



**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY EDUCATION OFFICE  
PERSONNEL COMMISSION**

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

**REGULAR MEETING**  
February 26, 2026 – 12:30 p.m.

**MINUTES**

**GENERAL FUNCTIONS**

**1. Call to Order**

Michael Ostini called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Members present:

Mike Ostini, Chair  
Gary Pickavet, Vice Chair  
Carmen Jaramillo, Commissioner

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

Carmen Jaramillo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. Changes to the Agenda — None**

**5. Introduction of Staff and Guests**

Staff and guests present:

Amy Ramos, Director, Human Resources  
Wendy Garcia, Certificated Human Resources Technician  
Tracie Cordero, Classified Human Resources Specialist  
Steve Torres, Associate Superintendent, Administrative Services  
Ron Wheeler, Computer/Network Technician II, ITS  
Myron Porter, Payroll Systems Supervisor

**6. Public Comment — None**

**7. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting Held January 22, 2026**

MOVED: Gary Pickavet      SECONDED: Carmen Jaramillo      VOTE: 3-0

**8. Communications — None**

**9. Informational Items****a. Media Releases/Editorials**

The Director, Human Resources summarized a media release about the Author-Go-Round that SBCEO hosted for 5th-8th grade students – one event in the north and one in the south. This event gives students the opportunity to meet with authors and illustrators of children's and young adult books and learn about the creative process.

**b. Legislative Update**

The Director updated the Commissioners on AB 1913, which changed mandated reporter training requirements – both the content and the applicability. The content now also includes prevention of child abuse, and all school staff are required to take the training. Previously, office staff were not required to take the training. SBCEO's Engagement & Support team has been working on putting together several training sessions that can be offered to staff so that SBCEO can be in compliance with this new law.

**REGULAR BUSINESS****10. Informational Items****a. List of New Positions****b. Classified Personnel Report dated March 12, 2026****c. Position Announcements**

- i. Behavioral Health Practitioner (Open Continuous – Santa Maria)
- ii. Administrative Assistant (Dual – Santa Barbara)
- iii. Custodian/Maintenance Worker (Dual – Santa Barbara)
- iv. Software Engineer (Dual – Santa Barbara)

**11. Action Items****a. Ratification of Eligibility List**

- i. Early Care and Education Case Worker (Bilingual) – Dual – Santa Maria

MOVED: Gary Pickavet      SECONDED: Carmen Jaramillo      VOTE: 3-0

**b. Classification of Positions — None****c. Job Descriptions — None**

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **12. ITS Reorganization**

This was a follow-up discussion item from the January meeting. The Director reported that Chief Technology Officer Brandon Weber was not able to attend the February Personnel Commission meeting but did plan to address the PC at a later meeting date, and she noted that Associate Director of Administrative Services Steve Torres was in attendance, representing IT leadership.

The Director provided a brief update. She reported that CTO Weber had informed her that he is still evaluating workload, workflow, and staff capacity. He may want to make some changes to the proposed organization chart reviewed by the Personnel Commission during the discussion at the January meeting, ranging from modifications to the new job descriptions previously approved by the PC to entirely new proposed job descriptions. Any such changes will be brought to the PC for approval, along with an explanation of how they fit in the context of the reorganization. The Director reported that CTO Weber had stated he has been working with the ITS team to ensure they have the time and tools they need in various areas (such as server management) so that SBCEO can make the transition to providing services directly to the organization rather than contracting them out. Associate Superintendent Torres confirmed that CTO Weber was consulting with him regarding his ideas for changes to departmental organization and staffing and that they would work with Human Resources to bring them to the PC for approval.

### **13. Revision of Merit System Rules – Presented for Second Reading and Approval**

- a. 4411 Definitions (Demotion)
- b. 4441.7 Confidentiality of Information
- c. 4442.1 Character of Examinations
- d. 4442.3 Written Examinations
- e. 4465.1 Procedure Regarding Layoff or Reduction

MOVED: Carmen Jaramillo

SECONDED: Gary Pickavet

VOTE: 3-0

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **14. Public Hearing**

Mike Ostini called the public hearing to order at 1:00 p.m. A public hearing was conducted in accordance with State Board of Education requirements for consideration of SBCEO's waiver request for Educational Interpreter, American Sign Language. No members of the public were present for the public hearing. The public hearing was closed at 1:04 p.m.

## **REPORTS**

### **15. PERSONNEL COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

Commissioner Jaramillo reported that she would not be able to attend the Employee Service Awards ceremony but would be attending the CSPCA conference.

Commissioners Ostini and Pickavet had no PC-related items to report.

### **16. DIRECTOR, HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT**

The Director, Human Resources updated the Commission on the two Countywide job fairs hosted by SBCEO earlier in the month, one on February 5 in Santa Maria, at the public library, and the other on February 19 at the SBCEO Auditorium. The events were well executed and many attendees were well qualified. There were 44 attendees in the north, a fairly dramatic drop from the previous year, and 47 in the south. In addition, several of the districts that had signed up to participate ended up dropping out because they had no current vacancies or were anticipating layoffs, but there was still good representation in both the north and south.

The low attendance was a somewhat surprising result, considering how much the labor market has changed over the past year. Reasons could include: the time of year, weather, no concurrent events bringing people out on a weeknight, and potential attendees staying home due to increased immigration enforcement activity.

The Director further reported that the Classified School Employee of the Year nomination period is open. She noted that SBCEO has tried to encourage nominations this year by eliminating the requirement for photos or a video in order to be considered for recognition at the County level (those items are required for any nominations submitted to the state). She welcomed any suggestions from the Commissioners for encouraging nominations.

The Director was pleased to report that Commissioners Ostini and Pickavet would be able to attend the Employee Service Awards ceremony on Tuesday, March 3 at 3:30 p.m.

**17. CALIFORNIA SCHOOL EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION REPORT**

No report.

**CLOSED SESSION** — None scheduled

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, there was a motion to adjourn.

MOVED: Carmen Jaramillo

SECONDED: Gary Pickavet

VOTE: 3-0

The meeting was adjourned at 1:14 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, March 26, 2026, at 12:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Santa Barbara County Education Office Board Room, Santa Maria and will also be available via videoconference at the Santa Barbara County Education Office Board Room, Santa Barbara.



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Amy R. Ramos  
Director, Human Resources  
Secretary to the Personnel Commission

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Mike Ostini  
Chair, Personnel Commission