



## SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

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

### MINUTES

#### 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**

The vice president led the Pledge of Allegiance.

##### 4. **Roll Call**

###### Board Members Present

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

###### Board Members Absent

Michelle de Werd

Staff Members Present

Susan Salcido, superintendent  
Austin Payne, legal counsel  
Felicita Torres, legal counsel  
Anna Freedland, executive assistant

Lauren Aranguren	Tiffany Carson	Don Lockwood
Ellen Barger	Marc Cunningham	Amy Ramos
Camie Barnwell	Kirsten Escobedo	Steve Torres
Bridget Baublits	Mari Gonzales	

Others Present

Sophia Halima Fadilo, member of the public  
Sylvia Aghabekian Lowden, member of the public  
Hugo Santos-Gomez, interpreter (via Zoom)  
Regina Santos-Moreno, interpreter (via Zoom)  
Maria Montero Terry, member of the public  
Marcy Winograd, member of the public

**5. Changes to the Agenda**

The president announced changes in the order of business on the agenda: after item 6, public comments, the board would hear the presentation on artificial intelligence and education (item 9), then move to closed session (item 7), then items 8 and 10 and the remaining items on the agenda.

**6. Public Comments**

The following members of the public addressed the County Board of Education regarding a new state law, SB 1277, and the California Teachers Collaborative for Holocaust and Genocide Education:

- Sophia Halima Fadilo
- Sylvia Aghabekian Lowden
- Maria Montero Terry
- Marcy Winograd

**CLOSED SESSION**

**7. Conference with Real Property Negotiator (Government Code § 54956.8) – Closed Session**

The board held a closed session conference with real property negotiator. The closed session began at 2:54 p.m. and present were board members; Dr. Susan

Salcido, county superintendent of schools; Steve Torres, associate superintendent; Bridget Baublits, associate superintendent; Kirsten Escobedo, associate superintendent; Marc Cunningham, director of facilities; Felicita Torres, legal counsel; Austin Payne, legal counsel; and Anna Freedland, executive assistant.

Properties: 1) property in Santa Maria, CA; 2) leased property at 4400 Cathedral Oaks Road, Santa Barbara, CA. Agency designated representatives: Dr. Susan Salcido, superintendent, and Steve Torres, associate superintendent. Negotiating parties: [confidential] for Santa Maria property and County of Santa Barbara. Instructions to negotiators regarding price, terms, and conditions.

There was no action taken.

At 3:35 p.m. the board adjourned closed session and, after a brief recess, the board reconvened to open session at 3:43 p.m.

## **PRESIDENT AND BOARD COMMENTS**

### **8. President and Board Comments**

The president, board members, and the superintendent expressed appreciation to the departing board members for their service.

## **PRESENTATION**

### **9. Presentation on Artificial Intelligence Use in Education**

Associate Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Ellen Barger, Director of School and District Support Tiffany Carson, and Director of Equitable Learning Systems Lauren Aranguren, provided a presentation to the board about artificial intelligence (AI) use in education.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **10. Superintendent's Report**

The superintendent's report was presented as an information item.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

The board approved all consent items:

### **11. Minutes of Meeting Held October 10, 2024**

**12. 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 September 7, 2024 to October 6, 2024, and the issuance of temporary county certificates for that same time period.

**13. Declaration of Surplus**

Declaration of surplus for the following departments:

- Administrative Services
- Career Technical Education
- Curriculum and Instruction
- Fiscal Services
- Health Linkages
- Human Resources
- Information Technology Services
- Maintenance and Operations
- Teacher Induction Program
- Teacher Programs and Support

**14. Issuance of High School Graduation Diploma**

Issuance of a high school graduation diploma to the following student:

*Dos Puertas School*

- Student CSIS # 9140847412 – October 24, 2024

Motion to approve all consent items:

MOVED: **Mrs. Carty**

SECONDED: **Mrs. Alvarez Flores** VOTE: **Passed 6-0**

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**15. Personnel Report**

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

**16. Williams Legislation School District Report**

The 2023-24 annual report on the condition and state of the identified schools in Santa Barbara County, as specified in California Education Code section 1240, was submitted as an information item and was reviewed by the board.

**17. Board Orientation Binder and Revised Board Webpage**

Board Organization and Development Committee Chair Howell presented the new board orientation binder and the revised board webpage as an information item. Mr. Howell requested board members submit any feedback on either item to the superintendent.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**18. Recommended Adoption of Resolution for Exemption to the Separation-From-Service Requirement**

The board adopted Resolution No. 2507 for an exemption to the separation-from-service requirement to hire a State Teachers' Retirement System (STRS) retired annuitant.

**Ayes: 6                      Noes: 0                      Absent: 1                      Abstain: 0**  
**MOVED: Mr. Porter              SECONDED: Mrs. Alvarez Flores              VOTE: Passed 6-0-1-0**

**19. Salary Adjustment for the Superintendent**

Board Salary Committee Chair Carty reported that the committee recommended the board approve the same salary increases for the superintendent that were negotiated between SBCEO and its two bargaining units for the next 3-year period, which were 8% for 2024-25, 4% for 2025-26, and 4% for 2026-27, making the salary for the superintendent for 2024-25 \$306,812, retroactive to July 1, 2024; and the same one-time, off-schedule stipend that was given to all employees, except the superintendent, in 2023-24 in the amount of \$5,000. The board approved the committee's recommendation.

**MOVED: Mr. Porter                      SECONDED: Ms. Ehrman              VOTE: Passed 6-0**

**20. Reimburse Expenses for Board Member(s) to Attend the California School Boards Association (CSBA) Annual Education Conference (AEC), December 2024**

The board approved the reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses for a board member(s) to attend the California School Boards Association (CSBA) Annual Education Conference (AEC), December 4, 2024 (pre-conference day), and December 5-7, 2024 (conference), in Anaheim, in accordance with Board Policy 9250.

**MOVED: Mrs. Carty                      SECONDED: Mrs. Alvarez Flores              VOTE: Passed 5-1**

**21. Recommended Adoption of Emergency Resolution – Award of Contract without Bidding and Advertisement**

The board adopted Resolution No. 2508, which recognized an emergency existed and authorized SBCEO to enter into a contract without bidding and advertising to repair and remediate the Fiscal Services office, immediately.

**Ayes: 6**                      **Noes: 0**                      **Absent: 1**                      **Abstain: 0**  
**MOVED: Mr. Howell**      **SECONDED: Mrs. Alvarez Flores**      **VOTE: Passed 6-0-1-0**

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**22. Future agenda items**

The president shared that the Board Organization and Development Committee would meet before the December board meeting to discuss potential board officers and board meeting dates for 2025. The superintendent requested board members let her and the president know if they were interested in serving as a board officer or would like to change their committee assignments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**23. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:32 p.m. to the next regular meeting to be held Friday, December 13, 2024.

**MOVED: Mrs. Alvarez Flores**      **SECONDED: Ms. Ehrman**      **VOTE: Passed 6-0**

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Judith Frost, President  
County Board of Education

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Dr. Susan Salcido, Secretary  
County Board of Education