



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

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.

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.