Item: Meeting Minutes - August 5, 2026

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ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES

WELCOME

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Orange County Board of Education was called to order by President Barke at 2:05 p.m., August 5, 2026, in the Board Room, 200 Kalmus Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 and via YouTube live stream https://www.youtube.com/live/Inz6xx6zncg.

ROLL CALL

Present:
Jorge Valdes, Esq.
Tim Shaw
Mari Barke
Lisa Sparks, Ph.D.

Absent:
Ken L. Williams, D.O. (arrived at 2:49 p.m.)

AGENDA

Motion by Barke, seconded by Sparks, and carried by a vote of 4-0 (Williams Absent) to approve the agenda for the August 5, 2026, Regular Meeting.

MINUTES

Motion by Barke, seconded by Sparks, and carried by a vote of 4-0 (Williams Absent) to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting of June 17, 2026.

TIME CERTAIN

The Board recessed into closed session at 2:06 p.m. to conduct student appeal hearings and closed session items.

1. Inter-district Appeal Hearing (Closed) – Student #080520260001I - Cypress School District to Los Alamitos Unified School District.

   Motion by Sparks, seconded by Valdes, and carried by a vote of 4-0 (Williams absent) to approve the appeal and allow the student to attend the Los Alamitos Unified School District for the period of one academic year (2026-2027).

2. Inter-district Appeal Hearing (Closed) – Student #080520260002I - Garden Grove Unified School District to Ocean View School District.
   The case was resolved prior to the meeting.

6. Inter-district Appeal Hearing (Closed) – Student #080520260006I - Anaheim Elementary School District to Newport Mesa Unified School District.

   Motion by Barke, seconded by Sparks, and carried by a vote of 4-0 (Williams absent) to approve the appeal and allow the student to attend the Newport-Mesa Unified School District for the period of one academic year (2026-2027).

Note — Trustee Williams arrived at approximately 2:49 p.m.

3. Inter-district Appeal Hearing (Closed) – Student #080520260031 - Capistrano Unified School District to Newport Mesa Unified School District.

Motion by Barke, seconded by Sparks, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to approve the appeal and allow the student to attend the Newport-Mesa Unified School District for the period of one academic year (2026-2027).

4. Inter-district Appeal Hearing (Closed) – Student #080520260041 - Anaheim Elementary School District to Newport Mesa Unified School District.
The case was resolved prior to the meeting.

5. Inter-district Appeal Hearing (Closed) – Student #080520260051 - Garden Grove Unified School District to Newport Mesa Unified School District.

Motion by Sparks, seconded by Valdes, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to approve the appeal and allow the student to attend the Newport-Mesa Unified School District for the period of one academic year (2026-2027).

CLOSED SESSION 1 — CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Potential litigation pursuant to (d) (4) of Government Code Section 54956.9

The Board reconvened in open session at 5:02 p.m.

INVOCATION

Mandy Cooper

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Heidi Landgraf

INTRODUCTIONS — There were no introductions at this meeting.

Note — Board President Shaw read into the record a statement outlining the Board's public comment procedures and expectations for civility and orderly participation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (General)

- Rudi
- Heidi

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

7. Motion by Valdes, seconded by Barke, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to nominate and approve Board member assignments for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 as follows:
   - Executive Committee: Barke and Shaw
   - OCSBA Liaison: Williams

- PTA Liaison: Sparks and Barke
- ACCBE Representative: Barke and Sparks

CONSENT CALENDAR — Motion by Williams, seconded by Sparks, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to approve consent calendar items No. 8 and 9.

8. Approve the granting of diplomas to the students listed from Alternative, Community, and Correctional Education Schools and Services, Alternative Education Division.

9. Accept the 4th Quarter Report on Williams Uniform Complaints for Orange County Department of Education ACCESS and Connections for the period of April 1 to June 30, 2026.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

10. Charter submissions – None

(*) 11. Charter School Public Hearing – Orange Springs Charter School Material Revision

Aracely Chastain, Executive Director, Charter Schools Unit, facilitated the public hearing.

- Michelle Sheane Sapanara, Orange Springs
- Trevor Johnson, Orange Springs

PUBLIC COMMENTS (Item No. 11 Only)

- Jeff

12. Charter School Public Hearing – Excel Academy Charter School-Irvine Appeal Petition

Aracely Chastain, Executive Director, Charter Schools Unit, facilitated the public hearing.

- Heidi Gasca, Superintendent, Excel Academy
- Cassie Parham, Superintendent, Irvine Unified School District (IUSD)
- John Fogarty, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services and CFO, IUSD
- Cyril Yu, IUSD Board Member

PUBLIC COMMENTS (Item No. 12 Only)

- Raianna
- Connie

13. Motion by Williams, seconded by Sparks, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to approve Option I for the Excel Academy Charter School-Irvine appeal petition.

14. Charter School Public Hearing – International School for Science and Culture Material Revision
Aracely Chastain, Executive Director, Charter Schools Unit, facilitated the public hearing.
- Padmini Srinivasan, ISSAC
- Patricia Hirano, ISSAC
- Maria Guajardo, ISSAC

15. Motion by Barke, seconded by Sparks, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to approve Option I for the International School for Science and Culture material revision.

16. Motion by Valdes, seconded by Williams, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to approve the staff recommended agreement/MOU for Suncoast Charter School.

The Board took a recess from 6:50 p.m. to 7:04 p.m.

BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

17. Motion by Shaw, seconded by Williams, and carried by a vote of 4-0-1 (Shaw, Williams, Sparks, and Valdes voted yes; Barke abstained) to recommend that the Superintendent extend an offer to Nikole Bainum-Ramirez for the board liaison position.

PRESENTATIONS

18. Heads Up Checkup Presentation – Dr. Martin Eaton, Licensed Clinical Psychologist & Dr. Maria Martinez-Poulin, Chief of ACCESS

TIME CERTAIN

19. Public Hearing – Textbooks and Instructional Materials
Dr. Maria Martinez-Poulin, Chief of Alternative Education, ACCESS, conducted the public hearing for the sufficiency of textbooks and instructional materials in accordance with education code 60605 and 33126. The hearing was opened at 7:32 p.m. There being no input from the audience, the hearing was closed at 7:33 p.m.

20. Motion by Williams, seconded by Barke, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to adopt Resolution No. 21-26 stating that each pupil of the county office has available textbooks and instructional materials.

The Board took a recess from 7:34 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. from the Regular Board Meeting to conduct a Meeting of the Orange County Department of Education Facilities Corporation.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

21. Motion by Williams, seconded by Sparks, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to approve the ACCESS and Connections 2025-2026 Proposition 28 Annual Report for submission to the California Department of Education.

22. Motion by Sparks, seconded by Williams, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to approve the College and Career Preparatory Academy (CCPA) 2025-2026 Proposition 28 Annual Report for submission to the California Department of Education.

23. Motion by Sparks, seconded by Williams, and carried by a vote of 4-0-1 (Sparks, Williams, Barke, and Valdes voted yes; Shaw abstained), pursuant to Education Code section 17604, authorize Renee Hendrick, Deputy Superintendent or David Giordano, Associate Superintendent, Administrative Services to execute on behalf of the Orange County Board of Education the Agreement for Purchase and Sale of Real Property and Joint Escrow Instructions for the property located at 601 South Lewis Street, Orange, California 92868, subject to Board ratification, and to make any necessary deposits or payments pursuant to the agreement.

24. Motion by Barke, seconded by Sparks, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to approve Resolution No. 22-26 Effective August 5, 2026, authorizing David Giordano, Associate Superintendent, Administrative Services of the Orange County Department of Education to serve as the representative to physically sign all documents and papers or submit documents via Office of Public School Construction (OPSC) online that are associated with the State Allocation Board (SAB)-Administered Program(s).

INFORMATION ITEMS

COMMUNICATION/INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Superintendent – Dr. Bean, Superintendent was not in attendance at this meeting.
- Deputy Superintendent
  - Next board meeting is on September 2, board deadline on August 19, and board packet delivery scheduled for Friday, August 28.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

- Trustees Shaw and Barke reported that they met with lobbyist Sheehy Strategy Group but had no legislative updates to report.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- Trustee Sparks presented former Board President Mari Barke with an engraved cheeseboard in appreciation of her leadership and service.
- Trustee Valdes congratulated Renee on her upcoming retirement and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to work with her since August 2022.
- Trustee Barke expressed her appreciation for the engraved cheeseboard presented in recognition of her service as Board President and thanked Trustee Sparks for the thoughtful gift.
- Trustee Williams expressed concern regarding disparaging comments about religious faith made during public comment, requested that counsel and the Executive Committee explore appropriate options for addressing such

remarks, and briefly noted concerns about the tone of comments made by Irvine Unified School District representatives.

CLOSED SESSION(S) PUBLIC REPORT OUT

- General Counsel Rolen reported that the Board met with counsel regarding anticipated litigation and provided directions to counsel.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly made and seconded, August 5, 2026, board meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Renee Hendrick
Assistant Secretary, Board of Education

Tim Shaw
President, Board of Education

Next Regular Board Meeting – Wednesday, September 2, 2026
Location - Orange County Department of Education, Boardroom, 200 Kalmus Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 and via YouTube Livestream

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