

Santa Ana Unified School District
1601 East Chestnut Avenue
Santa Ana, CA 92701

MINUTES

Special Board Meeting - Governance Workshop
Santa Ana Board of Education

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

1. CALL TO ORDER

Board President Bustos called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

Other members present were Ms. Magdaleno, Dr. Alvarez, and Ms. Lebsack.

Mr. Bustos announced the closed session agenda item as follows: Existing Litigation. He asked if there was anyone wishing to address the Board related to closed session items. There was no one wishing to address the Board related to closed session items.

2. RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

The Special Board meeting recessed to closed session at 5:03 p.m.

Ms. Brazer Aceves joined the meeting at 5:09 p.m.

3. RECONVENE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

The Special Board meeting reconvened at 6:03 p.m.

Cabinet members present were Superintendent Almendarez, Dr. Perez, Ms. Flores, Mr. Hacker, and Ms. Barquin with Mr. Walstrom not present.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Superintendent Almendarez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mr. Bustos read the following land acknowledgement: *"I want to recognize that our District and school campuses are located in the Village of Pasbenga. I want to acknowledge that this land we refer to as Orange County, is the unceded and traditional lands of the Gabrieleno Tongva Nation, and the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation. These lands were taken through a process of colonization, physical, and cultural genocide. I want to pay my respect to elders, both past and present, as well as the Tongva and Acjachemen youth who have attended and are currently attending our schools in neighboring districts."*

6. PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

Mr. Bustos asked if there was anyone wishing to address the Board related to the Special Board Meeting agenda. There was one public speaker who addressed governance and teacher layoffs.

7. PRESENTATION

7.1 Santa Ana Unified School District Board Metric Update

Superintendent Almendarez and Deputy Superintendent Dr. Perez provided a brief introduction to the presentation. Dr. Perez introduced Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Bianca Barquin who presented alongside the following Educational Services Team as follows: Diana Torres, Executive Director K-12 Teaching and Learning; Rae Rice, Executive Director of Special Education; Dr. Emily Wolk, Executive Director of

Research and Evaluation; Alexander (Alex) Nedelkow, Director of ELD Bilingual Programs; Michele DeJournett, Executive Director of Support Services; Maricela Roque, Director of Elementary Student Achievement; Leticia Alvarado, Executive Director K-12 Teaching and Learning; Celeste Migliaccio, Director of Secondary Student Achievement/Charter Schools; presented. Staff provided a progress update on the 2023-24 academic year and inform the Board of any plan adjustments for the 2024-25 academic year. Topics covered included academic performance and strategies, student support interventions, data analysis and continuous improvement, equity in education, and operational efficiency & family engagement.

Motioned by Ms. Magdaleno, second by Ms. Brazer Aceves to continue the meeting until 12:00 a.m.

Motion Carries: 4-1

Yes: Mr. Bustos, Ms. Brazer Aceves, Ms. Magdaleno, Ms. Lebsack

No: Dr. Alvarez

The Superintendent was directed to provide regular updates on student achievement metrics. Board members asked that site Administrators ensure implementation of intervention programs and making real-time adjustments based on effectiveness. They asked staff to analyze and report on learning gaps at individual school sites, and to present data-driven improvement plans. Additionally, a plan was approved to create a governance calendar for tracking progress and ensuring accountability.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business to come before the Board, President Bustos adjourned the meeting at 11:54 p.m.

9. FUTURE MEETING

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Education will be held on Tuesday, February 25, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

ATTEST:


Superintendent