

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

SMBSD Board Room
708 S. Miller Street
Santa Maria, CA
May 28, 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
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

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 5:17 p.m.

V. CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

VI. ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION

VII. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened in open session at 6:04 p.m.

A. Report from Closed Session

Item A: Dr. McDuffie announced that the Board approved the appointment of the following individual, by unanimous vote:

Issac Lee, Elementary Assistant Principal.

Ayes: 5 (L. Cordero, J. Hollinshead, L. Cabral, R. Lara, R. Valencia). Motion passed.

Items B and C: President Cordero reported that information was shared.

B. Introduction of Interpreters

C. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Gina Danley.

D. Student Leader Advisory Team

E. Recognition

Volleyball, track, and game changer awards were presented.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - OPEN SESSION

Non-Agenda Comments:

Cheryl Ausan expressed concern regarding the food services department hiring new supervisors.

Desirae Felix regarding revamping inclusion.

Erika Hanson requested that wood chip ground covering at Bruce playground to be accessible coverings similar to recent playground renovations.

Agenda Comments:

None reported.

IX. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS PRESENTED

Dr. McDuffie requested that Action item XI.f for Pathful be pulled. It was moved by Mr. Valencia and seconded by Mr. Lara to approve the agenda, as presented. Roll call vote. Ayes: 5 (R. Valencia, J. Hollinshead, L. Cabral, and L. Cordero, R. Lara). Motion passed.

X. CONSENT ITEMS

A. GENERAL CONSENT

- i. Minutes of the Board of Education
- ii. Second Reading and Approval - Board Policies

B. BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL CONSENT

- i. Contracts for Approval or Ratification
- ii. Reject all Bids for BID #5372 - Administration and Multipurpose Room Mechanical Improvements at Fairlawn and Miller Elementary Schools

- iii. Reject All Bids for BID #5373 - Gym Mechanical Improvements at El Camino Junior High School
- iv. Reject All Bids for BID #5374 - Mechanical Improvements at Rice and Tunnell Elementary Schools
- v. Award of BID #5376 - Restroom Improvements at Ontiveros Elementary School
- vi. Award of BID #5377 - Installation of District-Provided Flooring at Fairlawn Elementary School (REBID)
- vii. Award of RFSQ #5385 - On-Call DSA Project Inspection Services
- viii. Award of BID #5395 - Built-Up Roof Replacement at Five (5) District School Sites
- ix. Award BID #5399 - Asbestos Abatement at Fairlawn Elementary School
- x. Energy Services District-Wide Solar Project - Change Order Number 1
- xi. Energy Services District-Wide Solar Project - Change Order Number 2

C. FACILITIES PLANNING CONSENT

D. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CONTENT

E. HUMAN RESOURCES CONSENT

- i. Certificated and Classified Personnel Changes
- ii. First Reading of Job Description: Augmentative and Alternative Communication Specialist (AAC)
- iii. Second Reading and Approval of Job Description: Food Service Supervisor

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

XI. ACTION ITEMS

A. Public Hearing - The Education Protection Account (EPA) 2025-26

The Public Hearing was opened at 6:50 p.m. With no comments presented, the hearing was closed at 6:50 p.m.

B. Resolution 24-33: The Education Protection Account (EPA) 2025-26

Presented by: Matthew Beecher, Deputy Superintendent for Business Services

It was moved by Ms. Cabral and seconded by Mr. Hollinshead that the Board of Education adopt Resolution 24-33: The Education Protection Account (EPA) 2025-26, as presented.

Roll Call Vote. Ayes: 5. R. Valencia, J. Hollinshead, L. Cabral, and L. Cordero, R. Lara. Motion passed.

C. Resolution 24-34: Mental Health Awareness Month

Presented by: Dr. Darren McDuffie, Superintendent

It was moved by Mr. Lara and seconded by Ms. Carbal that the Board of Education adopt

Resolution 24-34: Mental Health Awareness Month, as presented.

Roll Call Vote. Ayes: 5. R. Valencia, J. Hollinshead, L. Cabral, and L. Cordero, R. Lara.
Motion passed.

D. Resolution 24-35: Recognizing June as Pride Month

Presented by: Dr. Darren McDuffie, Superintendent

It was moved by Ms. Cabral and seconded by Mr. Valencia that the Board of Education adopt Resolution 24-35: Recognizing June as Pride Month, as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: 5. R. Valencia, J. Hollinshead, L. Cabral, and L. Cordero, R. Lara.
Motion passed.

E. Approval of Contract for WestEd PLC Support

Presented by: Katie Salcido, Ed.D. , Director, Teaching and Learning Core

It was moved by Mr. Hollinshead and seconded by Ms. Cabral that the Board of Education APPROVE THE CONTRACT FOR WESTED PLC SUPPORT, as presented.

Ayes: 5 (R. Valencia, J. Hollinshead, L. Cabral, and L. Cordero, R. Lara). Motion passed.

F. Approval of Contract for Pathful Inc.

The item was pulled.

G. Approval for Migrant Students to Participate in the Engineering Possibilities in College (EPIC) Summer Residential Program at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, June 29-July 3, 2025

Presented by: Eduardo Panting, Director of Migrant Education Program-DFD 22

It was moved by Mr. Lara and Seconded by Ms. Cabral that the Board of Education approve the participation of Migrant Students in the EPIC SUMMER RESIDENTIAL PROGRAM AT CAL POLY SAN LUIS OBISPO, JUNE 29-JULY 3, 2025, as presented.

Ayes: 5 (R. Valencia, J. Hollinshead, L. Cabral, and L. Cordero, R. Lara). Motion passed.

H. Approval for Middle School Migrant Students to Participate in the Summer Algebra Academy at the University of California Santa Barbara, June 22-27, 2025

Presented by: Eduardo Panting, Director of Migrant Education Program-DFD 22

It was moved by Mr. Valencia and seconded by Mr. Lara That the Board of Education approve the participation of Migrant Students in the SUMMER ALGEBRA ACADEMY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SANTA BARBARA, JUNE 22 – 27, 2025, as presented.

Ayes: 5 (R. Valencia, J. Hollinshead, L. Cabral, and L. Cordero, R. Lara). Motion passed.

I. Approval to Engage Educational Management Solutions (EMS) for a Compensation and Job Description Review and Study

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

It was moved by Ms. Cabral and seconded by Mr. Valencia that the Board of Education APPROVE THE ENGAGEMENT OF EDUCATIONAL MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS (EMS) TO CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE COMPENSATION AND JOB DESCRIPTION REVIEW AND STUDY FOR THE DISTRICT, as presented.

Ayes: 5 (R. Valencia, J. Hollinshead, L. Cabral, and L. Cordero, R. Lara). Motion passed.

J. Award BID #5384 - Battles Elementary School New TK-K Building and Site Upgrades

Presented by: Matt Beecher, Deputy Superintendent for Business Services

It was moved by Mr. Valencia and seconded by Ms. Cabral that the Board of Education approve Resolution 24-29, as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: 5. R. Valencia, J. Hollinshead, L. Cabral, and L. Cordero, R. Lara.
Motion passed.

XII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Strategic Celebration

Presented by: Katie Salcido, Ed.D., Director, Teaching and Learning Core, Pete Bland, Ed.D, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, Tammie Castillo-Shiffer, Ed.D., Matt Beecher, Deputy Superintendent for Business Services, Armando Uribe, Director, Special Education, Noha Kolkailah, TOSA, Culture and Climate, Laurel Goins, Coordinator, Food Services, Mark Palmerston, Ed.D., Director, Student Services, and Maijue Lochungvu, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services. .

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

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Valencia

Requested a board presentation be provided in the coming months regarding the number of students that are reading and writing at grade level, along with an update on the progress that is being made in these areas.

Mr. Hollinshead

Asked Dr. Castillo-Shiffer if she could share information with the Board in regards to how our Spanish students are doing at the high schools, as well as how our students are doing here at SMBSD. He also asked the board to consider moving the July 9th meeting to July 16th.

Mr. Lara

None

Ms. Cabral

None

Mrs. Cordero

Requested an update on migrant criteria.

In light of a recent incident, she asked if there is a protocol in place regarding reporting issues with students on the buses. How is this being addressed, in the interest of keeping everyone safe.

XIV. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Mr. Valencia

He is excited about the opportunities to honor students and their families at the upcoming promotions and graduations, and he hopes that the students participating have a great time! He spoke about the importance of honoring one's culture during these celebrations, such as the wearing of promotional cultural sashes (which he wore this evening) as well as attending cultural celebrations.

He reported his attendance at the 2025 Education Celebration which is a county-wide event. He thanked those who coordinated this wonderful event and for bringing people together.

Mr. Valencia also reported his attendance at the recent clear credential celebration.

He wanted to give major props to those who work in our art programs. He discussed a recent art show that he attended at the SM Library called *Beyond the Frame*, which featured our local students.

Encouraged all staff to participate in ongoing learning opportunities of our indigenous communities. He would also like to have a study session of some sort in the next few months in regards to this subject, and how our board can better serve our community. He is looking forward to having more conversations about this.

He thanked everyone for a wonderful school year, and hopes everyone gets lots of rest and has the opportunity to spend time with family and friends.

Mr. Hollinshead

He appreciated all the presentations that were made tonight.

He noted that at the last board meeting we celebrated the Day of the Teacher, and that he wanted to thank all teachers for their dedication both in and outside of the classroom this evening as well, and for both bettering and preparing themselves to help our kids. He admires all of you for your professionalism. He added that when he visits classrooms, he always appreciates the different artistry and how the teachers are engaging with their students. He added that he had some great visits with Julie Denton at Miller, Mrs. Gamboa, Emily Peck, and several others.

Sent special retirement thanks to our retirees including Marilyn Jackson and Luke Laurie.

Mr. Hollinshead has been talking with employees at the high school district (where he also coaches). He discussed the subject of college readiness. He added that we have a lot more kids qualified to attend four-year colleges, but that the numbers are not really seeing this. He added that there is still a lot of mindset that we can change and that we can establish this thought process before high school. He would love to see us continue to work on our articulation of our counseling staff with the high school counselors. He believes that we can start to better prepare our kids for understanding college requirements early on, here at the district level.

He also discussed his attendance at the same art show that Mr. Valencia attended. He would like to see expansions of art to include theatre and other forms of art as well. He appreciates the efforts of Kurt Payne and teachers at our junior highs for events such as these .

Mr. Lara - No report.

Ms. Cabral

She attended last Thursday's Credential Graduation in Thousand Oaks, with 19 graduates. She is very excited for them and is looking forward to seeing them in the fall.

She hopes that everyone enjoys the last 9 days of school!

Mrs. Cordero

Reported her attendance at the graduation of 19 residents through Cal Lutheran, as well as the induction ceremony yesterday for our 2-year teachers - there were 44 teachers, and all but 1 were from our district. Congratulations to them for their dedication. It was very affirming for her to see those coming into the profession receiving so much support in their pursuit. We definitely need to continue to grow, and "growing our own" is definitely a testament to making improvements for our students.

She attended both the SMEEA and CSEA celebrations - there was lots of participation and excitement on many levels at both events. They are always fun events to attend!

The recent track meet was spectacular - and the weather was perfect.

She will be helping tomorrow at the Scholarship Foundation Awards program at the SM Fairpark, where students from north county high schools will be receiving scholarships. This event is something she has participated in since she has retired.

Discussed her attendance at the Capital Facilities Corporation this week. These meeting don't generally come up to often for recognition, but she sends her kudos to Mr. Beecher and staff for keeping us on the straight and narrow and meeting our facilities needs.

Mrs. Cordero reported her attendance at the reclassification ceremonies at several schools recently. She attended one at Fesler last night for 88 students. It was a very heartwarming event. There will be another ceremony tomorrow night at Fairlawn for 108 students, which is- a big event as well.

There are a lot of opportunities for celebrations coming up: will be recognizing our retirees next week on the 4th, and of course our celebrations for all the students that will be going on to high school.

She hopes everyone has had a productive year, and thanks everyone for their dedication and hard work.

Mrs. Cordero also acknowledged the passing of a long time SMBSD employee and friend, Kathryn Bernard.

Dr. McDuffie

Dr. McDuffie stated that he feels very blessed to be here in this community.

He thanked the employees in the audience this evening for their presentations on the district's strategic plan.

He has been at school sites recently handing out anniversary pins.


He played some basketball on Friday at Miller with the kids!

Dr. McDuffie also discussed our district's beliefs, and that he wants this to be something we continue to aspire to.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

President Cordero reported that the next SMBSD Regular Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at 6 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

Signed 
Ricky Lara
Board Clerk

Signed 
Ricardo Valencia
Board Member