



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 8.1e

Meeting Date: October 15, 2026

Subject: Approve Minutes for the October 1, 2026, Regular Board of Education Meeting

- ☐ Information Item Only
- ☒ Approval on Consent Agenda
- ☐ Conference (for discussion only)
- ☐ Conference/First Reading (Action Anticipated: _____)
- ☐ Conference/Action
- ☐ Action
- ☐ Public Hearing

Division: Superintendent's Office

Recommendation: Approve Minutes for the October 1, 2026, Regular Board of Education Meeting.

Background/Rationale: None

Financial Considerations: None

LCAP Goal(s): Family and Community Empowerment

Documents Attached:

1. Minutes of the October 1, 2026, Regular Board of Education Meeting

Estimated Time of Presentation: N/A

Submitted by: Board Office

Approved by: Cancy McArn, Superintendent



Putting
Children
First

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AND WORKSHOP

Board of Education Members

Tara Jeane, President (Trustee Area 1)
Taylor Kayatta, Vice President (Trustee Area 6)
April Ybarra, Second Vice President (Trustee Area 4)
Jasjit Singh (Trustee Area 2)
Jose Navarro (Trustee Area 3)
Chinua Rhodes (Trustee Area 5)
Michael Benjamin (Trustee Area 7)
Owen Naqica, Student Board Member

Thursday, October 1, 2026

5:00 p.m. Closed Session

6:30 p.m. Open Session

Serna Center

Community Conference Rooms
5735 47th Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95824

MINUTES

2026/27-10

1.0 OPEN SESSION / CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:19 p.m.

Members Present:

*Member Benjamin
Member Kayatta
Member Navarro
Member Rhodes
Member Singh
Member Ybarra
Student Member Naqica*

Members Absent:

Member Jeane

2.0 ANNOUNCEMENT AND PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

No public comment

3.0 CLOSED SESSION

While the Brown Act creates broad public access rights to the meetings of the Board of Education, it also recognizes the legitimate need to conduct some of its meetings outside of the public eye. Closed session meetings are specifically defined and limited in scope. They primarily involve personnel issues, pending litigation, labor negotiations, and real property matters.

- 3.1 Government Code 54956.9 - Conference with Legal Counsel:
 - a) Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (d)(2) of Government Code section 54956.9 (One Potential Case)
 - b) Initiation of litigation pursuant to subdivision (d)(4) of Government Code section 54956.9 (One Potential Case)
 - c) Existing litigation pursuant to subdivision (d)(1) of Government Code section 54956.9 (OAH Case No. 2025101105)
- 3.2 Government Code 54957.6 (a) and (b) Negotiations/Collective Bargaining SCTA SEIU, TCS, Teamsters, UPE, Non-Represented/Confidential Management (Dan Schallock)
- 3.3 Government Code 54957 – Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Complaint
- 3.4 Education Code 35146- The Board will hear staff recommendation on the following student expulsion and readmission for 26-27: Expulsion #1 of the 2026-27 school year and Readmission #2 of the 2026-27 school year
- 3.5 Government Code 54957—Public Employee Performance Evaluation
Title: Superintendent

4.0 CALL BACK TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called back to order at 7:09 p.m.

- 4.1 The Pledge of Allegiance
- 4.2 Broadcast Statement
- 4.3 Stellar Student introduced by Board Member Jose Navarro and Sequoia Elementary School Highlighted by Principal Cindy Hollander

5.0 ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION

There was 1 announcement that came out of closed session.

-The Board approved an MOU to a previously executed settlement agreement related to OAH Case No. 2025101105 with no additional costs by a vote of 6-0 with Member Jeane absent.

6.0 AGENDA ADOPTION

Public Comment:

Terrence Gladney, Chair of the Black African-American Advisory Board, expressed frustration over unannounced district policy changes—specifically reducing committee reports to quarterly and increasing staff presence on advisory committees—arguing that these decisions disenfranchise families and undermine community engagement.

The Board approved the agenda with an amendment to move Item 11.1 to the beginning of the meeting—prior to public comment—to accommodate a performance by a group of students. The Board adopted the amendment unanimously.

7.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

15 minutes

Members of the public may address the Board on non-agenda items that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. Public comment may be (1) emailed to publiccomment@scusd.edu; (2) submitted in writing through the district's website at <https://www.scusd.edu/submit-public-comment>; or (3) provided in-person at the meeting. The submission deadline for written public comments shall be no later than noon on the day of the meeting. If you intend to address the Board in-person, please fill out a yellow card available at the entrance. Speakers may be called in the order that requests are received or grouped by subject area. We ask that comments are limited to two (2) minutes with no more than 15 minutes per single topic so that as many people as possible may be heard. By law, the Board is allowed to take action only on items on the agenda. The Board may, at its discretion, refer a matter to district staff or calendar the issue for future discussion.

Marley Clay urged the Board to remove The Met Sacramento principal, citing a hostile environment that has driven away 14 female staff members in three years and left female students feeling unsafe. The speaker demanded full accountability from district leadership, emphasizing that students and families will continue speaking out until the principal is replaced.

Maria Ferguson addressed the Board regarding unpaid wages for work completed in August and September, noting she was told payment might be delayed until mid-October. She asked for contact information for a director in the Early Learning and Care Department to resolve her payroll issues and clarify her employment status within the district.

8.0 CONSENT AGENDA

Action

2 minutes

Generally routine items are approved by one motion without discussion. The Superintendent or a Board member may request an item be pulled from the consent agenda and voted upon separately.

8.1 Items Subject or Not Subject to Closed Session:

8.1a Approve/Ratification of Grants, Entitlements, and Other Income Agreements
(Gerardo Castillo)

8.1b Approve/Ratification of Other Agreements, Bid Awards, Declared Surplus Materials and Equipment, Change Notices, and Notices of Completion
(Gerardo Castillo)

8.1c Approve Purchase Order Board Report for the period of Aug 15, 2026, through Sept 14, 2026 (Gerardo Castillo)

8.1d Approve Business and Financial Report: Warrants, Checks and Electronic Transfers Issued for the period of June 1-30, 2026 (Gerardo Castillo)

8.1e Approve Personnel Transactions (Jake Hansen)

*8.1f Approve Resolution No. 3608: Resolution Regarding Board Stipends
(Superintendent Cancy McArn)*

*8.1g Approve Staff Recommendation for Expulsion #1 of the 2026-27 school
year and Readmission #2 of the 2026-27 school year (David Van Natten)*

*8.1h Approve Minutes for the September 10, 2026, Special Board of Education
Meeting (Superintendent Cancy McArn)*

*8.1i Approve Minutes for the September 17, 2026, Special Board of Education
Meeting (Superintendent Cancy McArn)*

*8.1j Approve Minutes for the September 17, 2026, Regular Board of Education
Meeting (Superintendent Cancy McArn)*

This was an action item.

Public Comment:

No public comment

Board Comment:

Student Member Naqica asked a clarifying question regarding consent agenda Item 8.1g, which concerned student expulsion and readmission recommendations for the 2026–27 school year. He specifically inquired whether this item had been discussed by the Board during closed session.

Member Rhodes made a motion to approve the consent agenda, which was seconded by Member Ybarra. The motion passed 6-0 with Member Jeane absent, while Student Board Member Naqica abstained.

9.0 COMMUNICATIONS

9.1 Employee Organization Reports:

- *SCTA - Sacramento City Teachers Association (SCTA) President Nikki Davis-Milevsky expressed frustration over delays in approving the labor MOU, criticizing SCOE-appointed fiscal adviser Luz Cazares for blocking an agreement that could provide \$97.6 million in district relief while citing her past controversial record in Oakland and Santa Rosa. Davis- Milevsky reaffirmed SCTA’s commitment to collaborating with SCUSD on district fiscal health, classroom resources, MTSS expansion, and Measure M.*
Additionally, SCTA Special Education Director Kelly Charest provided a department update, noting ongoing weekly meetings with administrators but reporting persistent staffing shortages—including 18 vacant SDC classrooms, 5.5 unfilled RSP caseloads, and 56 open Speech-Language

Pathologist positions. Charest raised concerns over unpublicized vendor contracts for one-to-one instructional aides and renewed SCTA's call for a forensic audit of the district's special education department and vendor agreements.

- *SEIU - Chapter Vice President Jim Riffle addressed the Board regarding escalating safety concerns and physical injuries experienced by instructional aides dealing with eloping and violent students. Highlighting examples of students causing office destruction and inflicting physical harm—including hospitalizing an aide—Riffle stressed that while restraints and detentions are restricted by law, staff need actionable solutions to protect aides, teachers, and peers from ongoing violence.*
- *TCS – No update*
- *Teamsters – No update*
- *UPE AFSA Local 154-AFL-CIO- Garrett Kirkland addressed the Board to express appreciation for recognizing Week of the School Administrator, while urging district leaders to examine how current policies and practices impact school leaders during challenging times. He also spoke on behalf of long-time administrator Mr. Guevara, defending his years of successful service and dedication to SCUSD students and communities amid ongoing investigations.*

9.2 *Student Member Report (Owen Naqica)- Student Board Member Naqica shared a personal account of being attacked in a hate crime alongside another student on September 2nd at the 29th Street Light Rail station. Explaining that they were verbally accosted and physically assaulted based on their sexuality and gender expression despite attempting to walk away quietly, Naqica highlighted the lingering psychological impact of the unprovoked assault. Naqica concluded by emphasizing that hate has no place in Sacramento or its schools, calling for basic respect, dignity, and active care for one another to foster community safety.*

9.3 *Superintendent's Report (Cancy McArn)- Superintendent McArn began by congratulating the evening's recognition groups and promoting the district-wide College Fair scheduled for Saturday, October 10th, at JFK High School, featuring representatives from over 40 higher education institutions. She thanked site leaders for their efforts during September's Attendance Awareness Month, noting upcoming student engagement incentive programs, and celebrated a record-high 87.23% return rate for Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) surveys—highlighting Washington Elementary and Oak Ridge Elementary for achieving 100% completion ahead of the October 30th deadline.*

9.4 *President's Report (Tara Jeane)- No report*

9.5 *Information Sharing by Board Members- Member Ybarra expressed concern over the tone and language used by adults at the public comment podium, calling for greater respect when addressing administrators and emphasizing that adults must maintain poise and avoid*

hurting students who voice safety concerns. Transitioning to positive updates, Ybarra highlighted the history and impact of Parent Teacher Home Visits (PTHV), noting research that visiting 10% of a classroom can affect district-wide chronic absenteeism. She reported that 37 sites are currently funded, with 58 students visited this school year, and commended Bowling Green Chacon and Cesar Chavez Elementary for already reaching the 10% home visit threshold.

Member Rhodes spoke on his positive personal experiences as a parent with Parent Teacher Home Visits at Edward Kemble/Cesar Chavez Elementary, noting how the program strengthens family-school engagement. He invited the community to the South Sacramento Literacy Festival on October 17th at John Bidwell Elementary, co-sponsored alongside Councilmember Vang, Community Schools, and the Meadowview Farmers Market. Rhodes concluded his remarks by wishing his youngest daughter, Rosa Maria Itzel Rhodes, a happy upcoming birthday.

Vice President Kayatta echoed birthday wishes to Member Rhodes' daughter Rosa, noted Board Member April Ybarra's birthday, and acknowledged Member Rhodes' belated birthday from July.

10.0 PUBLIC HEARING

10.1 Public Hearing on Approval of Resolution No. 3607 Compliance with the Pupil Textbook and Instructional Materials Incentive Program Act-Williams Act (Tascha Weatherall)

District Librarian Tasha Weatherall presented on the district's annual compliance with the Pupil Textbook and Instructional Materials Incentive Act (Williams Act), which ensures equitable access to core instructional materials and science lab equipment for every student. Weatherall reported visiting 36 designated school sites alongside SCOE representatives between August 11th and September 29th, achieving 100% compliance across all audited sites on the first pass without requiring any revisits. She also noted that a district-wide survey addressed remaining needs at non-audit sites. Additionally, Weatherall outlined the \$2.8 million lottery-funded textbook budget—noting \$400,000 has been spent to date, with remaining funds slated for upcoming K-8 mathematics and African American U.S. History curriculum adoptions—before recommending approval of Resolution 3607. This was an action item.

Public Comment:

No public comment

Board Comment:

Member Singh thanked District Librarian Tasha Weatherall for her dedicated seven weeks conducting site visits and expressed appreciation that all audited schools were fully prepared, eliminating the need for any follow-up visits.

Member Rhodes made a motion with a second from Member Singh. The Board voted 6-0 with Member Jeane absent, and a student preferential “yes” vote.

10.2 Public Hearing: AB 1200 Public Disclosure and Approval of Agreement between Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD) and the Sacramento City Teachers Association (SCTA) to Aid in Fiscal Recovery (Gerardo Castillo)

Gerardo Castillo presented the AB 1200 disclosure and requested formal board approval for the collective bargaining agreement between Sacramento City Unified School District and the Sacramento City Teachers Association (SCTA), which has been reviewed and approved by the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE). The agreement supports SCUSD's fiscal recovery plan—providing \$1.7 million in fiscal relief for half of the first year and \$3.74 million in 2027–28—while fully preserving 100% district-paid medical, dental, vision, life insurance, and retiree health benefits through June 30, 2030. Beginning January 1, 2027, district employees will transition health coverage options through CalPERS (including Kaiser, Western Health Advantage, and UnitedHealthcare), addressing HealthNet's departure from the district. Staff recommended full board approval to finalize the MOU previously agreed upon on September 10th. This was an action item.

Public Comment:

No public comment

Board Comment:

Member Benjamin expressed gratitude to staff for their hard work and sought clarification on the status of the AB 1200 disclosure, confirming with staff that the Sacramento County Office of Education (SCOE) had formally reviewed and approved the document prior to the board vote.

Member Singh expressed appreciation for Gerardo's hard work, district staff, and SCOE's approval of the AB 1200 disclosure, but urged SCOE to recognize that this agreement is only one piece of the broader fiscal recovery puzzle. Highlighting that \$97 million in additional fiscal relief remains pending approval, Singh called on SCOE to approve the complete package so district staff can focus fully on long-term financial stability for SCUSD students and families.

Member Rhodes made a motion with a second from Member Navarro. The Board voted 6-0 with Member Jeane absent, and a student preferential “yes” vote.

11.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

11.1 Recognitions:

- *Hispanic Heritage Month- September 15, 2026-October 15, 2026 (Dr. Olga Simms)*

Dr. Olga Sims, Director of Multilingual Literacy, along with Sherlyne from Calidanza Dance Company, presented a recognition of National Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15 – October 15, 2026) in alignment with the national theme "Unidos Somos Más: Together We Are More." The presentation highlighted that over 16,000 students (approximately 41% of SCUSD's population) identify as Latino/Latinx, noted that 254 students earned the Spanish State Seal of Biliteracy in the 2025–26 school year, and featured a Mexican Folklórico dance performance by high school students from West Campus and Health Professions High School.

- *Filipino American History Month- Month of October
(Student Board Member Owen Naqica & Vera Cochran)*

Student Board Member Owen Naqica and Student Advisory Council Member Vera Cochran presented a recognition of Filipino American History Month. The presentation highlighted the historical and cultural contributions of Filipino Americans—including their pivotal role in the labor movement and agriculture—and noted local district connections, such as SCUSD's 470

enrolled Filipino students, its 19% Asian Pacific Islander student population, and the district's international teacher recruitment from the Philippines initiated in 2016.

- *National School Lunch Week- October 12-16, 2026 (Diana Flores)*

Diana Flores, Executive Director of Nutrition, presented a recognition of National School Lunch Week (October 12–16) and National Farm to School Month (October). The presentation highlighted the impact of the district's Central Kitchen—where 28 staff members, alongside 400+ site and support staff, produce 170,000 weekly meal servings with roughly 75% prepared from scratch. Additionally, Flores showcased SCUSD's partnership with Soil Born Farms, which has supplied over 60,000 heads of locally grown organic lettuce for district salad bars, and announced that SCUSD's delivery and Central Kitchen food trucks will represent the district at the California Department of Food and Agriculture's Farm to School Summit on October 15th.

- *Week of the School Administrator- October 13-19, 2026 (IAS Team)*

Instructional Assistant Superintendents Enrique Flores, Tuan Duong, Laura Butler, and Dr. Leah Clougherty presented a recognition of the Week of the School Administrator (October 12–18). The presentation honored campus and district leadership for creating safe, supportive environments, supporting educator growth, advocating for students and families, and fostering strong community connections across SCUSD schools.

- *National School Bus Week- October 19-23, 2026 (Chris Ralston)*

Jeffrey Winn, Director of Facilities Maintenance, Operations, and Transportation, presented a recognition of National School Bus Safety Week under the 2026 theme "Safe Rides, Everyday Heroes." The presentation highlighted SCUSD's transition toward a cleaner, safer fleet with the addition of 14 new electric school buses equipped with advanced safety features and collision avoidance systems, while honoring the district's bus drivers and mechanics for their dedication to student safety.

Public Comment:

No public comment

Board Comment:

Member Ybarra expressed gratitude to the students and Calidanza for the Hispanic Heritage Month performance while thanking principals and district administrators for their dedicated daily leadership during Week of the School Administrator. She concluded by offering strong words of encouragement to Hispanic and Latino students, urging them to take pride in their heritage and space in the school community.

Member Navarro echoed appreciation for the Hispanic Heritage Month presentation and thanked Calidanza for keeping cultural traditions alive for district students. He also shared a nostalgic personal memory of performing the exact same traditional dance as a fourth-grade student in Mexico.

Member Naqica highlighted the critical importance of recognizing and celebrating student diversity across Sacramento City Unified, especially for students of color. He also commended

Student Advisory Council member Vera Cochran for organizing and presenting her Filipino American History Month presentation on short notice.

Vice President Kayatta praised the evening's presentations and acknowledged the collective talent and diversity demonstrated by the district's students. He then took a moment to offer personal gratitude to several specific campus administrators who have positively impacted his own children's lives in honor of Week of the School Administrator.

12.0 ACTION ITEMS

8:50 p.m. 12.1 Approve Contracts Report over \$15,000 (Gerardo Castillo)

Chief Business Official Gerardo Castillo presented Item 12.1, requesting board approval for 30 service and purchase contracts totaling approximately \$2.48 million across four funding sources, with the majority supported by restricted funds. The package comprises 27 new contracts and 3 amended items, allocating around \$1.3 million toward expanded learning and enrichment programs such as driver education, youth leadership, tutoring, and a \$100,000 expansion for the Mind7 Institute at American Legion High School. Additional investments target vulnerable student populations, including \$222,000 for private school tutoring interventions and \$130,000 for unhoused families, along with operational upgrades such as \$278,000 for two electric food service vehicles funded via restricted grants. Castillo concluded by clarifying that amended figures reflect total contract values rather than entirely new spending and recommended the board approve all 30 items. This is an action item.

*Public Comment:
No public comment*

*Board Comment:
The Student Member inquired about the \$222,000 line item on slide six regarding Vision 2000 private school tutoring, asking for clarification on what services are provided and which students receive them. Staff explained that under federal Title I requirements, a portion of grant funding must be allocated to eligible low-income students attending private and parochial schools within district boundaries as a mandatory compliance condition.*

Member Kayatta pulled SA27-00253 to exclude from the vote.

Member Ybarra made a motion to approve with the exclusion of SA27-00253 (Sac Kindness Campaign contract) with a second from Member Benjamin. The Board voted 6-0 with Member Jeane absent, and a student preferential "yes" vote.

9:00 p.m. 12.2 Approve 2026-27 Special Education Contracts (Fran English, Betty Jo Wessinger, & Chris Ralston)

Fran English, Betty Jo Wessinger, & Chris Ralston presented additional special education contracts for the 2026–27 school year, requesting formal board approval to enter into agreements that ensure mandated services are delivered to special education students. Staff highlighted that these contracts align with key district focus areas, specifically Goal 2 (fiscal oversight) and Goal 3 (IEP compliance). The presentation detailed vendor names, service descriptions, anticipated

total costs, and a side-by-side comparison of 2026–27 contract rates against 2025–26 rates, with staff recommending full board approval. This is an action item.

Public Comment:

No public comment

Board Comment:

Student Member Naqica inquired about slide five regarding the "Connection Ed Consulting" line item and requested a breakdown of the term "IEE." Staff clarified that IEE stands for Independent Educational Evaluation, which parents have the right to request if they disagree with the district's assessment, requiring the district to either fund the evaluation or file for due process to defend its assessment.

Member Singh asked whether staff negotiated rate changes on the presented contracts. Staff confirmed that ongoing due diligence ensured competitive pricing and highlighted that daily rates for Capital Academy and Capital Elementary were reduced by \$120. Member Singh also asked for public clarification that the abbreviation "OT" on the contract list stands for Occupational Therapist, not overtime.

Member Ybarra made a motion to approve with a second from Member Navarro. The Board voted 6-0 with Member Jeane absent, and a student preferential "yes" vote.

9:10 p.m. **13.0 FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATES / LOCATIONS**

✓ *October 15, 2026, 5:00 p.m. Closed Session, 6:30 p.m. Open Session, Serna Center, 5735 47th Avenue, Community Room, Regular Workshop Meeting*

✓ *November 5, 2026, 5:00 p.m. Closed Session, 6:30 p.m. Open Session, Serna Center, 5735 47th Avenue, Community Room, Regular Workshop Meeting*

9:12 p.m. **14.0 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Cancy McArn, Superintendent and Board Secretary

NOTE: The Sacramento City Unified School District encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the public meeting process. If you need a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, to participate in the public meeting, please contact the Board of Education Office at (916) 643-9314 at least 48 hours before the scheduled Board of Education meeting so that we may make every reasonable effort to accommodate you. [Government Code § 54953.2; Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, § 202 (42 U.S.C. §12132)] Any public records distributed to the Board of Education relating to an open session item will be available for public inspection at the Serna Center, at 5735 47th Avenue, Sacramento, during normal business hours or on the District's website at www.scusd.edu.