



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**

**Santa Cruz County Board of Education**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**Thursday, June 26, 2025**  
**5:30 p.m.**

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**MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting was held at the Santa Cruz County Office of Education and the public was able to join a live video-conference. Trustee Larson participated in the meeting via teleconference from the following location, which was open to the public, 35 Maddox Lane, Tupper Lake, NY.

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

Trustees Present:

Edward Estrada (Vice President), Greg Larson, Sue Roth, Bruce Van Allen, Rachel Williams  
Natalie Hofkins (Student Trustee), Ruben Marcus (Student Trustee)

Trustee Absent (Excused):

Abel Sanchez (President)

Trustee Absent (Unexcused):

Ed Acosta

Staff Present:

Faris Sabbabh (Secretary), Brooke Hofkins, Nick Ibarra, Michelle Kennedy, Melissa Lopez, Liann Reyes, John Rice, Dr. Heather Thomsen, 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 Sabbabh led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented (Williams/Van Allen, 5-0-0-2).

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

Student Trustee Hofkins and Student Trustee Marcus voted yes to the motion.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**5. CONSENT AGENDA**

- 5.0.1 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on June 12, 2025
- 5.0.2 Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on June 12, 2025
- 5.0.3 Alternative Education Consolidated Application

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda as presented (Van Allen/Roth, 5-0-0-2).

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

Student Trustee Hofkins and Student Trustee Marcus voted yes to the motion.

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

None.

**6. CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**7. STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORTS**

Student Trustee Hofkins shared her appreciation for the opportunity to serve as student trustee.

Student Trustee Marcus shared his appreciation for the opportunity to serve as student trustee and looks forward to the opportunity to serve on other boards.

**8. REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS**

**8.1 Recognition of Student Trustees**

The Santa Cruz County Board of Education recognized the 2024-2025 Student Trustees Natalie Hofkins and Ruben Marcus for their outstanding service, leadership, and contributions to the Santa Cruz County Office of Education.

County Superintendent Sabbah presented the board, student trustees, and public the perpetual plaque, recognizing the student trustees.

**8.2 Santa Cruz County Office of Education Summary of Support for School Districts**

In accordance with Education Code § 52066(i), the County Superintendent of Schools must prepare an annual summary of how the County Superintendent of Schools plans to support school districts and schools within the county with differentiated assistance.

Brooke Hofkins, Senior Director, District Support and Leadership, presented the report.

**8.3 Local Indicators Presentation for the Santa Cruz County Office of Education**

The SBE adopted state and local indicators to measure school district and individual school site performance in regard to each of the state priorities, as required by law. Performance data on state and local indicators is publicly reported in the California School Dashboard. Local Indicators apply at the LEA and charter school level and are based on data collected at the local level (Priorities 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 9 and 10). Note, priorities 9 and 10 are for COEs only.

John Rice, Executive Director, Alternative Education, presented the report.

**8.4 Local Indicators Presentation for the Career Advancement Charter**

The SBE adopted state and local indicators to measure school district and individual school site performance in regard to each of the state priorities, as required by law. Performance data on state and local indicators is publicly reported in the California School Dashboard. Local Indicators apply at the LEA and charter school level and are based on data collected at the local level (Priorities 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 9 and 10). Note, priorities 9 and 10 are for COEs only.

John Rice, Executive Director, Alternative Education, presented the report.

**9. NEW BUSINESS AND ACTION**

**9.1 2025-2026 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) for the Santa Cruz County Office of Education**

Following a public hearing held on June 12, 2025 to solicit recommendations and comments from members of the public regarding the specific actions and expenditures proposed by the Local Control Accountability Plan of the Santa Cruz County Office of Education (EDC § 52062(b)), it is requested that the Board adopt the LCAP.

A motion was made to approve the 2025-2026 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) for the Santa Cruz County Office of Education as presented (Van Allen/Williams, 5-0-0-2).

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

Student Trustee Hofkins and Student Trustee Marcus voted yes to the motion.

**9.2     2025-2026 Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) of the Santa Cruz County Career Advancement Charter School**

Following a public hearing held on June 12, 2025 to solicit recommendations and comments from members of the public regarding the specific actions and expenditures proposed by the Local Control Accountability Plan of the Santa Cruz County Career Advancement Charter (EDC § 52062(b)), it is requested that the Board adopt.

A motion was made to approve the 2025-2026 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) of the Santa Cruz County Career Advancement Charter School as presented (Roth/Van Allen, 5-0-0-2).

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

Student Trustee Hofkins and Student Trustee Marcus voted yes to the motion.

**9.3     Santa Cruz County Office of Education 2025-2026 Budget**

Following a Public Hearing held on June 12, 2025 to solicit recommendation and comments from members of the public regarding the Santa Cruz County Office of Education's 2025-2026 Budget, it is requested that the Board adopt the Budget as presented.

A motion was made to approve the Santa Cruz County Office of Education 2025-2026 Budget as presented (Williams/Van Allen, 5-0-0-2).

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

Student Trustee Hofkins and Student Trustee Marcus voted yes to the motion.

**9.4     Resolution #25-21 Recognizing Community Partnerships And Impactful Action In Addressing The Fentanyl Crisis**

The Board was asked to adopt a resolution recognizing community partners for their efforts to combat the fentanyl crisis through education, outreach, and naloxone (Narcan) distribution. Dr. Heather Thomsen, School Health Manager, Student Support Services, presented the resolution.

A motion was made to adopt Resolution #25-21 Recognizing Community Partnerships And Impactful Action In Addressing The Fentanyl Crisis as presented (Williams/Van Allen, 5-0-0-2).

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

Student Trustee Hofkins and Student Trustee Marcus voted yes to the motion.

**9.5     Prop 28 Arts and Music in Schools, Annual Report for Santa Cruz County**  
**Alternative Education**

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.

John Rice, Executive Director, Alternative Education, presented the report.

A motion was made to adopt the Prop 28 budget report (Van Allen/Williams, 5-0-0-2).

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

Student Trustee Hofkins and Student Trustee Marcus voted yes to the motion.

**9.6     Resolution #25-22: Usage of funds generated by Propositions 30 and 55,**  
**Education Protection Account (Santa Cruz County Office of Education)**

In accordance with the requirements of Propositions 30 and 55, educational agencies must adopt a resolution annually detailing the intended use of EPA funds. These propositions mandate that EPA funds be spent exclusively on instructional purposes and prohibit their use for administrative salaries or other administrative costs.

Liann Reyes, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services, presented the resolution. She shared a fiscal report with the board that will be included with the resolution, if approved.

Trustee Larson shared he would be abstaining from taking action because he had not received the report.

A motion was made to adopt Resolution #25-22: Usage of funds generated by Propositions 30 and 55, Education Protection Account (Santa Cruz County Office of Education), with the addition of a fiscal report (Williams/Van Allen, 4-0-1-2).

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

Student Trustee Hofkins and Student Trustee Marcus voted yes to the motion.

**9.7     Resolution #25-23: Usage of funds generated by Propositions 30 and 55, Education Protection Account (Career Advancement Charter)**

In accordance with the requirements of Propositions 30 and 55, educational agencies must adopt a resolution annually detailing the intended use of EPA funds. These propositions mandate that EPA funds be spent exclusively on instructional purposes and prohibit their use for administrative salaries or other administrative costs.

Liann Reyes, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services, presented the resolution. She shared a fiscal report with the board that will be included with the resolution, if approved.

Trustee Larson shared he would be abstaining from taking action because he had not received the report.

A motion was made to adopt Resolution #25-23: Usage of funds generated by Propositions 30 and 55, Education Protection Account (Career Advancement Charter), with the addition of a fiscal report (Roth/Van Allen, 4-0-1-2).

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

Student Trustee Hofkins and Student Trustee Marcus voted yes to the motion.

**9.8     Resolution #25-24 Recognizing July as Disability Pride Month**

The Board considered adopting a resolution recognizing July as Disability Pride Month, honoring the anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act and celebrating the contributions of individuals with disabilities. Natalie Hofkins, Student Trustee, presented the resolution.

A motion was made to adopt Resolution #25-24 Recognizing July as Disability Pride Month (Williams/Van Allen, 5-0-0-2).

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

Student Trustee Hofkins and Student Trustee Marcus voted yes to the motion.

**9.9 Resolution #25-25 Support for AB 1021 and AB 1381, Advancing Educational Workforce Housing Solutions**

AB 1021 and AB 1381 aim to support LEAs in addressing this crisis by expanding development opportunities and providing funding for feasibility studies.

A motion was made to adopt Resolution #25-25 Support for AB 1021 and AB 1381, Advancing Educational Workforce Housing Solutions, with a minor correction (Van Allen/Williams, 5-0-0-2).

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

Student Trustee Hofkins and Student Trustee Marcus voted yes to the motion.

**10. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

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

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

Vice President Estrada:

He shared that July would be his last board meeting.

Trustee Williams:

She shared her appreciation for Vice President Estrada.

Trustee Van Allen:

He shared his appreciation for Vice President Estrada.

Trustee Roth:

She shared her appreciation for Vice President Estrada and the student trustees. She shared that SCZBA will be hosting a summer social next month.

Trustee Larson:

He participated in the CSBA June Policy webinar.

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

Trustee Larson, shared his appreciation for Student Trustee Hofkins and her work on the committee. He also shared that the committee does not have any plans to bring new resolutions forward.

**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.

County Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
July 17, 2025  
Santa Cruz County Office of Education

*Board Approved: July 17, 2025*

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

County Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
August 21, 2025  
Santa Cruz County Office of Education

County Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
September 18, 2025  
Santa Cruz County Office of Education

County Board of Education  
Regular Meeting  
October 16, 2025  
Santa Cruz County Office of Education

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

Vice President Estrada adjourned the meeting at 7:27 p.m.