



Putting
Children
First

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AND WORKSHOP Special Board Meeting

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

Wednesday, May 27, 2026

5:00 p.m. Open Session

Serna Center

Community Conference Rooms
5735 47th Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95824

AGENDA

2025/26-29

Allotted Time

5:00 p.m. **1.0 OPEN SESSION / CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**

5:02 p.m. **2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT FOR AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT AND DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION Members of the public may address the Board on-agenda items only. 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 during that item. 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. 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.

5:17 p.m. **3.0 AGENDA ADOPTION**

4.0 SPECIAL PRESENTATION

5:19 p.m. **4.1 Mathletes Awards Presentation (Suzie Craig)**

Information

15 minute presentation
5 minute discussion

5:39 p.m. **4.2 State Seal of Civic Engagement Student Recognition
(Julie Law-Marín)**

Information

10 minute presentation
5 minute discussion

5:54 p.m. **4.3 State Seal of Biliteracy Student Recognition
(Julie Law-Marín)**

Information

10 minute presentation
5 minute discussion

6:09 p.m.	4.4	2026-2027 Teacher of the Year (Dr. Tiffany Smith-Simmons)	Information 10 minute presentation 5 minute discussion
6:24 p.m.	4.5	Bilingual Teacher of the Year and ELD Teachers of the Year (Tywanda Walker & Dr. Olga Simms)	Information 5 minute presentation 5 minute discussion
6:34 p.m.	4.6	2026-2027 Classified Champions Award (Dr. Tiffany Smith-Simmons)	Information 10 minute presentation 10 minute discussion
6:54 p.m.	4.7	Foster Care Awareness Month, May 2026 (Aliya Holmes)	Information 5 minute presentation 5 minute discussion
7:04 p.m.	4.8	Mental Health Awareness Month (Elizabeth Sterba)	Information 5 minute presentation 5 minute discussion
7:14 p.m.	5.0	FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATES / LOCATIONS ✓ June 4, 2025, 4:45 p.m. Closed Session, 6:15 p.m. Open Session, Serna Center, 5735 47 th Avenue, Community Room, Regular Workshop Meeting ✓ June 18, 2025, 4:45 p.m. Closed Session, 6:15 p.m. Open Session, Serna Center, 5735 47 th Avenue, Community Room, Regular Workshop Meeting	
7:16 p.m.	6.0	ADJOURNMENT <i>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.</i>	



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 4.1

Meeting Date: May 27, 2026

Subject: Mathletes Awards Presentation

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

Division: Academic Office, Curriculum & Instruction Dept.

Recommendation: This presentation includes students and families. We will be awarding individual students, as well as school teams, who earned awards from the 2025-26 Middle School Mathletes Competitions.

Background/Rationale: SCUSD's Middle School Mathletes engages 7th - 8th grade scholars in challenging math competitions. This year, teams worked with their teacher leaders and teammates to practice and compete monthly. Students earned points for each challenge they completed and schools were declared meet winners each month based on total points earned.

On May 27, 2026, the high-point earners and 1st – 3rd place school teams and their families are invited to the Board Meeting to be recognized and receive awards donated from the Steinberg Memorial Fund at CSU Sacramento.

Financial Considerations: None

LCAP Goal(s): NA

Documents Attached: N/A

Estimated Time of Presentation: 15 minutes

Submitted by: Suzie Craig, Math Coordinator; Mikila Fetzer, Dir. of PL; Daniel Roller, Interim Asst. Superintendent of C&I; Erin Findley, Interim CAO

Approved by: Cancy McArn, Superintendent



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 4.2

Meeting Date: May 27, 2026

Subject: State Seal of Civic Engagement Student Recognition

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

Division: Academic Office: Curriculum & Instruction

Recommendation: N/A

Background/Rationale: The California State Seal of Civic Engagement recognizes students who have demonstrated excellence in civic education and participation, as well as a commitment to informed and engaged citizenship. Established by the California Department of Education, the State Seal of Civic Engagement provides districts with the opportunity to honor students who have meaningfully contributed to their schools and communities through civic learning, leadership, and community engagement.

Sacramento City Unified School District remains committed to preparing students to be informed, responsible, and active participants in a diverse democratic society. Through civic learning experiences, service projects, student leadership opportunities, and community-based engagement, students develop the knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary to contribute positively to their communities and beyond.

This informational item recognizes students in grades 10–12 who have met the district-established criteria for earning the California State Seal of Civic Engagement during the current school year. Students earning the seal will receive recognition on their diplomas and transcripts.

Financial Considerations: N/A

LCAP Goal(s): Goal 2: College Career Readiness
Goal 3: School Climate and Engagement

Documents Attached: N/A

Estimated Time of Presentation: 10 minutes

Submitted by: Interim CAO Erin Findley, Interim Asst. Sup. of C&I, Director, Humanities, Ashley Alexander, H-SS Coordinator, Julie Law-Marin

Approved by: Cancy McArn, Superintendent



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 4.3

Meeting Date: May 27, 2026

Subject: State Seal of Biliteracy Student Recognition

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

Division: Academic Office: Curriculum & Instruction

Recommendation: N/A

Background/Rationale: The California State Seal of Biliteracy recognizes graduating high school students who have demonstrated a high level of proficiency in speaking, reading, and writing in one or more languages in addition to English. Established by the California Department of Education, the State Seal of Biliteracy promotes the value of multilingualism and multiculturalism, encourages students to pursue biliteracy, and recognizes the linguistic and cultural assets students bring to our schools and community.

Sacramento City Unified School District remains committed to expanding opportunities for multilingualism and honoring students who demonstrate academic achievement in multiple languages. Students earning the State Seal of Biliteracy receive a gold seal affixed to their diploma and official transcript recognition.

This informational item recognizes the accomplishments of students who have met the criteria established by the California Department of Education and the Sacramento City Unified School District for earning the State Seal of Biliteracy for the current school year.

Financial Considerations: N/A

LCAP Goal(s):

Goal 2: College Career Readiness

Goal 3: School Climate and Engagement

Documents Attached: N/A

Estimated Time of Presentation: 10 minutes

Submitted by: Interim CAO Erin Findley, Interim Asst. Sup. of C&I,
Director, Humanities-Ashley Alexander, H-SS
Coordinator-Julie Law-Marin

Approved by: Cancy McArn, Superintendent



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 4.4

Meeting Date: May 27, 2026

Subject: 2026-2027 Teacher of the Year

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

Division: Human Resource Services

Recommendation: N/A

Background/Rationale: N/A

Financial Considerations: N/A

LCAP Goal(s): Graduation Outcomes, Academic Outcomes, and Welcoming and Safety Outcomes

Documents Attached:

1. Teacher of the Year 2026-2027 Timeline

Estimated Time of Presentation: 10 minutes

Submitted by: Dr. Tiffany Smith-Simmons, HR Director, Talent Management

Approved by: Cancy McArn, Superintendent



2026-2027

A process completed during the 2025-2026 School Year

Teacher of the Year Timeline

Date	Activity
January 31 – Feb 21	Nomination process at schools
March 1 (deadline for applications March 22)	Teachers nominated receive an invitation to apply
Digital copy of essays sent to committee March 29)	Essays read and ranked by District TOY Selection Committee
Committee meets April 4th finalists contacted April 5	Finalists will be contacted to schedule interview
Interviews April 13 and April 23	Finalists interviewed and submit the classroom schedules to arrange observations
April 24- May 1	Classroom observations
May 4	District TOY makes final recommendation of District TOY
May 5	Any Way You Bake It: We Appreciate You celebration
May 27	Board Meeting Recognition of TOY at Board Meeting



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 4.5

Meeting Date: May 27, 2026

Subject: *Bilingual Teacher of the Year and ELD Teachers of the Year*

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

Division: Multilingual Literacy Department

Recommendation: Information only

Background/Rationale: Over the past three years, our recognition of ELD Teacher of the Year and Bilingual Teacher of the Year has become an important tradition—one that reflects both our values and our vision for student success. This recognition was established to honor educators whose work often happens behind the scenes but has a profound and lasting impact on students, families, and the broader community.

At the heart of this recognition is a deep commitment to multilingualism as an asset. Students who are bilingual and biliterate bring rich cultural and linguistic knowledge into our classrooms. Research in Applied Linguistics and Cognitive Science consistently shows that bilingualism strengthens cognitive flexibility, problem-solving, and cross-cultural understanding—skills that are essential in an increasingly interconnected world. Recognizing ELD and bilingual educators affirms that developing proficiency in more than one language is not just a programmatic goal, but a cornerstone of educational excellence and equity.

ELD (English Language Development) teachers play a critical role in ensuring that multilingual learners gain access to rigorous academic content while developing English proficiency. Their work requires deep expertise in language development, culturally responsive pedagogy, and differentiated instruction. They advocate for students, design

meaningful learning experiences, and ensure that language is never a barrier to opportunity.

Similarly, Dual Language and Bilingual teachers are central to cultivating biliteracy and affirming students' identities. Through intentional instruction in two languages, they create environments where students learn to read, write, think, and communicate across linguistic boundaries. Their work supports not only academic achievement but also the preservation and celebration of students' home languages and cultures.

This recognition also reflects our ongoing commitment to equity. Providing students with an equitable opportunity to learn means recognizing and addressing the unique strengths and needs of multilingual learners. ELD and bilingual educators are at the forefront of this effort—ensuring access, removing barriers, and creating pathways for all students to thrive in multiple languages.

As we mark the third year of this recognition, we celebrate not only individual excellence but also the collective impact of educators who are shaping a more inclusive, multilingual future. Honoring ELD and Bilingual Teachers of the Year sends a clear message: the work of building bilingual and biliterate students is essential, valued, and worthy of recognition.

Financial Considerations: Certificates and plaques (approximately \$25 dollars each)

LCAP Goal(s):

Goal 2: Provide High Quality & Engaging Instruction

Goal 4: Maintain Safe Learning Environments & Dismantle Inequities

Goal 5: Engage Educational Partners in Improving and Enhancing the District

Documents Attached:

N/A

Estimated Time of Presentation: 10 minutes

Submitted by: Erin Findley, Interim Chief Academic Officer
Dr. Olga L. Simms, Multilingual Literacy Director

Approved by: Cancy McArn, Superintendent



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 4.6

Meeting Date: May 27, 2026

Subject: 2026-2027 Classified Champions

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

Division: Human Resource Services

Recommendation: N/A

Background/Rationale: N/A

Financial Considerations: N/A

LCAP Goal(s): Graduation Outcomes, Academic Outcomes, and Welcoming Safety Outcomes.

Documents Attached:

1. 2026-2027 Names of Classified Champions

Estimated Time of Presentation: 10 minutes

Submitted by: Dr. Tiffany Smith-Simmons, HR Director, Talent Management

Approved by: Cancy McArn, Superintendent



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Classified Champions

2026–2027 School Year

The Sacramento City Unified School District proudly recognizes the following Classified Champions for their outstanding dedication, professionalism, and commitment to supporting our students, staff, families, and school communities.

Name	Site/Department	Classification
Christine Faith Bruno	Hiram Johnson	Instructional Aide, Special Education
Dale Lovrin	Golden Empire	Instructional Aide and Parent Advisor
Jacquelyn Conner-Hankins	John Still TK-8	Campus Monitor
Joe Hernandez	Transportation	Bus Driver
Joette Maxwell	Superintendent's Office	Executive Assistant
Kellie Horner	Nutrition Services	Food Service Lead, School Site
Kimberly Williams	Phoebe Hearst	Yard Monitor
Mahelet Barrera	Early Learning and Care Enrollment	Child Development Specialist I
Stephanie Ehrk	Albert Einstein Middle	Office Manager II
Yuliya Vathis	Phoebe Hearst	Office Manager I

Sacramento City Unified School District extends sincere appreciation and congratulations to each honoree for their exceptional service and continued dedication to educational excellence.



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 4.7

Meeting Date: May 27, 2026

Subject: Foster Care Awareness Month, May 2026

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

Division: Foster Youth Services Department/Student Support & Health Services Div.

Recommendation: Recognition of Foster Care Awareness Month

Background/Rationale: This Board recognizes May as National Foster Care Month and affirms the critical role our entire community plays in enhancing and supporting the lives of children and youth in foster care within SCUSD.

Students in foster care are among the most vulnerable and academically at-risk groups in California's public schools. As a district, SCUSD remains deeply committed to promoting their educational success, stability, and overall well-being. This recognition emphasizes our responsibility to ensure that every foster youth in our community receives the support, access, and opportunities they deserve.

Financial Considerations: None

LCAP Goal(s): Safe, Emotionally Health and Engaged Students

Documents Attached:

N/A

Estimated Time of Presentation: 5 minutes

Submitted by: Aliya Holmes, Coordinator II

Approved by: Cancy McArn, Superintendent



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 4.8

Meeting Date: May 27, 2026

Subject: Mental Health Awareness Month

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

Division: Student Support Services

Recommendation: Acknowledge and celebrate May as Mental Health Awareness Month

Background/Rationale: Mental Health America (MHA) started annual mental health awareness in 1949, to increase education and decrease stigma around mental illness. For over 70 years this tradition has grown and now organizations and communities across the nation and the world put on a green ribbon each May, to recognize the strength of those living with mental illness, fight to reduce stigma, and inspire hope.

One in five students – more than 7,000 learners at SCUSD – will experience a diagnosable mental illness, impacting their attendance, behavior, and grades. Safe and welcoming school communities, combined with the employment, ongoing training and support of school-based mental health professionals such as School Social Workers, is critical to the wellbeing of students and essential to the academic achievement of the 20% who will be trying to learn while battling a mental illness.

Recognizing and celebrating Mental Health Awareness Month is an opportunity to show our students, staff and community members with mental illness that we see and support them; to investigate how we can each contribute to making our schools and our world safer and healthier for our shared mental wellbeing; and celebrate the school-based mental health professionals who support and link students with the compassionate care they need and deserve!

Financial Considerations: None

LCAP Goal(s): Goal 3, Safe & Welcoming Schools

Documents Attached:

None

Estimated Time of Presentation: 5 Minutes

Submitted by: Mary Hardin-Young, Deputy Superintendent and Liz
Sterba, Director, Student Support Services

Approved by: Cancy McArn, Superintendent