



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

REGULAR MEETING
February 13, 2025 – 2:00 p.m.

MINUTES

The Santa Barbara County Board of Education held this meeting on Thursday, February 13, 2025 at the following two locations, which were connected via videoconference, due to weather: SBCEO South County Office, 4400 Cathedral Oaks Road, Santa Barbara, CA, and 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 2:00 p.m. by Board President Marybeth Carty.

2. Spanish Interpretation/Interpretación

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

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The board recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Roll Call

Board Members Present

Vedamarie Alvarez Flores
Katya Armistead
Marybeth Carty
Nadra Ehrman
Judith Frost
Sarah Anne Read
Guy Walker

Staff Members Present

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

Ellen Barger	Nicole Evenson	Don Lockwood	Elise Simmons
Bridget Baublits	Mari Gonzales	Victor McConnell	Steve Torres
Marc Cunningham	Isabel Guerrero	Amy Ramos	Rene Wheeler

Others Present

Francisco Romero, AV consultant
Hugo Santos-Gomez, interpreter
Regina Santos-Moreno, interpreter (via Zoom)

5. Changes to the Agenda

None.

6. President and Board Comments

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

- President Carty reported that she attended a UCSB Arts & Lectures and Viva el Arte de Santa Barbara program performance by the band La Santa Cecilia. She stated that the artists shared they had previously been in Santa Barbara and had a meaningful exchange with students at the Los Prieto Boys Camp and at the Santa Maria juvenile hall. Mrs. Carty shared that the band won an Emmy award that year and mentioned the students in their acceptance speech.
- Board Member Ehrman reported that she attended a play at Isla Vista School called *Beauty and the Beast, Jr.* She also wished everyone a happy Black History Month.
- Board Member Frost shared that she attended the Santa Barbara County School Boards Association's Executive Committee meeting.

7. Public Comments

None.

PRESENTATION

8. Santa Barbara County Education Office Budget Overview

Associate Superintendent of Administrative Services Steve Torres provided a general orientation on the Santa Barbara County Education Office (SBCEO) budget.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

9. Superintendent's Report

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

Dr. Salcido provided some additional information about the SBCEO budget, as a follow-up to Associate Superintendent Steve Torres' presentation. She stated that she would provide more information for the board at a future meeting on SBCEO's federal funding.

The superintendent also shared the following information:

- UCSB Arts & Lectures event on February 20 featuring Jonathan Haidt – Dr. Salcido shared that Board President Carty had some tickets to the largely sold out event if any board members or SBCEO staff members would like to attend.
- Dr. Salcido acknowledged that the board traveled in the rain for today's board meeting. She reported that Camie Barnwell, director of communications and public information officer, was at the Santa Barbara County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) today as a representative for SBCEO. Dr. Salcido shared that Camie, School Safety Liaison Dennis Thomas, and Associate Superintendent of Student and Community Services Bridget Baublits had been sharing information with school districts about the storm.
- The superintendent commented on the uncertainty that people may be feeling about the new federal administration's executive orders. Dr. Salcido stated that SBCEO was committed to ensuring every student had equitable access to educational opportunity, that students were valued as members of our school communities, and that all students and all that they bring – their diverse experiences, their identities, their abilities, and their aspirations – are seen and valued. She distributed two County Board of Education policies as a reminder to the board: Board Policy 5125 – Student Records, and Board Policy 5022 – Student and Family Privacy Rights. Dr. Salcido also pointed to the first page of the written superintendent's report which mentioned resources on the SBCEO website for schools and families in response to federal executive orders.

Dr. Salcido highlighted the following items in the written superintendent's report:

- Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce State of Education – The event had been postponed.

- SBCEO Employee Service Awards
- Special Education division information about preschool transition meetings and the Lompoc Unified School District preschool program transfer

CONSENT AGENDA

The board approved all consent agenda items:

10. Minutes of Meeting Held January 9, 2025

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 December 7, 2024 to January 6, 2025, and the issuance of temporary county certificates for that same time period.

12. Declaration of Surplus

Declaration of surplus for the following departments:

- Curriculum and Instruction
- Early Care and Education
- Information Technology Services
- Special Education

Motion to approve all consent items:

Ayes: 6	Noes: 0	Absent: 0	Abstain: 1
MOVED: Mrs. Read		SECONDED: Dr. Armistead	VOTE: Passed 6-0-0-1 Mr. Walker abstained

ACTION ITEMS

13. Recommended Approval to Expand Lease

The board approved expanding the lease for the facility located on South C Street in Lompoc for the Early Care and Education (ECE) program. The additional space will be used for staff offices and the cost of the lease will be paid by the ECE program. SBCEO will proceed with negotiation and preparation of the lease agreement.

Ayes: 7	Noes: 0	Absent: 0	Abstain: 0
MOVED: Mr. Walker		SECONDED: Ms. Ehrman	VOTE: Passed 7-0-0-0

14. Recommended Approval of Change Order

The board approved the change order (#3) for the Santa Barbara County Education Office’s Curriculum and Instruction division construction project (# 01-24-25).

Ayes: 7 **Noes: 0** **Absent: 0** **Abstain: 0**
MOVED: **Dr. Armistead** SECONDED: **Mrs. Read** VOTE: **Passed 7-0-0-0**

15. Reimburse Expenses for Board Members to Attend the State of Education

The board approved the reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses for board members to attend the State of Education event, on its to be rescheduled date, cost: \$45 for Chamber members/\$35 for educators/\$55 for everyone else, hosted by the Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce, in accordance with Board Policy 9250.

Ayes: 7 **Noes: 0** **Absent: 0** **Abstain: 0**
MOVED: **Mr. Walker** SECONDED: **Ms. Ehrman** VOTE: **Passed 7-0-0-0**

16. Reimburse Expenses for Board Members to Attend the State of Vandenberg

The board approved the reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses for board members to attend the State of Vandenberg luncheon, March 14, 2025, 10:45 a.m.–2 p.m., cost: \$45 for Chamber members/\$60 for non-members, hosted by the Lompoc Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce, in accordance with Board Policy 9250.

Ayes: 7 **Noes: 0** **Absent: 0** **Abstain: 0**
MOVED: **Dr. Armistead** SECONDED: **Mr. Walker** VOTE: **Passed 7-0-0-0**

INFORMATION ITEMS

17. Personnel Report

The classified personnel report was presented as an information item.

18. 2024-25 Local Control and Accountability Plan Mid-Year Monitoring Report

The 2024-25 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Mid-Year Monitoring Report was presented to the board as an information item. Director of Student and Community Services Elise Simmons provided a presentation on the report.

Board adjourned for a brief recess at 3:32 p.m. Board reconvened at 3:36 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION

19. 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 3:36 p.m. and present were board members; Dr. Susan Salcido, county superintendent of schools; Steve Torres, associate superintendent; Bridget Baublits, associate superintendent; Marc Cunningham, director of facilities; 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 4:09 p.m. the board adjourned closed session and reconvened to open session.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

20. Future agenda items

The president mentioned the potential future agenda items, for the March 13, 2025 board meeting in Santa Maria, that were listed on the agenda as an information item:

- Update on the Juvenile Justice Center (JJC) in Santa Maria, provided by Chief Probation Officer Holly Benton
- Presentation on SBCEO countywide mental health supports
- Brief tour of the SBCEO North County Office located on Farnel Road in Santa Maria

The following items were also mentioned as potential future agenda items:

- Information about the Career Technical Education (CTE) program
- Updated report on transitional kindergarten (TK) and universal pre-kindergarten (UPK)

ADJOURNMENT

21. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:12 p.m. to the next regular meeting to be held March 13, 2025 at the SBCEO North County Office, 402 Farnel Road, Santa Maria.

Ayes: 7 **Noes: 0** **Absent: 0** **Abstain: 0**
MOVED: Mr. Walker **SECONDED: Dr. Armistead** **VOTE: Passed 7-0-0-0**

Marybeth Carty, President
County Board of Education

Dr. Susan Salcido, Secretary
County Board of Education