



**Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, December 18, 2025 05:30 PM
Boardroom and/or Zoom**

Members of the public may join the meeting either by attending in-person or joining the live video-conference.

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

<https://santacruzcoe-org.zoom.us/j/85713858973>

Meeting ID: 857 1385 8973

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 December 18, 2025. Each individual may only make one comment per topic.

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

President Sanchez will call the meeting to order and initiate a roll call.

Ed Acosta
Stacey Kyle
Greg Larson
Sue Roth
Abel Sanchez (President)
Bruce Van Allen
Rachel Williams (Vice President)

Vicente Guillén Martinez (Student Trustee)
Ash Immoor (Student Trustee)

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.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION

Members of the public may comment on items that are listed in Closed Session.

3. CLOSED SESSION DISCLOSURE

President Sanchez will disclose that the Board will, in closed session, discuss matters relating to litigation matters.

4. CLOSED SESSION

4.1 Anticipated Litigation (Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Gov. Code, § 54956.9, subd. (d)(2);)

A tort claim brought pursuant to the Government Claims Act: (Claim #660285)

5. OPEN SESION

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

6. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Sponsor(s): Faris Sabbah

Superintendent Sabbah will lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

7. REPORT OUT AND ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION

President Sanchez will report on actions, if any, made during Closed Session.

8. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The board may approve agenda deletions or sequence changes, or approve the agenda as submitted.

9. 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 was not previously placed on the agenda and who wishes to speak on a matter directly related to school business. Each speaker may address the Board for up to three (3) minutes on any

specific topic, unless otherwise limited or extended by the President. The President may allot 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.

10. ANNUAL ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

California Education Code § 1007 establishes the terms of office and governance procedures for county boards of education. In alignment with term start dates, the board must hold annual organizational meetings to elect a president and other board positions. This meeting occurs on or after the second Friday in December.

10.1 Nominations for President of the Board

Sponsor(s): Abel Sanchez

Abel Sanchez (President) will call for nominations for Board President.

10.2 Election of the Board President

Sponsor(s): Abel Sanchez

The Board will, by motion, elect a president. Following the vote, the newly elected Board President will assume all Board President duties.

10.3 Nominations for the Vice President of the Board

The Board President will call for nominations of the Vice President.

10.4 Election of Board Vice President

The Board President will, by motion, elect a Vice President.

10.5 Appointment of Chairperson, County Committee on School District Organization

The Board will appoint a chairperson to the County Committee on School District Organization.

10.6 Appointment of Representative to the Santa Cruz County School Board Association (SCZCSBA)

The Board will appoint a representative to the Santa Cruz County School Board Association.

10.7 Appointment of Representative to the Association of California County

Boards of Education (ACCBE)

The Board will appoint a representative to the the Association of California County Boards of Education.

10.8 Establishment of Regular Meetings of the Board

The Board will discuss, and by motion, select the day of the month and the time for regular meetings of the County Board of Education.

10.9 Appointments to Committees

10.9.1 Agenda Committee

10.9.2 Budget Committee

10.9.3 Policy Committee

10.9.4 Charter Schools Committee

10.9.5 Community Outreach and Legislative Committee

10.9.6 Other committee(s) as determined

The board president retains the discretion to establish committees as they deem appropriate.

11. STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORTS

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

12. 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.

12.1 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on November 20, 2025

12.2 Budget Revisions

12.3 Donations

12.4 School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) for Santa Cruz County Court Schools

12.5 School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) for Santa Cruz County Community Schools

13. DEFERRED CONSENT ITEMS (if required)

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

14. 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.

15. REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS

15.1 Retirement Recognitions

Sponsor(s): Faris Sabbah

The Board will recognize the important contributions of the following Santa Cruz County Office of Education employee who will be retiring this December:

- Liann Reyes, Deputy Superintendent-Business Services
- Laurie Stewart, Administrative Assistant, Educational Services

15.2 Countywide Systems of Support for our Students

Sponsor(s): Faris Sabbah, Michael Paynter, Lauren Fein and Hayley Newman

This presentation will provide an overview of Santa Cruz County's integrated, countywide systems designed to support the social-emotional and mental health needs of our students. The presentation highlight the development and expansion of the High School Wellness Center Initiative, where students can access immediate support, prevention services, and connections to long-term care.

15.3 First Interim Financial Report

Sponsor(s): Liann Reyes

In accordance with Education Code § 1240(L), the Superintendent is required to certify the first interim financial report and present it for the Board to review in open session.

15.4 eScribe Meeting Management Software Overview

Sponsor(s): Faris Sabbah and Verenise Figueroa

The Board will receive a brief overview and live demonstration of eScribe, the COE's new meeting management software. The presentation will highlight how eScribe supports packet distribution, public access, and record-keeping, as well as what to expect during the rollout and how staff will be supported with training and resources.

16. NEW BUSINESS AND ACTION

16.1 Resolution #25-50 Authorizing the COE into local agreement with the State of California

Sponsor(s): Marcia Russell

This resolution must be adopted in order to certify the approval of the Governing Board to enter into this transaction with the California Department of Social Services for the purpose of providing child care and development services and to authorize the designated personnel to sign contract documents for Fiscal Year 2026-27.

16.2 Resolution #25-51 School Board Recognition Month

Sponsor(s): Greg Larson

A strong public education system is essential for the well-being of California's citizens and communities. School board members tirelessly advocate for the best interests of our children, believing every child can succeed with education tailored to their needs. The Santa Cruz County Board of Education and the County Superintendent of Schools express gratitude to all public school board members in Santa Cruz County and declare January 2026 as School Board Recognition Month. We encourage the community to join in honoring their dedication and collaborating to build an education system that supports every child.

17. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

18. 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.

19. AD HOC/STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTIONS

20. 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.

January 24, 2025

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

21. ADJOURNMENT

The Board President will adjourn the meeting.