Hanford Elementary School District

Minutes of the Study Session and Regular Board Meeting

September 23, 2026

The Study Session and Regular Board Meeting of the Hanford Elementary School District Board of Trustees was held on September 23, 2026, at the District Office Board Room, 714 N. White Street, Hanford, California.

Study Session The Board of Trustees held a Study Session at 4:30 p.m. to view the Mandated Reporter: Child Abuse and Neglect training video.

Board members present: Robert Garcia, Lupe Hernandez, and Timothy Revious.

Administrators present: Joy Gabler and Jaime Martinez.

Following the Study Session, the Regular Board Meeting convened.

Call to Order President Garner called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Present were Clerk Hernandez, Vice President Revious and Trustee Garcia. Trustee Strickland was absent.

HESD Managers Present Joy C. Gabler, Superintendent, and the following administrators were present: Kelly Bekedam, David Endo, Javier Espindola, Amy Fochetti, Matthew Gamble, Robert Heugly, Jennifer Levinson, Chris Martinez, Jaime Martinez, Miranda Mendoza, Daniel Pierotte, Jennifer Pitkin, Jill Rubalcava, Cruz Sanchez-Leal, and Jay Strickland.

Closed Session Comments None

Closed Session The Board adjourned to closed session at 5:31 p.m. for the purpose of discussing:

- Student Discipline (Education Code 48918)

Open Session The Board returned to open session at 5:56 p.m.

Case No. 26-02 Clerk Hernandez moved to revoke readmission for Case #26-02 based upon the student's failure to abide by school and district rules upon return to regular school. Parents may apply for readmission on or after November 9, 2026. Trustee Garcia seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0:

Garcia – Yes
Garner – Yes
Hernandez – Yes
Revious – Yes
Strickland – Absent

PRESENTATION, REPORTS, AND COMMUNICATIONS

Public Comments Abraham Valencia, Emergency Services Manager for the Kings County Office of Emergency Services, was in attendance. He reported that the Governor had declared a state of emergency on Monday in anticipation of El Niño. Although the

heavy rain is not a concern for the District, he wanted to reintroduce himself and remind the District that his office is available to provide assistance. He noted that, in the event of property damage, his office could assist the District with applying for FEMA funding. Additionally, as a parent of a Jefferson student, he recognized Mr. Espindola, who was in attendance, and commended him for all he does.

Board and Staff Comments

Superintendent Joy Gabler introduced Albert Ordonez, the new Certificated Personnel Manager, who will begin on October 13. Albert comes from Fowler Unified School District, where he served as the Human Resources Manager. Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Jaime Martinez added that they are excited to have Albert join the District.

Vice President Revious commented that the new logos recently installed in the Board Room look great.

Dates to Remember

President Garner reviewed the following dates: Regular Board Meeting – October 14.

Public Hearing: Instructional Materials

At 6:03 p.m., President Garner opened the Public Hearing for the Instructional Materials Funding Realignment Program.

Jill Rubalcaba, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum, stated that the District is required to hold a Public Hearing each year to determine whether each student has sufficient instructional materials. She stated that the District has sufficient instructional materials for all students. She added that the District had a Williams Visit earlier this year and there were no findings.

President Garner called for questions from the public. There being none, the Public Hearing was closed at 6:04 p.m.

CONSENT ITEMS

Trustee Garcia made a motion to consider Consent Items "a" through "c" collectively. Trustee Hernandez seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0:

Garcia – Yes
Garner – Yes
Hernandez – Yes
Revious – Yes
Strickland – Absent

Trustee Garcia then made a motion to approve Consent Items "a" through "c". Trustee Hernandez seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0:

Garcia – Yes
Garner – Yes
Hernandez – Yes
Revious – Yes
Strickland – Absent

Approved items are as follows:

a) Warrant listings dated September 2, 2026, September 4, 2026, and Septembe 11, 2026
b) Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on September 9, 2026
c) Interdistrict transfers as recommended

INFORMATION ITEMS

Financial Report

a) David Endo, Chief Business Official, presented for information the monthly financial reports for the period of 07/01/2026-08/31/2026. He stated included in the packet is a summary of the District's funds. They have been updated to reflect the current balances.

CA School District

b) Joy Gabler, Superintendent, presented information regarding the California School Districts Social Media Litigation. She stated that William Shinoff of Frantz Law Group had reached out to the Hanford Elementary School District to provide information regarding current social media litigation and to determine the District's interest in joining the litigation.

Superintendent Gabler stated that previous cases had resulted in settlements that provided one-time payments to the districts involved. According to Mr. Shinoff, two school district trials are scheduled for February 2027: Tucson Unified School District and Charleston County School District.

Superintendent Gabler stated that, if HESD chooses to join the litigation, Mr. Shinoff recommends making a decision within the next 30 days. She explained that, if the District joins, it would be represented by the Frantz Law Group, which works on a contingency fee basis. She stated that there would be no cost to the District to join the litigation and that, if there is no recovery, the District would not be responsible for attorney fees or costs, although staff time would be required to provide requested information.

Vice President Revious asked whether joining the litigation would be worthwhile. Superintendent Gabler stated that it could potentially be worthwhile based on the possible settlement amount. David Endo stated that he believed the time required of staff would be less than the potential financial benefit.

President Garner asked whether other school districts in the area had joined the litigation. Superintendent Gabler stated that, the last time she had inquired with other districts, none had received communication regarding the litigation.

President Garner asked whether joining this litigation would prevent the District from participating in other social media litigation. Superintendent Gabler stated that she would look into the matter.

BOARD POLICIES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mid-Kings River GSA Ballots

Joy Gabler, Superintendent, stated that the Mid-Kings River GSA is proposing a land-based assessment maximum of $26.84 per acre. The Hanford Elementary

School District has six parcels of land that would be subject to the assessment, for a total proposed assessment of $719.76.

- 24.1 acres – Centennial Drive Property
- 0.14 acres – White Street & Ivy Street Property
- 0.67 acres – Babe Ruth Drive
- 0.01 acres – Richmond School – Corner of Florinda Street & Whitney Drive
- 1.33 acres – District Office – 714 N. White Street
- 0.569 acres – Beulah Street Property

The Mid-Kings River GSA sent the Hanford Elementary School District ballots to cast a vote for or against the proposed land-based assessment on the parcels owned by the District.

a) President Garner called for a vote on the Mid-Kings River GSA Ballots – Proposed Land-Based Assessment. The motion resulted in a 2-2-0 tie and did not carry.
   Garcia – Opposed
   Garner – Yes
   Hernandez – Opposed
   Revious – Yes
   Strickland – Absent

Resolution No. 10-27

b) Trustee Garcia made a motion to approve adoption of Resolution No. 10-27: The Sufficiency of Instructional Materials. Trustee Revious seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0:
   Garcia – Yes
   Garner – Yes
   Hernandez – Yes
   Revious – Yes
   Strickland – Absent

Dr. Gale Gorke

c) Trustee Garcia made a motion to approve the consultant contract with Dr. Gale Gorke to provide a professional development training for READY staff. Trustee Hernandez seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0:
   Garcia – Yes
   Garner – Yes
   Hernandez – Yes
   Revious – Yes
   Strickland – Absent

Kings Regional Traditional Folk Art, Inc.

d) Trustee Garcia made a motion to approve a consultant contract with Kings Regional Traditional Folk Art, Inc to provide student at Jefferson Academy grades 1 to 8. Trustee Hernandez seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0:
   Garcia – Yes
   Garner – Yes
   Hernandez – Yes
   Revious – Yes
   Strickland – Absent

BP 3471

e) Trustee Garcia made a motion to approve the revised Board Policy 3471 – Parcel Taxes. Trustee Revious seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0:
Garcia – Yes
Garner – Yes
Hernandez – Yes
Revious – Yes
Strickland – Absent

BP 4221.4

f) Trustee Garcia made a motion to approve the revised Board Policy 4221.4 – Yard Supervisor. Trustee Revious seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0:
Garcia – Yes
Garner – Yes
Hernandez – Yes
Revious – Yes
Strickland – Absent

PERSONNEL

Trustee Garcia made a motion to consider Personnel Items "a" through "d" together. Trustee Revious seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0:
Garcia – Yes
Garner – Yes
Hernandez – Yes
Revious – Yes
Strickland – Absent

Trustee Garcia then made a motion to approve Personnel Items "a" through "d". Trustee Revious seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0:
Garcia – Yes
Garner – Yes
Hernandez – Yes
Revious – Yes
Strickland – Absent

Item "a" – Employment

The following items were approved:

Classified Management
- Alberto Ordonez, Certificated Personnel Manager – 8.0 hrs., Human Resources, effective 10/13/26

Classified
- Cristina Avila, Special Education Aide – 5.0 hrs., Lincoln, effective 08/28/26

Temporary Employees/Substitute
- Tiffany Abbott, Athletic Coach, effective 09/08/26
- Allyssa Allison, Substitute READY Program Tutor, effective 09/08/26
- Daniel Gamboa Duran, Substitute Custodian I, effective 09/04/26
- Emily Juarez, Substitute READY Program Tutor, effective 09/01/26
- Alize Moreno, Substitute READY Program Tutor, effective 09/02/26
- Ciara Rosales, Substitute Yard Supervisor, effective 08/31/26
- Alex Santiago, Athletic Coach, effective 09/08/26

Lateral Change/More Hours/Days

- Roxana Vasquez, from Special Circumstances Aide – 5.75 hrs., King, to Paraprofessional (TK/K) – 7.0 hrs., King, effective 09/14/26

Administrative Transfer

- Rebecca Quiñones, from Special Circumstances Aide – 5.75 hrs., Wilson, to Special Circumstances Aide – 5.75 hrs., Richmond, effective 09/14/26

Employment and Certification of Temporary Athletic Team Coaches pursuant to Title 5 CCR 5594

- Tiffany Abbott, 4-6th Girls Softball, Lincoln, effective 09/08/26-10/30/26
- Mariah Benitez, 4-6th Girls Softball, Hamilton, effective 09/08/26-10/30/26
- Luis Botello, 7th Boys Football, Kennedy, effective 08/24/26-10/30/26
- Isabelle Madera, 4-6th Girls Softball, Washington, effective 09/08/26-10/30/26
- Myles Picazo, 7th Boys Football, Kennedy, effective 08/24/26-10/30/26
- Alex Santiago, 4-6th Girls Softball, Monroe, effective 09/08/26-10/30/26
- Aaron Sparks, 4-6th Boys Football, King, effective 09/08/26-10/30/26
- O'Ryin Turner, 4-6th Boys Football, Lincoln, effective 09/08/26-10/30/26

Short Term Classified

- Bianca Arias, Short-Term Yard Supervisor – 2.0 hrs., Jefferson, effective 09/08/26-10/02/26
- Alexandria Lewis, Short-Term Yard Supervisor – 2.5 hrs., Washington, effective 09/08/26-10/02/26
- Alondra Verduzco, Short-Term Yard Supervisor – 1.75 hrs., King, effective 08/31/26-09/25/26

Item "b" – Resignations

Classified

- Maya Mendez, Substitute READY Program Tutor and Special Education Aide, effective 08/19/26
- Dayanna Roman, Substitute READY Program Tutor, Translator: Oral Interpreter and Translator: Written Translator, effective 08/28/26

Retirement

- Trinidad Puga Perez, Teacher, Jefferson, effective 09/10/26

Item "c" – Fresno Pacific University

Consider approval of an Agreement between Fresno Pacific University and Hanford Elementary School District

- Authorize to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding between Hanford Elementary School District and Fresno Pacific University for the placement of student teachers and interns effective September 23, 2026.

Item "d" – Volunteers

Name	School
Melody Jimenez Rodriguez	Hamilton
Sabrina Young	Hamilton
Katherine Miranda Morales	Lincoln
Hannah Barajas (HESD EE)	Washington
Eric Jones (HESD EE)	Washington
Alyssa Rodriguez (HESD EE)	Washington/JFK
Darrick Rossotti	Washington

FINANCIAL

Eide Bailly LLP

a) Trustee Garcia made a motion to approve the engagement with Eide Bailly LLP to conduct the independent financial and performance audit of the District's Measure U building fund for 2025-2026. Trustee Hernandez seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-0:

Garcia – Yes
Garner – Yes
Hernandez – Yes
Revious – Yes
Strickland – Absent

Adjournment

There being no further business, President Garner adjourned the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joy C. Gabler,
Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Approved:

Timothy Revious, Vice President

Lupe Hernandez, Clerk