San Pasqual Union School District

The Little School in the Valley

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BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES – REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, March 10, 2026, at San Pasqual Union School

- Meeting called to order at 4:31 pm to allow public comment on closed session agenda items. Board Members Goe, Merz, Redmond, and Murray were present. Superintendent Burroughs and recording secretary Jenny Grassy were also present. Member Gourley was not present.

  Adjournment at 4:32 p.m. for closed session.

Regular Session

- Meeting reconvened at 5:40 pm
- Public was welcomed. The flag salute was recited.
- Report from closed session: No action taken
- Hearing of the Public: No one addressed the Board
- Member Merz motioned to approve the current agenda and minutes from the regular February 10 meeting. Member Murray seconded the motion. Motion passed 4/0.
- Mr. Burroughs recognized the San Pasqual Union Teacher of the Year Becca Gill and San Pasqual Union Classified Employee of the Year Amy Moss.
- Ms. Chandy presented the Coping Skills Fair, her capstone project and part of our ongoing efforts to support student mental wellness.
- Mrs. Zdunich presented the AP report (See attached), which included an update on progress toward Board Goals, including academic achievement, teacher professional development, and community engagement.
- Mr. Burroughs presented the Superintendent's report (See attached)
    - State Funding Update: The Superintendent provided an overview of current state funding, including the structure of LCFF funding and potential implications for SPU
        - Reviewed the basics of LCFF funding.
        - Discussed how state funding changes may impact SPU.
        - Shared information about the Raise the Base initiative and SPU's participation in supporting the effort.
    - Teacher Salary & Negotiations
        - District offering 2% salary increase, an increase to teacher stipends, and ~15% increase to benefits; close to agreement on several other key issues
        - District is concerned about Bridge to Medicare proposal due to cost

- 6th Grade Camp
    - Inappropriate behaviors addressed, supervision and medical protocols reviewed, adult/student boundaries reinforced, and prayer accommodated. A return to camp is questionable, so the District is currently investigating an alternate experience for 6th graders.

Action/Discussion Items

- Mr. Burroughs provided an update on San Pasqual Academy
    - Student Outcomes & Challenges: Overall, attendance and academic performance remain challenges
    - Off-campus programs are costly and not producing consistent student success.
    - District Coordination & Advocacy: Ongoing collaboration with ROP, SDCOE, and County Welfare to ensure safe, appropriate placements and support for students.
    - SDCOE planning for a moderate/severe middle school program next year to address key service needs.
- Kristin Dinofia presented the Second Interim Budget Report (See attached)Member Murray motioned to approve the Second Interim Budget Report. Member Redmond seconded the motion. Motion passed 4/0.
- Member Merz motioned to approve the Proposal from Carter Heat and Air. Member Redmond seconded the motion. Motion passed 4/0.
- Member Murray motioned to approve the Transportation plan. Member Merz seconded the motion. Motion passed 4/0.
- First Read of Policy Manual Changes, dated November 2025 and January 2026.

Consent Agenda

- Member Murray made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Member Redmond seconded the motion. Motion passed 4/0

Comments by Trustees:

- **Member Merz:** Congratulated Moss and Gill on their recognitions and noted that they were well deserved. Member Merz also thanked Mrs. Z for the work that went into organizing the Soirée and shared that he was sorry she was unable to attend.
- **Member Murray:** Congratulated the Employees of the Year and stated that she fully agreed with those selections. She also highlighted the Coping Skills Fair, noting that it offered students a valuable opportunity to explore strategies that support their well-being. Murray commented on the work being done with the Science of Reading, acknowledging that differentiating instruction and implementing these strategies is challenging. She commended the teachers for the hard work they are putting in and noted that research shows the highest-performing high school students are often the strongest readers, emphasizing that strong reading skills support students throughout their entire academic journey.

- **Member Redmond:** Also congratulated the Teacher and Employee of the Year, noting that the recognition was well deserved. Building on the discussion of the Science of Reading, she shared that the approach benefits both strong readers and students who are still developing their reading skills. She noted that when students struggle with reading, it affects their ability to learn across all subjects, including math. Redmond expressed appreciation that the school has made reading a strong priority and shared that it is encouraging to see positive results reflected in the school's data. She added that teachers should feel proud of the work they are doing. Redmond also shared that she attended the Soirée, describing it as a beautiful event with a perfect theme that was well organized and rewarding to see come together so successfully
- **Member Goe:** Congratulated the award recipients and echoed the comments already shared by fellow board members. She also expressed appreciation that the board is collectively advocating for the students at San Pasqual Academy, noting that the focus is not only on their education but also on improving their overall quality of life. She stated that she is thankful for the continued work being done to support and improve opportunities for these students.

Regular meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Board returned to Closed Session

Board reconvened open session and provided direction to the Superintendent on agenda item C.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:43 pm.

NEXT MEETING: April 14, 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.)