San Pasqual Union School District

The Little School in the Valley

15305 Rockwood Road, Escondido, CA 92027-6700

Phone 760-745-4931 Fax 760-745-2473 E-Mail spusd@sanpasqualunion.net

Website: www.sanpasqualunion.net

BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at San Pasqual Union School

- Meeting called to order at 4:33 pm to allow public comment on closed session agenda items. Board Members Goe, Gourley, Merz, Redmond, and Murray were present. Superintendent Burroughs and recording secretary Jenny Grassy were also present.

  Adjournment at 4:34p.m. for closed session.

Regular Session

- Meeting reconvened at 5:48 pm
- Public was welcomed. The flag salute was recited.
- Report from closed session: Board gave Superintendent direction on closed agenda items.
- Hearing of the Public: No one addressed the Board
- Member Murray motioned to approve the current agenda and minutes from the December 9, 2025, regular meeting. Member Gourley seconded the motion. Motion passed 5/0.
- Mrs. Mallory indicated there was no SPETA report.
- Mrs. Zunich presented the AP report (See attached), which includes strong student academic progress through iReady program
- Mr. Burroughs presented the Superintendent's report (See attached), which includes assurances from SDCOE that they will create a middle school educational option at SPA to start the 2026/27 school year.

Action/Discussion Items

- Solar Energy Project Update: (See Slides 13 and 14)
  Solar energy project will not be moving forward due to lack of performance by DSD. Matt VanNote from Baker Electric expressed regret over DSD's lack of partnership and responsiveness.
- Member Gourley motioned to approve the Zesbi Electric School Bus Grant. Member Redmond seconded the motion. Motion passed 5/0.
- Presentation of the Comprehensive School Safety Plan. (see attached)
  District has made continuous improvements to school safety, including changes in drills procedures to support safety of English learners. Superintendent will discuss again with SSC and present plan for approval at February meeting.
- Member Gourley motioned to approve the 2025 School Accountability Report Card. Member Murray seconded the motion. Motion passed 5/0.

- Board discussed recommendations from the public and teachers regarding 2026/27 calendar. Member Merz motioned to approve the 2026-2027 District Calendar as presented. Member Gourley seconded the motion. Motion passed 5/0.
- 2024/25 audit had no findings. Member Gourley motioned to approve the Final Yearly Audit. Member Merz seconded the motion. Motion passed 5/0.
- Board extended Superintendent contract through June 30, 2027. No other changes made to employment agreement. Member Merz motioned to approve the Amendment to Employment Agreement, Superintendent/Principal. Member Gourley seconded the motion. Motion passed 5/0.
- Board discussed Policy hnange recomendations. Member Murray motioned to approve the Policy Manual Changes, dated August 2025 Gamut Updates, contingent on the following changes:
    - On Page 8-9, Recognition of religious Beliefs, 1. The specific instructional content from which the student should be excused changed to: The specific instructional content from which the student should be ~~excused~~ *opted out*. 3. An acknowledgement by the parent/guardian that the ~~excused~~ *opted-out* content may be required under California Education Code and that the parent/guardian agrees to hold the district harmless for the student not receiving this instruction.

      The Superintendent or designee should assume the request is based on a sincerely held religious belief unless the superintendent or designee is aware of objective evidence to the contrary. As necessary, the superintendent or designee may consult with district legal counsel to evaluate an opt-out request and determine whether it shall be granted.
        - On page 26 and 44, AR 6142.1 and AR 6142.8 the following changes: ~~At the beginning of each school year or at the time of a student's enrollment~~ to be replaced with: *Upon enrollment, and annually thereafter.*
        - On page 42, AR 6142.8 after item 6, personal and community health, insert heading: *Essential Concepts and Skills*

      Member Redmond seconded the motion. Motion passed 5/0.
- First Read of Policy Manual Changes, dated September 2025 Gamut Updates.

Consent Agenda

- Member Redmond made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Member Murray seconded the motion. Motion passed 5/0

Comments by Trustees:

- **Member Gourley:** It's exciting to see continued progress in reading and math. The solar delay is deeply disappointing, and I look forward to reviewing updated figures from the new financing entity. I also appreciate the continued efforts around the electric bus initiative—very exciting.
- **Member Merz** -I agree with everything that has been shared and echo the comments made by my colleagues.

- **Member Murray:** Thank you, Mark, and congratulations on the progress at SPA. This work has been difficult and emotionally demanding, but it represents a significant step in the right direction for our students. Thank you as well to Mrs. Z and the staff for the iReady data—it clearly reflects the meaningful impact of their work.
- **Member Redmond:** I agree with much of what has already been said. The data is exciting and speaks for itself—it brings the hard work of our staff into focus. Please extend my thanks to the teachers; implementing the new curriculum is challenging, and everyone is rising to the occasion. This district is special because we are not afraid of change—we adapt, evolve, and see results. I hope students recognize their own hard work and feel proud. The progress at SPA is fantastic—huge congratulations to Mark.
- **Member Goe:** I echo all of these comments. I appreciated how Mrs. Z's presentation aligned so clearly with the Board's goals—it's a strong reminder of how aligned and committed we are as a team. The progress at SPA is a huge win—great work, Mark. Kristin, the school bus initiative is another major success; you set clear goals when you stepped into this role and are delivering on them. Mark, we are happy to have you for another year.

Regular meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: February 10, 2026 - 4:30 p.m.
(At 4:30 p.m. there will be an open session to allow for public comment on the closed session agenda items, followed immediately by a closed session.)