



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

REGULAR MEETING

October 9, 2025 – 2:00 p.m.

MINUTES

The Santa Barbara County Board of Education held this meeting on Thursday, October 9, 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 2:13 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 as well as in person.

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
Guy Walker

Board Members Absent

Sarah Anne Read

Staff Members Present

Susan Salcido, superintendent
Austin Payne, legal counsel
Felicita Torres, legal counsel (via Zoom)
Arlene Sherchan, administrative assistant

Ellen Barger	Kirsten Escobedo	Donald Lockwood
Camie Barnwell	Andy Evans	Elise Simmons
Bridget Baublits	Nicole Evenson	Steve Torres
Gina Branum	Mari Gonzales	
Marc Cunningham	Isabel Guerrero	

Others Present

Joe Howell, former trustee
Hugo Santos-Gomez, interpreter
Regina Santos-Moreno, interpreter
Andrew Jose Garcia Vazquez, scholarship recipient
Friends and family of scholarship recipient
Member of the media
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:

- The Spread Goodness Challenge by Lisa Lang.
- President Carty thanked Dr. Salcido for inviting her to visit schools in the Carpinteria Unified School District.
- Trainings offered by the Association of California County Boards of Education (ACCBE).

7. Public Comments

None.

8. PRESENTATION

The board and superintendent awarded the Joe Howell Legacy Scholarship, to Andrew Jose Garcia Vazquez, the first recipient of the scholarship, which was established to support individuals in their pursuit of higher education or career training. Mr. Garcia Vazquez, a former student at Dos Puertas School, a program of

SBCEO's Juvenile Court and Community Schools, was presented with a check and a Certificate of Achievement.

CLOSED SESSION – ACTION ITEM

9. Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Hearing – Closed Session

The appeal hearing regarding the denial for interdistrict attendance by the Orcutt Union School District was scheduled at the request of the parents of Student T26-10. Board President Carty presided, Director of Child Welfare and Attendance Dr. Elise Simmons provided introductory comments. Since the parents of Student T26-10 had previously requested a closed session hearing, the board adjourned to closed session and the hearing began at 3:04 p.m.

Present were: Board members, County Superintendent of Schools Dr. Susan Salcido, Associate Superintendent Bridget Baublits, County Education Office Counsel Austin Payne, Director of Child Welfare and Attendance Dr. Elise Simmons, Orcutt Union School District (OUSD) Assistant Superintendents Sandy Knight and Joe Schmidt, OUSD Director of Special Education Christy Callaghan, OUSD Counsel Sarah Garcia, the parent of Student T26-10, legal counsel for Student T26-10, and Administrative Assistant Arlene Sherchan.

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

At 4:10 p.m. the board adjourned closed session and reconvened to open session and reported the board action.

Open Session

MOTION: Uphold the decision of the Orcutt Union School District and deny the interdistrict attendance transfer for Student T26-10.

MOVED: **Mrs. Forst**

SECONDED: **Mr. Walker**

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

Noes: None

Absent: Read

Abstain: None

VOTE: **Passed 6-0-1-0**

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

10. Superintendent's Report

The superintendent's report was presented as an information item. Dr. Salcido also shared the following information:

- A Salute to Teachers – The superintendent reminded the board to RSVP for the A Salute to Teachers gala on Saturday, October 25.

- Kids at the Bowl – Dr. Salcido shared photos and videos from the Kids at the Bowl event held at the Santa Barbara Bowl where junior high and high school students enjoyed a performance by the band Las Cafeteras. She shared the event was put on by the Children’s Creative Project, a non-profit organization administered by SBCEO.
- Superintendents’ Advance (Retreat) – The superintendent reported that she and the district superintendents of Santa Barbara County held an annual retreat recently at the new Chumash Museum and Cultural Center in Santa Ynez.
- SBCEO Leadership Retreat – Dr. Salcido shared that she held the annual Leadership Retreat for SBCEO managers and supervisors recently in Santa Maria, which included a tour of the Mark Richardson Career Technical Education (CTE) Center and Agricultural Farm while students were in session. She shared that two guests joined the tour: Board Member Alvarez Flores and Personnel Commissioner Mike Ostini.
- Artificial intelligence (AI) virtual workshops – The superintendent reported that SBCEO’s Curriculum & Instruction division would hold virtual workshops on AI throughout the school year for educators.
- Board Committee meetings – Dr. Salcido briefly mentioned a couple of upcoming board committee meetings.
- The superintendent distributed flyers for the following events:
 - Children’s Creative Project’s 50th anniversary event, called “Piece Time,” on October 11.
 - “Counted Out” film screening, about the impact and importance of mathematics, on October 9 sponsored by SBCEO and the Santa Barbara Education Foundation.
 - SBCEO School Safety Symposium on October 14.
- The superintendent distributed the following handouts:
 - SBCEO’s 2025 Report to the Community
 - A legal-size document showing SBCEO associate superintendents and superintendent on one side and the school district superintendents and charter school leaders on the other side.
 - Santa Barbara County Board of Education: Our Work, Our Impact

INFORMATION ITEMS

11. State Board Authorized Charter School Renewal Process

Associate Superintendent of Student and Community Services Bridget Baublits provided information on the unique renewal process of a State Board-authorized charter school. Mrs. Baublits shared that Olive Grove Charter School was authorized by the state and was in the process of seeking renewals in each of the districts in which it operated.

12. Personnel Report

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

13. Williams Uniform Complaints Quarterly Report

The Williams Uniform Complaints Quarterly Report indicating no complaints filed for the period of July 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025, for Juvenile Court and Community Schools, and Special Education, was presented to the board as an information item.

CONSENT AGENDA

The board approved all consent agenda items:

14. Minutes of Meeting Held September 11, 2025

15. 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 August 7, 2025 to September 6, 2025, and the issuance of temporary county certificates for that same time period.

16. Acceptance of Donations

Acceptance of donations for the following departments:

- Curriculum and Instruction
- Superintendent's Office

17. Declaration of Surplus

Declaration of surplus for the following departments:

- Internal Services – Fiscal Services
- Information Technology Services
- Maintenance and Operations
- Special Education

18. Issuance of High School Graduation Diploma

Issuance of a high school graduation diploma to the following student:

Dos Puertas School

- Student CSIS # 5775927401 – August 25, 2025

Motion to approve all consent items:

MOVED: Mrs. Frost SECONDED: Mrs. Alvarez Flores VOTE: Passed 6-0-1-0

ACTION ITEMS

19. Reimburse Expenses for Board Members to Attend the California School Boards Association (CSBA) Annual Education Conference December, 2025

The board approved the reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses for board members to attend the California School Boards Association's Annual Education Conference, December 3-5, 2025, in Sacramento, if requested, in accordance with Board Policy 9250.

MOVED: **Dr. Armistead** SECONDED: **Mrs. Frost** VOTE: **Passed 6-0-1-0**

20. Recommended Adoption of Resolution Proclaiming Red Ribbon Week

The board adopted Resolution No. 2602 proclaiming October 23-31, 2025, as Red Ribbon Week in Santa Barbara County.

Ayes: 6 Noes: 0 Absent: 1 Abstain: 0
MOVED: **Dr. Armistead** SECONDED: **Ms. Ehrman** VOTE: **Passed 6-0-1-0**

21. Recommended Adoption of Gann Resolution

The board adopted Resolution No. 2603 for the Gann Appropriations Limit Calculation.

Ayes: 6 Noes: 0 Absent: 1 Abstain: 0
MOVED: **Mrs. Alvarez Flores** SECONDED: **Dr. Armistead** VOTE: **Passed 6-0-1-0**

22. Recommended Adoption of Resolution – Authorization to Enter into Agreements with the California Department of Education for Early Care and Education Services FY 2026-27

The board adopted Resolution No. 2604 authorizing the Santa Barbara County Education Office to enter into agreements with the California Department of Education and designating personnel authorized to sign and renew contracts for the purpose of providing early care and education services for the 2026-27 fiscal year.

Ayes: 6 Noes: 0 Absent: 1 Abstain: 0
MOVED: **Dr. Armistead** SECONDED: **Mrs. Alvarez Flores** VOTE: **Passed 6-0-1-0**

23. Recommended Adoption of Resolution – Authorization to Enter into Agreements with the California Department of Social Services for Early Care and Education Services FY 2026-27

The board adopted Resolution No. 2605 authorizing the Santa Barbara County Education Office to enter into agreements with the California Department of Social

Services and designating personnel authorized to sign and renew contracts for the purpose of providing early care and education services for the 2026-27 fiscal year.

Ayes: 6 Noes: 0 Absent: 1 Abstain: 0
MOVED: **Dr. Armistead** SECONDED: **Mrs. Alvarez Florez** VOTE: **Passed 6-0-1-0**

24. Recommended Adoption of Juvenile Court and Community Schools Curriculum

The board adopted the Amplify Desmos Mathematics and Vista English Language Development curriculum for use in the Juvenile Court and Community Schools program.

Ayes: 6 Noes: 0 Absent: 1 Abstain: 0
MOVED: **Dr. Armistead** SECONDED: **Mr. Walker** VOTE: **Passed 6-0-1-0**

CLOSED SESSION

25. Conference with Real Property Negotiator (Government Code § 54956.8) – Closed Session

The board held a closed session to discuss the purchase of a property in Santa Maria. The closed session began at 5:12 p.m. and present were board members; Dr. Susan Salcido, county superintendent of schools; Steve Torres, associate superintendent; Marc Cunningham, director of facilities; Austin Payne, legal counsel; Felicita Torres, legal counsel (via Zoom); and Arlene Sherchan, administrative assistant.

No action was taken.

At 5:23 p.m. the board adjourned closed session and reconvened to open session.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

26. Future agenda items

The president mentioned the future agenda items that were listed on the agenda as an information item:

- Presentation by TechWell, about reducing screen time in schools, in November.
- Presentation on SBCEO's Career Technical Education department in November.

The following were mentioned as potential future agenda items:

- Presentation on human trafficking in Santa Barbara County, including information from the District Attorney’s Office.
- Presentation on inclusion and what it means.

ADJOURNMENT

27. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m. to the next regular meeting to be held November 13, 2025, in Santa Barbara.

MOVED: Dr. Armistead SECONDED: Mrs. Alvarez Flores VOTE: Passed 6-0

Marybeth Carty, President
County Board of Education

Dr. Susan Salcido, Secretary
County Board of Education