses for board members to attend the Santa Barbara County School Boards Association (SBCSBA) Annual Dinner, April 24, 2024, in accordance with Board Policy 9250, if requested.

MOVED: **Mrs. Frost**                      SECONDED: **Mrs. Carty**              VOTE: **Passed 6-1**  
**Mr. Porter voted no**

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**19. Statement of Economic Interests, Form 700**

Legal counsel provided a brief overview, via Zoom, of the Statement of Economic Interests, Form 700, required of board members, and answered questions from board members.

**20. Personnel Report**

The certificated and classified personnel reports were presented as an information item.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**21. Future agenda items**

The president mentioned the potential future agenda items that were listed on the agenda as an information item:

- Report on Lompoc Unified School District's affiliation with The Nature Conservancy's Dangermond Preserve
- Report on the teen center in Lompoc
- AB 2222 – proposed legislation on literacy
- Board planning (mission, vision)

## **ADJOURNMENT**

### **22. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:36 p.m. to the next regular meeting to be held April 11, 2024.

**MOVED: Mrs. Carty**

**SECONDED: Mr. Howell**

**VOTE: Passed 7-0**

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Judith Frost, President  
County Board of Education

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Dr. Susan Salcido, Secretary  
County Board of Education