

**\*Amended 3/11/25\***

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

SMBSD Board Room  
708 S. Miller Street  
Santa Maria, CA  
**February 26, 2025**

**I. OPENING BUSINESS**

**A. Call to Order**

President Cordero called the Regular Board Meeting of the Santa Maria-Bonita School District to order at 5:18 p.m.

**B. Roll Call**

**Board Members Present:**

Linda Cordero, President  
Luz Maria Cabral, Vice President - Absent  
Ricky Lara, Board Clerk - Arrival 5:25 p.m.  
John Hollinshead, Board Member  
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 Labor Negotiators Government Code § 54957.6 Agency Designated Representative: Shannon DeNatale Boyd, Esq. Unrepresented Employees: Assistant Superintendents of Human Resources and Educational Services; Deputy Superintendent; Superintendent**

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

No public comments were reported for the Closed Session.

**IV. MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION**

The Board adjourned to closed session at 5:18 p.m.

## V. CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

## VI. ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION

## VII. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened in open session at 6:08 p.m.

### A. Report from Closed Session

President Cordero reported that information for Items A and D were shared, and that the Board would return to Closed Session after the end of Open Session.

### B. Introduction of Interpreters

### C. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by a member of the Student Leader Advisory Team.

### D. Student Leader Advisory Team

## VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - OPEN SESSION

**Brian Gong**, Kindergarten teacher at Liberty and Director at Large for SMEEA, presented SMEEA's resolution related to immigration and to support all families and students at SMBSD.

**Jonathan Patterson**, Education Specialist at Arellanes JHS and a member of the SMEEA Equity Team, continued reading the resolution presented by SMEEA.

**Jose Rodriguez**, 3rd VP of SMEEA, Organizing Chair, and a US history teacher at El Camino JHS, thanked SMEEA members and members of the community and advocacy groups who came out today to the rally to support our immigrant students. Extended an invitation to the Board to draft their own resolution, or reaffirm the resolution established in 2017, supporting undocumented students.

**Luz Ramirez**, Community Health Educator at Planned Parenthood, wanted to show her support for our immigrant students and families.

**Jules Bianco**, Community Organizer with Planned Parenthood, expressed support for the teachers/SMEEA who came this evening to voice their concerns in regards to immigration issues. She urged the District to demonstrate a commitment to protect students and families from ICE raids.

**Coraima Morales**, Santa Maria Senior Organizer for Future Leaders of America, spoke on behalf of undocumented families in our District. She asked SMBSD to reaffirm their commitment of being a safe space District.

**Elvia Salazar-Salinas**, representing the community, requested SMBSD take action and reaffirm that the District space does not collaborate with ICE, and does not share data with immigration.

**Francisco Lozano**, Chairman of the Mixtecan Advisory Committee, requested that SMBSD consider creating a resolution that shows we are all united as a family. He noted that the Santa Maria PD attended a recent Advisory Committee meeting and discussed the subject of family rights with the group.

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

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

## **X. CONSENT ITEMS**

### **A. GENERAL CONSENT**

- i. Minutes of the Board of Education
- ii. First Reading - Board Policies
- iii. Approval of the 2023-24 School Accountability Report Cards (SARCs) for Santa Maria-Bonita School District Schools

### **B. BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL CONSENT**

- i. Contracts for Approval or Ratification
- ii. Award of RFSQ #5203(B) - On-Call-Architectural Services
- iii. Award of RFP #5361 - District-Wide School Site Fiber Upgrade (E-Rate)
- iv. Central Coast Playgrounds - Installation of District Provided Playground Equipment and Shade Shelter at Tunnell Elementary School BID #5362-Change Order Number 1
- v. Reject All Bids For RFP #5367 - Tilt Skillet Braising Pans
- vi. Authorization to Purchase Cyber-Security Solutions, Malware, Ransomware Protection, and Other Related Products and Services Utilizing a Cooperative Purchasing Agreement Awarded by Omnia's Region 14 Education Service Center Contract #01-130 to Climb Channel Solutions

### **C. FACILITIES PLANNING CONSENT**

### **D. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CONTENT**

- i. Overnight Approval for Nine Students to Attend The Robotics State Championship in Chatsworth, CA, February 28 - March 2, 2025

### **E. HUMAN RESOURCES CONSENT**

- i. Certificated and Classified Personnel Changes
- ii. 2024-2025 Classified Substitute Hourly Salary Schedule

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

## **XI. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Agreement Between CSEA and it's Santa Maria-Bonita Chapter #129 and the Santa Maria Bonita-School District (Item pulled)**

**B. Ratification of Salary Understanding with Administrators in Management Service (AIMS) Presented by Matthew Beecher, Deputy Superintendent for Business Services**

It was moved by Mr. Lara and seconded by Hollinshead that the Board of Education approve the tentative salary understanding with AIMS, as presented. *Ayes: 4 ( L. Cordero, R. Lara, R. Valencia, J. Hollinshead). Absent: 1. ( L. Cabral). Motion passed.*

**C. Approve AIMS Increases to Assistant Superintendents' and Deputy Superintendent's 2024/2025 Salaries and Approve Off-Schedule Payment, Approve Revised 2024/2025 Salary Schedules, and Authorize Contract Amendments**

Presented by Dr. Darren McDuffie, Superintendent

It was moved by Mr. Lara and seconded by Mr. Hollinshead that the Board of Education increase the Assistant Superintendents' of Human Resources and Educational Services and the Deputy Superintendent's salaries and salary schedules by one percent (1%) effective July 1, 2024, for the 2024/2025 school year, and authorize a one-time, off-schedule payment of \$1,700.00 to the Assistant Superintendents and Deputy Superintendent, with the retroactive salary payment and one-time, off-schedule payment to be paid as soon as practicable following Board approval, that the Board approve the new salary schedules, and that the Board authorize the Board President to execute contract amendments with the Assistant Superintendents of Human Resources and Educational Services and the Deputy Superintendent reflecting these actions.

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

**D. Approve AIMS Increases to Superintendent's 2024/2025 Salary and Approve Off-Schedule Payment, Approve Revised 2024/2025 Salary Schedule, and Authorize Contract Amendment Presented by Linda Cordero, Board President**

Presented by Linda Cordero, Board President

It was moved by Mr. Hollinshead and seconded by Mr. Lara that the Board of Education increase the Superintendent's salary and salary schedule by one percent (1%) effective July 1, 2024, for the 2024/2025 school year, and authorize a one-time, off-schedule payment of \$1,700.00 to the Superintendent, with the retroactive salary payment and one-time, off-schedule payment to be paid as soon as practicable following Board approval, that the Board approve the new Superintendent salary schedule, and that the Board authorize the Board President to execute a contract amendment with the Superintendent reflecting these actions.

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

**E. Resolution 24-18: Approving the Absences of Board Members from Meetings of the Board of Education**

Presented by Dr. Darren McDuffie, Superintendent

It was moved by Mr. Lara and seconded by Mr. Valencia that the Board of Education adopt Resolution 24-18: Approving the Absences of Board Members from Meetings of the Board of Education, as presented. *Roll Call Vote. Ayes: 4 ( L. Cordero, R. Lara, R. Valencia, J. Hollinshead).*

*Absent: 1. ( L. Cabral). Motion passed.*

**F. Adopt Resolution No. 24-19: Release and Non-Reelection of Probationary Certificated Employees**

Presented by Pete Bland, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources

It was moved by Mr. Hollinshead and seconded by Mr. Valencia that the Board of Education adopt the attached Resolution No. 24-19 authorizing the Non-Reelection of Probationary Certificated Employees, as presented. *Roll Call Vote. Ayes: 4 ( L. Cordero, R. Lara, R. Valencia, J. Hollinshead).*

*Absent: 1. ( L. Cabral). Motion passed.*

**G. Adopt Resolution No. 24-20: Release of Temporary Certificated Employees**

Presented by Pete Bland, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources

It was moved by Mr. Hollinshead and seconded by Mr. Lara that the Board of Education adopt the attached Resolution No. 24-20: Authorizing the Release of Temporary Certificated Employees, as

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

**H. Adopt Resolution No. 24-21: Resolution Reduction or Elimination of Particular Kinds of Services Performed By Certificated Employees**

Presented by Pete Bland, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources

It was moved by Mr. Hollinshead and seconded by Mr. Valencia that the Board of Education adopt Resolution No. 24-21: Authorizing the Reduction or Elimination of Particular Kinds of Services Performed By Certificated Employees, as presented. *Roll Call Vote. Ayes: 4 ( L. Cordero, R. Lara, R. Valencia, J. Hollinshead). Absent: 1. ( L. Cabral). Motion passed.*

**XII. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**A. Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Mid-Year Update**

Presented by Sam Humphrey, Ed.D., Director of Plan Alignment & Implementation

The Board of Education acknowledged receipt of the Local Control and Accountability Plan Mid-Year Update, as presented.

**XIII. NEW BUSINESS**

**Mr. Valencia**

Requested a follow-up on a community member letter from the Lompoc USD who wrote a letter to the president and those in charge of immigration services. He provided this letter to Dr. McDuffie to share with the Board. He invites the Board to look at the letter and draft something similar to Lompoc USD's letter, but in our own spirit, to show our federal government that this is creating fear and anxiety and it is hurting the education of our children.

Requested an updated version of the District's resolution from 2017 that is aligned with what our teacher's union and community members proposed this evening, to let it be known that this is a District that welcomes immigrants and families and that they should not live in fear of deportation.

**Mrs. Cordero**

Noted that a Community Schools item was on our agenda a few meetings ago, and she is hoping to see that again in one of our upcoming meetings.

**XIV. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS**

**Mr. Valencia**

Discussed and shared a press release created by local high school students in regards to participation in recent walk-outs. He also noted that students are going to be attending a PCPA play entitled *Sanctuary City*. His hope is that educators are aware of this play because it deals with the topic of immigration.

Announced that the SMHS Girls Soccer Varsity Team are this year's CIF Champions. He commended the young ladies and their coaches who have devoted years of dedication to get to

this point. These are our young people who are modeling what leadership looks like, and are a major source of pride for our community, despite the challenges currently being faced.

Attended the recent NAACP Black History Month event. He had the pleasure of listening to Congressman Salud Carbajal and Senator Monique Limon, some of our local leaders who represent us at both the local and state level and are both committed to keeping our students safe. He also saw some of our District staff tabling books on black culture at the event. He thanked everyone who was involved.

### **Mr. Hollinshead**

Discussed the Orenda review, noting that it was received enthusiastically by staff. He thanked the deep dive sites.

He would like to have a copy of the DLI presentation that was provided while he was out.

He would also like to get an update on the significant amount of money that was donated to the District for musical instruments a few years ago.

### **Ms. Cabral**

Absent.

### **Mrs. Cordero**

Mrs. Cordero concurred with Mr. Hollinshead in regards to the Orenda review in that it was very well received. She also attended two additional Orenda presentations at school sites as there was so much information to take in.

She attended the last LCAP meeting and, as always, the breakout sessions had interesting conversations and provided more data for us to review.

On Monday afternoon, the Induction Advisory Team met, reviewing the progress of Year 1 and Year 2 candidates. In the two programs there are close to 100 participants.

At the last board meeting, Mrs. Cordero had mentioned that the Santa Barbara County School Board Association will be having their annual dinner on April 16th. As this is the same date as our April board meeting, she is hoping we can possibly readjust our April meeting date.

She is looking forward to reading at schools on 3 different upcoming days for Dr. Seuss Day.

### **Dr. McDuffie**

He discussed the Orenda review, and noted that we will be taking the information we have received to another Orenda event. The event will be attended by 8 "deep dive" principals and a team from Ed Services to discuss upcoming steps. It is an exciting time for us to create fresh systems together, which we have named The Bright Futures Project. This is beyond partnering with Orenda, it is beginning to develop priorities and becoming energized about the things that we are doing.


As Superintendent of SMBSD, Dr. McDuffie reaffirmed our commitment to maintaining a safe and welcoming space for all of our students, families, and staff. He is proud to be in this community, and restated that Santa Maria is a very special place.

He had the pleasure of attending Black History celebrations in both Lompoc on February 16th, and at Allan Hancock College on February 22nd. He stated that District staff passed out books at the AHC event on African American history and culture. He also spoke at the AHC event, and had the opportunity to speak to student leaders as well as Representatives Salud Carbajal, Monique Limon, and Gregg Hart.

#### **XV. ADJOURNMENT**

President Cordero reported that the next SMBSD Regular Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 12, 2025, at 6 p.m

Mrs. Cordero adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m., at which time the Board returned to closed session. Information for Items B and C were shared at that time. Closed Session adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Signed   
Ricky Lara  
Board Clerk

Signed   
Ricardo Valencia  
Board Member