



BOARD MINUTES
April 27, 2026 REGULAR MEETING

CALL TO ORDER IN PUBLIC SESSION – The CalAPS regular board meeting was called to order at 5:38 PM. on Monday April 27, 2026, by Board President Amie Stewart. The meeting took place in Bellflower Unified District Office, East Conference Room at 16703 S. Clark Ave, Building A, Bellflower, CA 90706

REPLACEMENT PAGES – NONE

ROLL CALL

Present

Amie Stewart, President
Erik Linstead, Vice President
Brad Crihfield, Clerk

Absent

Maria Lopez, Member
Alfonso Morales, Member

Also present was Arlene Whitney, CalAPS CEO

REPLACEMENT PAGES – NONE

CalAPS BOARD COMMUNICATION/INTRODUCTIONS – NONE

CalAPS STAFF COMMUNICATION/INTRODUCTIONS – Mrs. Whitney shared that the recent WASC accreditation visit (March 15–18) was highly positive. The visiting committee praised the program as mission-driven, student-focused, and highly effective, highlighting strong leadership, collaborative culture, engaged students, and industry-experienced instructors. They also commended program growth, innovative pathways (like aviation and urban farming), and effective use of grant funding. Recommendations focused on continued improvement, such as strengthening data tracking, formalizing curriculum review, and refining student support systems. Final accreditation status is expected around May or June, with confidence in a strong outcome.

Mrs. Whitney explained that accreditation is essential for awarding high school credits and maintaining A–G course eligibility, which supports students’ college applications.

Program highlights included strong performance at the SkillsUSA State Conference, where students competed across multiple fields. Notably, two students won first place in commercial drone and will advance to nationals in Atlanta. Several others placed well, and two students earned scholarships. CalAPS was also recognized as a Gold Chapter of Distinction for the 2026 SkillsUSA State Conference.

Additional activities included career fair participation, industry partnerships, student-led projects like the freight farm collaboration, and hands-on experiences such as a wildland fire training hike.

Upcoming events include a fashion showcase (May 6), fire pathway training exercises (May 11), and a fire muster (May 16). Overall, the program continues to grow, build partnerships, and provide strong career-focused opportunities for students.

PUBLIC HEARINGS – NONE

VISITORS' AGENDA ITEMS – NONE

ACTION ITEMS

STAFF CORRECTIONS – NONE

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

● **Approval of the minutes from the March 11, 2026 Board Meeting**

A motion to approve the minutes from the March 11, 2026 Board Meeting was made by Mr. Linstead and seconded by Mr. Crihfield. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Board Members:

Yes Amie Stewart, President
Yes Erik Linstead, Vice President
Yes Brad Crihfield, Clerk

MAJOR ACTION - NONE

CONSENT AGENDA

● **Approval of the Consent Agenda**

A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Mr. Crihfield and seconded by Mr. Linstead. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Board Members:

Yes Amie Stewart, President
Yes Erik Linstead, Vice President
Yes Brad Crihfield, Clerk

WITHHELD FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION – NONE

DISCUSSION AND NON-ACTION – NONE

VISITOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS – NONE

STUDENT/STAFF RECOGNITION – NONE

INFORMATION ITEMS – Two students and three staff members will be attending an overnight travel to the SkillsUSA National Conference in Atlanta from May 31 to June 6. The two students who qualified earned gold medals in the commercial drone contest at the state competition. They will be representing California at national's skills conference. CalAPS will arrange travel and lodging through airlines, public transit, and SkillsUSA accommodations, with no cost to students. The CalAPS program will cover all expenses for students and staff.

CLOSED SESSION – The Board will be going into closed session at 6:04pm

OPENED SESSION - The Board has reconvened into Open Session at 6:31pm

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned without objection at 6:40 PM, with a request for an AI Fundamentals digital ad as well as an updated or addition Board Policy on social media use for staff.

The March 11, 2026 regular meeting of the CalAPS Board adjourned at 6:40 PM until the next regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday, May 20, 2026 at 5:30 PM.

**Student Recognition Ceremony to Follow
Ramona Elementary School Cafeteria
9351 Laurel St, Bellflower, CA 90706**