



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

REGULAR MEETING
December 12, 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 2:02 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

Felicita Torres, legal counsel
Anna Freedland, executive assistant

Ellen Barger	Gina Branum	Mari Gonzales	Amy Ramos
Bridget Baublits	Marc Cunningham	Don Lockwood	
Josh Becerra	Nicole Evenson	Luis Medina	

Others Present

Yvonne Chan, ACCBE
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 Read complimented the recent Lompoc children's Christmas parade.
- Board Member Alvarez Flores reported about a fundraiser for literacy in Santa Maria where 10 of the elementary schools put up a Christmas tree in support of it. She shared that she attended a recent school board meeting in Santa Maria.
- Board Vice President Ehrman shared about the California School Boards Association (CSBA) Annual Education Conference (AEC), which she attended.
- Board Member Walker also shared about the CSBA AEC, including his observations and a recommendation.
- Board Member Frost shared that she attended the Scholarship Foundation of Santa Barbara's Community Leaders Luncheon, where Dr. Salcido was the keynote speaker.
- Board President Carty shared that she also attended the Community Leaders Luncheon. She reported that she joined the superintendent on 2 recent school site visits, to Adelante Charter School and Cold Spring School.

7. Public Comments

None.

ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

8. Review of Board Committees

The president reviewed the board committee assignments for 2026:

- Budget
- Organization and Governance
- Policy
- Salary
- Community Relations
- Legal

9. Role of Superintendent for the County Board of Education

The role of the county superintendent of schools serves, who serves as ex officio secretary and executive officer of the board, was reviewed.

10. Proposed Schedule of Meetings

The board approved the schedule of meetings for 2026. Regular meetings of the board for 2026 will be held on the second Thursday of each month at 2 p.m. with a few exceptions. Board meetings will be held in the Board Room of the Santa Barbara County Education Office (SBCEO) in Santa Barbara, with a few meetings held in the north county Board Room of SBCEO in Santa Maria: February 12, June 11 and October 8. Additionally, the second meeting in June, on June 18, and the August 13 meeting, will be dual-location meetings in both Santa Barbara and Santa Maria, connected via videoconference. The December meeting will be held on the second Friday of the month, December 11, 2026.

MOVED: Mr. Walker SECONDED: Dr. Armistead VOTE: Passed 7-0

11. Election of Officers

The board approved the following officers for 2026:

- Ms. Nadra Ehrman, president
- Mrs. Vedamarie Alvarez Flores, vice president

MOVED: Mrs. Alvarez Flores SECONDED: Mr. Walker VOTE: Passed 7-0

Ms. Ehrman presided over the remainder of the board meeting.

12. Review of Board Representatives

The president stated that she would serve as the board representative to the Santa Barbara County School Boards Association Executive Committee.

13. Board Organization and Governance Committee Meeting Report

Mrs. Alvarez Flores provided a brief report about the recent Board Organization and Governance Committee meeting, including the discussion about a board retreat or working session, sharing dates with the board of external trainings for county boards of education once they're known, and the new California School Boards Association (CSBA) County Board Governance Handbook. Mrs. Alvarez Flores stated the committee would meet again to work out more details for the board retreat and then bring the item back to the full board.

14. Association of California County Boards of Education (ACCBE) Membership

Association of California County Boards of Education (ACCBE) Treasurer and Trustee Dr. Yvonne Chan, who is also a trustee for the Los Angeles County Board of Education, provided a presentation. The board approved membership in ACCBE for the 2025-26 fiscal year.

MOVED: **Mrs. Carty**

SECONDED: **Mrs. Read**

VOTE: **Passed 7-0**

PRESENTATION

15. Presentation on English Language Arts (ELA) Assessments

Associate Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Ellen Barger provided a presentation on English Language Arts (ELA) assessments.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

16. Superintendent's Report

The superintendent's report was presented as an information item. Dr. Salcido thanked the board for how they serve and their focus on students and support. She showed a photo slideshow of the board over the past year. The superintendent also shared the following additional information:

- College School District superintendent – Dr. Salcido reported that Superintendent Maurene Donner was going to retire at the end of December, and that Ian Trejo would be the new superintendent, starting at the end of January.
- Excess property tax meeting – The superintendent shared that she would be meeting soon with a few other county superintendents of schools and Captiol Advisors staff regarding the issue of excess property taxes and county offices of education. She said she would share about the meeting with the board after it occurred.

- Student Advisory Council – Dr. Salcido shared that applications had been received for the 4th year of her Student Advisory Council and that selected students were being notified.

CONSENT AGENDA

The board approved all consent agenda items:

17. Minutes of Meeting Held November 13, 2025

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

19. Acceptance of Donations

Acceptance of donations for the following departments:

- Curriculum and Instruction
- Teacher Programs and Support

20. Declaration of Surplus

Declaration of surplus for the following department:

- Internal Services/Fiscal Services

21. Rules and Regulations Governing the Purchase of School Supplies and Equipment

Rules and regulations governing the purchase of standard school supplies and equipment by school districts for 2026, per Education Code Section 38110.

22. Issuance of High School Graduation Diploma

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

Dos Puertas School

- Student CSIS # 3078695452 – November 7, 2025

Motion to approve all consent items:

MOVED: Dr. Armistead

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

ACTION ITEMS

23. Recommended Approval of the First Interim Report

The First Interim Report was presented by the Board Budget Committee Chair Frost. It was approved as part of the budget monitoring process.

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

24. Board Policy, Second Reading and Adoption

The following board policy was presented for second reading and adoption. The board adopted the board policy.

- BP 5117.1 – Interdistrict Attendance Appeals (revised)

MOVED: **Dr. Armistead** SECONDED: **Mrs. Carty** VOTE: **Passed 7-0**

INFORMATION ITEM

25. Personnel Report

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

CLOSED SESSION

26. 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 4:10 p.m. and present were board members; Dr. Susan Salcido, county superintendent of schools; 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 4:35 p.m. the board adjourned closed session and reconvened to open session.

ACTION ITEM

27. Recommended Adoption of Resolution – Ratification of Purchase of Real Property

The real property negotiator for Santa Barbara County Education Office (SBCEO) entered into a Purchase and Sale Agreement (PSA) with seller, Airpark, LLC, on the SBCEO’s behalf for the purchase of property located at 2811 Airpark Drive in Santa Maria, CA. The PSA was fully executed on October 8, 2025. SBCEO performed all due diligence investigations on the property, which is intended as a north county programming and operations site for SBCEO. All due diligence contingencies were satisfied and/or waived as of November 19, 2025.

The board adopted Resolution No. 2607 finding that it was in the best interest of the Santa Barbara County Education Office to acquire the Airpark property; ratifying and approving the PSA and the real property purchase, and authorizing the real property negotiator to executive a Certificate of Acceptance of the grant deed for the property.

Ayes: 7 Noes: 0 Absent: 0 Abstain: 0
MOVED: Dr. Armistead SECONDED: Mrs. Alvarez Flores VOTE: Passed 7-0-0-0

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

28. Future agenda items

The following were mentioned as potential future agenda items:

- Presentation by Adelante Charter School (in recognition of its 25th anniversary).
- Follow-up to the presentation on English Language Arts (ELA) assessments focusing on “bright spots” and how districts interpret them and to what extent they can be replicated.
- Special education in the districts.

ADJOURNMENT

29. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:41 p.m. to the next regular meeting to be held January 8, 2026 in Santa Barbara.

MOVED: Mrs. Read SECONDED: Dr. Armistead VOTE: Passed 7-0

Nadra Ehrman, President
County Board of Education

Dr. Susan Salcido, Secretary
County Board of Education