



Santa Cruz County Board of Education • 400 Encinal Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 • Tel (831) 466-5900 • [www.santacruzcoe.org](http://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**

**Santa Cruz County Board of Education**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**Thursday, August 15, 2024**  
**4:00 pm**  
**Boardroom and Zoom**

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**MEETING MINUTES**

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

Trustees Present (At Time of Roll Call):

Edward Estrada, Abel Sanchez (Vice President), Bruce Van Allen, Rachel Williams

Trustees Absent (At Time of Roll Call):

Sue Roth (President)

Trustees Absent:

Ed Acosta, Sandra Nichols

Staff Present:

Faris Sabbah (Secretary), Denise Guerra-Sanson, Jenifer Izant-Gonzales, Nick Ibarra, Melissa Lopez, Rebecca Olker, 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.

A motion was made to approve remote attendance and participation for President Sue Roth under the condition just cause (Van Allen/Williams):

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

President Roth joined the meeting remotely.

**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/Estrada):

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

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Daniel Esqueda (*Student*) shared his reflections and concerns regarding his experience in the 2024 Student Trustee Academy.

Mindy Esqueda (*Parent*) shared her son's experience and concerns as a participant in the 2024 Student Trustee Academy.

Greg Larson (*Community Member*) introduced himself to the Board as the candidate, appointed in lieu for Trustee, Area 3.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

- 5.0.1 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on July 18, 2024
- 5.0.2 Budget Revisions
- 5.0.3 Teaching Assignment Monitoring Outcomes (TAMO) for 2022-2023

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda as presented (Van Allen//Williams):

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

**5.1 DEFERRED CONSENT ITEMS (if required)**

None.

**6. CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**7. NEW BUSINESS AND ACTION ITEMS**

**7.1 Prop 28 Arts and Music in Schools, Annual Report**

Proposition 28, known as the Arts and Music in Schools (AMS) Funding Guarantee and Accountability Act, was approved by California voters on November 8, 2022. This initiative aims to provide consistent annual funding for arts education in K-12 public schools, including charter schools, by allocating an amount equal to 1% of the total state and local revenues received under Proposition 98 from the previous fiscal year. Under this proposition, schools are required to submit annual board-approved reports detailing how funds were spent.

Denise Guerra-Sanson, Executive Director, Student Program, presented the report.

A motion was made to approve the Prop 28 annual report for the Career Advancement Charter (Van Allen//Williams):

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

**7.2 Approve Resolution #24-28 In Support of the City of Santa Cruz's Sugar-Sweetened Beverage Tax Proposal**

The Santa Cruz County Board of Education supports a proposal to impose a two-cent per fluid-ounce tax on sugar-sweetened beverages in Santa Cruz. This measure aims to address troubling trends in youth health, such as obesity and diabetes, by reducing the consumption of unhealthy beverages. Modeled after similar successful taxes in other California cities, this initiative could generate up to \$1.3 million annually for essential city services, including youth programs. A Community Oversight Panel would ensure a transparent allocation of the funds towards health and wellness programs benefiting the community.

Martine Watkins, City of Santa Cruz, Council member, and Shebrah Kalantari-Johnson, City of Santa Cruz, Council member, presented the proposal.

A motion was made to Approve Resolution #24-28 In Support of the City of Santa Cruz's Sugar-Sweetened Beverage Tax Proposal (Van Allen//Estrada):

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

**7.3 Approve Resolution #24-29 Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15 - Oct. 15)**

Each year our nation observes Hispanic Heritage Month, a commemoration started in 1968 and expanded in 1988 to cover the 30-day period of September 15 to October 15, with its first day commemorating the start of the Mexican War of Independence, leading to the independence of Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Honduras, and Nicaragua. The Board is asked to recognize September 15 through October 15 as Hispanic Heritage Month and encourages all students, faculty, administrators, and parents, to remember and celebrate the contributions that Hispanic Americans have made to California and the United States.

A motion was made to approve Resolution #24-29 Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15 - Oct. 15) with a revision (Van Allen//Estrada):

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

**7.4 Approve Resolution #24-30 National Suicide Prevention Month**

September is nationally recognized as Suicide Prevention Month. Santa Cruz County Office of Education is committed to supporting the mental and emotional health of students and staff in Santa Cruz County.

A motion was made to approve Resolution #24-30 National Suicide Prevention Month (Williams/Van Allen):

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

**7.5 Approve Resolution #24-31 Proposition 2: Kindergarten Through Grade 12 Schools and Local Community College Public Education Facilities Modernization, Repair, and Safety Bond Act of 2024**

Proposition 2, on the 2024 ballot, seeks to authorize state bonds to fund the modernization, repair, and improvement of K-12 schools and local community colleges. It aims to enhance safety, upgrade outdated infrastructure, and ensure educational facilities meet current standards and technological needs.

A motion was made to approve Resolution #24-31 Proposition 2: Kindergarten Through Grade 12 Schools and Local Community College Public Education Facilities Modernization, Repair, and Safety Bond Act of 2024 (Williams/Sanchez):

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

**7.6 Approve Resolution #24-32 to Bring Back Retired Employee per Gov. Code sections 7522.56 & 21229**

Pursuant to Government Code section 7522.56, the Santa Cruz County Office of Education must provide CalPERS this certification resolution when hiring a retiree before 180 days has passed since their retirement date.

Jody Belgard, Senior Systems Support Liaison, retired from the Santa Cruz County Office of Education, effective June 30, 2024. Currently, the Santa Cruz County Office of Education would like to appoint Jody Belgard to assist with the backlog and various projects related to the position of Senior Systems Support Liaison.

Rebecca Olker, Executive Director, Fiscal Services, presented the resolution.

A motion was made to approve Resolution #24-32 to Bring Back Retired Employee per Gov. Code sections 7522.56 & 21229 (Van Allen/Estrada):

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

**8. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

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

**9. TRUSTEE REPORTS (3 minutes each)**

Trustee Estrada:

He will be attending the upcoming CSBA conference.

Trustee Van Allen:

He will be attending the upcoming CSBA conference.

Trustee Williams:

She attended the Stuff the Bus event and COE All Staff Kick Off.

Trustee Sanchez:

He attended the COE All Staff Kick Off and is encouraging new trustees to participate in Inside Education

President Roth:

She participated in the CSBA Ethics Training, SCCOE AI Training, Agenda meeting, and Stuff the Bus event.

**10. AD HOC/STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTIONS**

**11. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

Santa Cruz County Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
September 19, 2024  
4:00 p.m.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

President Roth adjourned the meeting at 5:23 p.m.