



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

REGULAR MEETING
September 11, 2025 – 1:00 p.m.

MINUTES

The Santa Barbara County Board of Education held this meeting on Thursday, September 11, 2025 at the 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 1:05 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 (via Zoom)
Felicita Torres, legal counsel (via Zoom)
Anna Freedland, executive assistant

Marc Cunningham Isabel Guerrero Steve Torres
Kirsten Escobedo Don Lockwood

Others Present

Hugo Santos-Gomez, interpreter
Regina Santos-Moreno, interpreter
Parties involved in the interdistrict attendance transfer appeals

5. Changes to the Agenda

None.

6. President and Board Comments

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

- Recognition of it being Patriot Day, in remembrance of September 11th, 2001.
- Board Member Read shared about start of school events happening in the Lompoc Unified School District: lunch on the lawns and club rushes.
- Board Member Frost shared that she attended the Allan Hancock College's "Hancock Honors" gala last Saturday evening, honoring Dr. Henry Davis, who was a recipient of SBCEO's Operation Recognition program, and Jim Glines of the Santa Ynez Valley Foundation.
- Board Member Armistead shared that she attended an event at Isla Vista School where the school was honored for its internationally recognized model called "PLCs at Work."
- Board Member Walker reported on the California School Boards Association (CSBA) County Board Conference that he recently attended in Monterey.
- Board President Carty reported that south county schools were restricting the use of cell phones by students during the school day, including, newly, on junior high school campuses. She shared that the board would receive a presentation in the future by TechWell.

7. Public Comments

None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

8. Superintendent's Report

The superintendent's report was presented as an information item. In the written report, Dr. Salcido highlighted that the Santa Maria-Bonita School District rescinded its request to take back special education preschool programs from SBCEO. She also mentioned the I Madonnari Festival postcards that were at board member places. The superintendent stated that she would share, at a future board meeting, about some recent school visits.

CONSENT AGENDA

The board approved all consent agenda items:

9. Minutes of Meeting Held August 14, 2025

10. Minutes of Special Meeting Held August 21, 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 July 7, 2025 to August 6, 2025, and the issuance of temporary county certificates for that same time period.

12. Acceptance of Donations

Acceptance of donations for the following departments:

- Teacher Programs and Support
- Superintendent's Office

13. Declaration of Surplus

Declaration of surplus for the following departments:

- Early Care and Education
- Health Linkages
- Information Technology Services
- Juvenile Court and Community Schools

Motion to approve all consent items:

MOVED: Mrs. Frost

SECONDED: Mrs. Alvarez Flores VOTE: Passed 7-0

INFORMATION ITEM

14. Personnel Report

The certificated and classified personnel reports were presented as an information item.

CLOSED SESSION

15. 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 1:19 p.m. and present were board members; Dr. Susan Salcido, county superintendent of schools; Steve Torres, associate superintendent; Kirsten Escobedo, associate superintendent; Marc Cunningham, director of facilities; Felicita Torres, legal counsel (via Zoom); Austin Payne, legal counsel (via Zoom); and Anna Freedland, executive assistant.

Properties: 1) two properties in Santa Maria, CA; 2) property in Goleta, CA. Agency designated representatives: Dr. Susan Salcido, superintendent, and Steve Torres, associate superintendent. Negotiating parties: [confidential] for Santa Maria properties and the Goleta property. Instructions to negotiators regarding price, terms, and conditions.

MOTION: To cancel escrow and not move forward with the purchase of the Fesler Street, Santa Maria property.

MOVED: **Mrs. Frost** SECONDED: **Mr. Walker** VOTE: **Passed 7-0**

MOTION: To cancel escrow and not move forward with the purchase of the Cremona Drive, Goleta property.

MOVED: **Ms. Ehrman** SECONDED: **Mr. Walker** VOTE: **Passed 7-0**

The board reconvened at 1:53 p.m. in open session and the president reported the board actions taken in closed session.

CLOSED SESSION – ACTION ITEM

16. Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Hearings – Closed Session

The appeal hearings regarding the denials for interdistrict attendance by the Orcutt Union School District were scheduled at the request of the parents of students T26-07, T26-08, and T26-09. Board President Carty presided. Director of Child Welfare and Attendance Dr. Elise Simmons provided introductory

Student T26-09

The parents of Student T26-09 and the student were present. The hearing began at 3:21 p.m.

After hearing statements by both the appellant and the respondent school district, Board President Carty declared the hearing closed for board deliberations.

MOTION on Student T26-09: Uphold the decision of the Orcutt Union School District and deny the interdistrict transfer.

MOVED: **Mrs. Frost**

SECONDED: **Mr. Walker**

Ayes: Alvarez Flores / Armistead / Carty / Ehrman / Frost / Read / Walker

Noes: None

Absent: None

Abstain: None

VOTE: **Motion Passed 7-0-0-0**

The hearing concluded at 3:47 p.m.

The board reconvened at 3:49 p.m. in open session and the president reported the board actions taken in closed session for Students T26-07, T26-08, and T26-09.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

17. Future agenda items

The following were mentioned as potential future agenda items:

- Presentation by TechWell
- Presentation by Chris Gardner
- Review Board Policy on interdistrict attendance appeals

ADJOURNMENT

18. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:08 p.m. to the next regular meeting to be held October 9, 2025 in Santa Maria

MOVED: **Mrs. Alvarez Flores**

SECONDED: **Dr. Armistead**

VOTE: **Passed 7-0**

Marybeth Carty, President
County Board of Education

Dr. Susan Salcido, Secretary
County Board of Education