



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 • Mr. Greg Larson • Ms. Sue Roth
Mr. Abel Sanchez • Mr. Bruce Van Allen • Ms. Rachel Williams

Student Trustee: Natalie Hofkins and Ruben Marcus

Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, April 17, 2025
5:30 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/85190507510>

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

Phone Number: +1 (669) 444-9171
Meeting ID: 851 9050 7510

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 4:00 PM on April 17th. 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 4:00 PM del 17 de abril. Cada individuo solo puede hacer un comentario por tema.

AGENDA

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

Abel Sanchez (President), Ed Acosta, Edward Estrada (Vice President), Greg Larson, Sue Roth, Bruce Van Allen, Rachel Williams
Natalie Hofkins (Student Trustee), 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: Abel Sanchez (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 not on the agenda. The Board President will recognize any member of the audience who has not been previously placed on the agenda and wishes to speak on a matter directly related to school business.

Each speaker may speak for up to three (3) minutes on a specific topic unless otherwise limited or extended by the President. The President may allocate time to those wishing to speak; however, no action will be taken on matters presented (EDC § 35145.5). If appropriate, the President or any Board Member may direct that a matter be referred to the Superintendent's Office for placement on a future agenda. Please see the "Please Note" section at the end of this agenda.

5. 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.

5.0.1 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on March 20, 2025

5.0.2 Routine Budget Revisions

5.1 DEFERRED CONSENT ITEMS (if required)

This item is placed on the agenda to address any items that might be pulled from Agenda Item 5.0 for further discussion/consideration if so determined.

6. 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.

7. 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.

8. REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS

8.1 Association of California County Boards of Education (ACCBE) Presentation

This presentation will introduce the newly established Association of California County Boards of Education (ACCBE). This organization represents and serves California's 58 County Boards of Education. The Board will learn about ACCBE's mission, origin, values, and its distinction from other school board associations. The presentation will highlight the benefits of ACCBE membership, including targeted advocacy, leadership development, and opportunities for collaboration.

Presenter(s): Janet Wohlgemuth, Board Member, ACCBE

8.2 Presentation in Recognition of National Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month

In recognition of National Multilingual Learner Advocacy Month, the Board will receive an update on the Santa Cruz County Office of Education's efforts to support and advocate for multilingual learners. The presentation will showcase current initiatives, collaborative partnerships, and the work of the countywide Multilingual Leadership Network aimed at elevating the assets of multilingual students and advancing educational equity.

Presenter(s): Dr. Marcia Russell, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services
Barbara Huebner, Multilingual Achievement Coordinator, Ed. Services

8.3 Environmental Literacy Initiatives Updates

Presentation in Recognition of Earth Month, the Board will receive an update on the Santa Cruz County Office of Education's efforts to integrate environmental literacy across the three pillars of Curriculum, Campus, and Community and culture in schools. The presentation will showcase progress in Green Ribbon Schools Application, and summarize impacts of our Teacher Leadership Institute for Sustainability and our Green Classroom and Green Workspace Challenge Programs.

Presenter(s): Dr. Marcia Russell, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services
Amity Sandage, Environmental Literacy Coordinator, Ed. Services

9. NEW BUSINESS AND ACTION

9.1 Second Reading - Board Bylaw

The County Board of Education conducts a first and second reading of proposed new or revised board policies prior to adoption. The Board may take action to adopt the bylaws as presented or direct additional revisions to be brought back for further consideration. The Board will conduct a second reading of the following bylaws:

BB 9230	Orientation
BB 9240	Board Training

Presenter(s): Bruce Van Allen, Chair, Policy Committee

Motion &

Voice Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

9.2 First Reading - 5000s Series

The County Board of Education may adopt modified and new policies following a first and second reading by the Board. The Board may accept the following proposed policy(ies) as submitted and waive a second reading and move to take action, order changes, or order changes and bring back for a final reading:

BP 5144.1	Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process
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Presenter(s): Bruce Van Allen, Chair, Policy Committee

Motion &

Voice Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

9.3 Resolution #25-10 Proclaiming May 2025 For Flying The Rainbow Flag and Honoring Harvey Milk Day

The Santa Cruz County Board of Education will consider adopting Resolution #25-10, which proclaims May 2025 as a time to honor the legacy of Harvey Milk and fly the rainbow flag across educational institutions in Santa Cruz County. This resolution reaffirms the Santa Cruz County Office of Education's commitment to creating inclusive, safe, and affirming educational environments for LGBTQ+ students, families, and staff. It recognizes the historical and contemporary contributions of LGBTQ+ individuals, including local leaders, and aligns with California Education Code and the FAIR Education Act, which emphasize the importance of LGBTQ+ representation in educational curricula. The resolution encourages all schools and districts to commemorate Harvey Milk Day on May 22 with educational activities and to raise the rainbow flag as a symbol of pride and solidarity.

Presenter(s): Greg Larson, Chair, Community Outreach & Legislation Committee

Motion &

Roll Call Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

9.4 Resolution #25-11 In Support of Day of the Teacher

Each year, California designates a “Day of the Teacher” to recognize the invaluable contributions of teachers. Resolution #25-11 reaffirms the Santa Cruz County Board of Education’s appreciation and support for the work of teachers and certificated staff across the county. This resolution acknowledges the vital role teachers play in shaping the future of our students and communities and urges community members to join in recognizing and honoring educators on May 14, 2025.

Presenter(s): Greg Larson, Chair, Community Outreach & Legislation Committee

Motion &

Roll Call Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

9.5 Resolution #25-12 In Support of Classified Employees Week

The week of May 18–24, 2025, is designated as Classified School Employees Week in California. Resolution #25-12 expresses the Santa Cruz County Board of Education’s appreciation for the essential work of classified employees. These individuals play critical roles in supporting the educational mission of schools and the County Office of Education, from transporting students and maintaining facilities to providing clerical and technical support. This resolution recognizes the dedication and impact of classified employees and encourages acknowledgment and celebration of their contributions.

Presenter(s): Greg Larson, Chair, Community Outreach & Legislation Committee

Motion &

Roll Call Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

9.6 Resolution #25-13 Recognizing Jewish American Heritage Month

May is designated as Jewish American Heritage Month, a time to honor and reflect upon the contributions, achievements, and history of Jewish Americans in shaping the fabric of our nation. Resolution #25-13 recognizes the perseverance, accomplishments, and civic participation of Jewish Americans and affirms the Santa Cruz County Board of Education’s commitment to promoting equity, cultural understanding, and educational opportunities that honor Jewish heritage. The resolution also encourages school districts to commemorate this month by incorporating inclusive practices and instructional resources throughout the year.

Presenter(s): Greg Larson, Chair, Community Outreach & Legislation Committee

Motion &

Roll Call Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

9.7 Resolution #25-14 Recognizing May as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month, celebrated nationally each May, honors the history, culture, and significant contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to the fabric of American society. Through this resolution, the COE reaffirms its commitment to the safety, inclusion, and well-being of all ethnic populations, including the AAPI community.

Presenter(s): Greg Larson, Chair, Community Outreach & Legislation Committee

Motion &

Roll Call Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

9.8 Resolution #25-15 Recognizing Mental Health Awareness Month

Mental Health Awareness Month, observed annually in May, serves as a time to raise awareness, reduce stigma, and promote understanding of the mental health challenges faced by millions of individuals across the nation. The COE acknowledges the importance of supporting the mental well-being of both students and staff.

Presenter(s): Greg Larson, Chair, Community Outreach & Legislation Committee

Motion &

Roll Call Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

10. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

11. 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.

12. AD HOC/STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTIONS

13. 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.

[Fashion Teens](#)

April 18, 2025

6:30 p.m.

Rio Theatre, 1205 Soquel Ave, Santa Cruz, CA 95062

[Youth for Environmental Action Summit](#)

April 21, 2025

Time TBD

Camp Koinonia Conference Grounds, 1605 Eureka Canyon Rd, Corralitos, CA 95076

Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Agenda, Regular Meeting
April 17, 2025

MATE ROV Competition Monterey Bay Regional
April 26, 2025
Watsonville High School, 250 E Beach St, Watsonville, CA 95076

Green Classroom Celebration & Recognition Event
April 27, 2025
Seymour Marine Discovery Center, 100 McAllister Way, Santa Cruz, CA

COE All Staff Picnic
May 14, 2025
Anna Jean Cummings County Park

County Board of Education
Regular Meeting
May 15, 2025
Santa Cruz County Office of Education

Countywide Black Student Graduation
May 24, 2025
London Nelson

COE Alternative Education & Career Advancement Charter Graduations
Week of May 27 - 30, 2025
Various Locations

Santa Cruz Pride
June 1, 2025
Downtown Santa Cruz

County Board of Education
Regular Meeting
June 12, 2025
Santa Cruz County Office of Education

County Board of Education
Regular Meeting
June 26, 2025
Santa Cruz County Office of Education

14. **ADJOURNMENT**
Board President Sanchez will adjourn the meeting.