

**SANTA MARIA-BONITA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

SMBSD Board Room  
708 S. Miller Street  
Santa Maria, CA  
**February 12, 2025**

**ADOPTED**

**I. OPENING BUSINESS**

**A. Call to Order**

President Cordero called the Regular Board Meeting of the Santa Maria-Bonita School District to order at 5:16 p.m.

**B. Roll Call**

**Board Members Present:**

Linda Cordero, President

Luz Maria Cabral, Vice President

Ricky Lara, Board Clerk

John Hollinshead, Board Member - Absent

Ricardo Valencia, Board Member

**II. IDENTIFY CLOSED SESSION TOPICS OF DISCUSSION**

**A. Public Employee Employment/Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Resignation**

Government Code § 54957

Agency Representative: Pete Bland, Ed.D.

**B. Conference with Labor Negotiators**

Government Code § 54957.6

Agency Representative: Pete Bland, Ed.D.

Represented Employees: CSEA

**C. Conference with Labor Negotiators**

Government Code § 54957.6

Agency Representative: Pete Bland, Ed.D.

Represented Employees: SMEEA

**D. Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation**

(Gov. Code, § 54956.9, subd. (d)(1)) Name of case: OAH Case No.  
2024120938

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - CLOSED SESSION**

No public comments were reported for the Closed Session.

**IV. MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION**

It was moved by Mr. Lara and seconded by Ms. Cabral that the Board move into closed session at 5:18 p.m. Ayes: 4 ( L. Cordero, R. Lara, R. Valencia, L. Cabral). Absent: 1 (J. Hollinshead). Motion passed.

## **V. CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

## **VI. ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION**

## **VII. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION**

The Board reconvened in open session at 6:02 p.m.

### **A. Report from Closed Session**

-Dr. McDuffie reported that the Board approved, by unanimous vote, the appointments of Derwin Gerard Sloan as Warehouse Supervisor and Mariana Valencia as Migrant Education Supervisor.

-President Cordero reported that information was also shared for items B and C.

### **B. Introduction of Interpreters**

### **C. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by students from Bruce Elementary.

### **D. Inspiration**

Bruce Elementary

## **VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - OPEN SESSION**

**Amanda Corcoran**, regarding concerns that the Dual Immersion Program at Jimenez is transitioning from the lottery system.

## **IX. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS PRESENTED**

It was moved by Mr. Valencia and seconded by Mr. Lara to approve the agenda as amended. *Roll Call Vote. Ayes: 4 ( L. Cordero, R. Lara, R. Valencia, L. Cabral). Absent: 1 (J. Hollinshead). Motion passed.*

## **X. CONSENT ITEMS**

### **A. GENERAL CONSENT**

- i. Minutes of the Board of Education

### **B. FACILITIES PLANNING CONSENT**

### **C. BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL CONSENT**

- i. Payment of Warrants
- ii. Contracts for Approval or Ratification
- iii. Authorization to Purchase Advanced Technology Solutions Utilizing a Cooperative Purchasing Agreement Awarded by Omnia's Region 14 Education Service Center Contract #01-170 to TD Synnex Corporation
- iv. Authorization to Purchase Information Technology Goods and Services Utilizing California Multiple Award Schedule (CMAS) Contract #3-21-10-1061
- v. Aventus NV, Inc. - Restroom Conversion Project at Bruce Elementary School BID

- #5333 – Change Order Number 4
- vi. Aventus NV, Inc. - Restroom Conversion Project at Bruce Elementary School BID #5333 – Change Order Number 5
- vii. Aventus NV, Inc. - Restroom Conversion Project at Bruce Elementary School BID #5333 – Change Order Number 6
- viii. Authorization to File Notice of Completion - Aventus NV, Inc. - BID #5333 - Restroom Conversion Project at Bruce Elementary School
- ix. Resolution 24-16: Resolution Authorizing Filing of Applications for State Allocation Board-Administered Programs on or after October 31, 2024 for the Santa Maria-Bonita School District

**D. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CONTENT**

- i. Approval for Alvin Elementary Sixth Graders to attend Overnight Outdoor Science School at Rancho Alegre April 29th thru May 2nd, 2025

**E. HUMAN RESOURCES CONSENT**

- i. Certificated and Classified Personnel Changes

It was moved by Mr. Valencia and seconded by Mr. Lara to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. *Roll Call Vote. Ayes: 4 ( L. Cordero, R. Lara, R. Valencia, L. Cabral). Absent: 1. (J. Hollinshead). Motion passed.*

**XI. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Resolution 24-17: National School Counseling Week**

Presented by: Mark Palmerston, Ed.D., Director of Student Services

It was moved by Mr. Lara and seconded by Ms. Cabral that the Board of Education **ADOPT RESOLUTION 24-17: NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK**, as presented. *Roll Call Vote: Ayes: 4 ( L. Cordero, R. Lara, R. Valencia, L. Cabral). Absent: 1. (J. Hollinshead). Motion passed.*

**B. Authorization to Enter Into a Sole Source Agreement with Hellas Construction to Furnish and Install Pivot Synthetic Turf at Bonita Elementary School**

Presented by Matthew Beecher, Deputy Superintendent for Business Services

*Roll Call Vote: Ayes: 4 ( L. Cordero, R. Lara, R. Valencia, L. Cabral). Absent: 1. (J. Hollinshead). Motion passed.*

**XII. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**A. Dual Language Immersion Expansion Update**

Presented by Tammie Castillo-Shiffer, Ed.D., Director of Multilingual Services

The Board of Education acknowledged receipt of the Dual Language Immersion Expansion Update, as presented.

**XIII. NEW BUSINESS**

No reports.

#### **XIV. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS**

##### **Mr. Valencia**

- Discussed current issues regarding immigration in relation to our families and students.
- Mentioned that the Santa Maria Times reported that our schools had an approximate 35% absence rate on the Day Without Immigrants.
- Reflected on students' comments regarding ICE and the local community.
- Reported on El Camino JHS and high school students who were interviewed by local media in regards to immigration issues.
- Discussed upcoming walk-outs organized by local high school students as well as a request for a 2-mile radius for safety from ICE around specific establishments.
- Discussed legislation and laws regarding excusing children from class if their parents allow them to do so.
- He appreciates students for being transparent and for also exercising their civil rights.
- Noted that our District is collaborating with the NAACP in regards to Black History Month.

##### **Mr. Lara**

- No report.

##### **Ms. Cabral**

- She noted that it was encouraging to see young protestors out on the weekends. She asked everyone to exercise their right to free speech and be safe. She added there are other ways to protest and that there are other ways to keep our families safe, and to please educate yourself on what pertains to you and your community and take care.

##### **Mrs. Cordero**

- She attended a recent CA School Boards Association meeting. The primary topic was student protests and the impact of some of the changes in laws and how schools are handling this.
- Reminder that the Annual Dinner will be held on April 16th at the Brother's Restaurant (Red Barn).
- Mentioned topics discussed in a budget presentation she recently attended that was put on by Capital Advisors. She noted it was very well worth the time to attend.
- She attended the robotics competition at Tommie Kunst JHS last Saturday, and the event was inspirational. She has attended a number of robotics competitions in the past. The students were excited and cheered for each other. She added that it was not only fun, but hugely beneficial to our students. She gave a big thank you to our expanded learning group who has supported the robotics program.

##### **Dr. McDuffie**

- He has been attending school sites during their lunch breaks. It has been an enjoyable opportunity to sit with staff and really connect on a human level and as a unified community. He reported that he visited both Libbon and Fairlawn last week. It has been a pleasure having the opportunity to connect with everyone.
- Dr. McDuffie stated that while the District respects the rights of all individuals and students, he wished to clarify that SMBSD does not endorse walk-outs. His responsibility as the superintendent is to keep students safe and within a learning environment, and he is not able to provide this when students walk out.

-He added that he put out a video on Friday after a walk-out was organized by high school students which involved some SMBSD students. The video reinforces the connection with our parents and staff, and discusses the resources we have available for our community. He added that we will continue to provide this information in various ways.

-Dr. McDuffie also stated that as a unified community he wants to recognize meaningful conversations while fostering an environment where every student feels valued and heard.

-He thanked Dr. Palmerston and the JHS Principals for keeping our students safe.

-A communication will go out tomorrow regarding upcoming walk-outs planned on Friday and Tuesday. We would like parents to sit down and talk to their students and have a conversation with them about this subject.

## XV. ADJOURNMENT

President Cordero reported that the next SMBSD Regular Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 26, 2025, at 6 p.m.

Mrs. Cordero adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Signed  \_\_\_\_\_  
Ricky Lara  
Board Clerk

Signed  \_\_\_\_\_  
Ricardo Valencia  
Board Member