



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

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

**Student Trustee: Natalie Hofkins and Ruben Marcus**

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**Santa Cruz County Board of Education**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**Thursday, May 15, 2025**  
**4:00 PM Closed Session**  
**5:30 PM Open Session**  
**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/87857459427>

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

**Phone Number: +1 (669) 444-9171**  
**Meeting ID: 878 5745 9427**

**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](mailto:vvalentin@santacruzcoe.org) no later than 4:00 PM on May 15th. 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](mailto:vvalentin@santacruzcoe.org) a más tardar a las 4:00 PM del 15 de mayo. 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. CLOSED SESSION DISCLOSURE**

President Sanchez will disclose that the Board will, in closed session, discuss matters relating to an interdistrict transfer appeal hearing and litigation as noted in item 3.1, item 3.2, and item 3.3.

### **3. CLOSED SESSION**

#### **3.1 Interdistrict Transfer Appeal Hearing #24-25-01**

The Board will hold an Interdistrict Transfer Appeal Hearing concerning a student wishing to attend school in the Scotts Valley Unified School District.

Open, Conduct, & Close the Hearing: Abel Sanchez (President)

#### **3.2 Litigation Matter Discussion**

Superintendent Sabbah will share a litigation matter with the County Board of Education.

Presenter(s): Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools  
Liann Reyes, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services

#### **3.3 Litigation Matter Update**

Superintendent Sabbah will share a litigation update with the County Board of Education.

Presenter(s): Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools  
Liann Reyes, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services

### **4. OPEN SESSION - TIME CERTAIN 5:30 P.M.**

Open session will begin as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard.

### **5. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Superintendent Sabbah will lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**6. REPORT OUT AND ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION**

President Sanchez will report on Closed Session and the Board will vote to take action, if needed, in public session.

**6.1 Interdistrict Transfer Appeal Hearing #24-25-01**

The Board will hold an Interdistrict Transfer Appeal Hearing concerning a student wishing to attend school in the Scotts Valley Unified School District.

Roll Call Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

**6.2 Litigation Matter Discussion**

The County Board of Education may take action on this litigation matter.

Voice Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

**6.3 Litigation Matter Update**

No action will be taken on this matter. This item is informational only.

**7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**8. 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.

**9. 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.

9.0.1 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on April 17, 2025

9.0.2 Budget Revisions

9.0.3 2025-2026 Personnel Commission Budget

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

This item is placed on the agenda to address any items that might be pulled from Agenda Item 9.0 for further discussion/consideration if so determined.

**10. 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.

**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. REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS**

**12.1 2025 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 will be awarded a plaque of outstanding achievement by Superintendent Sabbah.

Award Recipients:      X-Academy, Community Partner of the Year  
                                 John Postovit, Teacher of the Year, Scotts Valley USD  
                                 Minc Robinson Brooker, Teacher of the Year, PVUSD  
                                 Sylvia Alba, Counselor of the Year, PVUSD  
                                 Amy Hedrick-Farr, Administrator of the Year, SCCS  
                                 Jessica Serna Castañeda, Classified Employee of the Year, SCCS

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

**12.2 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, will share their projects and highlights during the 2024-2025 school year with the board.

Presenter(s):      Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools  
                                 Nick Ibarra, Communications and Engagement Director  
                                 Andres Ortiz, Student Leadership and Engagement Coordinator

**13. PUBLIC HEARING**

**13.1 Career Advancement Charter School (CAC) - Petition for Renewal**

The County Board of Education will hold a public hearing to assess the level of support for the Career Advancement Charter School renewal petition. Input will be gathered from teachers employed by the CAC, other COE employees, parents, and members of the public.

The Petition for Renewal was submitted to the Santa Cruz County Board of Education on April 22, 2025. The Board will consider approval or denial of the petition at its regular meeting on June 12, 2025, in accordance with Education Code § 47605(b).

Open, Conduct, and  
Close the Public Hearing: Abel Sanchez (President)

Presenter(s): Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools  
Denise Sony Guerra-Sanson, Executive Director, Student Programs

**14. NEW BUSINESS AND ACTION**

**14.1 Resolution #25-16 Recognizing LGBTQIA2S+ Pride Month**

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

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

Motion &  
Roll Call Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

**14.2 Resolution #25-17 Recognizing Juneteenth**

Resolution #25-17 acknowledges June 19, 2025, as Juneteenth, commemorating the end of slavery in the United States and celebrating Black American freedom, resilience, and cultural contributions. By recognizing Juneteenth, the Santa Cruz COE reaffirms its commitment to equity, inclusion, and the creation of safe, supportive learning environments for all students and communities.

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

Motion &  
Roll Call Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

**14.3 First Reading - Board Policies (0000s 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 0415          Equity

Presenter(s): Rachel Williams, Policy Committee

Motion &

Voice Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

**14.4 First Reading - Board Policies (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 5141.52      Suicide Prevention

BP 5145.13      Response to Immigration Enforcement

Presenter(s): Rachel Williams, Policy Committee

Motion &

Voice Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

**14.5 Resolution #25-18 Establishing Institutional Membership in the Association of California County Boards of Education Santa Cruz County Board of Education (ACCBE)**

Resolution #25-18 proposes that the Santa Cruz County Board of Education join the Association of California County Boards of Education (ACCBE) to strengthen advocacy for students and public education statewide. Membership will provide a unified voice for County Boards and support leadership on issues affecting vulnerable student populations.

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

Motion &

Roll Call Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

**15. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

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

**16. 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.

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

**18. 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.

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**

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

Board President Sanchez 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.