



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

REGULAR MEETING
November 13, 2025 – 2:00 p.m.

MINUTES

UNAPPROVED

GENERAL FUNCTIONS

1. Call to Order

The regular meeting of the County Board of Education was called to order at 2:00 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
Sarah Anne Read
Guy Walker

Board Member Absent

Judith Frost

Staff Members Present

Susan Salcido, superintendent
Austin Payne, legal counsel
Felicita Torres, legal counsel
Anna Freedland, executive assistant

Eugenia Ambrocio	Nicole Evenson	Sean O'Brien	Elise Simmons
Gina Branum	Mari Gonzales	Vera Owens	Steve Torres
Sarah Cameron	Jeanette Hatfield	Andreo Palacol	Rene Wheeler
Marc Cunningham	Don Lockwood	Christine Petrone	

Others Present

Kristen Hughes, TechWell
Kymberly Ozbirn, TechWell
Hugo Santos-Gomez, interpreter (via Zoom)
Regina Santos-Moreno, interpreter (via Zoom)

5. Changes to the Agenda

None.

6. President and Board Comments

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

- Board Member Walker shared about a visit to Oak Valley School in the Buellton Union School District with Dr. Salcido. He also reported that they met with staff of the new Chumash Museum and the Chumash tribe.
- Board Member Ehrman shared that she attended the following events: A Salute to Teachers, Peter B. FitzGerald Community School's Dia de los Muertos event, and the Community Environmental Council's Youth Climate Workshop, including participating on a panel.
- Board President Carty stated that she also attended A Salute to Teachers and as well as an Association of California County Boards of Education (ACCBE) webinar on the Brown Act.

7. Public Comments

None.

PRESENTATIONS

8. Presentation by TechWell

Co-founders of TechWell, Dr. Kristen Hughes, a pediatrician, and Kymberly Ozbirn, a school psychologist, provided a presentation about TechWell, a group advocating for healthier technology use in children.

9. Presentation on the Career Technical Education (CTE) Program

Director of Career Technical Education Sarah Cameron provided a presentation on the Career Technical Education (CTE) program.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

10. Superintendent's Report

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

- Presentation at next board meeting – The superintendent shared that, at next month's board meeting, Associate Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Ellen Barger would present on English Language Arts assessments.
- Head Start preschools – Dr. Salcido reported that Head Start preschools in Santa Barbara County, which were run by CommUnify, were impacted by the federal government shutdown and might potentially close in December. She shared that SBCEO Early Care and Education program staff members Janelle Willis and Christian Patterson had been in contact with them and were looking to see if any of their funds could be provided to help run preschools.
- Ethics training requirement for board members – The superintendent reminded board members they were required to complete ethics training by January 1, 2026. She distributed a handout about the training as well as new, additional required trainings.
- California School Boards Association (CSBA) Annual Education Conference (AEC) – Dr. Salcido shared that Board Members Walker and Ehrman would attend the conference in December. She stated the Board Organization and Governance Committee would calendar out workshops the board might be interested in so workshops could be placed on board members' calendars.
- Olive Grove Charter School (OGCS) – The superintendent reported that the Santa Barbara Unified School District (SBUSD) denied OGCS's petition and so OGCS would appeal to the State Board of Education (SBE). She said the SBE, together with OGCS, would decide who the authorizer would be, either SBUSD or SBCEO, in February or March.
- Veterans Day and Operation Recognition program – Dr. Salcido wished everyone a happy Veterans Day and shared that SBCEO announced another Operation Recognition program on Veterans Day.

- Future board agenda item – The superintendent said a future board agenda item, maybe in December, would be to consider, again, joining the Association of California County Boards of Education (ACCBE).

CONSENT AGENDA

The board approved all consent agenda items:

11. Minutes of Meeting Held October 9, 2025

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

13. Acceptance of Donations

Acceptance of donations for the following department:

- Superintendent's Office

14. Declaration of Surplus

Declaration of surplus for the following departments:

- Early Care and Education
- Juvenile Court and Community Schools
- School Insurance Program for Employees (SIPE)

15. Issuance of High School Graduation Diploma

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

Dos Puertas School

- Student CSIS # 1462736610 – October 10, 2025

Motion to approve all consent items:

MOVED: **Mrs. Read**

SECONDED: **Mrs. Alvarez Flores** VOTE: **Passed 6-0**

ACTION ITEMS

16. Recommended Authorization to Utilize an OMNIA Partners Contract

OMNIA Partners (OMNIA) purchase contracts are implemented based on products, services, and pricing sourced from existing, competitively evaluated, and cost-analyzed multiple award agreements. Public Contract Code Section 10298 allows county offices of education and TK-12 local educational agencies to utilize such contracts without the need for a competitive bidding process. OMNIA Contract No. 15-02 between Region 14 ESC and Walmart, Inc., effective September 5, 2023, provides in-store, online, and mobile shopping at Walmart. Made available nationwide with National Cooperative Purchase Alliance (NCPA), the contract runs until August 31, 2026, with two possible one-year extensions through August 31, 2028. Contract No.15-02 Walmart, Inc., in its entirety, is located in the Fiscal Services office. The board approved the use of OMNIA Contract No. 15-02.

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

17. Recommended Adoption of Emergency Resolution – Award of Contract without Bidding and Advertisement

The board adopted Resolution No. 2606, which recognized an emergency existed and authorized SBCEO to enter into a contract without bidding and advertising to repair site drainage at 4400 Cathedral Oaks Road, immediately.

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

18. Board Policies, Reading and Adoption

The following board policies were presented by the Board Policy Committee for reading and adoption. The board adopted all of the board policies.

- BP 1313 – Civility (new)
- BP 3515 – Campus Security (new)
- BP 3580 – SBCEO Records (new)
- BP 5131 – Conduct (new)
- BP 5131.8 – Mobile Communication Devices (new)
- BP 5145.13 – Response to Immigration Enforcement (new)
- BP 5146 – Married/Pregnant/Parenting Students (new)

MOVED: **Mr. Walker** SECONDED: **Mrs. Read** VOTE: **Passed 6-0**

INFORMATION ITEMS

19. Board Policy, Reading and Discussion

The following board policy was presented by the Board Policy Committee for reading and discussion; it will be presented for adoption at a future board meeting:

- BP 5117.1 – Interdistrict Attendance Appeals (revised)

The board discussed the revised board policy and requested it come back for a second reading and adoption at the December board meeting.

20. The California Community Schools Partnership Program

Director of Juvenile Court and Community Schools Rene Wheeler and Community Outreach and Career Counselor Eugenia Ambrocio provided a presentation on the California Community Schools Partnership Program Implementation Plan for Peter B. FitzGerald Community School. This new, annual presentation fulfilled reporting requirements and highlighted key progress, data, and outcomes from the previous year.

21. Personnel Report

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

22. Williams Legislation School District Report

The annual report on the condition and state of the identified schools in Santa Barbara County, as specified in California Education Code section 1240, was submitted as an information item and was reviewed by the board.

23. Correspondence

September 15, 2025 correspondence from the California Department of Education confirming approval of the Santa Barbara County Education Office 2025-26 budget and the 2023-24 through 2025-26 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) for the 2025-26 school year was presented as an information item.

CLOSED SESSION

24. 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 4:20 p.m. and present were board members; Dr. Susan Salcido, county superintendent of schools; Steve Torres, associate superintendent;

Marc Cunningham, director of facilities; Felicita Torres, legal counsel; Austin Payne, legal counsel; and Anna Freedland, executive assistant.

Property in Santa Maria, CA. Agency designated representatives: Dr. Susan Salcido, superintendent, and Steve Torres, associate superintendent. Negotiating parties: [confidential] for Santa Maria property. Instructions to negotiators regarding price, terms, and conditions.

There was no action taken.

At 4:50 p.m. the board adjourned closed session and reconvened to open session.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

25. Future agenda items

The following was mentioned as a potential future agenda item:

- Presentation by Adelante Charter School (in recognition of its 25th anniversary)

The president reported that the Board Organization and Governance Committee would meet before the December board meeting to discuss potential board officers and board meeting dates for 2026. She requested board members let her or the superintendent know if they were interested in serving as a board officer or would like to change their committee assignments.

ADJOURNMENT

26. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:54 p.m. to the next regular meeting to be held Friday, December 12, 2025 in Santa Barbara.

MOVED: Mr. Walker

SECONDED: Mrs. Alvarez Flores VOTE: Passed 6-0

Marybeth Carty, President
County Board of Education

Dr. Susan Salcido, Secretary
County Board of Education