

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

SMBSD Board Room
708 S. Miller Street
Santa Maria, CA
August 12, 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 5:14 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Luz Maria Cabral, President

Ricky Lara, Vice President

John Hollinshead, Board Clerk (Absent)

Ricardo Valencia, Board Member

Linda Cordero, Board Member

II. IDENTITY CLOSED SESSION TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

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

Government Code § 54957

Agency Representative: Pete Bland, Ed.D.

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 Real Property Negotiators

Government Code § 54956.8

Agency Negotiator: Matthew Beecher; Todd Amspoker

Esq. Property: 23.1-acre lot: Lot 5, Tract 6,022, APN

117-240-054, Santa Maria, CA

Negotiating parties: Santa Maria-Bonita School District;

Blosser Fee Owner, LLC
Under negotiation: Price and terms

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 5:16 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 Items A, B, C, and D: Information was shared.

B. Introduction of Interpreters:

Benito Flores, Anime Heredia, and Daniel Garcia

C. Pledge of Allegiance:

Led by Board President Luz Maria Cabral

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD - OPEN SESSION

Non-Agenda Items:

- Hearon Hernandez commented that he is part of the DELAC committee and Mixteco speaking parents.
- Carmen Herrera commented on the need for better interpretation and translation services, student safety, and addressed bullying in schools.
- Francisco Lozano commented on the need for better interpretation for Mixteco families and translation services for indigenous language-speaking families.
- Marisela Mendoza Flores commented that she was thankful for the workshops offered by SMBSD. She would like the DLI program to be provided at all schools. More in-person communication rather than via Zoom. Details on the English learner tests. Summer school for all students struggling academically.

- Carmen Hurado commented on academic performance statistics and thanked staff for addressing specific concerns.
- Jorge Gallardo acknowledged and thanked district staff who helped address specific parent concerns.
- Jacinta Velasco Morales commented on the responsibilities of the Board Members.
- Daniel Garcia commented on concerns regarding district leadership, fiscal responsibility, and resource management.
- Arisel Gutiérrez Orozco commented on district leadership in the maintenance department and management issues.
- Kristi Hardin commented on affordability and the increase in the health plan.
- Jennifer Escobedo commented on the health insurance increase.
- Lucy Lyons commented on fair wages and fair medical coverage.
- Jennifer Ellsworth commented on district unity.
- Raul Chavez commented on district unity.
- Gene Blackwell commented on M&O concerns.

Agenda Items:

- No comments were provided

IX. COMMENTS FROM ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS

- Santa Maria Elementary Education Association (SMEEA)
SMEEA President Kristen Lohr commented that this year there are 53 new SMEEA members, and support staff and educators deserve a long-term healthcare solution.
- California School Employees Association (CSEA)
CSEA President Melissa Gutierrez commented on a potential temporary decision regarding the healthcare premium.
- Administrators In Management Services (AIMS)
No Comments

X. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS PRESENTED

Mr. Lara moved, and Mrs. Cordero seconded, to approve the agenda as presented. Roll Call, Vote, Ayes: 3: Mrs. Cordero, Mr. Lara, and Ms. Cabral; *Motion passed.*

XI. PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Partnership with Orenda Education Update for the 2026-2027 School Year

Presented by Maijue Lochungvu, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services

The Orenda Education Update for the 2026-2027 School Year focused on instructional leadership, data-driven systems, and curriculum alignment to support student success across all 21 school sites. The board acknowledged receipt of the Orenda Education Update for the 2026-2027 school year as presented.

XII. CONSENT ITEMS

A. GENERAL CONSENT

- i. Minutes of the Board of Education
- ii. Second Reading and Approval of Board Policies

B. BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL CONSENT

- i. Payment of Warrants
- ii. Contracts for Approval or Ratification
- iii. Authorization to Declare Obsolete and/or Surplus Equipment or Materials
- iv. 45 Day Budget Revision
- v. 2026 Reimbursable Mileage Rate
- vi. Approval of the 2025-26 Proposition 28: Arts and Music in Schools Funding Annual Report
- vii. Authorization to File Notice of Completion for Floor Connection, Inc., BID #5415, Installation of District-Provided Flooring at Bruce Elementary School
- viii. Authorization to File Notice of Completion for Abatex, LLC, BID #5416, Asbestos Abatement at Adam Elementary School
- ix. Authorization to File Notice of Completion for Adco, Inc., BID #5417, Built-Up Roof Replacement at Battles and Tunnell Elementary Schools
- x. Adco Roofing, Inc., Built-Up Roof Replacement at Battles and Tunnell Elementary Schools BID #5417 - Change Order 1
- xi. Authorization to File Notice of Completion for Venterra Environmental, Inc., BID #5418, Asbestos Abatement at Rice Elementary School

xii. Authorization to File Notice of Completion for Venterra Environmental, Inc., BID #5419, Asbestos Abatement at Bruce Elementary School

xiii. Authorization to File Notice of Completion for Floor Connection, Inc., BID #5421, Installation of District-Provided Flooring at Adam Elementary School

xiv. Authorization to File Notice of Completion for Cosmic Color Painting, BID #5423, Painting at Bonita Elementary School

xv. Authorization to File Notice of Completion for J.R Barto Heating, A/C & Sheet Metal, INC., BID #5425, Installation of District-Provided HVAC Equipment at Miller Elementary School

xvi. J.R Barto Heating, A/C & Sheet Metal, INC., Installation of District-Provided HVAC Equipment at Miller Elementary School BID #5425-Change Order 3

xvii. J.R Barto Heating, A/C & Sheet Metal, INC., Installation of District-Provided HVAC Equipment at Miller Elementary School BID #5425-Change Order 4

xviii. J.R Barto Heating, A/C & Sheet Metal, INC., Installation of District-Provided HVAC Equipment at Miller Elementary School BID #5425-Change Order 5

xix. J.R Barto Heating, A/C & Sheet Metal, INC., Installation of District-Provided HVAC Equipment at Miller Elementary School BID #5425-Change Order 6

xx. J.R Barto Heating, A/C & Sheet Metal, INC., Installation of District-Provided HVAC Equipment at Miller Elementary School BID #5425-Change Order 7

xxi. Authorization to File Notice of Completion for Lawrence W. Rosine Company, BID #5427, Installation of District-Provided Flooring at Rice Elementary School

xxii. Reject All Bids for Bid No. 5441, Modular Classroom Buildings for a New Middle School and New Elementary School on a Shared Campus

C. HUMAN RESOURCES CONSENT

- i. Certificated and Classified Personnel Changes
- ii. Approval of Job Description Revision: Coordinator of Health Services
- iii. Approval of Job Description Revision: Migrant Education Supervisor

D. EDUCATIONAL SERVICES CONSENT

Mrs. Cordero moved, and Mr. Valencia seconded, approval of the consent items as presented. Roll Call Vote, Ayes: 4, Mrs. Cordero, Mr. Valencia, Mr. Lara, and Ms. Cabral. *Motion Passed.*

XIII. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Contract with Aeries Student Information System

Presented by Brien Rieke, Chief Tech Officer

It was moved by Mrs. Cordero and seconded by Mr. Lara that the Board of Education **APPROVE THE CONTRACT WITH AERIES STUDENT INFORMATION SYSTEM**, as presented. Roll Call Vote, Ayes: 4: Mrs. Cordero, Mr. Valencia, Mr. Lara, and Ms. Cabral. *Motion Passed.*

B. Approval of Contract with Boys & Girls Club of Mid Central Coast for Evans Park Off-Site After School Program Services

Presented by Niccole Wiseman, Director of School Support

It was moved by Mr. Lara, and seconded by Mr. Valencia, that the Board of Education **APPROVE THE CONTRACT WITH BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF MID CENTRAL COAST FOR EVANS PARK OFF-SITE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM SERVICES**, as presented. Roll Call, Vote, Ayes: 4: Mrs. Cordero, Mr. Valencia, Mr. Lara, and Ms. Cabral. *Motion Passed.*

C. Approval of Contract with Boys & Girls Club of Mid Central Coast for Railroad Clubhouse Off-Site After School Program Services

Presented by Niccole Wiseman, Director of School Support

It was moved by Mrs. Cordero and seconded by Mr. Valencia that the Board of Education **APPROVE THE CONTRACT WITH BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF MID CENTRAL COAST FOR RAILROAD CLUBHOUSE OFF-SITE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM SERVICES**, as presented. Roll Call, Vote, Ayes: 4: Mrs. Cordero, Mr. Valencia, Mr. Lara, and Ms. Cabral. *Motion Passed.*

D. Approval of Contract with Frontline Education 2026-27

Presented by Brien Rieke, Chief Tech Officer

It was moved by Mr. Valencia and seconded by Mr. Lara that the Board of Education **APPROVE THE CONTRACT WITH FRONTLINE EDUCATION**, as presented. Roll Call Vote, Ayes: 4: Mrs. Cordero, Mr. Valencia, Mrs. Lara, and Ms. Cabral. *Motion Passed.*

E. Approval of Contract with Orenda (Think Together) Education for 2026-27 School Year

Presented by Maijue Lochungvu, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services

It was moved by Mr. Cordero and seconded by Mr. Lara that the Board of Education **APPROVE THE AGREEMENT WITH ORENDA (THINK TOGETHER) EDUCATION FOR THE 2026-27 SCHOOL YEAR**, as presented. Roll Call Vote, Ayes: 4: Mrs. Cordero, Mr. Valencia, Mr. Lara and Ms. Cabral. *Motion Passed*

F. Approval of Contract with Renaissance Learning

Presented by Brian Rieke, Chief Tech Officer

It was moved by Mr. Valencia and seconded by Mr. Lara that the Board of Education **APPROVE THE CONTRACT WITH RENAISSANCE LEARNING**, as presented. Roll Call Vote, Ayes: 4: Mrs. Cordero, Mr. Valencia, Mr. Lara and Ms. Cabral. *Motion Passed*

G. Approval of Contract for Think Together California Schools Talent Collaborative

Presented by Dr. Katie Salcido, Executive Director, Teaching and Learning

It was moved by Mrs. Cordero and seconded by Mr. Valencia that the Board of Education **APPROVE THE CONTRACT FOR THINK TOGETHER CALIFORNIA SCHOOLS TALENT COLLABORATIVE**, as presented. Roll Call Vote, Ayes: 4: Mrs. Cordero, Mr. Valencia, Mr. Lara and Ms. Cabral. *Motion Passed*

XIV. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Valencia asked for a follow-up on the Dual Language Immersion program.

XV. BOARD/SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS

Board Member Report - Mrs. Cordero

Mrs. Cordero discussed her attendance at four of five days of the new teacher induction week and the new administrator briefing. She emphasized the need for continued improvement in interpretation services to ensure all families feel included, regardless of the language they speak.

Board Member Report - Mr. Valencia

Mr. Valencia discussed embracing opportunities and challenges. Finding solutions through difficult times. He attended the Night of Oaxaca, which was a wonderful partnership. He expressed that it was wonderful that families were there to advocate for interpretation. Highlighted the launch of the residency program (CLOU), expressing excitement about meeting participants who are preparing for certifications to teach dual language immersion courses. Our website has been revamped. The welcome back was a wonderful time.

Board Member Report - Mr. Lara

Mr. Lara welcomed everyone back and gave a shout-out to all classified staff for helping get all the schools ready. Wished all certificated staff a great and blessed school year.

Board Member Report - Ms. Luz Maria Cabral

Ms. Luz Maria Cabral wished everyone good luck, all new teachers, and a good start to the new school year.

Superintendent's Report - Dr. McDuffie

Dr. Darren McDuffie acknowledged the previous request regarding translation buttons and confirmed the district will look into the available language options. Reflected on the annual staff kickoff held at *Allen Hancock College*, describing it as a wonderful opportunity for the community to connect, share a meal, and laugh before the start of the school year. Gave a special shout-out to *Dr. Tammie Castillo-Schiffer* and her multilingual team for their heavy lifting in organizing the event. He also thanked board member *Mrs. Cordero* for volunteering. Assured families that the district is ready for the new school year. He highlighted the efforts of food service teams, custodial staff, office staff, and teachers—specifically shouting out kindergarten and TK teachers—who have been cleaning, enrolling students, preparing lessons, and setting up classrooms for the first day.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

President Cabral reported that the next SMBSD Regular Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 12, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Signed



John Hollinshead
Board Clerk

Signed



Linda Cordero
Board Member