

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

SMBSD Board Room  
708 S. Miller Street  
Santa Maria, CA  
**December 11, 2024**

**ADOPTED**

**I. OPENING BUSINESS**

**A. Call to Order**

President Valencia called the Regular Board Meeting of the Santa Maria-Bonita School District to order at 5:31 p.m.

**B. Roll Call**

**Board Members Present:**

Ricardo Valencia, President  
Linda Cordero, Vice President  
Luz Maria Cabral, Clerk - Absent  
Ricky Lara, Board Member

**Board Member Absent:**

John Hollinshead, Board Member

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

**A. Conference with Labor Negotiators**

Government Code § 54957.6  
Agency Representative: Pete Bland, Ed.D  
Represented Employees: CSEA

**B. Conference with Labor Negotiators**

Government Code § 54957.6  
Agency Representative: Pete Bland, Ed.D.  
Represented Employees: SMEEA

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

Government Code § 54957  
Agency Representative: Pete Bland, Ed.D.

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

No public comments were reported for the Closed Session.

**IV. MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION**

The Board moved into closed session at 5:31 p.m.

**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

President Valencia reported that information was shared for items A, B, and C.

### B. Introduction of Interpreters

### C. Pledge of Allegiance

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

### D. Inspiration

Alvin Elementary School

### E. Student Leader Advisory Team

### F. Key to the District

The Key to the District Award was presented by Board Member Cordero to Maggie White, Public Information Officer.

## VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - OPEN SESSION

### Non-Agenda

**Tina Rios**, parent of a Fesler JHS student, regarding the subject of bullying.

**Alicia Sage**, 8th grade teacher, concerning the accountability of students.

**Juvenal Cortez**, parent of a Miller School student, regarding how LPAC is affecting students at school.

**Gene Blackwell**, 1st Vice President of CSEA Chapter 129, regarding elections.

### Agenda

There were no agendized public comments.

## IX. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS PRESENTED

Dr. McDuffie requested that Action Item C. be moved to the top of the Action Items. It was moved by Mrs. Cordero and seconded by Ms. Cabral 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
- ii. First Reading - Board Policies

### B. BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL CONSENT

- i. Payment of Warrants
- ii. Contracts for Approval or Ratification
- iii. Amend Resolution 23-15: Resolution Authorizing Bonita Municipal Water Supply Financing
- iv. Resolution 24-09: Annual and Five Year Development Fee Reports for 2023-24 Fiscal Year
- v. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. - Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Alvin Elementary School and El Camino Junior High School Bid #5299 – Change Order Number 3
- vi. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. - Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Alvin Elementary School and El Camino Junior High School Bid #5299 – Change Order Number 4
- vii. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. - Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Alvin Elementary School and El Camino Junior High School Bid #5299 – Change Order Number 5
- viii. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. - Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Alvin Elementary School and El Camino Junior High School Bid #5299 – Change Order Number 6
- ix. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Alvin Elementary School and El Camino Junior High School Bid #5299 – Change Order Number 7
- x. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Alvin Elementary School and El Camino Junior High School Bid #5299 – Change Order Number 8
- xi. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Alvin Elementary School and El Camino Junior High School Bid #5299 – Change Order Number 9
- xii. Authorization to File Notice of Completion - Edwards Construction Group, Inc. - Bid #5299 - Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Alvin Elementary School and El Camino Junior High School
- xiii. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Fairlawn and Miller Elementary School Bid #5300 – Change Order Number 2
- xiv. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Fairlawn and Miller Elementary School Bid #5300 – Change Order Number 3
- xv. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Fairlawn and Miller Elementary School Bid #5300 – Change Order Number 4
- xvi. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Fairlawn and Miller Elementary School Bid #5300 – Change Order Number 5
- xvii. Authorization to File Notice of Completion - Edwards Construction Group, Inc. - Bid #5300 - Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Fairlawn and Miller Elementary Schools
- xviii. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. - Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Arellanes and at Battles Elementary Schools and at Fesler Junior High School Bid #5301 - Change Order Number 5
- xix. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. - Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Arellanes and Battles Elementary Schools and at Fesler Junior High School Bid #5301 – Change Order Number 6
- xx. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. - Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Arellanes and Battles Elementary Schools and at Fesler Junior High School Bid #5301 – Change Order Number 7

- xxi. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. - Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Arellanes and Battles Elementary Schools and at Fesler Junior High School Bid #5301 – Change Order Number 8
- xxii. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. - Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Arellanes and Battles Elementary Schools and at Fesler Junior High School Bid #5301 – Change Order Number 9
- xxiii. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. - Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Arellanes and Battles Elementary Schools and at Fesler Junior High School Bid #5301 – Change Order Number 10
- xxiv. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Arellanes and Battles Elementary School and Fesler Junior High School Bid #5301 – Change Order Number 11
- xxv. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Arellanes and Battles Elementary School and Fesler Junior High School Bid #5301 – Change Order Number 12
- xxvi. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Arellanes and Battles Elementary School and Fesler Junior High School Bid #5301 – Change Order Number 13
- xxvii. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Arellanes and Battles Elementary School and Fesler Junior High School Bid #5301 – Change Order Number 14
- xxviii. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Arellanes and Battles Elementary School and Fesler Junior High School Bid #5301 – Change Order Number 15
- xxix. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Arellanes and Battles Elementary School and Fesler Junior High School Bid #5301 – Change Order Number 16
- xxx. Authorization to File Notice of Completion - Edwards Construction Group, Inc. - Bid #5301 - Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Arellanes and Battles Elementary Schools and Fesler Junior High School
- xxxi. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Adam, Oakley, Rice, and Tunnell Elementary Schools Bid #5302 – Change Order Number 8
- xxxii. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Adam, Oakley, Rice, and Tunnell Elementary Schools Bid #5302 – Change Order Number 9
- xxxiii. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Adam, Oakley, Rice, and Tunnell Elementary Schools Bid #5302 – Change Order Number 10
- xxxiv. Edwards Construction Group, Inc. Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Adam, Oakley, Rice, and Tunnell Elementary Schools Bid #5302 – Change Order Number 11
- xxxv. Authorization to File Notice of Completion - Edwards Construction Group, Inc. - Bid # 5302 - Installation of District Provided HVAC Equipment at Adam, Oakley, Rice and Tunnell Elementary Schools
- xxxvi. Authorization to File Notice of Completion for Brazos Urethane, Inc. - Bid #5305 - Roof Restoration at Arellanes Junior High School
- xxxvii. Aventus NV, Inc. - Restroom Conversion Project at Bruce Elementary School Bid #5333 – Change Order Number 1
- xxxviii. Aventus NV, Inc. - Restroom Conversion Project at Bruce Elementary School Bid #5333 – Change Order Number 2
- xxxix. Aventus NV, Inc. - Restroom Conversion Project at Bruce Elementary School Bid #5333 – Change Order Number 3
- xi. Award of Bid #5365 - Bonita Elementary School Playfield Improvements

## C. FACILITIES PLANNING CONSENT

## D. HUMAN RESOURCES CONSENT

- i. **Certificated and Classified Personnel Changes**
- ii. **First Reading of Job Description: JR. High WEB (Where Everybody Belongs) Coordinator**
- iii. **First Reading of the Job Description: Coordinator of Educator Development**
- iv. **First Reading of the Job Description: Program Specialist of Library and Curriculum**
- v. **Approval of the Job Description: Director of Student Services**
- vi. **Approval for the Job Description: Warehouse Supervisor**
- vii. **Approval of the Job Description: Public Information Officer**
- viii. **Approval of the Job Description: Migrant Education Services Supervisor**
- ix. **Ratification of Updated Management Salary Schedule 2023-2024**

## E. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CONSENT

It was moved by Ms. Cordero and seconded by Mrs. Cabral 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

### **C. Hearing Regarding Proposed Resolution 24-11 Constituting the Resolution of Necessity for the Acquisition of Title to Property Interest of the Blosser Southeast Area 5B Elementary and/or Middle School Site** *(moved to front of Action Items)*

Presented by: Matt Beecher, Deputy Superintendent for Business Services

President Valencia opened the hearing at 7:34 p.m.

**Lori Tamura with Urban Planning Concepts, and representing the Blosser Ranch developers,** read a letter for the record in regards to the motion for resolution of necessity. The owners of the property have been in contact with the District and have had several conversations regarding the acquisition of the property. They understand the need for the resolution, but would like to have a few points placed on the record for the Board's understanding. They believe the appraisal provided did not fully recognize the value of the property and have provided an alternative proposal. They will continue to negotiate the value of the land. There is also what they believe to be an inadequate consideration of the infrastructure costs. The property is currently 145 acres of agricultural land. There is currently no water, sewer, roads, etc. in place. The parcel that the District is interested in is internal to this property. Therefore, infrastructure will need to be built and the costs for these needs will need to be negotiated. Additionally, they would also like for developer fee costs, which they believe to be approximately \$9.5 million, be allocated to the purchase of the property. They hope the Board will consider the points outlined in the letter and would like to keep the door open for negotiations.

President Valencia closed the hearing at 7:38 p.m.

Mr. Beecher requested the hearing be reopened and discussion was continued.

President Valencia reopened the hearing at 7:39 p.m. The hearing was closed again at 7:51 p.m.

It was moved by Ms. Cabral and seconded by Mrs. Cordero that the Board of Education ADOPT THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION OF NECESSITY AND AUTHORIZE AND DIRECT THAT EMINENT DOMAIN PROCEEDINGS BE FILED TO ACQUIRE THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, as presented. *Roll Call Vote. Ayes: 4 ( L. Cordero, R. Lara, R. Valencia, L. Cabral). Absent: 1 (J. Hollinshead). Motion passed.*

**A. 2023-24 Audit Report for the Santa Maria-Bonita School District**

Presented by: Matt Beecher, Deputy Superintendent for Business Services/Brian King, Coordinator of Budget and Finance

It was moved by Mr. Lara and seconded by Mrs. Cordero that the Board of Education ACCEPT THE 2023-24 AUDIT REPORT FOR THE SANTA MARIA-BONITA SCHOOL DISTRICT, as presented . *Roll Call Vote. Ayes: 4 ( L. Cordero, R. Lara, R. Valencia, L. Cabral). Absent: 1 (J. Hollinshead). Motion passed.*

**B. Certification of the First Interim Report for 2024-25**

Presented by: Matt Beecher, Deputy Superintendent for Business Services/Brian King, Coordinator of Budget and Finance

It was moved by Mrs. Cordero and seconded by Mr. Lara that the Board of Education ISSUE A POSITIVE CERTIFICATION OF THE 2024-25 FIRST INTERIM REPORT AND CERTIFY TO THE SANTA BARBARA COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS THAT THE SANTA MARIA-BONITA SCHOOL DISTRICT WILL BE ABLE TO MEET ITS FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS FOR THE 2024-25, 2025-26, AND 2026-27 FISCAL YEARS, as presented. *Roll Call Vote. Ayes: 4 ( L. Cordero, R. Lara, R. Valencia, L. Cabral). Absent: 1 (J. Hollinshead). Motion passed.*

## XII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

**A. Food Services Program Update**

Presented by Matt Beecher, Deputy Superintendent for Business Services/Laurel Goins, Coordinator, Food Services

The Board of Education acknowledged receipt of the Food Services Program Update, as presented.

## XIII. NEW BUSINESS

**Mr. Lara**

- Requested feedback on how we are moving forward with the subject of Artificial Intelligence (AI) within the District.

**Mrs. Cordero**

- She is looking forward to having updates regarding some of the issues that have been brought to the Board's attention within the next several months, if that is possible. Particularly with policies and procedures that are in place - and with what things are working and what is not.

**Mr. Valencia**

- Requested that Food Service updates be received by the Board at least twice annually.

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

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

- Noted that he recently attended the recent CSBA Conference. It was very interesting and well presented.
- He talked about how happy he was to happen to see a former Tunnell student who is vision impaired, while he was at the bank. They had a great conversation and it was wonderful to see him doing so well after so many years.

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

- Discussed her attendance at the CSBA Conference. She particularly enjoyed the Empowering Student Voices from Classroom to Boardroom panel which showcased San Bernardino USD student board members. She would like to see student board members implemented as a combination between the high school district and our district possibly sometime in the future.

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

- Noted that the CSBA Conference was very well organized. The facility where it was held was great. She attended classes regarding changes in policies and law in California, as well as some of the controversial issues occurring in education. She also attended a couple classes related to school finance and the upcoming budget issues we might be facing. She noted that the AI classes were also very interesting. Additionally, she also sat in on a presentation entitled The Science of Reading. Overall, a lot of very good information was presented at the conference.

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

- Discussed his attendance at the conference as well, noting that he particularly enjoyed the presentation on happiness that included research on mental health. He added that there were many wonderful insights and suggestions provided. Also, he reminded staff to take care of themselves and make time for their own mental health. He appreciates all the hard work staff are doing for our students, and wishes everyone an enjoyable time off over this holiday.

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


- He also discussed the CSBA conference, adding that one of the subjects presented was in regards to immigration, and the resources available in regards to the laws that protect schools. He would like to reiterate to families that our students are safe in our schools and that the privacy laws that protect them are in place. He wishes to dispel any rumors that may be giving families anxiety. The district will be sending out messages to families regarding before the winter break.
- There will be a final Robotics Tournament held at Delta High School this week. There will be 34 teams and most are from SMBSD.
- The Annual School Board Organizational Meeting will be held this Friday, Dec 13th, at 4 p.m.
- The 23rd Annual Migrant Family Conference will be held on Dec 21st at El Camino JHS. The event is free for all migrant families.
- Dr. McDuffie is excited about the work we will continue in 2025!
- He wishes happy holidays to everyone.


#### **XV. ADJOURNMENT**

President Valencia reported that the SMBSD Annual Organizational Meeting will be held this Friday, December 13, 2024 at 4 p.m.

It was moved by Mrs. Cabral and seconded by Ms. Cordero to adjourn the meeting. Ayes: 4 (L. Cordero, R. Lara, R. Valencia, L. Cabral). Absent: 1 (J. Hollinshead). Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Signed   
Luz Maria Cabral  
Board Clerk

Signed   
Ricky Lara  
Board Member