

APPROVED

MINUTES OF THE SAN MATEO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting Date: June 10, 2026

Meeting Location: San Mateo County Office of Education
101 Twin Dolphin Dr.
Redwood City, California 94065

Board Members Present: Susan Alvaro (remotely), Edith Arias,
Chelsea Bonini, Beverly Gerard, Mike
O'Neill, Patricia Love

Board Members Absent: Hugo Torres (due to illness)

Staff Officials Present: Marco A. Chávez, Superintendent;
Jennifer Perna, Executive Assistant

Other Staff Present: Kevin Bultema, Minette Manio, Tami
Moore, Sarah Notch, Jae Takahashi, Mary
Yung

1. OPENING ITEMS

A. Call to Order

Board Vice President Beverly Gerard called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. Approval of Agenda

After a motion by Board Member O'Neill and a second by Board Member Arias, the June 10, 2026, agenda as presented was approved by a vote of six in favor (Alvaro, Arias, Bonini, Gerard, O'Neill, and Love) and one absent (Torres), by roll call vote.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

The following speaker provided live public comment:

- Dr. Lauren Sneed, San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE) School Counselor and San Mateo County Educators Association (SMCEA) President

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. May 13, 2026, Special Board Meeting Governance Workshop

After a motion by Board Member O'Neill and a second by Board Member Arias, the Minutes of the May 13, 2026, Special Board Meeting Governance Workshop were approved by a vote of six in favor (Alvaro, Arias, Bonini, Gerard, O'Neill, and Love) and one absent (Torres), by roll call vote.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

B. Adopt Joint Resolution No. 26-34 Recognizing June 19, 2026, as Juneteenth

C. Approve 2026-2027 Consolidated Application for Funding (ConApp) Through Consolidated Application Reporting System (CARS)

After a motion by Board Member Bonini and a second by Board Member Love, the Consent Agenda was approved by a vote of six in favor (Alvaro, Arias, Bonini, Gerard, O'Neill, and Love) and one absent (Torres), by roll call vote.

5. **LOCAL CONTROL AND ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN (LCAP)**

A. Receive San Mateo County Office of Education's 2026-2027 Proposed Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP)

Sarah Notch, Executive Director, Educational Innovations, Educational Services Division, highlighted a few aspects of San Mateo County Office of Education's 2026-2027 proposed Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP).

Board Member O'Neill asked what "A–G" means. Executive Director Notch explained that "A–G" refers to the required subject-area courses students must complete to be eligible for University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) admission. Each letter represents a subject area, and for a course to count, the school must submit its syllabus through an approval portal where UC/CSU reviewers verify the content. The County Office's Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses have gone through this process and are officially approved as A–G–eligible.

Board Member O'Neill asked what the chronic absenteeism rate was before the reported 8.6 percent reduction. Executive Director Notch reported that the rate went from 28.6 percent to 20 percent.

Board Member O'Neill asked whether a 20 percent absenteeism rate means that 80 percent of students are attending school. Executive Director Notch confirmed that was correct.

Board Member O'Neill asked how the 20 percent absenteeism rate compares to other counties. Executive Director Notch noted she would need to review other LCAPs to make that comparison. She described how this data comes from the County Office school program, where small student

LOCAL CONTROL AND ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN (LCAP) (continued)

populations mean that one or two students can significantly shift percentages.

Board Member Love asked about the section of the LCAP reporting a 52.2 percent graduation rate. Executive Director Notch explained that this percentage was calculated the way the state requires for LCAP reporting, which includes all students who were enrolled at any point during the year. However, among the students who were seniors at the time of graduation, every one graduated. Board Member Love discussed the difficulty in collecting data, pointing out that the report emphasizes data-driven decision-making, yet the necessary data has not been consistently collected. She asked about the plan to address this gap, especially given staffing limitations. Executive Director Notch clarified that the \$244,000 figure in the report is largely tied to staffing costs rather than to purchasing a new data system. The real issues are ensuring staff understand what needs to be measured for the LCAP and the work is carried out consistently. She described the reorganization of leadership with Dr. Jesús Jimenez, Director, School Programs, Educational Services Division, to focus solely on the Court and Community School Programs, while she will oversee the Special Services Center and the Anne Campbell Center for Children and Families. This restructuring is intended to provide clearer focus, closer support, and more consistent implementation so staff can overcome barriers to collecting and using data effectively.

Board Member Love discussed credit recovery at Hillcrest, noting that the LCAP sets a target of 90 percent of long-term credit-deficient students meeting their credit-recovery goals, but the most recent outcome has dropped to 34.6 percent. She asked how the team plans to bridge the gap, especially given the steep decline and ambitious target. Executive Director Notch explained that the team has been discussing whether to rewrite the plan this year or wait for the full rewrite next year. She acknowledged that moving from 34.6 percent to 90 percent is challenging in a single year. However, she believes that certain LCAP actions could lead to improvement if carried out with fidelity. If those efforts do not produce meaningful gains, the team will revisit the target or the support strategies during next year's full LCAP rewrite.

Board Member Alvaro asked about the "Cafe CTE" program at Hillcrest. Executive Director Notch clarified that Cafe CTE is one of Hillcrest's CTE master classes, a three-week course that had been offered previously. Staff reviewed which students had taken the course, including those who were no longer minors, to identify who could return as mentors to support first-time students, help teach portions of the class, share their knowledge, and assist with presentations. The program was incredibly positive and beneficial for the students involved.

Board Member Alvaro shared that during her years volunteering at Glenwood, two career-focused programs proved especially effective for incarcerated boys. The first was a culinary arts program and the second was a partnership with Habitat for Humanity that combined weekly in-class lessons on construction math with opportunities to work on homes. Because Glenwood typically kept students for at least a full school year, many were able to build their skills and even continue volunteering with Habitat for Humanity and earning credit after returning to their home schools. Executive Director Notch expressed interest in exploring a Habitat for Humanity partnership because several students have shown interest in construction and construction management, and such a program could support those goals.

LOCAL CONTROL AND ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN (LCAP) (continued)

Board Member Bonini reaffirming her strong support for a concentration on literacy, noting that the Board has emphasized this priority. She discussed the Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) pilot which focuses on deepening understanding of the science of reading, improving strategies for adolescent learners, and strengthening trauma-informed practices, and asked whether there are opportunities for additional staff, not just a new specialist, to participate in related training.

Executive Director Notch noted that planning is in transition right now, but the team has been working closely on program structure and the approach will not have only one person working on literacy. Instead, the intention is to build staff-wide capacity, expand training, and ensure literacy practices are embedded across instruction, rather than tied to a single specialist, and broader staff involvement will be part of how the new procedures and rollout are developed. Superintendent Chávez added that the goal is to ensure the new literacy lead is trained in the science of reading. These trainings are already offered to district teachers, and Court and Community School teachers would be welcomed into those sessions.

Board Member Bonini shared a student quote from the OYCR presentation to highlight the impact of the literacy pilot. The student underscored how they were grateful for the reading instruction, noting that although their Individualized Education Program (IEP) focused on writing essays, this kind of support was what they truly needed.

Board Member Bonini asked whether there has been progress on figuring out how to collect baseline academic data, since many students lack prior California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) scores. Executive Director Notch explained that comparing 8th-grade to 11th-grade CAASPP scores often fails because many students never took the 8th-grade test or their results can't be obtained. She acknowledged the need for a better approach, especially since CAASPP growth is required in the LCAP. Staffing instability over the past two years has made consistent implementation difficult, and she hopes the new administrative structure will strengthen oversight and follow-through. As the LCAP is rewritten, leadership will need to closely examine how to gather meaningful data for both the current year and the long-term plan, and more details will be provided once the new school year begins.

Board Member Bonini emphasized that while long-term LCAP planning matters, her real concern was what students are experiencing right now. She asked what additional supports are needed to collect baseline data and track growth, whether that means more staff, partial staffing, or help from another department. With the small number of students, it seems feasible to have someone dedicated to assisting teachers with data gathering. She expressed frustration with not seeing measurable growth data during her time on the Board, and said she wanted to understand what resources or structures are missing so the Board can advocate effectively.

Board Member Bonini raised a concern that the policy eliminating Ds and Fs may boost grade point averages (GPAs) in a way that doesn't reflect actual academic growth, especially since the program lacks reliable baseline data. The policy might help students feel more successful, but she questioned whether it unintentionally inflates grades and makes it harder to understand real progress. She asked for the rationale behind the policy and expressed uncertainty about how well the grading system aligns with what students are learning. Executive Director Notch said she hadn't previously

LOCAL CONTROL AND ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN (LCAP) (continued)

considered how the no-Ds/no-Fs grading policy might affect GPA growth data. This raises questions about whether GPA increases are truly comparable year to year or whether the policy changes the meaning of that metric, and she will need to look more closely at how the grading policy interacts with reported growth.

Superintendent Chávez suggested bringing the Center for Learning Analytics (CLA) into the process, noting that these specialists may help identify possibilities for baseline data and growth measures. This is the right moment to tap into that expertise so the system can identify meaningful metrics and track progress more effectively.

Executive Director Notch explained that one breakdown in implementation has been with Individual Learning Plans (ILPs). The original plan was for every teacher to use their advisory period as a small caseload, building strong relationships with students, creating their ILPs, and monitoring progress monthly. This worked better at sites with stable enrollment but was much harder at Hillcrest, where students cycle in and out quickly. Because of staffing shortages, teacher absences, and administrative turnover, ILPs ended up being created by a few staff members who weren't consistently with students. As a result, ILPs became procedural, losing the intended continuous monitoring and relationship-based support. She believes stronger, more consistent administrative oversight will help restore structure, continuity, and formalized processes so ILPs can function as originally designed.

Board Member Bonini asked whether the daily or weekly schedule could be structured to give staff dedicated time to collaborate since meaningful ILP work requires multiple teachers' input and cannot realistically happen during a free period. Executive Director Notch noted the team has begun experimenting with small steps. The original plan for monthly data-review cycles was meant for teachers to compare what they are seeing, build hypotheses, and coordinate consistent supports across classes. She agreed that more structured collaboration time is essential and expressed optimism that, with intentional planning, the program can grow in this direction.

Board Member Love emphasized that County Office staff should be actively supporting the school programs. She hopes to see stronger alignment between staff expertise and school-site needs.

Board Member Arias emphasized the importance of remembering the "why" behind the planning and data discussions, which is the students. She expressed appreciation for the focus on improving transition support, especially for Hillcrest students, because what happens after they leave the program is critical. Board Member Arias discussed her strong support for increasing family and caregiver engagement, noting that students' behavior and needs are often connected to what is happening at home. She encouraged innovative, flexible approaches to building those partnerships.

Executive Director Notch described how real engagement is happening through strong communication between staff and caregivers, such as bilingual counselors and administrators regularly reaching out and meeting with families during unexpected situations. She noted that the County Office may need to rethink what "involvement" means, since involvement should bring families into decision-making about programs, curriculum, and classroom experiences, whereas engagement is simply staying connected.

LOCAL CONTROL AND ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN (LCAP) (continued)

Board Vice President Gerard expressed appreciation for the report and the efforts behind it, noting how valuable it is to clearly understand what students are experiencing, especially given the difficult circumstances of recent years. She highlighted how meaningful it was during graduations to hear staff repeatedly reassure students that support continues even after they leave and thanked everyone for making that message loud and clear.

B. Public Hearing on San Mateo County Office of Education's 2026-2027 Proposed Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP)

Board Vice President Gerard opened the public hearing on San Mateo County Office of Education's proposed 2026-2027 proposed LCAP. Receiving no public comment, Board Vice President Gerard declared the public hearing closed.

6. BUSINESS SERVICES DIVISION

A. Receive San Mateo County Office of Education's 2026-2027 Proposed Budget

Kevin Bultema, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services Division, and Minette Manio, Executive Director, Internal Business Services, Business Services Division, provided an overview of San Mateo County Office of Education's 2026-2027 proposed Budget.

Board Member Bonini asked for the budget amount tied to the added literacy position. Deputy Superintendent Bultema responded that he would follow up and provide that information.

Board Member Bonini asked whether the new literacy position would be funded by the General Fund. Deputy Superintendent Bultema explained that the team will first check for any restricted funds that could cover the role. If none are available, the position would likely be paid from the General Fund as an ongoing cost, and full details will be provided in the follow-up presentation.

Board Member Bonini asked whether the transportation cost discussed earlier was tied to transporting students who currently do not receive transportation. Deputy Superintendent Bultema confirmed that was correct. He informed that, after further discussions with the transportation vendor, the Gateway route can be added without increasing costs because routing changes allow it to fit within the existing transportation budget.

Board Member Bonini thanked the team for considering how the Gateway budget affects different districts. She asked how many students the estimate is based on. Deputy Superintendent Bultema explained that districts are charged per "spot," with the Sequoia Union High School District and San Mateo Union High School District historically purchasing eight spots each, plus one additional spot from the Cabrillo Unified School District. The current budget estimate assumes 17 total spots.

Board Member Bonini asked about changes to the memorandum of understanding (MOU) process with school districts. Deputy Superintendent Bultema said the process is essentially the same, but the team hopes to finalize contracts earlier, ideally by February, because if a district opts out after

BUSINESS SERVICES DIVISION (continued)

March 15, the County Office is still responsible for the staff. Lower costs may help districts commit sooner.

Board Member Bonini noted that if the cost burden on districts is reduced, they might send more students, which could affect staffing. Deputy Superintendent Bultema noted that the program currently serves only 8–10 students daily despite having 17 funded spots, making it an expensive program per student. Increasing enrollment would improve cost efficiency.

Board Member Bonini thanked the team for including the Strategic Plan on the first page of the report and for aligning the work with the LCAP, noting that the clarity and connection are helpful.

Board Member Alvaro asked whether the reduced Gateway program charge, tied to each district's Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) amount, would be adjusted for the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA). Deputy Superintendent Bultema said yes. Because the fee is linked to the average daily attendance (ADA) funding districts receive, it will rise as their LCFF revenue grows. He emphasized that the goal is not to generate profit but to align costs fairly, so the charge is expected to increase over time.

Board Member Alvaro pointed out that more than half of the County Office's property-tax revenue is being sent back to the state and this amount nearly matches the local budget shortfall. She asked whether any cap or safeguard exists to prevent the state from taking an even larger share in the future. Deputy Superintendent Bultema indicated that he was not aware of any limit.

Board Member Love asked whether an uncontested board member race would allow the County Office to keep some portion of the election costs. Deputy Superintendent Bultema said he was not sure, although he believes that the county cannot charge for an election if no actual election occurs. He noted that costs vary depending on what appears on the ballot in a given cycle and the county does not charge for the superintendent election, only for board member election costs.

Board Member Love discussed her concerns about using deficit spending to cover ongoing costs such as staff. She said that relying on deficit spending for recurring expenses is risky and not a responsible long-term budgeting approach. She feels that when extra funds are available, they should be invested in items or programs that provide future returns rather than commitments that continue. Hiring additional staff without offsetting cuts elsewhere amounts to wanting new services without making the hard choices needed to pay for them. Deputy Superintendent Bultema agreed with the concerns about deficit spending and noted that financial conditions are changing, with many districts lacking strong reserves. This will force decisions about what the County Office can no longer afford. The County Office must evaluate whether long-standing activities still align with the Strategic Plan and will need to develop new decision-making habits.

Board Member Love added that committing to new staff positions right before a new superintendent arrives means the incoming leader will inherit staff the Board has decided to fund, leaving little budget room to pursue their own priorities unless they make difficult cuts.

BUSINESS SERVICES DIVISION (continued)

Board Member Bonini shared that as the Board continues expanding programs and staff, it becomes even more important to evaluate whether those efforts align with the Strategic Plan and produce measurable results. Districts facing tighter budgets are already having these conversations, while the County Office has been adding new initiatives without removing older ones. She pointed out that some of the new spending directly benefits students and the County Office has built up roughly \$25 million in reserves during her tenure, so she is comfortable with student-focused investments, and perhaps even expanding them in the future.

Board Member O'Neill described how the combined certificated and classified salaries total roughly \$21 million, while management salaries total roughly \$18 million, meaning management accounts for an unusually high proportion compared with school districts. He asked whether this interpretation is correct. Deputy Superintendent Bultema explained that the County Office looks different from a typical district because county offices perform different kinds of work. The student programs are relatively small, while much of the work involves higher-level oversight and support for districts, which is typically done by management-level staff.

Board Member Arias thanked the team for ensuring the teachers and others who use the facilities are included in planning for improvements and helping to identify needs and shape decisions. She feels that input from daily users matters more than input from occasional site visits. Deputy Superintendent Bultema noted that furniture and similar choices can significantly affect learning.

Superintendent Chávez expressed appreciation for the team that developed this year's Budget, noting that it involved a new, more comprehensive process, required a heavier lift from staff, and was handled with professionalism and positivity. He acknowledged the Board's feedback and noted that while the process isn't perfect yet, the collaborative effort to improve it is valued.

Board Vice President Gerard thanked the team for providing more information and clarity than she has ever seen in her years on the Board. She underscored how valuable and long-needed this level of detail is and acknowledged the significant work involved.

B. Public Hearing on San Mateo County Office of Education's 2026-2027 Proposed Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP)

Board Vice President Gerard opened the public hearing on San Mateo County Office of Education's proposed 2026-2027 proposed Budget. Receiving no public comment, Board Vice President Gerard declared the public hearing closed.

7. OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

A. Superintendent's Comments

Superintendent Chávez offered end-of-year thanks, recognizing the staff and teachers for supporting students and helping them reach graduation. He congratulated the graduating students, especially

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT (continued)

those in the County Office's programs, and noted that attending the ceremonies was inspiring and emotional, particularly hearing students share their next steps.

Superintendent Chávez reported on the United for Youth Celebration, where four districts presented on their Measure K-funded mental-health initiatives focused on normalizing mental well-being, incorporating student voice in design and implementation, and using data to guide the work. He reflected on cultural barriers to seeking mental-health support and his appreciation that these programs address that. He encouraged the presenters to share their work again in the fall, since each program offered strong, replicable examples that benefit youth.

8. BOARD MEMBERS

A. Discuss/Act on the Recommendation of the Superintendent's Salary Subcommittee

Board Vice President Gerard shared that the Superintendent's Salary Subcommittee worked with Deputy Superintendent Bultema and his team to come up with their recommendation, using comparisons to superintendents in similar-sized counties and following the County Office's established compensation system. That process placed the current salary at Level 3. She emphasized that significant time, analysis, and study went into determining the amount.

Board Member O'Neill informed that the Level 3 salary classification applied to the current superintendent, based on his experience. The incoming superintendent would begin at Step 1.

Board Member Alvaro said she appreciates having a clear, step-based salary structure tied to experience. She noted that the Board has struggled with this issue for a long time and this approach feels clean and effective.

After a motion by Board Member Love and a second by Board Member O'Neill the Board approved the recommendation of the Superintendent's Salary Subcommittee, by a vote of six in favor (Alvaro, Arias, Bonini, Gerard, O'Neill, and Love) and one absent (Torres), by roll call vote.

B. Discuss/Act on the San Mateo County Board of Education's Candidate Policy Form, Including Resolution No. 26-35 Calling for an Election to be Held on November 3, 2026, for the Election of Three Members of the Governing Board

Superintendent Chávez provided information on the San Mateo County Board of Education's Candidate Policy Form, Including Resolution No. 26-35 Calling for an Election to be Held on November 3, 2026, for the Election of Three Members of the Governing Board.

After a motion by Board Member O'Neill and a second by Board Member Love, the San Mateo County Board of Education's Candidate Policy Form, including Resolution No. 26-35 Calling for an Election to be Held on November 3, 2026, for the Election of Three Members of the Governing Board was approved by a vote of six in favor (Alvaro, Arias, Bonini, Gerard, O'Neill, and Love) and one absent (Torres), by roll call vote.

BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

C. Receive Reports from the Board Ad Hoc Subcommittees and Representatives

Board Member Love reported that the Board Policy Subcommittee met on June 8, reviewed several policies, and expects to bring six of them to the June 24 board meeting. Over the summer, the Subcommittee will take a deeper look at charter school policies, incorporating new California School Boards Association (CSBA) guidance, and will work on a new handbook, with Lisa Cho, Deputy County Attorney, leading that effort.

Board Member Love informed that the Board/Superintendent Advocacy Subcommittee met on June 10 and discussed legislative updates, noting that many of the bills they supported have moved to the opposite chamber and will need renewed support. They received an update from the Legislative Analyst's Office on the study requested by Senator Becker and feel clearer about what to expect. They hope to see results by late summer and convene a task force in September or October. Additionally, they worked on an outreach toolkit, including slides and a community report that board members can use when speaking with school districts, city councils, and other groups.

Board Member Alvaro thanked Board Member Love for her leadership on the Board Policy Subcommittee, noting that the work is substantial.

Board Member Alvaro reported that the YMCA Partnership Subcommittee met to review building plans, funding requests, and overall progress at Jones Gulch. They looked at contracts and options with support from Deputy County Attorney Cho. They hope to schedule a meeting the following week with Superintendent Chávez, Deputy Superintendent Bultema, and YMCA representatives to clarify next steps. Once they have that discussion, the Subcommittee will revisit the issue and bring updates to the full Board. She emphasized that the work is active, with significant behind-the-scenes efforts underway to move the building projects forward.

Board Member Bonini reported on the Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) Governing Board Meeting, sharing that members reviewed a draft, optional MOU for districts. Their Board also approved SELPA's plan, services, and budget for the coming year. She added that attendees offered strong praise for Superintendent Chávez, highlighting his integrity, responsiveness, solution-focused approach, engagement, ethics, decisiveness, and gracious leadership.

D. Board Member Comments

Board Member Alvaro

Board Member Alvaro discussed attending the Capital Advisors online budget workshop, reporting that the presentation was clear but the budget outlook is troubling. She highlight several concerns, including the proposed 4.31% "Super" COLA being used to cover the new 14-week pregnancy-leave substitute requirement, the fact that basic-aid districts will not benefit from COLA, and proposals to move state preschool, and possibly child care, into the Proposition 98 funding bucket without rebenching, which would force districts to absorb rising costs. She underscored that these issues make her even more appreciative of Deputy Superintendent Bultema and his team, who keep the organization stable.

BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

Board Member Arias

Board Member Arias described how meaningful it was to attend the County Office graduations. She appreciated the thoughtful setup, the celebratory atmosphere, and the way staff, families, and educators came together to recognize students in a way that felt special and student-centered.

Board Member Arias reflected on her experience at the Launch Institute, a five-day County Office program where students served as facilitators and led activities, presentations, and discussions, which shifted adults into the role of learners. The program emphasized self-care, community building, and authentic youth voice, with students and adults engaging in meaningful conversations, shared meals, and collaborative activities that highlighted student leadership. There were powerful sessions on race and disabilities, which encouraged participants to confront inequitable outcomes for students of color and reflect on how schools can disrupt harmful patterns. She advocated for continued and expanded funding for the program, because it recharges educators, elevates student voice, and builds healthier, more caring school communities.

Board Member Love

Board Member Love expressed appreciation for Deputy Superintendent Bultema, Executive Director Manio, and the Business Services Division, thanking them for their excellent work and patience in answering Board questions. She also thanked Executive Director Notch for her consistent presence and support at board meetings.

Board Member Love welcomed Dr. Sneed to her new role.

Board Member Love shared that she attended the United for Youth Celebration and found it phenomenal, with many strong takeaways she would be happy to share with anyone interested.

Board Member Love spoke about attending the various graduations, noting that what stood out most to her was the opportunity to talk directly with the students at Hillcrest, who were excited about taking classes at Skyline College and their summer plans. She emphasized the sense of hope, confidence, and forward-looking energy among the students and thanked staff for helping create opportunities and optimism.

Board Member Bonini

Board Member Bonini requested an update before the new school year on how the County Office will recruit and select a student board member, noting that the work may be underway but an update hasn't been communicated recently. She asked that this be added to the weekly update.

Board Member Bonini described attending the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission (JJDP) meeting on May 26, thanking Executive Director Notch for joining the meeting virtually. She appreciates that Dr. Jimenez will attend future meetings.

Board Member Bonini acknowledged the staff's efforts on the graduations, including the preparation of flowers for Hillcrest, which were beautiful.

BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

Board Member Bonini shared that she attended nearly all of the County Office graduations and found them warm, joyful, and meaningful. She highlighted the emotional moments with families, the tradition of students giving flowers to loved ones, and the sense of culmination for students.

Board Member Bonini discussed attending the Oxford Day Academy Graduation, which was especially moving. She was touched by Ms. Bennett’s farewell speech, which centered on dreams, perseverance, and self-care, offering heartfelt guidance to students as they move forward.

Board Member Bonini reported that she attended the Universal Pre-K (UPK) Leadership Institute and found it deeply aligned with themes from United for Youth. She spoke with teachers, leaders, and Kent Award recipients, and appreciated the shared learning. The keynote speaker focused on trauma-informed practices, self-awareness, and the importance of staff wellness. Board Member Bonini reflected on the concept of co-regulation, sharing the statistic that children may need hundreds of co-regulation experiences with adults before they can self-regulate independently. She connected this to the daily work of teachers and the emotional labor involved.

Board Member O’Neill

Board Member O’Neill reported that he attended three of the four graduation ceremonies this year.

Board Member O’Neill discussed attending the Jefferson Union High School District Staff Housing Board of Directors meeting. He highlighted that the primary goal of the housing program is to help staff save money to purchase a home. This year, the program celebrated its second staff member successfully buying a house. He noted that the housing complex is at 99 percent occupancy and continues to be a strong recruitment tool, with some teachers choosing the Jefferson Union High School District over other districts specifically because of the available housing.

Board Member O’Neill emphasized that the staff members who purchased homes did so after completing the SchoolsFirst Credit Union homebuyer program, a three- to four-year process that teaches financial preparation for homeownership. He plans to discuss with the Workforce Housing Subcommittee the possibility of offering a presentation to County Office staff about this program.

Board Member O’Neill described the deterioration of the Pacifica pier, which is visibly collapsing. He said this is sad to see, especially for those who can view the damage from their homes.

Board Vice President Gerard

Board Vice President Gerard shared that she enjoyed attending all of the graduations this year, including Oxford Day Academy. She emphasized how exceptional all the ceremonies were and expressed appreciation for the work that went into making each event special for students.

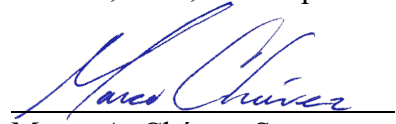
Board Vice President Gerard reflected on how many people told her that graduation is “what we wait for,” and she agreed that these celebrations represent the culmination of the entire year. She highlighted the importance of witnessing student success, not only for the graduates themselves but also for the younger students who attend and see what hard work can lead to. She described the graduations as a powerful reminder of the County Office’s purpose and the success we strive for.

BOARD MEMBERS (continued)

Board Vice President Gerard reported that she will be attending the Association of California County Boards of Education (ACCBE) Board of Directors and Board Representatives retreat in Sacramento the upcoming weekend. She is looking forward to reconnecting with board members from across the state and participating in a full and productive agenda.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:34 p.m. Board Vice President Gerard announced the next regular meeting will take place on Wednesday, June 24, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Marco Chávez", is written over a horizontal line.

Marco A. Chávez, Secretary

jlp