AGENDA
MERCED COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
April 20, 2026

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Merced County Office of Education - 632 West 13th Street, Merced, CA 95341 – Board Room
Start time: 2:00 p.m. Closed Session
Open Session start time: 3:00 p.m.

[These proceedings may be recorded.]

I. Open

A. Call to Order at _____ PM by Chairperson _____

B. Roll Call:

Geneva Brett, Chairperson	_____
Ryan Heller, Vice Chairperson	_____
Rodrigo Espinosa, Member	_____
Dennis Hanks, Member	_____
Frank Fagundes, Member	_____

C. Others Present: _____

II. Call for Public Comments: Identified Closed Session Agenda Items
During this portion of the agenda, the public is invited to address the Board on identified closed session items before adjournment into Closed Session.

The Board will proceed into a Closed Session.

III. Closed Session Pursuant to Education Code 35146 to Hear Appeal of Denial of Interdistrict Attendance Request – **Appeal # 2026-05 – 2:00 PM**

IV. Closed Session Pursuant to Education Code 35146 to Hear Appeal of Denial of Interdistrict Attendance Request – **Appeal # 2026-06 – 2:30 PM**

The Board will proceed into an Open Session.

V. Flag Salute – Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

VI. Presentation – Stacie Arancibia

A. Presentation of Certificates
1. Regional Scripps Spelling Bee winner Akshara Thummala
2. Merced High School Decathlon Team

VII. Consent Agenda:
Items listed under Consent Agenda are routine administrative functions and will be acted on by the Board in one motion and one vote. Any items under the Consent Agenda may be discussed; however, if the item needs further clarification and discussion, it may be removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of the Board or the Superintendent and considered separately. Information concerning the Consent Agenda items will be provided to each Board Member for study before the meeting. It is understood that the Superintendent recommends approval of all consent items unless otherwise noted. *(Board Bylaw 9322)*

A. Minutes of Regular Meeting on March 16, 2026
B. Retirement Resolution:
1. Resolution No. 2026-09 Honoring Nora Andrade de Saldana

Motioned by _____ Seconded by _____ Vote _____

VIII. Written Communications

A. Correspondence Received By Chairperson

B. Correspondence Received By Board Members:

C. Correspondence Received By Superintendent

IX. Call for Public Comments on Agenda & Non-Agenda Items

During this portion of the agenda, the public is invited to address the Board on any item of interest that is within the Board's jurisdiction *(Education Code 35145.5; Government Code 54954.3)*. The Board shall conduct no discussion, deliberation, or action on any item not appearing on the posted agenda, except as authorized by law raised (*Education Code 35145.5, Government Code 54954.2)*. Members of the public are limited to five minutes on each topic or agenda item, and public participation cannot exceed 20 minutes total for each topic or agenda item *(Government Code 54954.3; Board Bylaw 9322 & 9323)*.

X. Future Agenda Items

A. MCOE Schools Graduation Dates

XI. Superintendents' and Board Members' Report (Information/Discussion Only)

A. Board Member's Report — Board Members

1. MCSBA Spring Dinner – March 30, 2026
2. Central Valley Education Coalition Dinner – April 9, 2026

B. Superintendent's Report — Steve Tietjen

1. National Summit on Improvement in Education – March 30 - April 1, 2026

C. Public Hearing – Merced Scholars Charter School Renewal Petition — Sherre Vernon, Coordinator, Ed. Services

In compliance with Education Code 47605 and 47607, the Merced County Board of Education will hold a public hearing for the approval of the renewal petition of the Merced Scholars Charter School: A dependent Charter School located in Merced county and operated by MCOE Student Programs, for five (5) years, beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 20231, to serve students in grades TK through 12 in each year of the charter term.

Renewal Petition with RED LINE Changes *Petition with Appendices*

1. Open Public Hearing
2. Close Public Hearing

XII. Business Items for Action

A. Merced County School Board Association (MCSBA) Fall Conference — Steve Tietjen

It is recommended that the Board of Education authorize Board Members' attendance at the Annual MCSBA Fall Conference, October 23-25, 2026, at the Hyatt Regency Monterey

Motioned by _____ Seconded by _____ Vote _____

B. MCOE Employee Recognition Resolutions — Steve Tietjen

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the MCOE Employee Recognition Resolutions as submitted

1. **Resolution No. 2026-05** in Recognition of California Day of the Teacher, May 13, 2026, **Merced County Office Teachers Association (MCOTA)**

2. **Resolution No. 2026-06** in Recognition of California Day of the Teacher, May 13, 2026, **CSEA Chapter 856, Unit B – Head Start**
3. **Resolution No. 2026-07** in Recognition of Classified School Employee's Recognition Week – May 17-23, 2026, **CSEA Chapter 541**
4. **Resolution No. 2026-08** in Recognition of Classified School Employee's Recognition Week – May 17-23, 2026, **CSEA Chapter 856, Unit A – Head Start**

Motioned by _____ Seconded by _____ Vote _____

XIII. Call for Public Comments: Identified Closed Session Agenda Items
During this portion of the agenda, the public is invited to address the Board on identified closed session items before adjournment into Closed Session.

The Board will proceed into a Closed Session.

XIV. Closed Session

A. Conference with Real Property Negotiator, Rick Marchini, concerning real property transactions, pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8.

B. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9: conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation, Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (b)(1) of Government Code Section 54956.9.

Deliberate on Interdistrict Attendance **Appeals #2026-05 and #2026-06**

The Board will proceed into an Open Session.

XV. Open Session Report on Action of Real Property transactions

Moved by_____ Seconded by_____ Roll Call Vote:

Brett	_____
Heller	_____
Espinosa	_____
Hanks	_____
Fagundes	_____

XVI. Open Session Report Action of Interdistrict Attendance **Appeal #2026-05**

Moved by_____ Seconded by_____ Roll Call Vote:

Brett	_____
Heller	_____
Espinosa	_____
Hanks	_____
Fagundes	_____

XVII. **Open Session** Report Action of Interdistrict Attendance **Appeal #2026-06**

Moved by_____ Seconded by_____ Roll Call Vote:

Brett	_____
Heller	_____
Espinosa	_____
Hanks	_____
Fagundes	_____

XVIII. **Adjournment: _____ PM**

Motioned by _____ Seconded by _____ Vote _____

Americans with Disabilities Act Assistance: Auxiliary aids and services include a wide range of services and devices that promote effective communication for individuals with disabilities. If you require such assistance, please notify the Office of the Superintendent at (209) 381-6601 as soon as possible. Every effort will be made to give primary consideration to expressed preferences or provide equally effective means of communication to ensure equal access to the meetings of the Merced County Board of Education.
(Government Code 54954.2) (Board Bylaw 9320 & 9322)

Availability of Documents for Public Inspection: Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the Merced County Office of Education to all or a majority of the members of the Merced County Board of Education less than 72 hours before that meeting are available for public inspection in the Superintendent's Office at the Merced County Office of Education, 632 West 13th Street, Merced, CA 95341, during normal business hours. The agenda is made available on our website: www.mcoe.org *(Government Code 54957.5) (Board Bylaw 9320 & 9322)*

Merced County Board of Education

Presentation

MERCED COUNTY
Office of Education
NURTURE • SERVE • LEAD

Steve M. Tietjen, Ed.D. | County Superintendent of Schools



Top speller Akshara Thummala from Merced Scholars Charter School stands with judges Laura Andrews and Rishabh Saha at the Merced County Scripps Regional Spelling Bee on March 28, hosted at the UC Merced Lakireddy Auditorium.

Merced Scholars Student Akshara Thummala wins Regional Scripps Spelling Bee

The top spellers from across Merced County faced off in the Scripps Regional Spelling Bee on March 28, where Akshara Thummala from Merced Scholars Charter School emerged as the top speller and Andrea Cruz from Stone Ridge Christian earned second place.

Akshara, who secured first place with the word "untenable," will now advance to the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington D.C. this May. Akshara also earned first place in the Merced County written spelling competition in December.

The regional competition, held at the UC Merced Lakireddy Auditorium, brought together students from eight different schools across Merced County, including Juniper Elementary, Burbank Elementary, Cruickshank Middle, Hoover Middle, Washington Elementary, Merced Scholars Charter School, Our Lady of Fatima, and Stone Ridge Christian.

MCOE Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services Laura Andrews was the pronouncer for the competition. MCOE Events and Community Engagement Specialist Stacie Arancibia and Rishab Saha, who finished in the top seven of the 2024 Scripps National Spelling Bee, were the competition judges

The regional competition was sponsored by UC Merced Office of Enrollment Management and Merced School Employees Federal Credit Union. Sponsorships will help cover travel and accommodations at the national competition.

Merced County Board of Education

Consent Agenda

MERCED COUNTY
Office of Education
NURTURE • SERVE • LEAD

Steve M. Tietjen, Ed.D. | County Superintendent of Schools

MINUTES DRAFT
MERCED COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
March 16, 2026

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Merced County Office of Education Board Room
632 W. 13th Street, Merced, CA 95341

I. Opening

A. Board Chairperson, Geneve Brett, called the regular meeting of the Merced County Board of Education to order at 3:00 PM.

B. Members present were Geneva Brett, Ryan Heller, Dennis Hanks, Rodrigo Espinosa, and Frank Fagundes

C. Others present: Laura Andrews, Martin Macias, Dylan McMullen, Nathan Quevedo, Maribell Perez-Aguilar, Angelica Lerma, Jennifer Sheidt, Stacy Shasky, Marcy Gamble, Osidris Gomez, Matt Devin, Tara Hill, Todd Beal, Christina Vara, Ashlie Vasquez, Lisa Filippini, Jessie Ceja, Yolanda Campos, Maria Cuevas, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, Steve M. Tietjen, County Superintendent

II. Flag Salute – Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

III. Presentation

A. Presentation of Plaques to MCOE Outstanding Classified, Certificated, and Management Employees for the Quarter ending March 2026

1. Classified Employee: Troy Perez, Business Services Department
2. Classified Employee: Vanessa Guerrero-Sandoval, Special Education Department
3. Certificated Employee: Carlos Rodriguez, Special Education Department
4. Management Employee: Caleb Hampton, Special Education Department

Outstanding Employee Awards were presented to Troy Perez, Outstanding Classified Employee, Business Services, Outstanding Classified Employee, Vanessa Guerrero-Sandoval, Special Education, Outstanding Certificated Employee, Carlos Rodriguez, Special Education, and Outstanding Management Employee, Caleb Hampton, with Special Education.

IV. Consent Agenda: Items listed under Consent Agenda are considered to be routine administrative functions and will be acted on by the Board in one motion and one vote. Any items under the Consent Agenda may be discussed; however, if the item needs further clarification and discussion, it may be removed from the Consent Agenda at the request of the Board or the Superintendent and considered separately. Information concerning Consent Agenda items will be provided to each Board member for study before the meeting. It is understood that the Superintendent recommends approval of all consent items unless otherwise noted. *(Board Bylaw 9322)*

A. Minutes of Regular Meeting on February 17, 2026
B. Resolution No. 2026-03 Recognizing April 2026 as the Week of the Young Child Month

Ryan Heller moved, and **Dennis Hanks** seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted. The motion carried with a vote of 5-0

V. Written Communications

A. Correspondence Received By Chairperson: None.
B. Correspondence Received By Board Member: None.
C. Correspondence Received By Superintendent: None.

VI. Call for Public Comments on Agenda & Non-Agenda Items

The public was invited to address agenda items, submit items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board for future consideration, or speak to issues related to the function and operation of the County Board of Education.

No comments were made.

VII. Superintendent and Board Members' Report (Information/Discussion Only)

A. Board Member's Report: Board member Rodrigo Espinosa inquired about attending specific conferences and the guidelines for being permitted to attend. Dr. Tietjen responded that all conferences should be brought in advance to the board for review and approval.

B. Superintendent Report: Dr. Tietjen shared briefly the funding challenges SELPA is currently facing and the strategies MCOE is considering.

VIII. Business Items for Action

A. Come Back Charter School Renewal Petition

It was recommended that the Board of Education approve the Charter renewal petition of the Come Back Charter School.

1. MCOE Charter School Petition Review Team recommendation report of the Come Back Charter School
2. Open Public Hearing: Geneva Brett opened the public hearing.
3. Close Public Hearing: There were no comments made. Geneva Brett closed the public hearing.
4. Approve **Resolution No. 2026-04** Approving the Renewal Petition Filed by Come Back Charter School by the Governing Board of Merced County Board of Education

Frank Fagundes moved, and **Dennis Hanks** seconded a motion to approve the renewal of the petition for the Come Back Charter School.
The motion carried with a vote of 5-0

B. Central Valley Education Coalition Legislative Luncheon

It was recommended that the Board of Education approve the attendance of the Board Members at the Central Valley Education Coalition (CVEC) Legislative Luncheon.

Frank Fagundes moved, and **Dennis Hanks** seconded a motion to approve for the Board Members to attend the CVEC Legislative Luncheon on April 9, 2025.
The motion carried with a vote of 5-0

C. 2025-2026 Second Interim Report

It was recommended that the Board of Education approve the Second Interim Report and Criteria and Standards Review.

Martin Fregoso presented the 2025-2026 Second Interim Report for the Board to review and approve.

Frank Fagundes moved, and **Rodrigo Espinosa** seconded a motion to approve the Second Interim Report and the Criteria and Standards. The motion was carried with a vote of 5-0

IX. Call for Public comments: Identified Closed Session Agenda Items
During this portion of the agenda, the public was invited to address the Board on the identified items before adjournment into a Closed Session. No comments were made.

The Board proceeded into a Closed Session

X. Closed Session Pursuant to Education Code 35146 to Hear Appeal of Denial of Interdistrict Attendance Request – Appeals #2026-04.

XI. Closed Session to Deliberate Interdistrict Attendance Appeals #2026-04

The Board proceeded into an Open Session

XI. Open Session for the Disposition of Interdistrict Attendance Appeals # 2026-04. On the request for an appeal of the denial of the Interdistrict Attendance Request submitted on behalf of Student #2026-04, it was moved by **Ryan Heller** and seconded by **Frank Fagundes** to uphold the appeals, for the 2026-2027 school year, Gustine Unified School District decision of denying the request for an interdistrict transfer to attend school at Orestimba High School in the Newman-Crows Landing Unified School District. The motion was carried with a vote of 5-0.

Vote (by roll call)

Brett	NO
Heller	YES
Espinosa	YES
Hanks	NO
Fagundes	YES

XII. Adjournment

Dennis Hanks moved, and **Geneva Brett** seconded the motion to adjourn the regular meeting of the Merced County Board of Education at 4:42 PM.
The motion carried with a vote of 5-0

Respectfully submitted,

Steve M. Tietjen, Ed.D.
County Superintendent of Schools
Secretary to the Board of Education

SMT/mc

Merced County Board of Education
Geneva Brett, Chairperson
Ryan Heller, Vice Chairperson
Rodrigo Espinosa, Member
Dennis Hanks, Member
Frank Fagundes, Member

Resolution No. 2026-09
Honoring
Nora Andrade de Saldana

Whereas, Nora Andrade de Saldana has elected to retire from her position as an Academic Tutor with the Migrant Program in the Educational Services Department with the Merced County Office of Education; and,

Whereas, Nora began her career with MCOE in September 2011, with her final day being May 21, 2026. The Merced County Board of Education and the Merced County Superintendent of Schools hereby wish to make known their respect and admiration for Nora's 15 years of service with the Merced County Office of Education; and,

Whereas, Nora's previous employment with the Weaver School District, which began in the 2000 school year, brings her to a total of 26 years served in education; and

Whereas, Nora earned her Associate of Arts degree in General Education, and that educational experience gave her the necessary skills that she needed to bring to her hometown of Planada, California, where she did not just tutor—she opened doors, inspired dreams, and changed lives; and,

Whereas, Nora would like to thank her family for their support throughout these wonderful and fruitful years. She would also like to thank Mrs. Mercado for bringing her aboard the Migrant Education Program in 2011 here at MCOE; and,

Whereas, Nora's colleagues say, they take pleasure in celebrating a remarkable woman whose life's work has been rooted in dedication, compassion, and an unwavering belief in the power of education. With patience and care, she used programs like Language Power, 180 Days of Writing, 180 Days of Problem Solving, Kids Learn, and Flashlight 360, but more importantly, she brought encouragement, hope, and confidence to every child she worked with. Her greatest lessons were taught through her kindness, her perseverance, and her belief that every child deserves a chance to succeed. As she enters this new chapter of retirement, her legacy will continue to live on in every student she has touched. Now, it is her time to rest, to enjoy precious moments with her family, and to create new memories; and,

Whereas, Nora will take pleasure in spending more time with her husband, Hermenegildo, her sons, Gabriel, Carlos Manuel, Jose Hermenegildo, Daniel Mere, Roberto Angel, and her daughters, Leticia, Elizabeth Liliann, and her 11 precious grandchildren; and,

Whereas, after retirement, Nora plans to enjoy her family and looks forward to traveling to Mexico, reconnecting with loved ones, and experiencing the beauty and history that await her there; and,

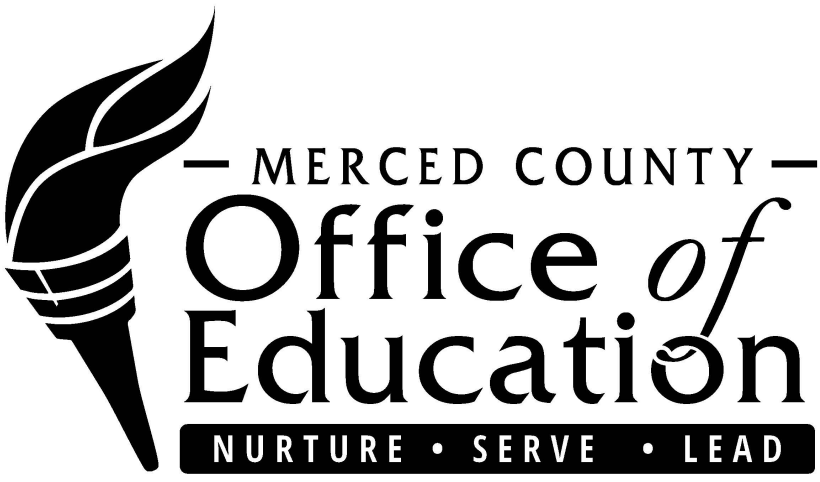
Now, Therefore Be it Resolved, that the Merced County Board of Education and the Merced County Superintendent of Schools do hereby commend Nora for her dedicated years of service to ensure "Every Student A Success" and "Nurture, Serve, Lead" and extend their sincere best wishes for a happy, fulfilling retirement.

Adopted April 20, 2026

Steve M. Tietjen, Ed. D, Secretary to the Board
Merced County Superintendent of Schools

Merced County Board of Education

Superintendent's and Board Members Report



Steve M. Tietjen, Ed.D. | County Superintendent of Schools

MERCED COUNTY
Office of Education
NURTURE • SERVE • LEAD
Steve M. Tietjen, Ed.D.
County Superintendent of Schools

Merced Scholars Charter School (MSCS)

Renewal Petition

Merced Scholars Charter School

- County dependent charter, 22 years in existence
- Two distinct programs meeting community need
  - TK-12 Nonclassroom Based (NCB) program with an A-G diploma pathway
  - TK-5 50/50 English/Spanish Dual Language Academy
- Based in Merced with multiple school sites:
  - Lee Andersen Ed Center (Atwater) - NCB
  - Los Banos Valley Campus - NCB
  - MCOE Wardrobe Campus - MDLA





MSCS Successes

- MSCS meets renewal criteria as a middle-performing charter school.
- Standards met under all local indicators
- Improvement on CAASPP Math and ELA
- EL and LTEL progress increased approximately 15% in the last two years
- College and career readiness increased by 8% over the past year
- Chronic absenteeism returned to pre-pandemic levels
- Suspension rate remains negligible, at 0.5%
- Graduation rate has increased, with 96% of MSCS NCB students graduating





Attendance History

MSCS - NCB	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Average Daily Attendance (ADA)	246.37	255.91	249.33	202.28*

MSCS - DLA	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Average Daily Attendance (ADA)	22.63	34.73	64.02	93.44*

MSCS - Combined	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Average Daily Attendance (ADA)	269.00	290.64	313.35	295.72*

Enrollment Trajectory

MSCS - NCB

Year	2025-2026	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Target	**316**	**316**	**331**	**331**	**346**
Low Estimate	**217**	**275**	**289**	**300**	**310**

MSCS - DLA

Year	2025-2026	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Target	**174**	**174**	**204**	**204**	**204**
Low Estimate	**95**	**148**	**165**	**175**	**185**

MSCS - Combined

Year	2025-2026	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Target	**490**	**490**	**535**	**535**	**550**
Low Estimate	**312**	**423**	**454**	**475**	**495**

Budget Summary, By Program

MSCS - DLA	2025-26*	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Total Revenues	$1,880,856.67	$2,251,429.90	$2,037,008.90	$1,984,733.90	$2,157,083.90
Total Expenditures	$3,058,827.77	$3,161,525.00	$3,243,276.00	$3,320,944.00	$3,399,910.00
Estimated Ending Balances	<$1,178,016.10>	<$910,950.10>	<$1,206,267.10>	<$1,336,210.10>	<$1,242,826.10>

MSCS - NCB	2025-26*	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Total Revenues	$5,841,601.07	$5,903,515.94	$6,791,246.94	$7,971,441.94	$9,180,354.94
Total Expenditures	$4,562,101.13	$4,138,531.00	$4,261,649.00	$4,367,482.00	$4,473,122.00
Estimated Ending Balances	$1,279,499.94	$1,764,984.94	$2,529,597.94	$3,603,959.94	$4,707232.94

*School year in progress

Note: MSCS-DLA budget includes a $1.5M contribution over 2 years, 2026-2028.

Budget Summary, Combined

MSCS - Combined	2025-26*	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
Total Revenues	$7,722,457.74	$8,154,945.84	$8,828,255.84	$9,956,175.84	$11,337,438.84
Total Expenditures	$7,620,973.90	$7,300,056.00	$7,504,925.00	$7,688,426.00	$7,873,032.00
Estimated Ending Balances	$101,483.84	$854,899.94	$1,323,330.84	$2,267,749.84	$3,464,406.84

*School year in progress

Merced County Board of Education

Business Items for Action



Steve M. Tietjen, Ed.D. | County Superintendent of Schools

MCSBA

MERCED COUNTY SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Annual Fall Conference October 2026

Friday, October 23, 2026	3:00 pm - 7:30 pm	Registration, General Session & Evening Reception
Saturday, October 24, 2026	8:00 am - 4:30 pm	Sessions, Networking and Vendors (Breakfast and Lunch Provided)
Sunday, October 25, 2026	8:00 am - 12:00 pm	Sessions, Q&A and Raffle (Breakfast Provided)

Conference Registration

Click Here

Early Bird $350	ends 6/15/26
Regular $375	ends 8/24/26
Late $450	ends 9/02/26

No refunds after 9/1/2026

Hotel Reservation

Room Rate $249.00

Hyatt Regency Monterey

1 Old Golf Course Road, Monterey, CA 93940

Click Here



Hotel must be paid before arrival. Deadline for paying by checks will be September 20, 2026. Districts are to put their name on the check as well as the names of the attendees and "MCSBA Conference".

For more information contact Ceci Perez 209.381.6634

Merced County Board of Education
Geneva Brett, Chairperson
Ryan Heller, Vice Chairperson
Rodrigo Espinosa, Member
Dennis Hanks, Member
Frank Fagundes, Member

Resolution No. 2026-05

In Recognition of California Day of the Teacher
Merced County Office Teachers Association

Whereas, we celebrate the 43rd annual California Day of the Teacher; and

Whereas, an educated citizenry serves as the foundation of our democracy; and

Whereas, today's teachers mold the minds and train the workforce of the future; and

Whereas, no other profession touches as many people with such a lasting effect; and

Whereas, good teaching grows in value and pays dividends far beyond the classroom; and

Whereas, excellence in our state begins with California's teachers; and

Whereas, California's teachers are among the best-educated, most credentialed, and hardest-working educators in the country; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Merced County Board of Education joins the Merced County Superintendent of Schools in proclaiming Wednesday, **May 13, 2026**, as ***Day of the Teacher*** to honor the contribution of teachers to quality education in the state of California and in the Merced County Office of Education.

Adopted this **20th** day of **April,** year of **2026,** by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

Steve M. Tietjen, Ed.D., Secretary to the Board
Merced County Superintendent of Schools

Merced County Board of Education
Geneva Brett, Chairperson
Ryan Heller, Vice Chairperson
Rodrigo Espinosa, Member
Dennis Hanks, Member
Frank Fagundes, Member

Merced County Office of Education
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Resolution No. 2026-06

In Recognition of
California Day of the Teacher
CSEA Chapter 856, Unit B – Head Start

Whereas, we celebrate the 44th annual California Day of the Teacher; and

Whereas, an educated citizenry serves as the foundation of our democracy; and

Whereas, today's teachers mold the minds and train the workforce of the future; and

Whereas, no other profession touches as many people with such a lasting effect; and

Whereas, good teaching grows in value and pays dividends far beyond the classroom; and

Whereas, excellence in our state begins with California's teachers; and

Whereas, California's teachers are among the best educated, most credentialed, and hardest-working educators in the country; and

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Merced County Board of Education joins the Merced County Superintendent of Schools in proclaiming that Wednesday, **May 13, 2026**, as ***Day of the Teacher*** to honor the contribution of teachers to quality education in the state of California and in the Merced County Office of Education.

Adopted this **20th** day of **April,** year of **2026** by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

_____
Steve M. Tietjen, Ed.D., Secretary to the Board
Merced County Superintendent of Schools

Merced County Board of Education
Geneva Brett, Chairperson
Ryan Heller, Vice Chairperson
Rodrigo Espinosa, Member
Dennis Hanks, Member
Frank Fagundes, Member

Resolution No. 2026-07

In Recognition of
Classified School Employee Week
CSEA Chapter 541

Whereas, classified professionals provide valuable services to the schools and students of the Merced County Office of Education; and

Whereas, classified professionals contribute to the establishment and promotion of a positive instructional environment; and

Whereas, classified professionals serve a vital role in providing for the welfare and safety of Merced County Office of Education's students; and

Whereas, classified professionals employed by the Merced County Office of Education strive for excellence in all areas relative to the educational community.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Merced County Board of Education joins the Merced County Superintendent of Schools and hereby recognizes and wishes to honor the contribution of the classified professionals to quality education in the State of California and in the Merced County Office of Education, and declares the week of **May 17-23, 2026**, as ***Classified School Employee Week*** in the Merced County Office of Education.

Adopted this **20th** day of **April** year of **2026** by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

_____
Steve M. Tietjen, Ed.D., Secretary to the Board
Merced County Superintendent of Schools

Merced County Board of Education
Geneva Brett, Chairperson
Ryan Heller, Vice Chairperson
Rodrigo Espinosa, Member
Dennis Hanks, Member
Frank Fagundes, Member

Merced County Office of Education
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Resolution No. 2026-08

In Recognition of
Classified School Employee Week
CSEA Chapter 856, Unit A – Head Start

Whereas, classified professionals provide valuable services to the schools and students of the Merced County Office of Education; and

Whereas, classified professionals contribute to the establishment and promotion of a positive instructional environment; and

Whereas, classified professionals serve a vital role in providing for the welfare and safety of Merced County Office of Education's students; and

Whereas, classified professionals employed by the Merced County Office of Education strive for excellence in all areas relative to the educational community.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Merced County Board of Education joins the Merced County Superintendent of Schools and hereby recognizes and wishes to honor the contribution of the classified professionals to quality education in the State of California and in the Merced County Office of Education and declares the week of **May 17-23, 2026**, as ***Classified School Employee Week*** in the Merced County Office of Education.

Adopted this **20th** day of **April** year of **2026,** by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

_____
Steve M. Tietjen, Ed.D., Secretary to the Board
Merced County Superintendent of Schools

Merced County Board of Education

Closed Session

MERCED COUNTY
Office of Education
NURTURE • SERVE • LEAD

Steve M. Tietjen, Ed.D. | County Superintendent of Schools