



**Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, January 15, 2026 5:30 PM
Boardroom and/or Zoom
MEETING MINUTES**

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

President Williams called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Trustees Present:

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

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

Trustee Absent:

Ed Acosta

Staff Present:

Faris Sabbah (Superintendent), Verenise Figueroa, Denise Guerra-Sanson, Nick Ibarra, Dr. Jennifer Izant-Gonzales, Michelle Kennedy, Melissa Lopez, Andres Ortiz, Dr. Marcia Russell

1.1 Board Member Remote Attendance Approval

There were no requests made for remote attendance.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

President Williams opened the meeting with a land acknowledgement. This acknowledgement honors the original stewards of the land and affirms the Board's commitment to respect, reflection, and responsibility in our service to the community.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Superintendent Sabbah led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved By Trustee Van Allen

Seconded By Vice President Larson

A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented.

Voters	For	No	Abstain	Conflict	Absent
Trustee Acosta					X
Trustee Kyle	X				
Vice President Larson	X				
Trustee Roth	X				
Trustee Sanchez	X				
President Williams	X				
Trustee Van Allen	X				
Results	6	0	0	0	1

Motion Type: Unanimous Voted, Recorded

Carried (6 to 0)

Student Trustee Guillén Martinez and Student Trustee Immoor voted for the motion.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no requests for public comment.

6. STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORTS

Student Trustee Guillen Martinez:

He did volunteer work with Empower Watsonville. He has more upcoming events for this Spring. He is working with his local student advocacy group. He's been seeing good progress with the complimentary boxes at Watsonville High School. He had brunch with the PVPSA CEO. He also volunteered at the Food Bank a lot.

Student Trustee Immoor:

He met with Alternative Education Director Dr. Jennifer Izant Gonzales to review the Alternative Education Programs dress code. He is also working on his yearly intentions which are: to visit all alternative education sites and meet the students on site; advocate for mental health and LGBTQ+ rights; to complete the student advocacy website.

7. BOARD ORGANIZATION

7.1 Appointments to Committees

President Williams appointed Student Trustee Guillen Martinez to the policy committee.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

Vice President Larson requested that staff send the board correspondence of the completed School Accountability Report Card when all the data becomes available.

Moved By Trustee Van Allen

Seconded By Trustee Kyle

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Voters	For	No	Abstain	Conflict	Absent
Trustee Acosta					X
Trustee Kyle	X				
Vice President Larson	X				
Trustee Roth	X				
Trustee Sanchez	X				
President Williams	X				
Trustee Van Allen	X				
Results	6	0	0	0	1

Motion Type: Unanimous Voted, Recorded

Carried (6 to 0)

Student Trustee Guillén Martinez and Student Trustee Immoor voted for the motion.

8.1 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on December 18, 2025

8.2 Budget Revisions

8.3 Alternative Education Court School Accountability Report Card (SARC)

8.4 Alternative Education Community School Accountability Report Card (SARC)

8.5 Career Advancement Charter School Accountability Report Card (SARC)

8.6 Special Education School Accountability Report Card (SARC)

9. DEFERRED CONSENT ITEMS (if required)

No consent items were deferred.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

No additional correspondence was received.

11. REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS

11.1 Presentation on COE's Human Trafficking Awareness Efforts

Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools, presented the informational report.

11.2 Interim Financial Certifications & COE Review Process

Dr. Faris Sabbah, County Superintendent of Schools, and Rebecca Olker, Interim Deputy Superintendent, Business Services, presented the report.

11.3 Disposal of Personal Property Worth Less than \$25,000

Rebecca Olker, Interim Deputy Superintendent, Business Service, disclosed this agreement with the Board for review.

12. NEW BUSINESS AND ACTION

12.1 Resolution #26-01 regarding Short-Term Cash Loans to Santa Cruz County School Districts

Moved By Trustee Van Allen

Seconded By Trustee Roth

A motion was made to approve Resolution #26-01 regarding Short-Term cash loans to Santa Cruz County School Districts.

Voters	For	No	Abstain	Conflict	Absent
Trustee Acosta					X
Trustee Kyle	X				
Vice President Larson	X				
Trustee Roth	X				
Trustee Sanchez	X				
President Williams	X				
Trustee Van Allen	X				
Results	6	0	0	0	1

Motion Type: Unanimous Voted, Recorded

Carried (6 to 0)

Student Trustee Guillén Martinez and Student Trustee Immoor voted for the motion.

12.2 Resolution #26-02 Proclaiming January 2026 As Human Trafficking Prevention Month

Moved By Trustee Van Allen

Seconded By Trustee Kyle

A motion was made to approve Resolution #26-02 Proclaiming January 2026 As Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

Voters	For	No	Abstain	Conflict	Absent
Trustee Acosta					X
Trustee Kyle	X				
Vice President Larson	X				
Trustee Roth	X				
Trustee Sanchez	X				
President Williams	X				
Trustee Van Allen	X				
Results	6	0	0	0	1

Motion Type: Unanimous Voted, Recorded

Carried (6 to 0)

Student Trustee Guillén Martinez and Student Trustee Immoor voted for the motion.

12.3 Resolution #26-03 Recognizing February as Black History Month

Moved By Trustee Van Allen

Seconded By Trustee Roth

A motion was made to approve Resolution #26-03 Recognizing February as Black History Month.

Voters	For	No	Abstain	Conflict	Absent
Trustee Acosta					X
Trustee Kyle	X				
Vice President Larson	X				
Trustee Roth	X				
Trustee Sanchez	X				
President Williams	X				
Trustee Van Allen	X				
Results	6	0	0	0	1

Motion Type: Unanimous Voted, Recorded

Carried (6 to 0)

Student Trustee Guillén Martinez and Student Trustee Immoor voted for the motion.

12.4 Approval of the 2026-2027 Budget Calendar

Moved By Vice President Larson

Seconded By Trustee Roth

A motion was made to approve the 2026-2027 Budget Calendar.

Voters	For	No	Abstain	Conflict	Absent
Trustee Acosta					X
Trustee Kyle	X				
Vice President Larson	X				
Trustee Roth	X				
Trustee Sanchez	X				
President Williams	X				
Trustee Van Allen	X				
Results	6	0	0	0	1

Motion Type: Unanimous Voted, Recorded

Carried (6 to 0)

Student Trustee Guillén Martinez and Student Trustee Immoor voted for the motion.

13. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

14. TRUSTEE REPORTS (3 minutes each)

President Williams:

She attended the agenda committee and the retirement celebration for former Deputy-Superintendent Liann Reyes. She attended a graduation today and looks forward to another one tomorrow.

Vice President Larson:

He attended the agenda committee and received a tour of Centro Avance. He attended the retirement celebration for former Deputy-Superintendent Liann Reyes. He attended a CSBA and ACCBE webinar. He attended a graduation yesterday, another one today, and looks forward to another one tomorrow.

Trustee Van Allen:

He received a tour of Centro Avance. He also reported that he created his own open software.

Trustee Kyle:

She received a tour of Centro Avance. She attended an Alternative Education graduation today. She also looks forward to attending the “Mask You Live in Screening” movie screening.

Trustee Roth:

She attended the retirement celebration for former Deputy-Superintendent Liann Reyes. She attended a graduation yesterday and looks forward to another one tomorrow.

Trustee Sanchez:

He attended the retirement celebration for former Deputy-Superintendent Liann Reyes.

15. AD HOC/STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTIONS

Vice President Larson asked the Community Outreach and Legislative Committee to consider creating a resolution recognizing International Holocaust Remembrance Day

16. 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, 2026

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

February 19, 2026

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

March 19, 2026

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

17. ADJOURNMENT

President Williams adjourned the meeting at 6:58 p.m.