



SANTA CRUZ
COUNTY OFFICE OF
EDUCATION
DR. FARIS SABBAH • SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Santa Cruz County Board of Education • 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 • Tel (831) 466-5900 • www.santacruzcoe.org
Mr. Ed Acosta • Mr. Edward Estrada • Ms. Sandra Nichols • Ms. Sue Roth
Mr. Abel Sanchez • Mr. Bruce Van Allen • Ms. Rachel Williams

Student Trustee: Ruben Marcus and Natalie Hofkins

Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, November 21, 2024
4:00 pm
Boardroom and/or Zoom

Members of the public may join the meeting either by attending in-person or joining the live video-conference using the following link:

<https://santacruzcoe-org.zoom.us/j/84678128961>

Alternatively, join by phone using the following phone number at the time of the meeting:

Phone Number: +1 669-900-6833

Meeting ID: 846 7812 8961

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Any person wishing to make a public comment will have the opportunity to do so either in-person or via videoconference during the meeting for up to three minutes each for any item not listed on the agenda, or for up to three minutes for any item listed on the agenda. To request to speak during public comment or on any item on the agenda, please complete this form: <https://sccoe.link/PublicComment>

To submit a comment to be read aloud on your behalf either listed or not listed on the meeting agenda, please send a comment no longer than 300 words to vvalentin@santacruzcoe.org no later than 2:00 PM on November 21st. Each individual may only make one comment per topic.

Cualquier persona que desee hacer un comentario público tendrá la oportunidad de hacerlo en vivo o por videoconferencia durante la reunión virtual hasta tres minutos cada uno para cualquier tema que no esté incluido en la agenda, y hasta tres minutos para cualquier tema incluido en la agenda. Para solicitar hablar durante los comentarios públicos o sobre cualquier tema de la agenda, complete este formulario: <https://sccoe.link/PublicComment>

Para enviar un comentario para ser leído en voz alta en su nombre, ya sea para un tema en la agenda o no en la agenda, envíe un comentario de no más de 300 palabras a vvalentin@santacruzcoe.org a más tardar a las 2:00 PM del 21 de noviembre. Cada individuo solo puede hacer un comentario por tema.

AGENDA

1. **CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

Sue Roth (President), Ed Acosta, Edward Estrada, Sandra Nichols, Abel Sanchez, Bruce Van Allen, Rachel Williams
Ruben Marcus (Student Trustee)
Faris Sabbah (Secretary)

1.1 **Board Member Remote Attendance Approval**

Per AB 2449, Trustees may participate in the Board meeting remotely under the following conditions:

- Just Cause, or Emergency Circumstances
- Board Approval

Motion &

Voice Vote: Sue Roth (President)

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Superintendent Sabbah will lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Agenda deletions and/or sequence changes will be approved or the agenda will be approved as submitted.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

This is an opportunity for the public to address the Board regarding items outside the agenda. The Board President will recognize any member of the audience not previously placed on the agenda who wishes to speak on a matter directly related to school business. Each speaker, on any specific topic, may speak for up to **three (3) minutes** unless otherwise limited or extended by the President. The President may allot time to those wishing to speak but no action will be taken on matters presented (EDC § 35145.5). If appropriate, the President, or any Member of the Board, may direct that a matter be referred to the Superintendent's Office for placement on a future agenda. Please refer to item, *Please Note*, on the last item of this agenda.

5. **SWEARING-IN CEREMONY**

The following trustees will be sworn into the Santa Cruz County Board of Education:

Natalie Hofkins, Student Trustee

6. **CONSENT AGENDA**

All items appearing on the consent agenda are recommended actions that are considered to be routine and will be acted upon as one motion. Specific items may be removed for separate consideration. Item(s) removed will be considered immediately following the consent agenda motion as Deferred Consent Items.

6.0.1 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on October 17, 2024

6.0.2 Budget Revisions

6.0.3 Donations

6.0.4 Surplus Items

6.1 DEFERRED CONSENT ITEMS (if required)

This item is placed on the agenda to address any items that might be pulled from Agenda Item 6.0 for further discussion/consideration if so determined.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

Official correspondence received by the Board, if any, is included herein. Copies of correspondence received within 72 hours of the meeting will be made available at the meeting location.

8. REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS

8.1 Annual Report: Williams Legislation, Status of Decile 1-3 Schools - Pajaro Valley Unified School District, Pacific Elementary School District, San Lorenzo Valley School District, and Santa Cruz City School District

Education Code § 1240(2)(B) requires, pursuant to the Williams Settlement Legislation, that the County Superintendent of Schools report the findings of the visits and reviews of schools within the county designated as decile 1-3 schools.

Presenter(s): Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools
Bryan Wall, Santa Cruz COE Williams Coordinator

9. NEW BUSINESS AND ACTION

9.1 Resolution #24-42 Authorizing Participation In Proposition 47 Grant For School Safety Initiatives By The Santa Cruz County Office Of Education

The Santa Cruz County Office of Education seeks approval to participate in the Proposition 47 Grant administered by the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC). This grant will support initiatives aimed at enhancing school safety within the county. The resolution authorizes the Director of School Safety, Rishi Lal, to submit the grant proposal and sign the Grant Agreement with the BSCC on behalf of the Office of Education.

Presenter(s): Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools

Motion &

Roll Call Vote: Sue Roth, Board President

9.2 Approval of the Santa Cruz County Office of Education’s Strategic Plan for 2025-2029

The 2025-2029 Strategic Plan defines the COE’s commitment to supporting all learners, from birth to adulthood, by addressing key challenges in education, rising costs, and mental health needs. Developed collaboratively, the plan promotes a resilient, adaptable approach. The strategic priorities outlined in the plan are supporting safety and wellness, empowering equitable achievement, and building sustainable systems. The plan centers on building BRIDGES to equity through Belonging, Relationships, Innovation, Data-Informed Decision-Making, Growth, Excellence, and Sustainability. The Board is asked to approve of the plan.

Presenter(s): Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools

Motion &

Roll Call Vote: Sue Roth, Board President

9.3 Resolution #24-43 Recognizing Special Education Day

December 2nd is recognized as National Special Education Day. This day celebrates the anniversary of the nation’s first special education law as the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) was signed on December 2, 1972. Special Education Day was first celebrated in 2005 which was the 30th anniversary of IDEA. The Board will consider adopting this Resolution.

Presenter(s): Bruce Van Allen, Chair, Community Outreach and Legislation Committee
Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools

Motion &

Roll Call Vote: Sue Roth, Board President

10. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

County Superintendent Dr. Faris Sabbah will provide an update on activities and matters of interest.

11. STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORTS

Student Trustees will report on matters, events, and activities related to the Board's goals of advocating for students, maintaining community relations, and promoting student achievement.

12. TRUSTEE REPORTS (3 minutes each)

Trustees will report on matters, events, and activities related to the Board's goals of advocating for students, maintaining community relations, and promoting student achievement.

13. AD HOC/STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTIONS

14. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

All meetings scheduled and approved by the Board are listed below. Specific meetings may be removed or added if so determined, pending board approval.

Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Regular Meeting

December 12, 2024

4:00 p.m.

Per Education Code 35143, this year, the annual organizational meeting must be held on or after Friday, December 13th, 2024, and no later than December 28, 2024.

TENTATIVE - Action Required to schedule:

Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Special Meeting - Board Governance Retreat
Saturday, January 25, 2024

9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

If this date is not feasible, the board will need to identify an alternative Saturday that works. Once a new date is selected, staff will communicate it to CSBA and our presenter for confirmation.

15. ADJOURNMENT

President Roth will adjourn the meeting.

PLEASE NOTE:

Public Participation:

All persons are encouraged to attend and, when appropriate, to participate in meetings of the Santa Cruz County Board of Education. If you wish to speak to an item on the agenda, please be present at the beginning of the meeting as any item, upon motion, may be moved to the beginning of the agenda. Persons wishing to address the Board are asked to state their name for the record. The president of the Board will establish a time limit of three (3) minutes, unless otherwise stated by the president, for comments from the public. Consideration of all matters is conducted in open session except those relating to litigation, personnel and employee negotiations, which, by law, may be considered in closed session. Expulsion appeal hearings are heard in closed session unless a request for hearing in open session is made by the appellant.

Backup Documentation:

Any writings or documents that are public records and are provided to a majority of the governing board regarding an open session item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection in the County Office of Education, located 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060, during normal business hours.

Translation Requests:

Spanish language translation is available on an as-needed basis. Please make advance arrangements with Verenise Valentin by telephone at (831) 466-5900 Traducciones del inglés al español y del español al inglés están disponibles en las sesiones de la mesa directiva. Por favor haga los arreglos por anticipado con Verenise Valentin por teléfono al número (831) 466-5900.

ADA Compliance:

In compliance with Government Code section 54954.2 (a), The Santa Cruz County Office of Education will, on request, make this agenda available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. Individuals who need this agenda in an alternative format or who need a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in the meeting should contact Verenise Valentin, Administrative Aide to the Superintendent, 400 Encinal St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060, (831) 466-5900.



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

AGENDA ITEM 6.0.1

Board Meeting Date: November 21, 2024 Action Information

TO: Santa Cruz County Board of Education

FROM: Superintendent Department

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on October 17, 2024

BACKGROUND

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on October 17, 2024

FUNDING IMPLICATIONS

None.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approving the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on October 17, 2024.



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Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, October 17, 2024
4:22 pm
Boardroom and/or Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Trustees Present:

Sue Roth (President), Edward Estrada, Sandra Nichols, Bruce Van Allen, Rachel Williams

Trustees Absent:

Ed Acosta, Abel Sanchez

Staff Present:

Faris Sabbah (Secretary), Nick Ibarra, Dr. Jennifer Izant Gonzales, Michelle Kennedy, Melissa Lopez, Rebecca Olker, Dr. Marcia Russell, Verenise Valentin

1.1 Board Member Remote Attendance Approval

Per AB 2449, Trustees may participate in the Board meeting remotely under the following conditions: just cause, or emergency circumstances. No requests were made.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Superintendent Sabbah led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented (Van Allen/Williams, 5-0-0-2):

Ayes:	Estrada, Nichols, Roth, Van Allen, Williams
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	Acosta, Sanchez

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were made.

5. SWEARING-IN CEREMONY

The following trustee was sworn into the Santa Cruz County Board of Education:

Ruben Marcus, Student Trustee, was sworn in by Superintendent Sabbah.

Board Approved:

6. CONSENT AGENDA

- 6.0.1 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on September 19, 2024
- 6.0.2 Budget Revisions

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda as presented (Van Allen/Williams, 5-0-0-2):

Ayes: Estrada, Nichols, Roth, Van Allen, Williams
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Acosta, Sanchez

Student Trustee Marcus voted yes on this matter.

6.1 DEFERRED CONSENT ITEMS (if required)

None.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Filling Student Trustee Vacancy on Santa Cruz County Board of Education

According to County Board of Education Board Bylaw 9150, the Board may appoint a high school student from the county to serve as a Student Trustee for the duration of the school year. The Board reviewed the process for conducting interviews.

8.2 Conduct Interviews of Student Trustee Applicants

Applicants: Natalie Hofkins (Oasis High School)

8.3 Filling Student Trustee Vacancy on Santa Cruz County Board of Education - Board Deliberation to Determine Final Student Trustee Candidate

The Board deliberated to determine approval of the student trustee candidate.

8.4 Resolution #24-38: Appointment to Fill Student Trustee Vacancy on the Santa Cruz County Board of Education

A motion was made to appoint Natalie Hofkins as the Student Trustee and adopt Resolution #24-38 (Marcus/Williams, 5-0-0-2).

Ayes: Estrada, Nichols, Roth, Van Allen, Williams
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Acosta, Sanchez

Student Trustee Marcus voted yes on this matter.

9. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

9.1 2025-2030 Santa Cruz County Office of Education Strategic Plan

Superintendent Sabbah presented an overview of the County Office of Education's updated Strategic Plan, highlighting its vision, goals, and strategic priorities for the upcoming years. This presentation covered the foundational elements of the plan, including our mission to support equitable, high-quality education and specific goals focused on student success, staff support, community engagement, and operational excellence.

9.2 Administrator Kick Off Recap

This year, the annual Administrators' Kickoff for Santa Cruz County administrators was held on September 23, 2024. The event featured keynote speaker Ron Clark, who spoke about the importance of trust and relationship-building. Dr. Russell presented an overview of the event to the Board.

10. ACTION ITEMS

10.1 School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) for the Santa Cruz COE Alternative Education Community and Court Schools

California Education Code § 64001(i) requires that the School Plan for Student Achievement shall be reviewed and approved by the governing board or body of the local educational agency at a regularly scheduled meeting whenever there are material changes that affect the academic program for pupils covered by programs identified in this part. Dr. Jennifer Izant-Gonzales, Senior Director, Alternative Education presented the plans.

A motion was made to approve the School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) for the Santa Cruz COE Alternative Education Community (Van Allen/Estrada, 5-0-0-2).

Ayes: Estrada, Nichols, Roth, Van Allen, Williams
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Acosta, Sanchez

Student Trustee Marcus voted yes on this matter.

A motion was made to approve the School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) for the Santa Cruz COE Alternative Education Court Schools (Van Allen/Estrada, 5-0-0-2).

Ayes: Estrada, Nichols, Roth, Van Allen, Williams
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Acosta, Sanchez

Student Trustee Marcus voted yes on this matter.

10.2 Adopt Resolution #24-39: Gann Amendment Appropriations Limit

The Gann Amendment (Proposition 4, 1979) limits the growth in appropriations made by the State of California, school districts, and local governments. All local education areas are required to adopt Gann Appropriations Limits each year by Board Resolution. Melissa Lopez, Director, Fiscal Services, Business Services, presented the resolution.

A motion was made to approve Resolution #24-39: Gann Amendment Appropriations Limit (Van Allen/Williams, 5-0-0-2).

Ayes: Estrada, Nichols, Roth, Van Allen, Williams
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Acosta, Sanchez

Student Trustee Marcus voted yes on this matter.

10.3 Adopt Resolution #24-40: Recognizing National Native American Heritage Month

In the US, November 1 through November 30 is recognized as National Native American Heritage Month. National Native American Heritage Month is an opportunity to consider and recognize the contributions of Native Americans to the history of the United States.

A motion was made to approve Resolution #24-40: Recognizing National Native American Heritage Month (Williams/Marcus, 5-0-0-2).

Ayes: Estrada, Nichols, Roth, Van Allen, Williams
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Acosta, Sanchez

Student Trustee Marcus voted yes on this matter.

10.4 Resolution #24-41 Recognizing November as National Homeless Youth Awareness Month

In 2007, Congress established November as National Homeless Youth Awareness Month to raise awareness about youth homelessness, its causes, and potential solutions. This month is a time to recognize efforts addressing youth homelessness and strengthen the commitment to ending it in the United States. The California Homeless Education Technical Assistance Center (HETAC) and the California Department of Education (CDE) support this initiative and emphasize the role of education in preventing and ending youth homelessness.

A motion was made to approve Resolution #24-41 Recognizing November as National Homeless Youth Awareness Month (Van Allen/Nichols, 5-0-0-2).

Ayes: Estrada, Nichols, Roth, Van Allen, Williams
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Acosta, Sanchez

Student Trustee Marcus voted yes on this matter.

11. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

County Superintendent Sabbah provided an update on activities and matters of interest.

12. TRUSTEE REPORTS (3 minutes each)

Student Trustee Marcus:

He is excited to get to work this school year and create student surveys.

Trustee Nichols:

No report to share.

Trustee Estrada:

He has been involved in several bond measure campaigns in his jurisdiction.

Trustee Williams:

She has been involved in several bond measure campaigns in his jurisdiction. She also attended the Rainbow conference, Food What event, Second Harvest Chefs dinner, Inside Education sessions, and the Diversity Center Gala.

Trustee Van Allen:

He has been doing research in the changes in charter school renewals and housing.

Trustee Roth:

She attended the agenda planning meeting and met with new incoming board member Greg Larson.

13. AD HOC/STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTIONS

14. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

All meetings scheduled and approved by the Board are listed below. Specific meetings may be removed or added if so determined, pending board approval.

Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Regular Meeting
November 21, 2024
4:00 p.m.

Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Regular Meeting
December 12, 2024
4:00 p.m.

A motion was made to schedule the December meeting to Dec. 12, 2024 (Van Allen/Estrada, 5-0-2).

Ayes:	Estrada, Nichols, Roth, Van Allen, Williams
Nays:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	Acosta, Sanchez

Student Trustee Marcus voted yes on this matter.

15. ADJOURNMENT

President Roth adjourned the meeting at 6:29 p.m.



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

AGENDA ITEM 6.0.2

Board Meeting Date: November 21, 2024

Action

Information

TO: Santa Cruz County Board of Education

FROM: Business Department

SUBJECT: Budget Revisions

BACKGROUND

Budget revisions that are considered routine in nature are included herein.

FUNDING IMPLICATIONS

Included herein.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approving the proposed budget revisions.



MEMO

DATE: November 14, 2024

TO: Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools

FROM: Liann Reyes, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services
Melissa Lopez, Director of Fiscal Services

RE: October Budget Revisions

Notable changes to the budget processed during the month of October 2024 are as follows:

Unrestricted:

Budget revisions processed reflect an increase in Unrestricted Revenues and corresponding expense in the amount of \$114,822 due to HR fingerprinting \$76,000 and Special Education MAA \$32,322.

Revisions processed for the unrestricted expenditures were related to updating salary and benefit projections based on current positions and vacancies.

Budget Revisions processed in October 2024 had an overall increase to the unrestricted fund balance in the amount of \$263,317

Restricted:

Budget Revisions processed reflect an increase in restricted revenues and corresponding expense in the amount of \$3,925,954 due to new and/or revised grant award allocations. Significant changes are as follows:

- \$3,127,536 Student Support Services HCAI Wellness Coach Award
- \$339,826 Special Ed Medical adjustment
- \$137,122 Ed Services UPK Year 3 allocation

- \$124,801 ESSER III Match Final
- \$104,060 Student Support Services EHCY Homeless allocation
- \$81,719 HR Educator Pipeline award
- \$79,474 Alt Ed Title I Part D updated allocation
- \$38,196 Alt Ed Title I Part A updated allocation

Revisions processed for the restricted expenditures were related to updating salary and benefit projections based on current positions and vacancies.

Budget revisions processed in October 2024 had an increase to the restricted fund balance of \$1,605,898.

Pacheco Bill Compliance:

There are seven Pacheco disclosures for the month of October:

- \$40,000 SSS CalHOPE PVPSA contract used for tracking and fiscal award delivery process for key professional development opportunities under a Social Emotional Learning Grant for educators in Santa Cruz County
- \$40,000 SSS CalHOPE MOU's with multiple districts to support SEL CoP efforts
- \$46,008 SSS CalHOPE SEL Support set aside for additional support with contracts in place with Wendy Baron and Shannon McQuiade
- \$1,450,216 SSS HCAI MOUs with multiple districts to hire Certified Wellness Coaches for school sites and support the new staff with providing services for students
- \$39,864 SSS CalWELL Wellness center for PVUSD to provide and implement the provisions of the School-Linked Partnership and Capacity Grant to advance fee schedule readiness
- \$157,421 SSS Panetta Wellness center MOUs with multiple districts to fund Wellness Centers, including personnel and supplies, for the purpose of increasing access to mental health services in locations that are easily accessible to students and their families
- \$109,213 SSS CCSPP Wellness center MOUs with multiple districts for wellness centers - staff training, materials, furniture, etc

Business department staff continue to communicate and work closely with department staff and managers to review revenues, expenditures, and budgets for 2024-25

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

LR:ml

cc: Rebecca Olker

	2024-25 Adopted Budget			2024-25 Revised Budget as of September 30, 2024			October 2024 Budget Revisions Processed			2024-25 Revised Budget as of October 31, 2024		
	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TOTAL FUND	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TOTAL FUND	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TOTAL FUND	UNRESTRICTED	RESTRICTED	TOTAL FUND
REVENUES												
A1 LCOFF Sources	\$ 28,104,634	\$ 8,875,494	\$ 36,980,128	\$ 28,104,634	\$ 8,875,494	\$ 36,980,128	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 28,104,634	\$ 8,875,494	\$ 36,980,128
A2 Federal Revenue	\$ 3,500,000	\$ 1,686,475	\$ 5,186,475	\$ 3,500,000	\$ 1,731,422	\$ 5,231,422	\$ -	\$ 348,077	\$ 348,077	\$ 3,500,000	\$ 2,079,500	\$ 5,579,500
A3 Other State Revenue	\$ 313,094	\$ 13,568,920	\$ 13,882,014	\$ 313,094	\$ 13,598,193	\$ 13,911,287	\$ -	\$ 3,357,388	\$ 3,357,388	\$ 313,094	\$ 16,955,581	\$ 17,268,675
A4 Other Local Revenue	\$ 3,025,566	\$ 9,587,088	\$ 12,612,654	\$ 3,025,566	\$ 11,925,909	\$ 14,951,475	\$ 114,822	\$ 220,489	\$ 335,311	\$ 3,140,388	\$ 12,146,398	\$ 15,286,786
TOTAL, REVENUES	\$ 34,943,294	\$ 33,717,977	\$ 68,661,271	\$ 34,943,294	\$ 36,131,018	\$ 71,074,312	\$ 114,822	\$ 3,925,954	\$ 4,040,776	\$ 35,058,116	\$ 40,056,972	\$ 75,115,089
EXPENDITURES												
B1 Certificated Salaries	\$ 6,166,806	\$ 8,706,724	\$ 14,873,530	\$ 6,166,806	\$ 8,706,834	\$ 14,873,640	\$ (38,546)	\$ (467,322)	\$ (505,868)	\$ 6,128,260	\$ 8,239,512	\$ 14,367,772
B2 Classified Salaries	\$ 9,727,237	\$ 8,074,850	\$ 17,802,087	\$ 9,727,237	\$ 8,162,449	\$ 17,889,686	\$ (298,061)	\$ 114,955	\$ (183,106)	\$ 9,429,176	\$ 8,277,404	\$ 17,706,580
B3 Employee Benefits	\$ 9,306,199	\$ 11,184,829	\$ 20,491,028	\$ 9,306,910	\$ 11,188,785	\$ 20,495,696	\$ (362,348)	\$ (336,034)	\$ (698,382)	\$ 8,944,562	\$ 10,852,752	\$ 19,797,314
B4 Books and Supplies	\$ 1,694,433	\$ 784,005	\$ 2,478,438	\$ 1,854,413	\$ 1,346,070	\$ 3,200,484	\$ 453,137	\$ 764,408	\$ 1,217,544	\$ 2,307,550	\$ 2,110,478	\$ 4,418,028
B5 Services and Other Operating Expenditures	\$ 6,091,652	\$ 5,636,471	\$ 11,728,123	\$ 6,203,053	\$ 6,526,010	\$ 12,729,063	\$ 184,240	\$ 2,166,500	\$ 2,350,740	\$ 6,387,294	\$ 8,692,510	\$ 15,079,804
B6 Capital Outlay	\$ 220,000	\$ 40,276	\$ 260,276	\$ 233,814	\$ 41,437	\$ 275,251	\$ 6,090	\$ 143	\$ 6,232	\$ 239,904	\$ 41,580	\$ 281,484
B7 Other Outgo (excluding Transfers of Indirect Costs)	\$ 3,500,000	\$ -	\$ 3,500,000	\$ 3,500,000	\$ -	\$ 3,500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,500,000	\$ -	\$ 3,500,000
B8 Other Outgo - Transfers of Indirect Costs	\$ (2,067,416)	\$ 1,946,449	\$ (120,967)	\$ (2,209,983)	\$ 2,078,989	\$ (130,995)	\$ (176,783)	\$ 164,519	\$ (12,264)	\$ (2,386,766)	\$ 2,243,507	\$ (143,259)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 34,638,910	\$ 36,373,604	\$ 71,012,514	\$ 34,782,251	\$ 38,050,575	\$ 72,832,825	\$ (232,271)	\$ 2,407,168	\$ 2,174,897	\$ 34,549,980	\$ 40,457,743	\$ 75,007,722
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES BEFORE OTHER FINANCING SOURCES AND USES	\$ 304,384	\$ (2,655,628)	\$ (2,351,243)	\$ 161,044	\$ (1,919,556)	\$ (1,758,513)	\$ 347,093	\$ 1,518,786	\$ 1,865,879	\$ 508,137	\$ (400,771)	\$ 107,366
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES/USES												
Interfund Transfers												
C1 a) Transfers In	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
C2 b) Transfers Out	\$ 281,540	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,281,540	\$ 281,540	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,281,540	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 281,540	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,281,540
Other Sources/Uses												
C3 a) Sources	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
C3 b) Uses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
C4 Contributions	\$ (2,019,107)	\$ 2,019,107	\$ -	\$ (2,019,107)	\$ 2,019,107	\$ -	\$ (83,776)	\$ 87,112	\$ 3,336	\$ (2,102,883)	\$ 2,106,219	\$ 3,336
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES/USES	\$ (2,300,647)	\$ 1,019,107	\$ (1,281,540)	\$ (2,300,647)	\$ 1,019,107	\$ (1,281,540)	\$ (83,776)	\$ 87,112	\$ 3,336	\$ (2,384,423)	\$ 1,106,219	\$ (1,278,204)
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN FUND BALANCE	\$ (1,996,263)	\$ (1,636,520)	\$ (3,632,783)	\$ (2,139,604)	\$ (900,449)	\$ (3,040,053)	\$ 263,317	\$ 1,605,898	\$ 1,869,215	\$ (1,876,287)	\$ 705,449	\$ (1,170,838)
FUND BALANCE, RESERVES												
D1 Beginning Fund Balance												
a) As of July 1 Unaudited	\$ 28,278,630	\$ 6,838,655	\$ 35,117,285	\$ 28,278,630	\$ 6,838,655	\$ 35,117,285	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 28,278,630	\$ 6,838,655	\$ 35,117,285
b) Audit Adjustments	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
c) As of July 1 Audited	\$ 28,278,630	\$ 6,838,655	\$ 35,117,285	\$ 28,278,630	\$ 6,838,655	\$ 35,117,285	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 28,278,630	\$ 6,838,655	\$ 35,117,285
d) Other Restatements	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
e) Adjusted Beginning Balance	\$ 28,278,630	\$ 6,838,655	\$ 35,117,285	\$ 27,208,589	\$ 9,358,346	\$ 36,566,935	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 27,208,589	\$ 9,358,346	\$ 36,566,935
D2 Ending Balance, June 30	\$ 26,282,367	\$ 5,202,135	\$ 31,484,501	\$ 25,068,986	\$ 8,457,897	\$ 33,526,883	\$ 263,317	\$ 1,605,898	\$ 1,869,215	\$ 25,332,303	\$ 10,063,795	\$ 35,396,098

Beginning Balance 7/1/24	\$ 28,278,630	\$ 6,838,655	\$ 35,117,285
Variance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Ending Fund Balance 7/31/24	\$ 25,068,986	\$ 8,457,897	\$ 33,526,883
Variance	\$ -	\$ (0)	\$ -
Fiscal 27 Ending Fund Balance 7/31	\$ 25,068,986	\$ 8,457,897	\$ 33,526,883
Variance	\$ -	\$ (0)	\$ -
True Variance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Beginning Balance 7/1/24	\$ 28,278,630	\$ 6,838,655	\$ 35,117,285
Variance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Ending Fund Balance 7/31/24	\$ 25,068,986	\$ 8,457,897	\$ 33,526,883
Variance	\$ -	\$ (0)	\$ -
Fiscal 27 Ending Fund Balance 7/31	\$ 25,068,986	\$ 8,457,897	\$ 33,526,883
Variance	\$ -	\$ (0)	\$ -
True Variance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Beginning Balance 7/1/24	\$ 28,278,630	\$ 6,838,655	\$ 35,117,285
Variance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Ending Fund Balance 7/31/24	\$ 25,332,303	\$ 10,063,795	\$ 35,396,098
Variance	\$ -	\$ (0)	\$ -
Fiscal 27 Ending Fund Balance 7/31	\$ 25,332,303	\$ 10,063,795	\$ 35,396,098
Variance	\$ -	\$ (0)	\$ -
True Variance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

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SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

AGENDA ITEM 6.0.3

Board Meeting Date: November 21, 2024

Action

Information

TO: Santa Cruz County Board of Education
FROM: Business Department
SUBJECT: Donations & Gifts

BACKGROUND

County Board of Education Policy 3280 requires that all gifts and donations received by programs conducted by the County Superintendent of Schools be accepted by the County Board of Education.

FUNDING IMPLICATIONS

Gifts/Donations received will be utilized by the programs to which they are donated.

RECOMMENDATION

Accept gifts and donations as follows:

<u>Program:</u>	<u>Donor:</u>	<u>Value:</u>
Special Education	Various Anonymous (Drive for School Fundraiser)	\$1,580



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

AGENDA ITEM 6.0.4

Board Meeting Date: November 21, 2024

Action

Information

TO: Santa Cruz County Board of Education

FROM: Business Department

SUBJECT: Surplus Items

BACKGROUND

Per board policy 3260, the board must evaluate and vote on the disposal method for the vehicle and technology equipment.

FUNDING IMPLICATIONS

Detailed herein.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends disposal of surplus items.




SANTA CRUZ
COUNTY OFFICE OF
EDUCATION
DR. FARIS SABBAH • SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mr. Ed Acosta
Mr. Edward Estrada
Ms. Sandra Nichols
Ms. Sue Roth
Mr. Abel Sanchez
Mr. Bruce Van Allen
Ms. Rachel Williams

400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 • Tel (831) 466-5600 • Fax (831) 466-5607 • www.santacruzcoe.org

DATE: November 15, 2024
TO: Santa Cruz County Board of Trustees
FROM: Liann Reyes, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services 
SUBJECT: Declaration of Surplus Equipment

The Santa Cruz County Office of Education (SCCOE) has fifteen (15) computers that have been identified as surplus equipment and the Technology Division is recommending they be disposed of.

These computers listed on the attached page were purchased by multiple departments years ago. Per our Chief Technology Officer, the computers either are out of their warranty period, or do not perform at a level required by today's standards and therefore no longer hold any monetary value.

The administration recommends the board vote to authorize disposal of the computers. Per Board Policy 3260, the board must evaluate and vote on the disposal of such equipment.

Asset Tag	Device Type	Serial Number	Purchase Date	Department
20638	Desktop - Dell - OptiPlex - 5040	9C6FJB2	2016-06-09	SPD
20651	Desktop - Dell - OptiPlex - 5040	9C8CJB2	2016-06-09	ALT
20863	Laptop - Apple - MacBook Air - A1466	c1mth732h3qd	2018-01-09	SELPA
20909	Laptop - Apple - MacBook Pro - MacBookPro15,1	C02Y826WJGH5	2019-02-24	CALS
20919	Laptop - Apple - MacBook Air - A1932	c02y340ljk78	2020-01-22	SPD
20932	Laptop - Dell - Latitude - 3590	B0KR BV2	2019-03-09	SUP
20964	Laptop - Apple - MacBook Air - A1466	fvfxqfsejk77	2018-01-01	SPD
20982	Mabook Pro 15" - 2018	C02X316XJGH8	2018-02-13	IT
21003	Laptop - Apple - MacBook Air - A1466	fvfx204th1wt	2018-01-09	NTP
21024	Desktop - Dell - OptiPlex - 5050	3SN7CM2	2018-02-10	ALT
21065	Laptop - Apple - MacBook Pro - A1708	c02txdr rhv22	2017-06-01	SPD
21152	Laptop - Dell - Latitude - 7480	GY6BNH2	2017-12-07	SPD
21339	Laptop - Apple - MacBook Air - A1932	FVFZC4UBLYWH	2020-03-10	MOT
21347	Laptop - Apple - MacBook Air - A1932	FVFYP6G6LYWH	2020-03-10	IT
21349	Mabook Air 13 (Mid 2019)	C02Z15NKLYWH	2019-06-10	VI



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

AGENDA ITEM 8.1

Board Meeting Date: November 21, 2024

Action

Information

TO: Santa Cruz County Board of Education

FROM: Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools
Bryan Wall, Santa Cruz COE Williams Coordinator

SUBJECT: Annual Report: Williams Legislation, Status of Decile 1-3 Schools - Pajaro Valley Unified School District, Pacific Elementary School District, San Lorenzo Valley School District, and Santa Cruz City School District

BACKGROUND

Education Code § 1240(2)(B) requires, pursuant to the Williams Settlement Legislation, that the County Superintendent of Schools report the findings of the visits and reviews of schools within the county designated as decile 1-3 schools.

FUNDING IMPLICATIONS

Included herein.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends receiving the report.



WILLIAMS SETTLEMENT LEGISLATION

ANNUAL REPORT FOR SANTA CRUZ COUNTY OFFICE BOARD OF EDUCATION 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR

The Williams Settlement Legislation requires the County Superintendent of Schools to annually monitor and report on schools ranked by the CDE as CSI/ATSI, Teacher Credentialing Issues, and Graduation Rate (California Department of Education’s Website)

<https://www.cde.ca.gov/eo/ce/wc/wmsschools.asp>

The Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools and staff at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education are responsible for:

1. Determining if students have “sufficient” standards-aligned instructional materials in four core subjects areas (English language arts, mathematics, history/social science and science), including science laboratory equipment in grades 9-12, and, as appropriate, in foreign languages, and health;
2. Determining if there is any facility condition that “poses an emergency or urgent threat to the health or safety of pupils or staff”;
3. Determining if the school has provided accurate data on the annual School Accountability Report Card (SARC) related to the sufficiency of instructional materials and the safety, cleanliness, and adequacy of school facilities;
4. Ensuring that a Uniform Complaint Process (UCP) policy is in use and UCP notices are posted in all classrooms and in administrative offices; and
5. Determining if there are any Teacher Mis-Assignments or Teacher Vacancies at these schools.

This report presents the results of our visits and review at Pajaro Valley Unified School District, Delta, Santa Cruz City Schools, San Lorenzo Unified, Pacific District, and SCCOE for the period of August - October 2024. The following schools were visited, and a complete Site Summary Report and Facilities Inspection Tool for each school has been included with this annual Report for submission to Districts and COE Board Members and Superintendents.

District	School	Principal	Facilities Rating	Facilities Percentage	Instr. Materials Insufficiencies
SCCS	Bayview Elementary	Renee Golder	Good	98.30	None
PVUSD	Calabasas Elementary	Todd Westfall	Good	83.4	None
Charter (SCCS)	Delta High School	Jen Gebbie Ra'anana	Exemplary	100	None
PVUSD	E. A. Hall Middle	Mary Ann Hilton	Good	95.98	None
PVUSD	MacQuiddy Elementary	Sarah Pearman	Good	96.88	None
Pacific	Pacific Elementary	Eric Gross	Exemplary	100	None
PVUSD	Pajaro Valley High	Todd Wilson	Good	98.13	None
PVUSD	Rolling Hills Middle	Selene Munoz Casas	Exemplary	100	None
SLVUSD	San Lorenzo Valley Middle School	Shanna Urbancic	Exemplary	100	None
SCCOE	Career Advancement Charter	Denise Sanson	Exemplary	100	None

Our findings for each are as follows:

Instructional Materials

The team found that all students had access to sufficient instructional materials, including textbooks, in the core subject areas (including science laboratory materials at the secondary schools). All nineteen schools reviewed for instructional materials/textbook sufficiency fully complied with the Williams settlement. Any shortages had already been addressed via purchase orders.

Facility Inspections

Utilizing the Facilities Inspection Tool (FIT), as developed by the Office of Public Schools Construction to determine if a school facility is in “good repair” as defined by Education Code (EC) Section 17002(d)(1) and to rate the facility pursuant to EC Section 17002(d)(2), a school facilities inspection was completed at each school site. Our visiting team reviewed the previous year’s FIT reports, annual FIT reports submitted by the district, and inspected restrooms, common areas, kitchen/multipurpose facilities, and 25% of the school classrooms. No schools pose an emergency or urgent threat to the health or safety of pupils or staff.

School Accountability Report Cards (SARC)

The Williams Settlement included language regarding the accuracy of data reported in the School Accountability Report Card (SARC). The 2022-2023 SARCs for each school are available on the District websites. SARCs accurately reflect the findings by the *Williams* committee members.

Teacher Assignments/Mis-assignments

During our visit, the 2024-2025 Master Schedule or Teacher Assignment Listing was collected and has been submitted to the Santa Cruz County Office of Education Human Resources Department for their annual review. The Human Resources department in Districts have worked collaboratively with the Santa Cruz County Office of Education to ensure that teachers are appropriately credentialed and placed in the correct teaching assignments.

Uniform Complaint Process

All classrooms must have the Uniform Complaint Process Classroom Notice posted. The team found that of the 25% of classrooms visited at each site, all had current notices posted in both Spanish and English.



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

AGENDA ITEM 9.1

Board Meeting Date: November 21, 2024

Action

Information

TO: Santa Cruz County Board of Education

FROM: Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Resolution #24-42 Authorizing Participation In Proposition 47 Grant For School Safety Initiatives By The Santa Cruz County Office Of Education

BACKGROUND

The Santa Cruz County Office of Education seeks approval to participate in the Proposition 47 Grant administered by the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC). This grant will support initiatives aimed at enhancing school safety within the county. The resolution authorizes the Director of School Safety, Rishi Lal, to submit the grant proposal and sign the Grant Agreement with the BSCC on behalf of the Office of Education.

FUNDING IMPLICATIONS

Included herein.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of Resolution #24-42 Authorizing Participation In Proposition 47 Grant For School Safety Initiatives By The Santa Cruz County Office Of Education



Santa Cruz County Board of Education • 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 • Tel (831) 466-5900 • www.santacruzcoe.org
Mr. Ed Acosta • Ms. Alyssa Alto • Mr. Edward Estrada • Ms. Sandra Nichols
Ms. Sue Roth • Mr. Abel Sanchez • Mr. Bruce Van Allen

Student Trustee: Ruben Marcus & Natalie Hofkins

RESOLUTION #24-42
AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN PROPOSITION 47 GRANT FOR SCHOOL SAFETY
INITIATIVES BY THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

WHEREAS, the Santa Cruz County Office of Education desires to participate in the Proposition 47 Grant administered by the Board of State and Community Corrections (hereafter referred to as BSCC).

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Faris Sabbah, be authorized on behalf of the Santa Cruz County Office of Education to submit the grant proposal for this funding and sign the Grant Agreement with the BSCC, including any amendments thereof.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the grant funds received hereunder shall not be used to supplant expenditures controlled by this body.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Santa Cruz County Office of Education agrees to abide by the terms and conditions of the Grant Agreement as set forth by the BSCC.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Cruz County Board of Education, County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this 21st day of November 2024, by the following vote:

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Sue Roth, Board President
Santa Cruz County Board of Education

Dr. Faris M. Sabbah, Secretary
Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools



SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

AGENDA ITEM 9.2

Board Meeting Date: November 21, 2024 **Action** **Information**

TO: Santa Cruz County Board of Education

FROM: Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Approval of the Santa Cruz County Office of Education’s Strategic Plan for 2025-2029

BACKGROUND

The 2025-2029 Strategic Plan defines the COE’s commitment to supporting all learners, from birth to adulthood, by addressing key challenges in education, rising costs, and mental health needs. Developed collaboratively, the plan promotes a resilient, adaptable approach. The strategic priorities outlined in the plan are supporting safety and wellness, empowering equitable achievement, and building sustainable systems. The plan centers on building BRIDGES to equity through Belonging, Relationships, Innovation, Data-Informed Decision-Making, Growth, Excellence, and Sustainability.

FUNDING IMPLICATIONS

None.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of the Santa Cruz County Office of Education’s Strategic Plan for 2025-2029



Building Bridges in Education

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION
STRATEGIC PLAN 2025 – 2029**



**SANTA CRUZ
COUNTY OFFICE OF
EDUCATION**
DR. FARIS SABBAH • SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

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LETTER FROM THE COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Santa Cruz County Community,

I am proud to present the Santa Cruz County Office of Education's (COE's) Strategic Plan for 2025-2029. This plan represents our shared vision for the future of education in our community and a commitment to ensuring that all learners, from birth to adulthood, have opportunities to thrive.

During the last five years, the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, climate-related crises, the ever-rising cost of living (particularly housing), political polarization, and a crisis of mental health have impacted everyone in our education community, especially our learners, families, and educators. Although these challenges have tested our community's resilience, they also inspired us to continuously collaborate and develop creative, innovative, and effective solutions that strengthen our education system.

At the heart of this strategic plan is our unwavering belief in belonging and equity, where every learner – regardless of their background or circumstances – has access to resources, supportive relationships, opportunities, and an education that prepares them for a future filled with possibility. The Santa Cruz COE shares the responsibility and commitment to work alongside learners, families, educators, agency partners, and local industries to “co-create” an education system that delivers on this promise – an education system that ensures not only equitable access, but equitable outcomes.

Our new strategic plan maintains our focus on our three strategic priorities: 1) Support Safety & Wellness; 2) Empower Equitable Achievement; and 3) Build Sustainable Systems. It is grounded in our commitment to build BRIDGES to educational equity by fostering Belonging, Relationships, Innovation, Data-Informed Decision-Making, Growth, Excellence, and Sustainability. These are more than just aspirational values; they are a call to action to create an equitable educational system that fosters growth and well-being for every learner.

As you read through this plan, I invite you to join us in fulfilling this shared vision. Whether you are a parent or guardian, an educator, a student, a community partner, or an industry leader, your contributions are essential to building the educational community we all aspire to see.

In partnership,

Dr. Faris Sabbah

Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools

Board of Directors

Sue Roth

**Board President
Trustee, Area 1**

Bruce Van Allen

Trustee, Area 2

Sandra Nichols

Trustee, Area 3

Edward Estrada

Trustee, Area 4

Rachel Williams

Trustee, Area 5

Ed Acosta

Trustee, Area 6

Abel Sanchez

**Vice-President
Trustee, Area 7**

Oscar Alvarez

Student Trustee

Faris Sabbah

Secretary to the Board

BUILDING BRIDGES TO EQUITY

All students, or learners, deserve to have the educational opportunities and experiences that prepare them to thrive in a changing world. This is true no matter their race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, income, immigration status, primary language, physical and cognitive abilities, or other aspects of their identities.

The Santa Cruz County Office of Education (Santa Cruz COE) stands firm in our commitment to work alongside partners in the education community – all learners from birth to adulthood, their families, education partners, industries, and other community partners that support learners and their families – to ensure this aspirational vision is a reality. Our strategic plan for 2025-2029 articulates our unwavering commitment to the education community and a roadmap of our priorities and strategies that will guide our actions over the next five years.

While we are excited to share our updated strategic plan and continue our long-standing collaboration with partners in the education community, we can't ignore the enormity of all that has happened in our community and the world since we adopted our first 5-year

strategic plan in 2019. A global pandemic that disrupted every aspect of our lives – from child care to school to work to family and social connections. Protests against racial injustices. Wildfires, floods, and other extreme weather events that upended whole communities. Political unrest and divisiveness that have fractured many family and community relationships. Wars between other countries that create fear, worry, and anger in local communities. Concerns about attempts to erode civil rights and liberties of communities that have been historically marginalized by discriminatory policies. And the list goes on.

While these are heavy, complex issues, we must simultaneously acknowledge the impacts they have on Santa Cruz County's education community and continue to build on our collective strengths, relationships, and successes to ensure forward momentum. Local data, such as the communitywide indicators highlighted below, help illuminate signs of hope and progress, as well as the downstream effects of systemic challenges that need continuous, collaborative efforts to solve.

Early Childhood Education¹

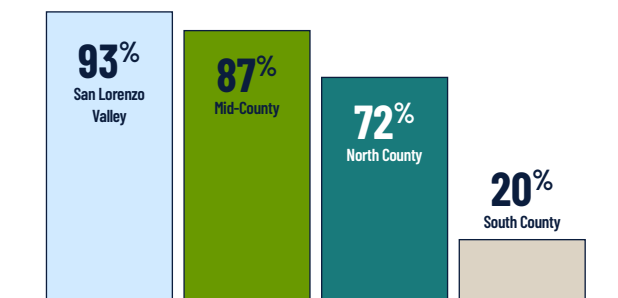
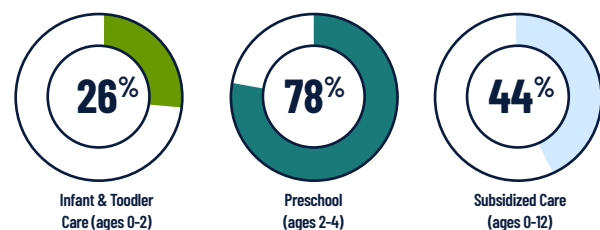
As of 2023, there were only enough child care spaces to meet 26% of the potential demand for care for infants and toddler (ages 0-2).

Among preschool-age children (ages 2-4), 78% of demand is currently met. This is partly due to some 4-year-olds attending Transitional Kindergarten (TK), which is now available through the public education system.

There are only enough subsidized child care spaces to serve 44% of children (ages 0-12) who are eligible for subsidies, leaving a countywide shortfall of 56%.

The percentage of **unmet need** for subsidized child care is highest in the San Lorenzo Valley and lowest in South County.

Availability of Child Care



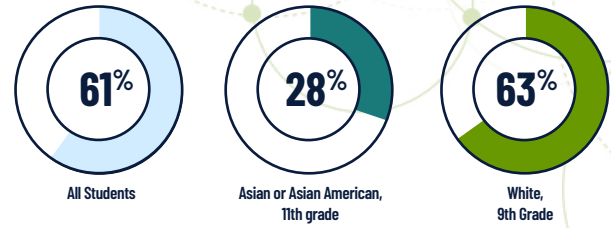
Student Well-being²

On average, approximately 61% of all students in grades 7, 9, and 11 and non-traditional schools who responded to the California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) in 2023 said they felt safe or very safe in their schools. When broken out by race or ethnicity, the percentage was lowest among Asian or Asian American students in 11th grade (28%) and highest among white students in 9th grade (63%)

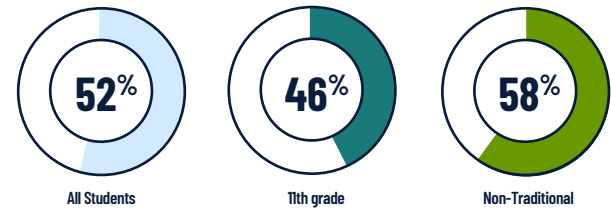
About half (52%) of all students said they felt they were a part of their schools, one indicator of School Connectedness, or a sense of belonging at school. When broken out by grade or school type, the percentage was lowest among students in 11th grade (46%) and highest among students in Non-Traditional schools (58%).

In addition, approximately 61% of all students said there was a teacher or other adult at school who really cared about them. When broken out by grade or school type, the percentage was lowest among students in 7th and 9th grade (57%, both grades) and highest among students in Non-Traditional schools (69%).

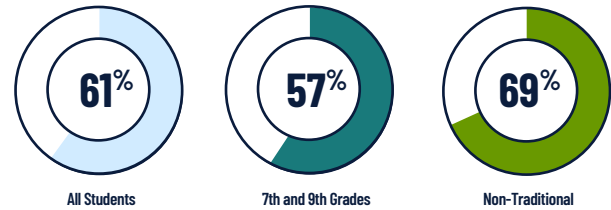
Safety in Schools



School Connectedness



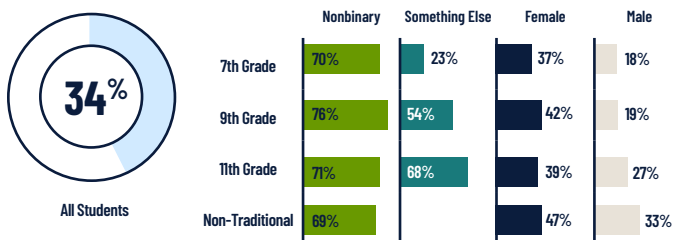
Caring Adults



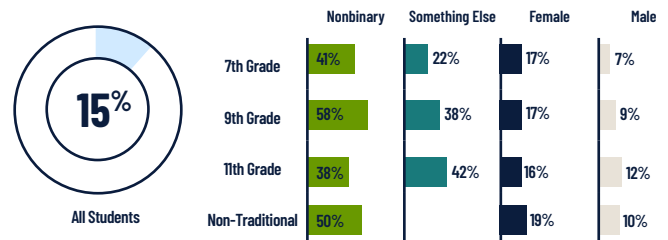
Approximately one-third of students who responded to the CHKS survey said they had felt sad or hopeless almost every day in the past 12 months. Students whose gender was nonbinary or something else generally reported higher levels of chronic sadness and hopelessness, compared to students who identified as female or male.

Approximately 15% of students said they had seriously considered attempting suicide in the past 12 months in 2023. Students whose gender was nonbinary or something else generally reported this was true more often, compared to students who identified as female or male.

Chronic Sadness or Hopelessness



Seriously Considered Suicide

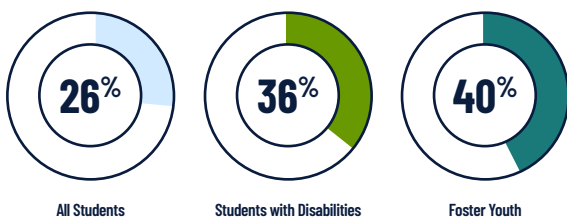


Attendance

Prior to the pandemic, school attendance rates had been improving, primarily measured by a decline in chronic absenteeism rates. However, approximately one-quarter of students were chronically absent in the 2021-22 school year (27%) and 2022-23 school year (26%), meaning that one-quarter of all students had missed at least 10% of the school year for any reason.

In 2022-23, the absenteeism rates were highest among students with disabilities (36%) and foster youth (40%).

Chronic Absenteeism



School Discipline³

Countywide, the suspension rate had been low but had been slowly rising prior to the pandemic. In 2022-23, the countywide suspension rate was 3%, with the highest rate among foster youth (13%). Similarly, the countywide expulsion rate has remained low, at less than one percent (.1%).

Data on suspensions and expulsions should be interpreted with caution, since a small change in numbers can cause a significant variation in the percentage from one year to the next.

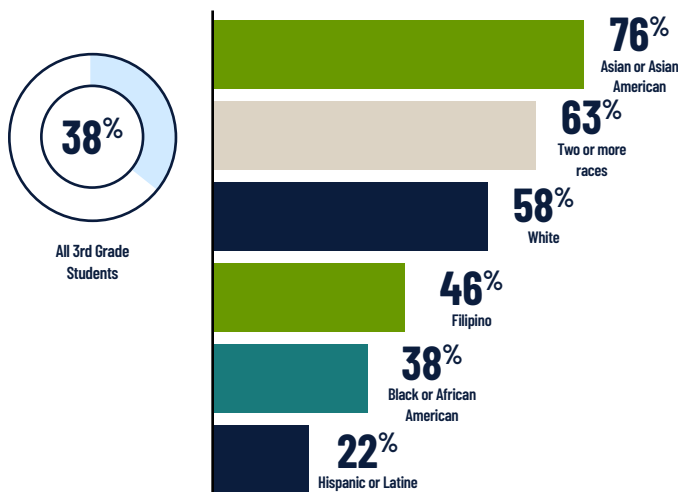
Suspensions and Expulsions



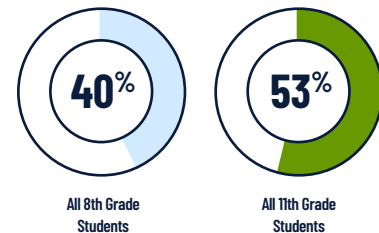
Academic Achievement^{4 5}

In 2024, less than half of all 3rd grade students (38%) met or exceeded the English Language Arts (ELA) standard, a slight decrease since 2018 (40%). The percentage was highest among students who identified as Asian (76%), Two or more races (63%), and White (58%) and lower among students who identified as Filipino (46%), Black or African American (38%), and Hispanic or Latine (22%).⁶

3rd Grade English Language Arts - Meeting or Exceeding Standards



8th and 11th Grade English Language Arts - Meeting or Exceeding Standards



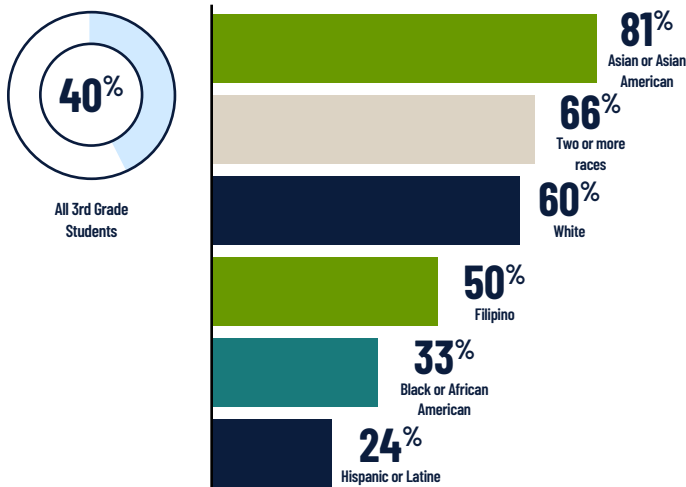
Less than half of all 8th grade students (40%) and slightly more than half of all 11th grade students (53%) met or exceeded grade-level ELA standards.

In 2023, less than half of all 3rd grade students (40%) met or exceeded the Mathematics standard, also a slight decrease since 2018 (43%). The percentage of 3rd grade students who met or exceeded Math standards was highest among students who identified as Asian (81%), Two or more races (66%), White (60%), and Filipino (50%), and lower among students who identified as Black or African American (33%) and Hispanic or Latine (24%).

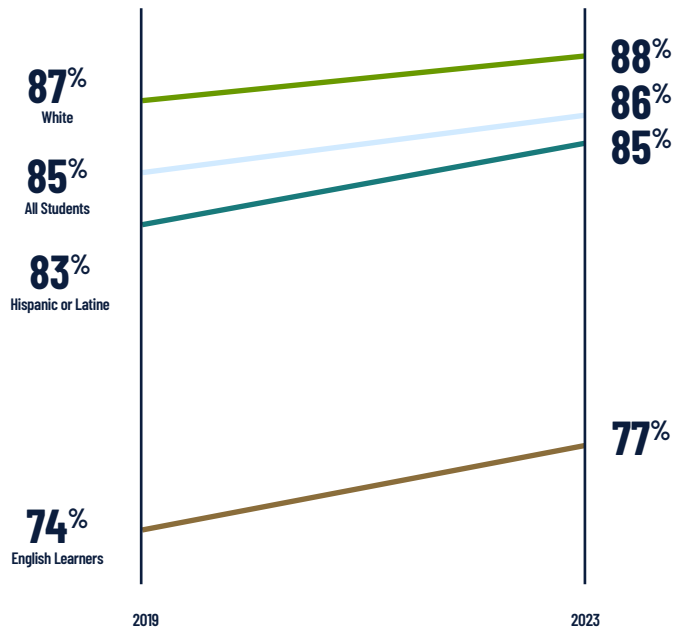
Countywide, the 4-year cohort high school graduation rate has remained relatively stable between 2019 (85%) and 2023 (86%), with increases or decreases in the years in between. This is remarkable, given the extent of disruption, loss, and trauma that students, families, and educators experienced during the pandemic.

In 2023, graduation rates were highest countywide among White students (88%) and Hispanic or Latine students (85%) and lower among English Learners (77%).

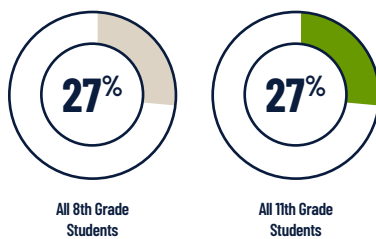
3rd Grade Math – Meeting or Exceeding Standards



High School Graduation



8th and 11th Grade Math – Meeting or Exceeding Standards

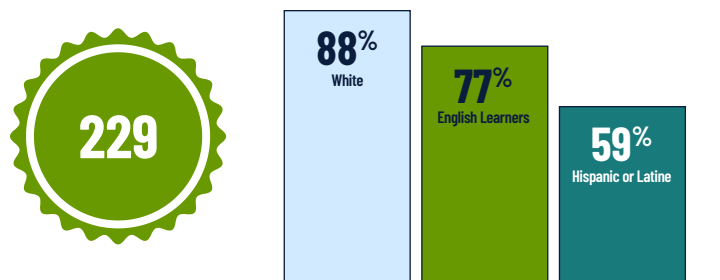


Countywide, the percentage of 8th grade and 11th grade students (27%, both grades) who met or exceeded grade-level Math standards was even lower, compared to 3rd graders. This trend was true among students of all racial and ethnic backgrounds.

Additionally, 229 high school graduates earned a Seal of Biliteracy, demonstrating a high level of proficiency in one or more languages (including American Sign Language), in addition to English.

Of these graduates, 59% identified as Hispanic or Latine, 36% identified as White, and 5% identified as two or more races.

Seal of Biliteracy



Building BRIDGES

While these data only tell a small fraction of the story about education in Santa Cruz County, they serve as important reminders of why the Santa Cruz COE invests our time, resources, and social capital (relationships) in a wide array of programs and initiatives. Our commitment to ensuring our educational system meets the needs of all learners hasn't changed, despite the constant changes

and uncertainty surrounding us over the past five years. And we know that the Santa Cruz COE can't solve these big challenges alone, but we can bring our resources, our expertise, and our passion to bear and work alongside partners to build **BRIDGES to educational equity**, so that:

All learners (from birth to adulthood), and the families, communities, and educators that are part of their lives have a sense of **Belonging** and feel welcomed, respected, included, and supported by others.



Strong, trusting **Relationships** are the foundation for all learning, growth, and achievements.



Innovation in education prepares learners for the future by providing opportunities to develop mindsets and skills that foster creativity, adaptability, and resilience.



Data are used not only to measure academic achievement, but to support a systematic and standardized "whole learner" approach to addressing resource disparities, ensuring quality and rigor in curricula and instruction, engaging students and families as active partners, and promoting equitable outcomes.



All children, youth, and adults in the education community embrace a **Growth** mindset, characterized by curiosity, love of learning, and the understanding that mistakes and "failure" are valuable parts of the learning process.



A shared commitment to **Excellence** leads us to exceed the expectations of our internal and external customers and embody a culture of joy and as we do so.



Sustainability of effective programs, policies, and practices is achieved through collaboration and demonstrating impact.



We invite you to continue reading about our purpose and our priorities and join us in bringing our strategic plan to life over the next five years and beyond.

ABOUT THE SANTA CRUZ COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

Our Mission: To create an equitable educational system that fosters growth, opportunities, and well-being for all.

Our Vision of Success: An impactful educational community where everyone feels they belong and have the resources, relationships, and skills to thrive.

Our Core Values: We work alongside partners in Santa Cruz County's educational community to build BRIDGES — Belonging, Relationships, Innovation, Data-informed decision-making, Growth mindsets, Excellence, and Sustainability — to equity in education.

Our Roles: The Santa Cruz COE is one of 58 County Offices of Education in California, which play a unique role in the public education system. Situated between the State, which sets educational laws and policies, and Local Education Agencies, or LEAs (school districts, charter schools directly funded by the State), which are responsible for students' education, COEs offer a wide range of services and programs designed to support education partners and expand educational opportunities and outcomes for learners and their families. The Santa Cruz COE does this through our three primary roles:

1. Foster collaboration and systems improvement

We facilitate and participate in initiatives and cross-sector collaboratives with the goal of transforming policies, practices, and systems to increase equity in access to educational opportunities and improve outcomes.

2. Provide support and oversight for education partners

In California, COEs are responsible for approving and monitoring local school districts' budgets and Local Control Accountability Plans (LCAPs). The Santa Cruz COE provides guidance and technical assistance when needed to help ensure local school districts are fiscally accountable and solvent.

In addition to this state-mandated oversight role, the Santa Cruz COE offers an array of programmatic and business services and supports to education partners, including professional learning, curriculum and instructional support,

human resources, payroll, technology, and data reporting and integration. These services complement school districts' and other LEAs' efforts, often providing resources that would not otherwise exist, particularly for the small school districts.

3. Provide services and support for learners, families, and communities

The Santa Cruz COE coordinates and offers a range of arts, environmental education, child development, career and technical education, and instructional programs and services for learners of all ages, from birth to adulthood, and their families. We also offer direct instructional and educational enrichment programs through our Alternative Education, Special Education, Outdoor Science School, Career Technical Education, and Student Services programs.

OUR PLANNING PROCESS

In 2024, the Santa Cruz COE embarked on a six-month process to update our 5-year strategic plan, with facilitation support from Nicole Young of Optimal Solutions Consulting. The planning began with reflection and discussion among Santa Cruz COE's managers about organizational Strengths to build on, internal Challenges (or areas for continuous improvement), strategic Opportunities to advance progress in the COE's strategic priorities, and Big Issues that are beyond the COE's control but have the potential to become barriers, or threats, to progress.



Strengths

- ▶ Depth of leadership and staff expertise
- ▶ Student- and family-centric
- ▶ Strong relationships and partnerships built on mutual trust
- ▶ Commitment to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB)
- ▶ Collaborative culture
- ▶ Breadth of systems and supports offered to all districts and educators
- ▶ Innovation and nimbleness
- ▶ Organizational stability



Challenges

- ▶ Level of integration across internal teams, departments, and initiatives
- ▶ Sustainability of new programs and initiatives launched with short-term or one-time funding
- ▶ Level of visibility of the COE and understanding of the COE's role
- ▶ Operationalizing Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) in COE policies, programs, and initiatives
- ▶ Meeting the diverse needs of partners through differentiation, in the context of limited resources



Opportunities

- ▶ Build and/or enhance collaboration and partnerships with the education community
- ▶ Engage in local, regional, and/or statewide collaboratives or initiatives that align with and advance the COE's strategic goals
- ▶ Support implementation and integration of programs and systems (e.g., Multi-payer Fee Schedule for School-based Behavioral Health Services; Wellness Centers; Community Schools Initiative, Career Tech Education programs; Green careers, etc.)



Big Issues

- ▶ Political landscape creates uncertainty
- ▶ New legislation, regulations
- ▶ Declining enrollment, resulting in reduced State funding
- ▶ One-time money goes away, but the concerns and issues persist
- ▶ Ripple effect of high cost of living and lack of affordable housing on families and teachers (e.g., teacher shortage, declining enrollment)
- ▶ Leadership changes throughout the education community affects relationships and momentum

Subsequently, Santa Cruz COE managers reviewed elements of the existing strategic plan and generated feedback and recommendations that helped ensure the 2025-2029 strategic plan is reflective of the current landscape and the COE's values and relational approach. The resulting 5-year Strategic Roadmap (Priorities, Goals, Strategies, and Indicators of Progress) is intended to serve as a living document, providing broad guidance on how the Santa Cruz COE will prioritize its resources and efforts to co-create an equitable educational system.

OUR STRATEGIC ROADMAP

Over the next five years, the Santa Cruz COE will continue to support Santa Cruz County's education community by focusing our efforts and resources on these three priority areas and goals:



Priority 1: Support Safety & Wellness

Goal: Create the conditions that foster safety, inclusion, belonging, joy, and well-being for all learners and the communities that support them.



Priority 2: Empower Equitable Achievement

Goal: Ensure all learners have the opportunities, skills, and supports they need to be engaged and successful in their education, careers, and their communities.



Priority 3: Build Sustainable Systems

Goal: Co-create and sustain an educational system in Santa Cruz County that is cohesive, effective, and equitable.

The strategic priorities are not hierarchical, but rather, they are complementary and interrelated. We have identified an aspirational Goal, Strategies (broad approaches, organized by the Santa Cruz COE's Role), and Key Indicators of Progress for each strategic priority. Specific activities and initiatives may vary each year, depending on the education community's needs, and will be defined as part of the Santa Cruz COE's annual action planning and report to the community.

Similarly, the Santa Cruz COE is likely to collect and monitor programmatic and systems-level data on a multitude of indicators of progress, beyond those named in this strategic plan. The metrics

highlighted in this strategic plan represent a "dashboard" of indicators that, when viewed together, can provide insights on the opportunities, experiences, and outcomes of learners, families, and education partners. Further exploration of the indicators — i.e., disaggregating data by student demographics, geographic area, or other equity dimensions — is likely to reveal promising or effective approaches to achieving educational equity that should be scaled, or conversely, reveal systemic or structural inequities that need to be addressed in order to eliminate disparities in opportunities and outcomes.



Priority 1: Support Safety & Wellness

Goal: Create the conditions that foster safety, inclusion, belonging, joy, and well-being for all learners and the communities that support them.

Why This is a Priority for the Santa Cruz COE

Ensuring that all learners – from birth to adulthood – feel safe, are well-supported, and have a sense of belonging is foundational to their academic and personal success. Research shows that when students feel they are safe, supported, and belong, they are more likely to participate in class, build positive connections with peers, and navigate academic and social challenges with confidence and

resilience. This sense of inclusion is crucial, especially in a time where the wider world can feel fragmented and uncertain. The Santa Cruz COE is committed to working alongside our partners to eliminate barriers, advance equity and ensure that all students and their families feel a sense of belonging in all spaces – from schools to communities and careers.

Our Role: Foster collaboration and systems integration

Strategies

- ▶ Promote programs, practices, and policies that cultivate strong relationships between learners, families, and their schools.
- ▶ Engage learners, families, and education partners in co-designing integrated systems of supports that promote safety, relationships, belonging, engagement, whole-person health (physical, mental, behavioral), Social-Emotional Learning (SEL), resilience, and social determinants of health.
- ▶ Increase authentic inclusion of student and family voices in program and policy decisions.
- ▶ Build integrated data systems and analytic tools that facilitate data-driven decision-making in support of learners' success.

Our Role: Provide services and support to education partners

Strategies

- ▶ Support consistent, countywide implementation of shared safety protocols.
- ▶ Support districts and other education partners in building their capacity to implement SEL knowledge and practices.
- ▶ Support districts and other education partners to implement strategic intervention systems.
- ▶ Provide ongoing professional learning opportunities for districts and other LEAs, community partners, and Santa Cruz COE staff.

Our Role: Provide services and support to learners, families, and communities

Strategies

- ▶ Collaborate with industries, nonprofits, and public agencies to increase the availability of and enrollment in high-quality, affordable early care and education.
- ▶ Increase student access to ongoing, standards-based programs in the Visual and Performing Arts (VAPA).
- ▶ Increase opportunities and student access to outdoor learning and environmental literacy programs.
- ▶ Enhance student and family engagement and leadership programs.

Key Indicators of Progress

- ▶ Students' perceptions of their sense of belonging, safety, and wellness
- ▶ Student participation in educational programs
- ▶ Family engagement levels
- ▶ Student and family voice and leadership in co-designing systems of support
- ▶ School attendance (e.g., chronic absenteeism rates, suspensions)
- ▶ Level of participation in and impact of professional learning offerings for education partners
- ▶ Use and impact of standardized safety protocols used by schools and first responders (Santa Cruz County Standard Command Response for Schools)





Priority 2: Empower Equitable Achievement

Goal: Ensure all learners have the opportunities, skills, and supports they need to be engaged and successful in their education, careers, and their communities.

Why This Is a Priority for the Santa Cruz COE

There are multiple pathways to achieving college, career, and community success, all of which begin at birth and are part of a lifelong learning process. The Santa Cruz COE remains committed to working alongside learners, families, education partners, industries, and community partners to provide educational opportunities and support so that all learners can achieve and thrive, no matter which

pathway they choose. Modern career opportunities require us to offer innovative and challenging learning experiences, starting in the earliest years of childhood, to ensure that our learners develop the academic, career, technical, and social-emotional skills required to succeed today and in the future.

Our Role: Foster collaboration and systems integration

Strategies

- ▶ Build an integrated data system across districts in order to understand and inform systems improvements, utilization of resources, evaluation, and accountability.
- ▶ Establish or improve processes to ensure equitable distribution of resources, based on the diverse needs of districts/schools, other LEAs, and learners.
- ▶ Strengthen and expand postsecondary education partnerships to connect learners to future possibilities and pathways.
- ▶ Collaborate with industry partners, nonprofits, and public agencies to connect internships, work-based learning, and experiential learning with Career Technical Education (CTE).

Our Role: Provide services and support to education partners

Strategies

- ▶ Provide guidance, technical assistance, and oversight for districts' Local Control Accountability Plans (LCAPs), as required by the state.
- ▶ Provide leadership and guidance to districts and other LEAs on implementing standards, frameworks, curricula, and culturally responsive practices with consistency and rigor, in order to support all learners in meeting or exceeding grade-level standards and other learning outcomes.
- ▶ Establish a professional learning system with multiple and varied opportunities for district/school staff to enhance their skills and build capacity to meet the needs of all learners.
- ▶ Collaborate with education partners to develop relevant opportunities and postsecondary and career pathways that match students' needs and interests and meet industry demands.

Our Role: Provide services and support to learners, families, and communities

Strategies

- ▶ Increase enrollment in high-quality, affordable early care and education.
- ▶ Support ongoing, standards-based Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math (STEAM) programs.
- ▶ Provide quality instruction and learning experiences to students in Santa Cruz COE's Alternative Education, Special Education, and Environmental Literacy programs.
- ▶ Increase Career and Technical Education Partnership (CTEP) in middle and high schools.
- ▶ Offer dual enrollment & articulated courses at community colleges at all schools.

Key Indicators of Progress

- ▶ Enrollment in (and/or unmet need for) early childhood education (birth-5)
- ▶ Academic growth and achievement data
- ▶ Multilingual student data (English Learner Reclassification, State Seal of Biliteracy)
- ▶ Dual enrollment rates
- ▶ Completion of college (A-G) and Career Tech Education (CTE) courses and pathways
- ▶ Graduation rates





Priority 3: Build Sustainable Systems

Goal: Co-create and sustain an educational system in Santa Cruz County that is cohesive, effective, and equitable.

Why This Is a Priority For the Santa Cruz COE

Achieving equity for all learners will require many partners across multiple systems to work together to create an equitable education system. This typically requires institutional changes in policies and practices that do not happen in isolation or on their own. As an educational organization that serves the whole county, the Santa Cruz COE's strategic priorities and actions intersect with health, human services, child welfare, juvenile justice, government, industries, and postsecondary education systems.

In addition, California's historic investments in initiatives such as the Community Schools Initiative, the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative, Universal Preschool (including Transitional

Kindergarten), and other transformational policies increase schools' role as "hubs" of well-being. With multiple statewide policy and programmatic changes occurring simultaneously, the Santa Cruz COE is in a position to offer resources, guidance, and support to facilitate local systems changes and help build the infrastructure needed to implement these changes efficiently and effectively. The Santa Cruz COE's support and oversight for districts also helps enhance their fiscal health, business processes, data-driven decision-making, and technology infrastructure, which are essential to providing equitable education for all learners.

Our Role: Foster collaboration and systems integration

Strategies

- ▶ Integrate data systems and establish data-sharing agreements within and across districts and other LEAs.
- ▶ Foster cross-sector/system collaboration and cultivate and facilitate systems changes that align with the Santa Cruz COE's strategic priorities.
- ▶ Examine, evaluate, and improve internal systems in order to continuously enhance the quality, cohesion, effectiveness, and sustainability of the Santa Cruz COE's programs, services, and initiatives.
- ▶ Provide clear, consistent, and accessible information to all learners, families, education partners, and the wider community in order to foster trust, collaboration, and integration.

Our Role: Provide services and support to education partners

Strategies

- ▶ Provide districts with technical assistance in business, human resources, and technology.
- ▶ Provide guidance, technical assistance, and oversight for districts' Local Control Accountability Plans (LCAPs).
- ▶ Partner with districts and other LEAs to implement strategies to decrease teacher shortages and increase retention of highly effective teachers.
- ▶ Support districts and other education partners in pursuing grants and other funding opportunities for key programs and services.

Our Role: Provide services and support to learners, families, and communities

Strategies

- ▶ Pursue relevant, viable, and impactful grants and other sustainable funding opportunities to maintain and/or expand key Santa Cruz COE programs and services for learners, families, and communities.

Key Indicators of Progress

- ▶ Integrated data platform and data sharing agreements
- ▶ Impact and sustainability of internal systems, services, and initiatives
- ▶ Positive certification of district budgets
- ▶ LCAP approvals
- ▶ Qualified, stable education workforce
- ▶ Grants and other funding acquired



OUR PATH FORWARD

This plan articulates our strategic roadmap for the next five years, which will require ongoing collaboration with partners inside and outside of the Santa Cruz COE to achieve progress. We are committed to taking concrete actions in each of our departments, such as the ones listed below, to implement our strategic plan and measuring and reporting on our progress each year.

The Santa Cruz COE will continue to engage learners, families, education partners, industry, and community partners in

implementing and adapting our strategic plan, in response to community needs. We seek and invite committed, engaged partners to join us on our journey, as systemic inequities cannot be solved by one organization or one system alone. We look forward to deepening our collaboration with our many partners as we work together to fulfill our vision of an impactful educational community where everyone feels they belong and have the resources, relationships, and skills to thrive.



ENDNOTES

- 1 Santa Cruz County Early Care, Education, and After-School Care Strategic Plan, 2023
- 2 Santa Cruz County Office of Education Data Portal, CHKS Indicator Dashboard, 2015-2021. <https://dataportal.santacruzcoe.org/>
- 3 Santa Cruz County Office of Education Data Portal, Absenteeism and Discipline Dashboard, 2012-2021. <https://dataportal.santacruzcoe.org/>
- 4 California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CASPP), Smarter Balanced Summative Assessments Test Results. <https://caaspp-elpac.ets.org/caaspp>
- 5 High School Graduates Earning a Seal of Biliteracy. DataShare Santa Cruz County. <https://www.datasharescc.org/indicators/index/view?indicatorId=12599&localeId=281>
- 6 Latine is a gender-neutral term used throughout this document as an alternative to the gender-specific terms, Latino or Latina





SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

AGENDA ITEM 9.3

Board Meeting Date: November 21, 2024 **Action** **Information**

TO: Santa Cruz County Board of Education

FROM: Bruce Van Allen, Chair, Community Outreach and Legislation Committee
Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Resolution #24-43 Recognizing Special Education Day

BACKGROUND

December 2nd is recognized as National Special Education Day. This day celebrates the anniversary of the nation's first special education law as the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) was signed on December 2, 1972. Special Education Day was first celebrated in 2005 which was the 30th anniversary of IDEA. The Board will consider adopting this Resolution.

FUNDING IMPLICATIONS

None.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of Resolution #24-43 Recognizing Special Education Day



Santa Cruz County Board of Education • 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 • Tel (831) 466-5900 • www.santacruzcoe.org
Mr. Ed Acosta • Ms. Alyssa Alto • Mr. Edward Estrada • Ms. Sandra Nichols
Ms. Sue Roth • Mr. Abel Sanchez • Mr. Bruce Van Allen

Student Trustee: Ruben Marcus & Natalie Hofkins

RESOLUTION #24-43
RECOGNIZING NATIONAL SPECIAL EDUCATION DAY

WHEREAS, December 2nd is recognized as National Special Education Day, celebrating the anniversary of the signing of the nation's first special education law as the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA), on December 2, 1972; and

WHEREAS, IDEA makes a free appropriate public education (FAPE) available to eligible children with disabilities throughout the nation and ensures special education and other related services be made available to the students; and

WHEREAS, IDEA governs how states and public agencies provide early interventions, special education, and related services to infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, as of the 2018-19 school year, special education services were provided to 795,047 individuals in California, including newborns through those twenty-two years of age, according to the California Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, California, at no cost to parents, provides specially designed instruction to meet the needs and settings that allow infants and their families, preschoolers, students, and young adults to be educated with their peers; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Cruz County Office of Education's Special Education Department partners with the County's schools to serve students with disabilities from birth to age 22; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Cruz County Office of Education's Special Education Department also provides services to special education students attending institutional schools, as well as community schools; and

WHEREAS, the Santa Cruz County Board of Education and Office of Education are committed to improving student equity and access to high quality education regardless of a student’s ability or disability; to providing quality support to districts, schools, students, and communities; as well as being a premier service organization;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools do hereby adopt this resolution to recognize December 2nd as National Special Education Day.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Santa Cruz County Board of Education, County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this 21st day of November 2024, by the following vote:

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Sue Roth, Board President
Santa Cruz County Board of Education

Dr. Faris M. Sabbah, Secretary
Santa Cruz County Superintendent of Schools