APPROVED

SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 8.1f

Meeting Date: April 16, 2026

Subject: **Approve Minutes for the March 5, 2026, Regular Board of Education Meeting**

- ☐ Information Item Only
- ☒ Approval on Consent Agenda
- ☐ Conference (for discussion only)
- ☐ Conference/First Reading (Action Anticipated: _____)
- ☐ Conference/Action
- ☐ Action
- ☐ Public Hearing

Division: Superintendent's Office

Recommendation: Approve Minutes for the March 5, 2026, Regular Board of Education Meeting.

Background/Rationale: None

Financial Considerations: None

LCAP Goal(s): Family and Community Empowerment

Documents Attached:
1. Minutes of the March 5, 2026, Regular Board of Education Meeting

Estimated Time of Presentation: N/A
Submitted by: Cancy McArn, Interim Superintendent
Approved by: Cancy McArn, Interim Superintendent

Sacramento City Unified School District | Putting Children First

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AND WORKSHOP

Board of Education Members
Tara Jeane, President (Trustee Area 1)
Taylor Kayatta, Vice President (Trustee Area 6)
April Ybarra, Second Vice President (Trustee Area 4)
Jasjit Singh (Trustee Area 2)
Jose Navarro (Trustee Area 3)
Chinua Rhodes (Trustee Area 5)
Michael Benjamin (Trustee Area 7)
Maggie Kemper, Student Board Member

Thursday, March 5, 2026
4:45 p.m. Closed Session
6:15 p.m. Open Session

Serna Center
Community Conference Rooms
5735 47th Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95824

MINUTES

2025/26-21

Allotted Time

1.0 OPEN SESSION / CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 4:47 p.m.

Members Present:
President Jeane
Member Kayatta
Member Navarro
Member Ybarra
Member Rhodes arrived at 4:56 p.m.
Member Benjamin arrived at 4:58 p.m.
Member Singh arrived at 5:00 p.m.
Member Kemper arrived at 5:55 p.m.

2.0 ANNOUNCEMENT AND PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

No public comment

3.0 CLOSED SESSION

While the Brown Act creates broad public access rights to the meetings of the Board of Education, it also recognizes the legitimate need to conduct some of its meetings outside of the public eye. Closed session meetings are specifically defined and limited in scope. They primarily involve personnel issues, pending litigation, labor negotiations, and real property matters.

3.1 Government Code 54956.9 - Conference with Legal Counsel:

a) *Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (d)(2) of Government Code section 54956.9 (One Potential Case)*
b) *Existing litigation pursuant to subdivision (d)(1) of Government Code section 54956.9 (OAH Case No.2025080781)*

3.2 Government Code 54957.6 (a) and (b) Negotiations/Collective Bargaining SCTA SEIU, TCS, Teamsters, UPE, Non-Represented/Confidential Management (Cancy McArn)

3.3 Government Code 54957 – Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Complaint

3.4 Government Code 54957- Public Employee Appointment
(a) Approve- Interim Deputy Chief of Schools

3.5 Government Code section 54957—Public Employee Performance Evaluation
Title: Superintendent

4.0 CALL BACK TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called back to order at 6:58 p.m.

4.1 The Pledge of Allegiance

4.2 Broadcast Statement

4.3 Stellar Student introduced by Board President Tara Jeane

5.0 ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

There were 4 announcements that came out of closed session.
-Under 3.1(a), there was a SPED settlement Case No. 2025080781 in the amount of $42,000 approved unanimously by the Board.
-Under 3.2(b), the Board unanimously approved a SPED ADR settlement not to exceed $59,000.
-Under 3.3, the Board unanimously approved a settlement release and resignation agreement of $60,000 with Employee ID 7445.
-Under 3.4, the unanimously appointed Aprille Shafto as the Interim Deputy Chief of Schools.

6.0 AGENDA ADOPTION

The Board adopted the agenda unanimously.

7.0 PUBLIC COMMENT ***15 minutes***

Members of the public may address the Board on non-agenda items that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. Public comment may be (1) emailed to publiccomment@scusd.edu; (2) submitted in writing through the district's website at https://www.scusd.edu/submit-public-comment; or (3) provided in-person at the meeting. The submission deadline for written public comments shall be no later than noon on the day of the meeting. If you intend to address the Board in-person, please fill out a yellow card available at the entrance. Speakers may be called in the order that requests are received, or grouped by subject area. We ask that comments are limited to two (2) minutes with no more than 15 minutes per single topic so that as many people as possible may be heard. By law, the Board is allowed

to take action only on items on the agenda. The Board may, at its discretion, refer a matter to district staff or calendar the issue for future discussion.

Andrea Rogozinski
Mitchell Leach
Tamara Rorenfield
Garrett Kirkland
Kari Lofing
DeVon Davis

8.0 CONSENT AGENDA

Action
2 minutes

Generally routine items are approved by one motion without discussion. The Superintendent or a Board member may request an item be pulled from the consent agenda and voted upon separately.

8.1 Items Subject or Not Subject to Closed Session:

8.1a Approve Grants, Entitlements and Other Income Agreements (Lisa Grant-Dawson)

8.1b Approve/Ratification of Other Agreements, Bid Awards, Declared Surplus Materials and Equipment, Change Notices, and Notices of Completion (Lisa Grant-Dawson)

8.1c Approve Personnel Transactions (Jake Hansen)

8.1d Approve Resolution No. 3571: Resolution Regarding Board Stipends (Interim Superintendent Cancy McArn)

8.1e Approve Albert Einstein field trip to Boston, MA March 23-28, 2026 (Mary Hardin Young & Tuan Duong)

8.1f Approve Miwok trip to Washington DC March 26-31, 2026 (Mary Hardin Young & Jerad Hyden)

8.1g Approve Miwok trip to Boston, MA March 26-31, 2026 (Mary Hardin Young & Jerad Hyden)

8.1h Approve Election of Delegates to the California School Boards Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly, Subregion 6-B (Sacramento County) (Interim Superintendent Cancy McArn)

8.1i Approve Appointment of Board Member Tara Jeane to the California School Board Association (CSBA) Delegate Assembly (Board President Tara Jeane)

8.1j Approve Minutes for the December 18, 2025, Regular Board of Education Meeting (Interim Superintendent Cancy McArn)

8.1k Approve Minutes for the January 8, 2026, Special Board of Education Meeting (Interim Superintendent Cancy McArn)

This is an action item.

Public Comment:
No public comment
Board Comment:
No Board comment

Member Rhodes made a motion to approve the consent agenda with a second from Member Ybarra. The Board voted 7-0. Student Member Kemper did not provide a preferential vote.

9.0 COMMUNICATIONS

9.1 Employee Organization Reports:

- *SCTA- Nikki Davis Milevsky addressed the Board regarding the district's budget outlook, noting that while significant progress has been made under Interim Superintendent McArn, serious concerns remain regarding data transparency. She acknowledged the positive shift from a "negative" to a "qualified" second interim budget, highlighting projections that the district will maintain cash solvency through the 2026-2027 school year even before accounting for all current cost-saving measures. Despite these improvements, Milevsky criticized the lack of clarity and directness in financial reporting from the Chief Business Officer. She cited conflicting enrollment projections for the 2026-2027 school year, noting that figures have fluctuated from an initial increase of over 1,000 students to a more recent report of declining enrollment without detailed explanation. Furthermore, she pointed to discrepancies in Medi-Cal service revenue projections, where discussed figures of $6.77 million annually were significantly higher than the $2 million increase reflected in the fiscal recovery plan. Milevsky concluded by urging the Board to demand more accurate, timely, and transparent financial information. She emphasized that "double speak" and incomplete data, such as blank cash flow status updates, hinder the Board's ability to make informed decisions regarding the district's fiscal health and the continued employment of long-term staff.*
- *SEIU- Casey Thompson echoed the concerns previously raised by SCTA regarding the district's fiscal outlook and transparency. While expressing cautious optimism regarding the current year's meeting of reserve qualifications, Thompson highlighted significant uncertainty surrounding the 2026-2027 fiscal solvency plan. He specifically addressed the imminent board action involving the layoff of approximately 300 additional classified employees, noting that such measures cause widespread panic and potentially devastating financial consequences for staff living paycheck to paycheck. Thompson criticized the timing and reliability of the data used to justify these cuts, noting that the board only recently received essential fiscal information. He pointed out a confusing shift in data: site budgets were developed based on projections of increased enrollment, yet the district is now reporting negative enrollment numbers to support staffing reductions. Thompson noted that his organization has yet to receive requested budget development documents,*

though a commitment was made to provide them before an upcoming meeting with Human Resources. In closing, Thompson emphasized that there are currently more questions than answers regarding the district's financial strategy. He urged the board to work collaboratively over the next two months to stabilize the district's finances while minimizing the impact on staff and ensuring that no cuts reach the classroom level.

- *TCS- No update*
- *Teamsters- No update*
- *UPE*

AFSA Local 154-AFL-CIO- Laura Butler addressed the Board to challenge the perception that administrative positions are redundant or excessive. She provided a detailed overview of the critical roles administrators play in student safety and district operations, noting that several departments are already operating with only a single individual overseeing district-wide programs. Specifically, she highlighted that one person currently supervises over 150 health staff making life-and-death decisions, while another single individual manages the entire Section 504 process and educational technology infrastructure for every student in the district.

Butler further emphasized that the Special Education department relies on only 2.5 administrators to support hundreds of specialists and oversee every Individualized Education Program (IEP). She argued that cutting these roles or further gutting the Curriculum and Instruction department would stall progress on MTSS and academic initiatives while compromising school safety and crisis response. Regarding compensation, she noted that many veteran principals earn less per hour than veteran classroom teachers when accounting for the 10-to-12-hour workdays required of administrators. Butler concluded by warning that blanket layoffs and the disrespect of administrative work will exacerbate the national shortage of school leaders and drive essential staff away from the district, ultimately leaving students without the necessary support systems.

9.3 District Advisory Committees:

- *Student Advisory Council- Eric Dogado and Reed Wages presented an update on behalf of the Student Advisory Council (SAC), highlighting their recent participation in the Parent Leadership Conference on February 25th. They expressed appreciation for the leadership and collaboration provided by the Community and Empowerment Department and noted that SAC members contributed to panel discussions regarding student hardships and provided childcare for attending parents. The Council is currently working in small groups to research and develop grassroots strategies to address common district issues. Moving forward, the Council requested the formal inclusion of two students in the LCAP Committee for the current year and expressed interest in collaborating with various other district committees and departments. Additionally, the representatives proposed establishing student representation on the ad hoc district committee responsible for hiring a new superintendent. They concluded by requesting a follow-up with Board members to finalize a student position on that committee and thanked the Board for its continued support in improving the student experience.*

- *Community Advisory Committee- Community Advisory Committee (CAC) for Special Education announced that the committee's next meeting will take place*

on the 17th at John Sloat Elementary. The session will feature LCAP updates and recommendations, as well as presentations from SELPA and special education administrators regarding the district's fiscal crisis.

The representative expressed significant concern over potential layoffs, emphasizing that many students with high-acuity needs already face inconsistent support with rotating aides. Specifically, she noted the unsettling impact that losing health aides would have on students requiring specialized medical care, such as those with gastrointestinal feeding tubes. She urged parents to attend the upcoming CAC meeting to share their input and seek resolution, underscoring that parent voices are crucial during this period of uncertainty.

- *District English Learner Advisory Committee- No update*
- *Local Control Accountability Plan/Parent Advisory Committee- The LCAP Committee member provided an update regarding structural and data-related challenges facing the advisory process. The representative highlighted a significant issue with inconsistent attendance, noting that while Member Kayatta and other specific appointees are consistently present, several assigned areas frequently go unrepresented. This lack of participation leaves entire regions of the district unheard and undermines the functionality of the committee. The member also raised concerns regarding the reliability of student progress data. They noted that contractual options allowing teachers to choose whether to administer certain assessments result in inconsistent data, making it difficult to evaluate year-to-year growth or identify students in need of support. Additionally, the representative questioned the district's participation in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) and pointed out a lack of clarity in how data for students with disabilities is categorized on district graphs. The member emphasized that without accurate and granular data, the committee's ability to monitor culture, climate, and academic progress is severely limited as they prepare to begin making formal recommendations next month.*
- *Black/African American Advisory Board- Terence Gladney, Chair of the Black African-American Advisory Board (B/AAAB), opened his comments by honoring the legacy of the American Negro Academy, founded in 1897 to advance racial uplift through scholarship. He noted that the B/AAAB follows this tradition by utilizing data disaggregation and strategic monitoring to address the generational outcomes of Black and African-American students within the district. Gladney emphasized that effective advocacy requires not only analyzing performance data but also scrutinizing the expenditures and investments that drive those outcomes. Gladney advocated for stronger organizational systems to eliminate the "chaos" caused by the district's current lack of structure. He defined true equity as a balance of power, access, and opportunity, rather than a mere look at numbers. Addressing recent board discussions regarding parent-funded programs, Gladney criticized the proposal to subsidize programs that serve families capable of absorbing 45% fee increases. He argued that these funds are diverted from students who lack the ability to pay for foundational access to preschool and early education, contributing to the historical achievement gaps faced by Black scholars. In light of the current fiscal crisis and pending layoffs, Gladney urged the Board to use this moment as an opportunity to rebuild the district from the ground up. He insisted that the district must adopt a student-centered focus, prioritizing primary student needs over adult interests and only addressing remaining gaps once those foundational needs are met.*

- *Community Schools Advisory Committee- Saralyn Bienvenue, representing the Community and Empowerment Department, commended the Board for its collaborative leadership before providing updates on several district milestones and community initiatives. She highlighted the robust activity within the district's 17 community schools, noting that over 141 events are scheduled for the coming month. Bienvenue also shared that the recent Parent Leadership Empowerment Conference received overwhelmingly positive feedback, particularly regarding the contributions of the Student Advisory Council panel. Recognizing specific achievements, Bienvenue announced that student Zuri Burks from CK McClatchy was awarded a grant from the authors of Street Data for her work in a state-level community of practice. Additionally, she noted that for the first time in district history, a student will advance to the National Spelling Bee in May, a success attributed to a partnership with Scripps facilitated by Terence Gladney. Finally, Bienvenue announced a significant donation from the Sacramento River Cats, providing over $60,000 in tickets to opening weekend games for staff and families at Johnson, Abraham Lincoln, Woodbine, Pacific, and Earl Warren schools.*

- *American Indian Education Program Parent Committee-No update*

- *Restorative Justice Committee- Member Singh reported on the meeting of the Restorative Justice Committee held recently at the Serna Center. Member Singh noted a high level of energy and a strong commitment to collaborating with community partners to move this work forward. Member Singh emphasized the importance of consistent attendance, encouraging Board members to ensure their appointees are actively participating to maintain the committee's momentum. While the committee's primary intention includes developing restorative practices for adults, Member Singh highlighted that discussions have also centered on student discipline. Member Singh reiterated a long-standing Board priority to implement restorative practices that keep students in the classroom and support them through difficult decision-making processes. By providing these support services to both adults and students, the district aims to ensure all members of the school community can bring their best selves to the environment. The committee will continue to meet monthly, and efforts are underway to ensure all designated representatives are correctly included in future communications.*

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9.4 Board Ad Hoc Committee Reports:

- *Special Education Committee- Member Ybarra shared brief remarks reflecting on the progress of recent committee discussions, noting a shift toward more progressive and collaborative dialogue. While no formal presentation was ready for the Board, she stated that there is a strengthening understanding of individual Board members' concerns, which is being effectively represented in committee spaces. Member Ybarra extended her appreciation to the district staff for their transparency and trust throughout the process. She emphasized the value of the honesty and mutual respect shared within these working groups, noting that the collective willingness to improve daily is essential to the committee's success. She concluded by thanking all participants for the significant time and effort they contribute to this ongoing work.*

- *Board Policy Committee- Member Jeane provided an update on the ongoing efforts of the Board Policy Committee, noting that several policies are currently under development and require approval by the end of the school year. She highlighted a broader initiative to overhaul the district's existing policies, which are significantly outdated, and noted that more comprehensive announcements regarding this process are forthcoming. Additionally, Member Jeane announced that the committee will soon present a first reading and proposed action on a missing policy of particular interest to Member Kayatta, emphasizing the committee's commitment to modernization and addressing gaps in district governance.*

- *Budget Committee- Member Kayatta noted that the committee's efforts over the previous two weeks were fully integrated into the evening's budget update. He extended his gratitude to the district staff and specifically thanked Superintendent McCarron for prioritizing the Board's request for detailed information. Member Kayatta emphasized that this data is essential for the Board to make intentional and informed decisions, the results of which would be addressed further during the formal budget presentation.*

- *Superintendent Search Committee- President Jeane announced that the development of the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the superintendent search is currently underway. A initial draft has been prepared and will be presented to the committee for collaborative review. Once the committee has finalized the draft, the RFP will be formally issued to begin the search process.*

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9.4 Student Member Report (Maggie Kemper)- Student Member Maggie Kemper highlighted the introduction of purple student public comment cards, which prioritize youth speakers during meetings. She expressed gratitude for this change, noting that it reinforces the district's commitment to putting students first. Member Kemper also thanked Member Ybarra for visiting the Student Advisory Council (SAC) to provide a transparent briefing on the budget, noting that the SAC appreciates her earnest representation of the community. Addressing national concerns, Member Kemper spoke in support of LGBTQ+ identifying students, particularly the transgender community, in light of recent shifts at the Supreme Court. She reaffirmed the district's dedication to student safety and success regardless of gender identity, sexual orientation, race, or immigration status. Member Kemper pledged her continued advocacy for vulnerable students through policy and action, concluding her report with a recognition of Women's History Month.

9.5 Interim Superintendent's Report (Cancy McArn)- Interim Superintendent Cancy McArn began her report by acknowledging the public comments shared during the meeting, affirming that the voices and passions of the community are heard and that the district understands the necessity of following those words with concrete action. She highlighted several district observances, beginning with National School Breakfast Week, and extended her gratitude to the nutrition services team for their efforts in providing scratch-made meals from the central kitchen. Superintendent McArn also recognized National School Social Work Week, thanking the social work team for providing vital social-emotional support and connecting students to essential resources. In celebration of Read Across America, the Superintendent detailed her recent visits to Theodore Judah, Tahoe, and Parkway Elementary schools, with an upcoming visit scheduled for New Joseph Bonnheim. She thanked the staff and principals at these sites for their work in fostering

a lifelong love of reading. Additionally, in honor of Women's History Month, she congratulated the West Campus girls' soccer and basketball teams for their CIF Section Championships and commended the McClatchy girls' basketball team for their success in the NorCal Championships.

Superintendent McArn concluded her report with a tribute to Richard Owen, a longtime principal and the Executive Director of UPE, who recently passed away. She described him as a dedicated advocate for students and a transparent leader who provided administrators with the tools necessary for effective leadership. On behalf of the district, she expressed deepest condolences to his family and colleagues, noting that the meeting would be adjourned in his memory.

9.6 President's Report (Tara Jeane)- President Tara Jeane addressed the Board regarding the difficult decisions required during the upcoming budget workshops and the evening's agenda. She acknowledged that while the current fiscal situation is not ideal, the Board must fulfill its responsibility to act. Reflecting on conversations with Interim Superintendent McArn and the district's fiscal adviser, President Jeane emphasized the governance process wherein staff provides expert recommendations and the Board makes final decisions for staff to implement. She noted that while there has been significant progress in the quality of information provided to the Board, the magnitude of the decisions may still make the data feel insufficient. Referencing Member Singh's previous remarks that "transparency is ugly," President Jeane highlighted that much of the information was received within the last 24 hours, necessitating a public and real-time processing of the data. She concluded by acknowledging the emotional weight of these decisions and the anticipated impact they will have on the district community.

9.7 Information Sharing by Board Members- Member Benjamin thanked the Community Advisory Committee for their work and provided details for the upcoming district spelling bee, scheduled for Saturday, March 21st, at Oak Ridge Elementary. Registration for the event will begin at 7:30 a.m.

Member Kayatta shared that he will be participating in Read Across America at Matsuyama Elementary. He also offered a tribute to the late Richard Owen, praising his ability to navigate political complexities with directness and honesty. Additionally, he recognized the John F. Kennedy High School robotics team, which is currently ranked 551st out of 8,000 teams globally, noting how their success reflects the high quality of the district's manufacturing and design programs. Finally, Member Kayatta expressed support for striking teachers in the Twin Rivers Unified School District and criticized that district's leadership for using Sacramento City Unified's fiscal challenges as leverage in their local negotiations.

Member Singh addressed the widespread frustration regarding the lack of timely data, stating that the Board had been requesting this information for months to avoid the current crisis. He attributed the district's fiscal situation to long-term structural pressures and the postponement of difficult decisions by previous leadership. Member Singh emphasized that every staff member, from custodians and office staff to teachers and principals, is essential to student success. He advocated for a restructuring that reduces reliance on outside contractors and focuses on direct student support rather than "check-box" services. Lastly, he addressed a recent Supreme Court ruling regarding student gender identity notification, clarifying that while the ruling allows for such policies, it does not mandate them, and Sacramento City Unified does not have a policy requiring such notifications.

10.0 BOARD WORKSHOP/STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

10.1 Approve Resolution No. 3570: Notice of Layoff: Preschool Employees – Reduction in Force Due to Lack of Funds and/or Lack of Work (Erin Findley, Mikako Fisher-Hill, & Jake Hansen)

Staff provided a process overview, reduction summary, and the resolution to eliminate positions. This is an action item.

Public Comment:
Leila Dahl
Tara Cogen
Griffin FitzGibbon
Diana Laura Cornejo Burgos
Jennelle Argueta
Lala Alvarado

Board Comment:
Member Ybarra thanked staff for the comprehensive data provided and sought clarification on the disparate recommendations for Leonardo da Vinci (LDB) and Martin Luther King Jr. (MLK). She noted that while LDB is slated for a shift to a 10-month program rather than closure, MLK remains recommended for closure despite having similar capacity gaps. She further questioned why certain before- and after-school programs are listed as unfunded rather than utilizing Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP) funds, which are currently used to support other elementary and middle school activities.

Member Kayatta confirmed the direction to maintain current capacity at LDB while transitioning to a 10-month calendar. Regarding Matsuyama and MLK, he stressed the importance of intentional implementation, noting that existing waitlists for ASES programs already prevent families from accessing necessary care. He warned that without increasing capacity, the district risks turning away families who depend on these services.

Member Rhodes shared his personal history with the Brett Harte Children's Center to emphasize the importance of these connections for working families. He questioned the specific steps required to increase capacity for the ASES programs at Matsuyama and MLK and urged for better cross-departmental collaboration. He noted that since different departments manage separate funding streams impacting the same communities, they must work together with Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) to realistically build the capacity needed to serve students on-site.

Following the discussion, Member Benjamin moved to approve the recommendations, with a second by Member Navarro. The Board voted 7-0 in favor.

10.2 Fiscal Solvency Plan Update and Recommendations (Interim Superintendent & Cabinet Members)

Cabinet presented a comprehensive report on the district's current fiscal reality, which included essential definitions and an overview of the ongoing fiscal crisis. The presentation detailed proposed solvency strategies for the 2025-26 and 2026-27 school years, emphasizing the need for structural changes to ensure long-term financial stability. Following the report, Cabinet requested

formal direction from the Board regarding the next steps for implementing these strategies and addressing the projected budget deficits.

Public Comment:
Lucero Soto
Alma Gacria
Nora Barraza
Elvia Vasquez
Jessy Hernandez
Andrea Scharnow
Tascha Weatherall
Asia Yang
Terrence Gladney

Board Comment:
Member Singh emphasized that the district's fiscal crisis is a long-term structural issue rather than a single-year problem. He noted that issuing preliminary layoff notices by the March 15 deadline is a necessary legal step to provide the district with the flexibility and time needed to review data that the Board has requested for months. He advocated for a shift away from "check-box" services toward actual student support and suggested that the district must restructure to move beyond short-term multi-year projections.

Member Benjamin thanked the staff for their hard work and acknowledged the difficulty of the decisions ahead, noting that while the Board did not want to be in this position, collective action is required to ensure students remain educated. He specifically inquired about the mechanics of the medical reimbursement strategies and one-time savings mentioned in the fiscal presentation.

Member Rhodes expressed significant concern regarding additional preliminary notices for site-based staff funded through the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), stating he did not agree with that direction. He sought clarification on the proposed plan for school closures and consolidations for the 2027-28 school year, questioning whether the intent was to initiate a planning structure or to identify specific sites for closure. He stated that school closures are a "hard sell" for him and that he is currently not interested in that option, particularly for the area he represents.

Member Kayatta noted that through the work of the budget subcommittee, the district has identified the numbers necessary to "stop the bleeding" for the current year. He explained that acting now on layoff notices provides the flexibility needed to address a potential $200 million deficit in future years. He highlighted that the central office layoffs are intended for restructuring rather than simply eliminating programs. He recommended that the Board go through each "decision point" slide to establish a clear consensus.

Member Ybarra shared the difficulty of digesting the information, which was received shortly before the meeting. She responded to Member Rhodes' comments by citing the FCMAT report, which indicates that 55% of the district's 71 school sites are operating at low capacity. She argued that refusing to discuss consolidation effectively means sacrificing staff positions and student services. While she acknowledged the pain school closures cause in a community, she suggested that restructuring is the only way to come back stronger and serve every student fully.

Member Navarro inquired about the timeline for potential consolidations, noting that if the district does not look into the 55% under-enrollment data now, action would not be possible for the 2026-27 or 2027-28 school years. President Jeane clarified that a special board meeting regarding facilities optimization is scheduled for April 23rd to walk through the data and potential ideas from the facilities team.

President Jeane reflected on the district's history, noting that enrollment has dropped from a peak of 60,000 students to roughly 38,000. She stated that the current system is spread too thin and that consolidation could actually allow for better staffing and resources. She called for a deeper dive into consultants and contracts, arguing that external contracts should be cut before district employees. She also clarified that the final day for the Board to make major staffing decisions would be May 7th, coinciding with the third interim report.

The Board reached a general consensus via head nods to direct staff to move forward with OPEB and medical reimbursement strategies to achieve a qualified certification. They further directed staff to initiate conversations with labor partners regarding cost-saving measures for the 2026-27 school year, including furlough days and healthcare cost reductions. Member Kayatta framed this as an essential step to show labor partners that the district is ready to work collaboratively on fiscal solvency.

10.3 Approve Resolution No. 3568: Resolution to Eliminate Additional Certificated Positions Due to a Reduction of Particular Kinds of Service (Jake Hansen)

Jake Hansen presented Resolution No. 3568, which outlines additional staff reductions proposed to support the district's fiscal solvency plan. He explained that these reductions are categorized into two exhibits: Exhibit A covers central office (Serna Center) staff, including 12.6 FTE for TK-12 positions and 36.0 FTE for certificated management. Exhibit B addresses site-based staff fully funded by the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), specifically a 0.6 resource teacher and a 1.0 assistant principal.

Mr. Hansen emphasized that the items listed are not mandated by Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs) or statutory requirements; for example, while certain content specialist roles are mentioned, these specific positions exceed the minimums required by contract. He noted that the March 15 deadline necessitates immediate action to allow for continued analysis and processing. The goal is to bring the Administrative Law Judge's (ALJ) decision regarding these notices back to the Board for final action during the May 7 meeting, aligning with other major fiscal decisions. This item was presented as an action item for Board approval.

Public Comment:
Steve Bruno

Board Comment:
Member Rhodes requested clarification on why Exhibit B was added to the packet after the initial distribution. He reiterated his opposition to the site-based reductions listed in Exhibit B, noting that while he supported moving forward with the agenda, his position on those specific staff cuts remained unchanged.

Member Kayatta addressed public comments regarding district spending, clarifying that previous misinformation regarding a $100,000 food expenditure had already been corrected in a prior meeting.

The Board then discussed the structure of Resolution No. 3568. Member Rhodes requested that Exhibit A (central office reductions) and Exhibit B (LCFF-funded site reductions) be voted on separately.

Member Kayatta moved to approve Exhibit A, seconded by Member Navarro. The Board voted 7-0 to approve the central office staff reductions.

Regarding Exhibit B, Member Benjamin and Member Ybarra sought further details on how the two specific site positions were selected. Member Ybarra expressed concern that cutting LCFF-funded positions at a school like American Legion was counterintuitive to the purpose of those funds. Interim Superintendent McArn clarified that Exhibit B was presented as a separate option to provide the Board with the specific fiscal choices they had requested during earlier decision-point discussions.

Member Kayatta questioned whether the resolution represented a definitive intent to terminate those specific positions or was simply to provide a placeholder for fiscal options.

Member Rhodes then moved to reject Exhibit B, emphasizing his opposition to using LCFF-funded site positions for budget reductions. The motion was seconded by Member Ybarra. The Board voted 7-0 to not move forward with Exhibit B.

10.4 Approve Resolution No. 3569: Notice of Layoff: Classified Employees – Additional Reduction in Force Due to Lack of Funds and/or of Work (Jake Hansen)

Jake Hansen presented Resolution No. 3569, which concerns a reduction in force specifically for classified positions. Similar to the previous item, the resolution was divided into two parts: Exhibit A, representing central office staff reductions, and Exhibit B, providing data-driven options for reductions at school sites funded by LCFF. Mr. Hansen explained that these exhibits were intended to offer the Board various strategies to support the district's fiscal solvency plan. He noted that staff was available for questions and presented the resolution as an action item for Board approval.

Public Comment:
Steve Bruno
Tascha Weatherall

Board Comment:
Member Rhodes reiterated his firm opposition to Exhibit B, which targeted site-based staff funded through LCFF. Member Ybarra concurred, stating that cutting site-based positions felt contradictory to the Board's goal of keeping reductions as far away from the classroom and students as possible.

Member Kayatta clarified that the Board's role was not to micro-manage specific position cuts, as that is a staff function. Instead, he framed the decision as providing staff with the necessary

flexibility to spend the next two months using a "scalpel" to determine final staffing needs based on the Board's priorities. While he supported providing flexibility for central office reductions (Exhibit A), he agreed with Member Rhodes that site-based LCFF positions should be excluded from consideration.

Member Singh acknowledged the difficulty of the situation, noting that the lack of timely information and previous delays in decision-making had forced the Board into this position, which could unfortunately lead to the loss of dedicated employees.

Member Ybarra spoke candidly about the "elephant in the room," expressing deep frustration that the Board had requested staffing analysis for over a year and only received this specific data moments before the public. She emphasized that the current crisis was exacerbated by a lack of cooperation and delays in providing the Board with requested information.

President Jeane sought technical clarification on the funding source for the positions in Exhibit B. Staff clarified that these positions were funded through the LCFF "base grant" rather than supplemental or concentration funds, and that the list was generated by identifying all positions currently overspent within that funding stream.

President Jeane expressed further hesitation, noting the human impact of each line item and the lack of specific dollar amounts attached to the exhibits. She questioned if the proposed cuts even brought the district into the range of the required $230 million reduction. Member Singh provided a rationale for rejecting Exhibit B, noting that the list comprised many fractional positions (some as small as 15 minutes or one hour) which totaled only 34.02 FTE. She argued that the minimal fiscal gain did not justify the significant impact on those individuals.

Member Rhodes moved to approve Exhibit A, seconded by Member Ybarra; the Board voted 7-0.

Member Rhodes then moved to reject Exhibit B, seconded by Member Ybarra; the Board voted 7-0.

10.5 Approve Contracts Report >$15,000 (Lisa Grant-Dawson)

Lisa Grant-Dawson presented the contracts report, noting that the item had been moved from consent to action. She explained that the report's format was reordered to list items by fund, specifically categorizing by General Fund (unrestricted and restricted) and then other district funds. As an example of the updates, she cited an increase in transportation service contracts, such as a $10,000 adjustment for Luther Burbank High School to cover end-of-year needs.

Ms. Grant-Dawson informed the Board that the contract for United College Action had been requested for removal from the report. She clarified that any motion for approval should reflect the acceptance of the listed items with the exclusion of the United College Action contract. This was presented as an action item.

No public comment:
No public comment

Board Comments:
No Board comment

Member Kayatta moved to approve the Contracts Report > $15,000 with the specific exclusion of the United College Action contract. The motion was seconded by Member Benjamin. The Board voted 6-0 to approve the report as amended, with Member Singh and Student Member Kemper absent for the vote.

11.0 PUBLIC HEARING

11.1 Recommendation for Adoption: HS Integrated Math I-III, including SCUSD Instructional Materials Adoption Process Update (Mikila Fetzer & Suzie Craig)

Michaela Fetzer and Susie Craig presented a recommendation to adopt Carnegie Learning's California Clear Math for Integrated Math 1-3. Staff noted the district is overdue for an update, as the current curriculum has been in use for 12 years—four years beyond the typical replacement cycle. The recommendation follows a two-year evaluation and pilot process involving educators, students, and community members. Grounded in the new California Mathematics Framework, the selection process prioritized equitable instruction and improved outcomes for English learners and Black/African-American students. After piloting three programs, Carnegie Learning was selected via consensus for its alignment with the district's instructional vision. Despite previous budget freezes on math adoptions, staff negotiated costs to under $1 million, funded through restricted California Lottery funds and professional learning grants. Adoption is recommended for the 2026-27 school year.

Comment:
No public comment

Board Comment:
Member Kayatta thanked the staff and committee members for their work, stating that he trusted the selection process and was pleased to support the recommendation without second-guessing the educators' findings.

Member Navarro inquired about the pilot results specifically concerning English learners and how the materials performed for those students.

Member Singh moved to approve the adoption of Carnegie Learning's California Clear Math, seconded by Member Kayatta. The Board voted 7-0 to approve the recommendation. Student Member Kemper was absent for the vote.

11.2 First Reading and Action of Board Policy 1114: District-Sponsored Social Media (Vice President Taylor Kayatta)

Member Kayatta introduced a new social media policy, noting that it has been recommended by the California School Boards Association (CSBA) since 2011. He highlighted that while the district is heavily engaged on social media, it currently lacks a formal policy, which prevents the district from legally moderating comments on its platforms. He emphasized that adopting this policy is necessary for effective comment moderation and includes standard CSBA language. Member Kayatta recommended that the Board move the item to action for immediate approval.

Public Comment:

No public comment

Board Comment:
No Board Comment

Member Kayatta made a motion to approve with a second from Member Rhodes. The Board voted 7-0. Student Member Kemper was absent.

11.3 Provide a Public Hearing for and Approve Resolution No. 3572: Resolution to Convey Public Utility Easements to Sacramento County at Nicholas Elementary School (Ben Wangberg)

Chris Ralston presented Resolution No. 3572, regarding the conveyance of public utility easements to Sacramento County at Nicholas Elementary School. He requested that the Board hold a public hearing and move to approve the resolution. President Jeane opened and closed the public hearing.

Public Comment:
No public comment

Board Comment:
No Board Comment

Member Navarro made a motion to approve with a second from Member Rhodes. The Board voted 7-0. Student Member Kemper was absent.

12.0 SPECIAL PRESENTATION

12.1 Supporting English Learner Success and Equity: Reclassification Decisions (Dr. Olga Simms)

Dr. Olga Simms, Director of Multilingual Literacy, presented a proposal to update the district's English learner reclassification criteria to align with federal and state mandates while expanding academic opportunities for emerging bilingual students. She noted that the district is currently approaching an 8% reclassification rate with a goal of exceeding 10% annually. The presentation focused on adopting the California Observation Protocol for Teachers of English Learners (OPTEL) to standardize teacher evaluations and parent consultations, ensuring more equitable and consistent assessments across the district. Additionally, Dr. Simms requested the expansion of the "basic skills" requirement to include Benchmark Advanced unit assessments for grades K-6 and My Perspectives ELA unit assessments for grades 7-12. This change aims to provide more pathways for students who demonstrate English proficiency on the ELPAC but struggle to meet narrow CAASPP or i-Ready score thresholds. The session concluded with a video of recently reclassified fifth-grade students from Suyu Elementary discussing their pride in being bilingual and their future aspirations. Dr. Simms emphasized that the district will continue to monitor reclassified students for four years to ensure their ongoing success. This was an action item.

Public Comment:
No public comment

Board Comment:
Member Ybarra expressed strong support for the proposal, noting that the expansion of assessment options is a significant step toward equity for the district's large English learner population. She emphasized that providing more pathways to reclassification helps students avoid remedial courses and prepares them for college. Member Ybarra also noted that the move reflects years of advocacy and highlights the positive work being done within the Multilingual Literacy department.

Member Navarro shared her personal experience as a former English learner and praised Dr. Simms for her passion. She spoke in favor of providing students with more options to demonstrate their proficiency.

President Jeane sought and received clarification regarding the origin of the OPTEL form. Dr. Sims confirmed that the protocol is driven by the California Department of Education (CDE) to ensure standardization across school districts, replacing older, less consistent local forms. President Jeane also commended the addition of unit assessments, noting that educators are more intimately acquainted with these tools, which allows them to better support and prepare students compared to external standardized tests.

Member Ybarra moved to approve the implementation of OPTEL and the updated reclassification criteria, seconded by Member Navarro. The motion passed 7-0. Student Member Kemper was absent for the vote.

13.0 FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATES / LOCATIONS

- ✓ *March 19, 2026, 4:45 p.m. Closed Session, 6:15 p.m. Open Session, Serna Center, 5735 47th Avenue, Community Room, Regular Workshop Meeting*

- ✓ *April 16, 2026, 4:45 p.m. Closed Session, 6:15 p.m. Open Session, Serna Center, 5735 47th Avenue, Community Room, Regular Workshop Meeting*

14.0 ADJOURNMENT

Member Benjamin requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Mr. Richard Owen, a beloved, lifelong educator within the Sacramento City Unified School District.

The meeting adjourned at 11:54 p.m.

Cancy McArn, Interim Superintendent and Board Secretary

NOTE: The Sacramento City Unified School District encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the public meeting process. If you need a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, to participate in the public meeting, please contact the Board of Education Office at (916) 643-9314 at least 48 hours before the scheduled Board of Education meeting so that we may make every reasonable effort to accommodate you. [Government Code § 54953.2; Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, § 202 (42 U.S.C. §12132)] Any public records distributed to the Board of Education relating to an open session item will be available for public inspection at the Serna Center, at 5735 47th Avenue, Sacramento, during normal business hours or on the District's website at www.scusd.edu.