

**SANTA MARIA-BONITA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

SMBSD Board Room
708 S. Miller Street
Santa Maria, CA
June 10, 2026

ADOPTED

I. OPENING BUSINESS

A. Call to Order

President Cabral called the Regular Board Meeting of the Santa Maria-Bonita School District to order at 5:18 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Luz Maria Cabral, President

Ricky Lara, Vice President

John Hollinshead, Board Clerk

Ricardo Valencia, Board Member

Linda Cordero, Board Member

II. IDENTITY CLOSED SESSION TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

A. Public Employee Employment/Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Resignation

Specific Complaints or Charges—Specific complaints or charges brought against a public employee, followed by deliberations and action on the discipline, dismissal, or release of a public employee. Government Code Section (b)(1)

B. Conference with Labor Negotiators

Government Code § 54957.6

Agency Representative: Pete Bland, Ed.D.

Represented Employees: CSEA

C. Conference with Labor Negotiators

Government Code § 54957.6

Agency Representative: Pete Bland, Ed.D.

Represented Employees: SMEEA

D. Conference with Legal Counsel: Anticipated Litigation

Government Code Section 54956.9(b)

Significant Exposure to Litigation: 1 Case

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - CLOSED SESSION

No public comments were reported for the Closed Session.

IV. MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 5:19 p.m.

V. CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

VI. ADJOURN CLOSED SESSION

VII. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

The Board reconvened in Open Session at 6:03 p.m.

A. Report from Closed Session:

For Item A: The Board met and deliberated during Closed Session, and took the following action with respect to closed session Agenda Item V.A. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release-Specific Complaints or Charges. Board member Mr. Hollinshead moved, and Board member Mr. Lara seconded that the Board ratify the dismissal of classified Instructional Assistant II-Bilingual /Bicultural, employee ID number 5947, and that their employment with the District terminate effective June 8, 2026, and that the Board issue findings supporting its decision and delegate the authority to the Superintendent to review, approve and execute the findings on the Board's behalf. *Motion Passed.*

The Board of Education accepted the administrative appointment of Martha Rodriguez as Elementary Assistant Principal. The vote was unanimous. The Board of Education accepted the administrative appointment of Lisa Johns as Program Specialist for Special Education. The vote was unanimous.

For Items B and C: Information was shared.

For Item D: Direction was given to legal counsel.

Introduction of Interpreters:

Iheme Heredia and Manuel Rios

B. Pledge of Allegiance:

Led by Board Member Mr. Valencia

C. Recognition:

Crystal Apple Award Recipient Cami Waller, ASP TOSA, by Laurie Graack
SELPA Award Recipient Jennifer Quaresma, District Support Specialist,
Presented by Armando Uribe.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - OPEN SESSION

Non-Agenda Items:

- Eleazar Perez commented on Special Education issues.
- Juvenal Cortes commented that he is the parent of a student at Miller School and that there is a lack of communication with the school.
- Carmen Herrera commented on how to help children academically and their needs.
- Elias Herrera commented on the communication between Miller School and the District. There's a lack of transparency.
- Cheryl Ausan commented on concerns about the health insurance increase.
- Alicia Sage briefly discussed the cost of standardized testing vs. the supposed deficits.
- Jennifer Ellsworth commented regarding the insurance increase.
- Rachel Itzstein, a VAPA specialist, has seen a need for smaller class sizes.
- Angela Woods commented on the budget and the increase in healthcare.
- Lucia Carmona is asking the board members to inquire with the district about the increase in healthcare costs.
- Fe Demition briefly commented on essential matters affecting our colleagues. (SMEEA)

Agenda Items:

- Lisa Lira commented briefly on LCAP XI A&B items.
- Yvonne Duran commented briefly on the XI A&B items.
- Deja Baro briefly commented on the XI C Public Hearing for the 2026-27 Budget.
- Yvonne Duran commented on the XI C&D items, Budget Staffing, and Facilities.
- Jonathan Patterson briefly commented on stable staffing, healthcare costs, and the budget.
- Jennifer Danowitz briefly commented on prioritizing spending for employees who directly support students.
- Kristin Patterson briefly commented on the budget review request.

IX. COMMENTS FROM ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS

- Santa Maria Elementary Education Association (SMEEA)
SMEEA President Kristen Lohr commented on the compensation crisis. She urged the board to take action and to ensure LCAP funding is used for its intended purpose.

- California School Employees Association (CSEA)
CSEA President Melissa Gutierrez commented on classified employees not being treated like equals and job descriptions.
- Administrators In Management Services (AIMS)
No Comments

X. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS PRESENTED

It was moved by Mrs. Cordero and seconded by Mr. Lara to approve the agenda, as presented. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: 5 Mrs. Cordero, Mr. Valencia, Mr. Hollinshead, Mr. Lara, and Ms. Cabral. *Motion passed.*

XI. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Public Hearing: Local Control and Accountability Plan:

Presented by Sam Humphrey, Ed.D. Director of Plan Alignment and Implementation.
Public Hearing opened at 7:29 p.m. Public comments: Lisa Lira regarding the need for Instructional Bilingual Aides. Yvonne Duran regarding LCAP Consultation. Public Hearing closed at 7:35 p.m.

B. Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) and Local Indicators Update:

Presented by Sam Humphrey, Ed.D. Director of Plan Alignment and Implementation.
Provided an update on the LCAP and Local Indicators, including the district's progress toward established goals and areas of continued focus. The Board of Education acknowledged receipt of the Draft Local Control and Accountability Plan, as presented.

C. Public Hearing: 2026-27 Budget:

Presented by Brian King, Director of Fiscal Services
Public Hearing opened at 8:09 p.m. Public comments: Deja Baro, regarding the 2026-27 Budget, please explain in plain language. Provide a clear breakdown of the budget. Yvonne Duran regarding budget staffing for facilities. Jonathan Patterson regarding stable staffing, healthcare costs, and budget. Jennifer Danowitz regarding the budget. Prioritizing spending on employees who directly support students. Kristin Patterson regarding the budget review request. Public Hearing closed at 8:27 p.m.

D. 2026-27 Budget Study Session:

Presented by Brian King, Director of Fiscal Services
Discussion included financial projections, operational priorities, and the maintenance of fiscal responsibility while supporting district programs and services. The Board of Education acknowledges receipt of the review of the budget reserve requirements and the 2026-27 Budget Study Session and Direct Administration, and directs that the 2026-27 Budget item be brought back for action at the next regular board meeting, as presented.

E. Educational Services Proposal for Reorganization

Presented by Maijue Lochungvu, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services

Provided an update regarding the Educational Services organizational structure, including the Bright Futures Project and proposed executive leadership reorganization. The Board of Education acknowledges receipt of the proposed Educational Services Reorganization, as presented.

XII. CONSENT ITEMS

A. GENERAL CONSENT

- i. Minutes of the Board Of Education

B. BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL CONSENT

- i. Payment of Warrants
- ii. Contracts for Approval or Ratification
- iii. Award of BID #5447 Arellanes Elementary and Junior High School Field Improvements

C. HUMAN RESOURCES CONSENT

- i. Certificated and Classified Personnel Changes

D. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CONSENT

It was moved by Mr. Hollinshead and seconded by Mrs. Cordero to approve the agenda, as presented. Roll Call Vote. Ayes: 5 Mrs. Cordero, Mr. Valencia, Mr. Hollinshead, Mr. Lara, and Ms. Cabral. *Motion passed.*

XIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Contract with Santa Maria Valley YMCA for 2026 Non-School Day FourSquare Day Camp Program Services

Presented by Laurie Graack, Director of Teaching & Learning Supplemental

It was moved by Mr. Valencia, and seconded by Mr. Lara, that the Board of Education **APPROVE THE CONTRACT WITH SANTA MARIA VALLEY YMCA FOR NON-SCHOOL DAY FOURSQUARE DAY CAMP PROGRAM SERVICES**, as presented. Ayes: 5 Mrs. Cordero, Mr. Valencia, Mr. Hollinshead, Mr. Lara, and Ms. Cabral. *Motion Passed.*

B. Approval of Updated Santa Barbara County Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) Joint Powers Agency (JPA) Agreement

Presented by Armando J. Uribe, Director of Special Education

It was moved by Mrs. Cordero, and seconded by Mr. Lara, that the Board of Education **APPROVE THE UPDATED SANTA BARBARA COUNTY SELPA JOINT POWERS AGENCY (JPA) AGREEMENT**, as presented. Ayes: 5 Mrs. Cordero, Mr. Valencia, Mr. Hollinshead, Mr. Lara, and Ms. Cabral. *Motion Passed.*

C. Approval of SELPA Local Plan – Section B: Governance and Administration Agreement

Presented by Armando J. Uribe, Director of Special Education

It was moved by Mrs. Cordero, and seconded by Mr. Valencia, that the Board of Education **APPROVE THE SELPA LOCAL PLAN - SECTION B: GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENT**, as presented. Ayes: 5 Mrs. Cordero, Mr. Valencia, Mr. Hollinshead, Mr. Lara, and Ms. Cabral. *Motion Passed.*

D. Contract for Youth 2 Leaders Education Foundation

Presented by Eduardo Panting, Director, Migrant Education Program

It was moved by Mr. Hollinshead and seconded by Mr. Valencia that the Board of Education **APPROVE THE CONTRACT FOR YOUTH 2 LEADERS EDUCATION FOUNDATION**, as presented. Ayes: 5 Mrs. Cordero, Mr. Valencia, Mr. Hollinshead, Mr. Lara, and Ms. Cabral. *Motion Passed.*

E. Public Hearing on the California School Employees Association Sunshine Proposal for the Successor to the Collective Bargaining Agreement for Classified Bargaining Unit Members Expiring on June 30, 2026

Public Hearing opened at 9:22 p.m. No public comments. Public Hearing closed at 9:23 p.m.

F. Discuss and Approve the California School Employees Association (CSEA) Sunshine Proposal for the Successor to the Collective Bargaining Agreement for Classified Bargaining Unit Members

Presented by Pete Bland, Ed.D, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

It was moved by Mr. Lara and seconded by Mr. Valencia that the Board of Education **APPROVE THE CALIFORNIA SCHOOLS EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION (CSEA) SUNSHINE PROPOSAL FOR THE SUCCESSOR TO THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT FOR CLASSIFIED BARGAINING UNIT MEMBERS EXPIRING ON JUNE 30, 2026**, as presented. Ayes: 5 Mrs. Cordero, Mr. Valencia, Mr. Hollinshead, Mr. Lara, and Ms. Cabral. *Motion Passed.*

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Valencia asked for an update on the Dual Immersion Program, Ethnic Studies classes, and the impact of ICE on our students and staff.

XV. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Board Member Report - Mrs. Cordero

Mrs. Cordero reported attending the Alvin School talent show, Career Day, and 8th-grade celebration at Fesler Jr. High, and Promotion ceremonies at Jiménez, Fesler, and Tommie Kunst Jr. High. She acknowledged the efforts of the staff at the promotions. Wished everyone a great summer and quality time with family and friends.

Board Member Report - Mr. Valencia

Mr. Valencia reported attending the Promotion Ceremonies at Jiménez, El Camino, and Arellanes Jr. High. He spoke about the concerns of name mispronunciation. Excited for the future and wished everyone a restful summer.

Board Member Report - Mr. Hollinshead

Mr. Hollinshead reported attending Promotion ceremonies at Tommie Kunst Jr. High. Gratifying to see the TK and Fesler Jr. High Promotions. He commented that the kids are starting to develop a sense of the future and to map goals. Appreciated Dr. Mark Palmerston and all the staff who helped put the promotions together.

Board Member Report - Mr. Lara

Mr. Lara reported that he attended the Promotions. He thanked the certificated and classified staff who watched these graduates grow. He thanked the staff for caring for our children.

Board Member Report - Ms. Luz Maria Cabral

Ms. Luz Maria Cabral congratulated the future class of 2030. Thanked teachers and classified staff for a great year.

Superintendent's Report - Dr. McDuffie

Dr. Darren McDuffie expressed profound emotion as the year came to a close, celebrating students while also navigating the loss of several students in the Santa Maria community. He asked everyone to pause and acknowledge the loss of five young people over the weekend. On behalf of the entire district, he expressed deep condolences to the families. He offered unwavering assistance to Antonio Garcia, Superintendent of the Santa Maria Joint High School District, a close friend and colleague in the aftermath of this tragic event.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

President Cabral reported that the next SMBSD Regular Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 24, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Signed 
John Hollinshead
Board Clerk

Signed 
Linda Cordero
Board Member