



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

Mr. Ed Acosta • Dr. Stacey Kyle • Mr. Greg Larson • Ms. Sue Roth
Mr. Abel Sanchez • Mr. Bruce Van Allen • Ms. Rachel Williams

Student Trustees: Vicente Guillén Martinez and Ash Immoor

Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, November 20, 2025
5:30 p.m.
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/82168967421>

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

Phone Number: +1 (669) 444-9171
Meeting ID: 821 6896 7421

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 November 20th. 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 20 de noviembre. 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, Stacey Kyle, Greg Larson, Sue Roth, Bruce Van Allen, Rachel Williams (Vice President)

Vicente Guillén Martinez (Student Trustee), Ash Immoor (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 outside the agenda. The Board President will recognize any member of the audience not previously placed on the agenda who wishes to speak on a matter directly related to school business. Each speaker, on any specific topic, may speak for up to **three (3) minutes** unless otherwise limited or extended by the President. The President may allot time to those wishing to speak but no action will be taken on matters presented (EDC § 35145.5). If appropriate, the President, or any Member of the Board, may direct that a matter be referred to the Superintendent's Office for placement on a future agenda. Please refer to item, *Please Note*, on the last item of this agenda.

5. STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORTS

Student trustees will report on matters, events, and activities related to advocating for students, maintaining community relations, and promoting student achievement.

6. 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.

6.0.1 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on October 16, 2025

6.0.2 Budget Revisions

6.0.3 Donations

6.0.4 Surplus Vehicles

6.1 DEFERRED CONSENT ITEMS (if required)

This item is placed on the agenda to address any items that might be pulled from Agenda Item 6.0 for further discussion/consideration if so determined.

7. 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.

8. REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS

8.1 Annual Report: Williams Legislation, Status of Decile 1-3 Schools - Pajaro Valley Unified School District and Santa Cruz City School District

Education Code § 1240(2)(B) requires, pursuant to the Williams Settlement Legislation, that the County Superintendent of Schools report the findings of the visits and reviews of schools within the county designated as decile 1-3 schools.

Presenter(s): Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools
Bryan Wall, Santa Cruz COE Williams Coordinator

8.2 2025 CAASPP & CA School Dashboard presentation

Overview of statewide assessment updates and accountability reporting for 2025. The Board will receive information on the 2024–25 CAASPP administration timeline (including Smarter Balanced, CAST, CAAs, and CSA), key blueprint/communication notes from CDE, and how results flow into the 2025 California School Dashboard. The presentation will also unpack the Dashboard indicators, performance colors (Status/Change), new SBE-approved adjustments for 2025, and what they mean for our schools' planning, site communications, and Differentiated Assistance triggers.

Presenter(s): Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Marcia Russell, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services

8.3 County Federal Impacts

Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools, will provide an overview of recent federal developments impacting educational programs and services. The update will include information related to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Head Start, with an emphasis on policy changes, funding updates, and potential implications for local implementation.

Presenter(s): Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools
Erica Padilla Chavez, Chief Executive Officer, Food Bank

9. PUBLIC HEARING

9.1 Public Hearing: Appointment of Murry Schekman as Board-Appointed Personnel Commissioner

On October 16, 2025, the Board of Trustees announced Murry Schekman as its intended appointee to the Santa Cruz County Office of Education Personnel Commission. In compliance with Education Code requirements, the Board held a public hearing to provide an opportunity for public comment prior to the appointment.

Following the hearing and consideration of any comments received, the Board may proceed with the appointment of Murry Schekman to serve as the Board-appointed Personnel Commissioner.

Presenter(s): Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools
Troy Cope, Chief Human Resources Officer

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

10. NEW BUSINESS AND ACTION

10.1 Appointment of Murry Schekman as Board-Appointed Personnel Commissioner

Following the public hearing and consideration of any comments received, the Board may proceed with the appointment of Murry Schekman to serve as the Board-appointed Personnel Commissioner.

Presenter(s): Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools
Troy Cope, Executive Director, Human Resources

Motion &
Voice Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

10.2 Consideration for Approval to Adjust the County Superintendent Salary Schedule

Per Education Code 1209, the Board must set a fair salary for the County Superintendent. The Board's Superintendent Compensation Subcommittee (Vice President Williams and Trustee Roth) reviewed comparable superintendent salaries and provided recommendations to the salary schedule, included herein the packet.

Presenter(s): Rachel Williams, Chair, Superintendent Compensation Committee

Motion &
Voice Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

10.3 Resolution #25-29 Authorizing Use Of Bridge Financing

The COE is pursuing financial modernization and hardship funding from the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC) for a new construction and modernization project at Soquel High School for our Special Education Regional program. Project urgency requires work to commence before state funds are disbursed.

Once state funding is received, the COP will be paid first, and then any residual dollars will be repaid to the County School Service Fund 01. The Board understands there is no guarantee of state funding and that SCCOE is proceeding at its own financial risk.

Presenter(s): Liann Reyes, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services

Motion &

Roll Call Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

10.4 Resolution #25-46 In Remembrance of Rose Filicetti

The Santa Cruz County Board of Education will consider Resolution #25-46 In Remembrance of Rose Filicetti, honoring the life, leadership, and public service of former Trustee Rose Filicetti, who represented Area 4 (Live Oak, Soquel, and Capitola) from 2017 to 2023.

The resolution acknowledges Rose's far-reaching impact across Santa Cruz County—including her work in education, government, nonprofit leadership, and community organizing—and highlights her roles as a founding board member of Digital NEST and the founder of Nonprofit Connection Santa Cruz County. It recognizes her commitment to digital equity, partnership-building, and strengthening systems of support for students and families.

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

Motion &

Roll Call Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

10.5 Resolution #25-47 Recognizing the Service Of Carlos J. Palacios to the County of Santa Cruz

The Board will consider Resolution #25-47 Recognizing the Service of Carlos J. Palacios to the County of Santa Cruz, honoring his more than three decades of public service, including 20 years as City Manager of Watsonville and nearly a decade as County Executive Officer. The resolution highlights Mr. Palacios' historic role as the first Latine County Executive Officer, his leadership during major regional emergencies—including the COVID-19 pandemic, the CZU Lightning Complex Fire, and severe winter storms—and his efforts to strengthen interagency coordination supporting families and students.

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

Motion &

Roll Call Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

10.6 Resolution #25-48 Recognizing Special Education Day

December 2nd is recognized as National Special Education Day. This day celebrates the anniversary of the nation's first special education law as the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) was signed on December 2, 1972. Special Education Day was first celebrated in 2005 which was the 30th anniversary of IDEA. The Board will consider adopting this Resolution.

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

Motion &

Roll Call Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

10.7 First Reading - Board Policies (0000s Series Philosophy, Goals, Objectives & Comprehensive Plans)

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 0441 Artificial Intelligence (AI)

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

Motion &

Voice Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

10.8 First Reading - Board Policies (5000s Series Students)

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 5125.1 Release Of Directory Information

BP 5145.3 Nondiscrimination/Harassment

BP 5145.7 Sexual Harassment

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

Motion &

Voice Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

10.9 First Reading - Board Policies (6000s Series Instruction)

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 6141.2 Recognition Of Religious Beliefs And Customs

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

Motion &

Voice Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

10.10 Resolution #25-49 Recognizing Computer Science Week

This Board is asked to consider adoption of Resolution #25-49 recognizing Computer Science Week, a national observance held annually during the first full week of December to promote computer science education and digital literacy for all students. The resolution highlights the growing importance of computer science skills in college, career, and civic life; affirms the Santa Cruz County Office of Education's commitment to equitable access to high-quality computer science learning opportunities; and encourages schools, educators, students, and families to participate in Computer Science Week activities, including coding, problem-solving, and technology-focused events.

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

Motion &

Roll Call Vote: Abel Sanchez (President)

11. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

12. 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.

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.

December 18, 2025

County Board of Education - Regular Meeting & Annual Reorganization Meeting
Santa Cruz County Office of Education
5:30 p.m.

TENTATIVE: January 10, 2025

County Board of Education - Special Meeting & Board Workshop
Santa Cruz County Office of Education
9:00 a.m.

TENTATIVE: January 24, 2025

County Board of Education - Special Meeting & Board Workshop
Santa Cruz County Office of Education
9:00 a.m.

15. ADJOURNMENT

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.