



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**

Student Trustee: Mr. Oscar Alvarez-Delgado

**Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, May 16, 2024
4:00 pm
Boardroom and 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
Oscar Alvarez-Delgado (Student Trustee)

Trustees Absent (At time of roll call):

Ed Acosta, Abel Sanchez

Staff Present:

Dr. Faris Sabbah (Superintendent), Jason Borgen, Nick Ibarra, Michelle Kennedy, Andres Ortiz,
Cristal Renteria, John Rice, Verenise Valentin

1.1 Board Member Remote Attendance Approval

In accordance with AB 2449, Trustees may participate in the Board meeting remotely under the following conditions: just cause, or emergency circumstances.

No trustees request remote attendance.

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/Nichols 4-0-0-2).

Ayes: Estrada, Nichols, Roth, Van Allen

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Acosta, Sanchez

Student Trustee Alvarez-Delgado voted yes on this matter.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Nancy Cohen (Parent) shared concerns with the age requirement of kindergarten enrollment.

Trustee Sanchez joined the meeting.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

- 5.0.1 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on April 18, 2024
- 5.0.2 Donations

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda as presented (Van Allen/Nichols 5-0-0-1).

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

Student Trustee Alvarez-Delgado voted yes on this matter.

5.1 DEFERRED CONSENT ITEMS (if required)

None.

Trustee Acosta joined the meeting.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Official correspondence received by the Board was included herein.

7. REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS

7.1 2024 Educators and Community Partner of the Year

Each year, the Santa Cruz County Board of Education celebrates the accomplishments of teachers, classified employees, administrators, school counselors, and a local Community Partner. Award recipients are nominated by their peers and are awarded a plaque of outstanding achievement by Superintendent Sabbah.

Award Recipients: Woodstock's Santa Cruz, Community Partner of the Year
Cristal Renteria, Administrator of the Year, Santa Cruz COE
Jennifer Konicke, Classified Employee of the Year, Pacific ESD
Soledad Hess, Counselor of the Year, SCCS
Russell Bryan Love, Teacher of the Year, PVUSD

Bryson Wood, former Santa Cruz COE student, introduced Travis Koon, General Manager, Woodstock's Santa Cruz

John Rice, Executive Director, Alternative Education, Santa Cruz COE, introduced Cristal Renteria.

Eric Gross, Superintendent, Pacific Elementary School, introduced Jennifer Konicke.

Derek Kendall, Principal, Mission Hill Middle School, and Danielle Brown, Teacher, Mission Hill Middle School, introduced Soledad Hess.

Susan Grauly, Principal, New School, and Murry Schekman, former interim Superintendent, Pajaro Valley Unified School District, introduced Russell Bryan Love.

President Roth issued a short recess at 4:56 p.m. The meeting resumed at 5:01 p.m.

7.2 Santa Cruz COE's Youth Led Leadership Alliance Presentation

Our student leadership initiatives provide opportunities for students to develop and practice essential leadership skills such as collaboration, public speaking, self-confidence, critical thinking, and civic engagement. Students from the Santa Cruz COE's Youth Led Leadership Alliance (YLLA), representing six leadership groups with specific goals and objectives, shared their projects and highlights during the 2023-2024 school year. Andres Ortiz, Student Leadership and Engagement Coordinator, introduced each student group.

7.3 Santa Cruz COE's Countywide Robotics Club

Early May, ten teams from across the county participated in the MATE ROV (Marine Advanced Technology Education – Remotely Operated Vehicle) Regional Competition. The program aims to build student skills in entrepreneurship, team work, collaboration, as well as technical skills in robotics, computer programming, and design, engineering, and fabrication. The Santa Cruz COE's X Academy Robotics Clubs participated in the competition. Our Hephaestus Robotics team secured a remarkable 3rd place finish in the Ranger Class. This achievement earns them a coveted spot at the MATE ROV World Championship in Kingsport Tennessee at the end of June, where they will compete against 40 of the top teams from around the world. Our Angry Otters team in the Navigator class demonstrated exceptional skill by taking 2nd place in their division.

8. NEW BUSINESS AND ACTION ITEMS

8.1 Approval of Resolution #24-20 Recognizing LGBTQIA2S+ Pride Month

Earlier in May, the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, alongside all ten school districts, raised the Progress Flag in honor of Harvey Milk Day. The Progress Flag is a visual representation of acceptance and inclusion.

A motion was made to approve Resolution #24-20 Recognizing LGBTQIA2S+ Pride Month with a minor change (Van Allen/Estrada 6-0-0-0).

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

Student Trustee Alvarez-Delgado voted yes on this matter.

8.2 Approval of Resolution #24-21 Recognizing Juneteenth

Established as a federally recognized holiday in 2021, Juneteenth commemorates the emancipation of enslaved people in the United States. It was first celebrated in Texas on June 19, 1866, exactly one year after Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, and declared that enslaved people had been freed by the Emancipation Proclamation.

A motion was made to approve Resolution #24-21 Recognizing Juneteenth with a minor change (Nichols/Estrada 6-0-0-0).

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

Student Trustee Alvarez-Delgado voted yes on this matter.

8.3 Approval of Resolution #24-22 Establishing Fund 40 Special Reserve Fund For Capital Outlay Projects

This resolution establishes the Fund 40 Special Reserve Fund for Capital Outlay Projects. This fund will primarily accumulate general fund money for capital outlay purposes, sourced from interfund transfers and interest income. It can be used for various capital projects like land or building purchases. If projected projects don't materialize, funds may be transferred back to the General Fund 01. Michelle Kennedy, Manager, Fiscal Services, presented the resolution.

A motion was made to approve Resolution #24-22 Establishing Fund 40 Special Reserve Fund For Capital Outlay Projects with a minor change (Van Allen/Nichols 6-0-0-0).

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

Student Trustee Alvarez-Delgado voted yes on this matter.

8.4 Schedule Special Board Meeting

Trustees scheduled a special meeting to host interviews for the vacancy for Trustee area 5 and Oath of Office Swearing in ceremony. The dates in consideration were May 28, May 29, and May 30, 2024.

A motion was made to schedule a special board meeting on May 30, 2024 at 4:30 pm (Estrada/Van Allen 6-0-0-0).

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

Student Trustee Alvarez-Delgado voted yes on this matter.

9. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

10. STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORT

Student Trustee Alvarez-Delgado attended the Seal of biliteracy ceremony and shared that he will be enrolling in Cabrillo this fall.

11. TRUSTEE REPORTS (3 minutes each)

Trustee Estrada:

He attended the Queer Youth Leadership Awards and the COE flag raising ceremony.

Trustee Nichols:

She attended the COE picnic and the COE flag raising ceremony.

Trustee Sanchez:

He acknowledged the COE employees receiving awards from Pajaro Valley PRevention and Student Assistance. He also attended the COE picnic, met with the board vacancy committee, and will be attending graduations next week.

Trustee Acosta:

No report to share.

Trustee Van Allen:

He met with the board vacancy committee and reviewed the state budget.

President Roth:

She attended the COE picnic, participated in the agenda committee, and attended the Queer Youth Leadership Awards.

12. AD HOC/STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTIONS

None.

13. ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

With the recent trustee resignation, the Board no longer has a trustee acting as vice president.

13.1 Nominations and Election for the Vice President of the Board

President Roth called for nominations for the Vice President.

A motion was made to nominate and select Abel Sanchez as vice-president (Van Allen/Estrada 6-0-0-0).

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

Student Trustee Alvarez-Delgado voted yes on this matter.

14. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

COE Alternative Graduations
May 20 - May 24, 2024

Countywide Black Graduation
May 25, 2024

COE Special Education Graduation
May 30, 2024

Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Regular Meeting
June 20, 2024
4:00 p.m.

Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Regular Meeting
June 27, 2024
4:00 p.m.

15. ADJOURNMENT

President Roth adjourned the meeting at 7:23 pm.