



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

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

Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Special Board Meeting
Thursday, September 4, 2025
5:30 p.m.
Boardroom and/or Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

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

President Sanchez called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

Trustees Present at Time of Roll Call:

Abel Sanchez (President), Greg Larson, Sue Roth, Bruce Van Allen, Rachel Williams (Vice President)

Trustee Absent at Time of Roll Call:

Ed Acosta

Staff Present:

Dr. Faris Sabbabh (Secretary), Nick Ibarra, Andres Ortiz, 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 Sabbabh led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented (Van Allen/Williams 5-0-0-1).

Ayes: Larson, Roth, Sanchez, Van Allen, Williams

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Acosta

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No requests for public comment were made.

5. NEW BUSINESS, PUBLIC HEARINGS, AND ACTION ITEMS

5.1 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 may select a total of two student students (one from the County Office of Education programs and one from a school district).

President Sanchez reviewed the interview process, disclosing that each student would be allotted ten minutes to answer four questions.

Trustee Acosta arrived at the meeting.

5.2 Conduct Interviews of Student Trustee Applicants

President Sanchez disclosed, prior to beginning interviews, that one student applicant (Zahyd E. Delgado, Escuela Quetzal, Alternative Education) had withdrawn their application. A total of five students were interviewed. The board interviewed student applicants in the following order:

- Amy Vasquez Ortiz (Watsonville High School)
- Americo D. Castillo (Soquel High School)
- Ash R. Immoor (El Nido, Alternative Education)
- Zola Woodbridge Burnham Grau (Aptos High School)
- Vicente Guillén Martínez (Watsonville High School)

During Vicente Guillén Martínez's interview, a connectivity outage in the area resulted in the loss of Wi-Fi service. Consequently, the live Zoom stream was interrupted, and the recording of the interview was cancelled. The interview and Board meeting continued at the physical location.

5.3 Filling Student Trustee Vacancy on Santa Cruz County Board of Education - Board Deliberation to Determine Final Student Trustee Candidate

The Board deliberated to determine the final student trustee candidates for both Alternative Education representative and High School District representative.

5.4 Resolution #25-33: Appointment to Fill Student Trustee Vacancy on the Santa Cruz County Board of Education - Alternative Education Student

According to Board Bylaw 9150, the Board is authorized to make an appointment to fill the Student Trustee vacancy. This appointment was for the Alternative Education student trustee position.

A motion was made to approve Resolution #25-33: Appointment to Fill Student Trustee Vacancy on the Santa Cruz County Board of Education - Alternative Education Student, appointing Ash Immoor as the Alternative Education Student Trustee (Van Allen/Williams 6-0).

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

5.5 Resolution #25-34: Appointment to Fill Student Trustee Vacancy on the Santa Cruz County Board of Education - High School District Student

According to Board Bylaw 9150, the Board is authorized to make an appointment to fill the Student Trustee vacancy. This appointment was for the high school school district student trustee position.

A motion was made to approve Resolution #25-34: Appointment to Fill Student Trustee Vacancy on the Santa Cruz County Board of Education - High School District Student, appointing Vicente Guillén Martinez as the Alternative Education Student Trustee (Larson/Van Allen 6-0).

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

6. 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.

September 18, 2025

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

October 16, 2025

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

November 20, 2025

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

December 18, 2025

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

7. ADJOURNMENT

President Sanchez adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.