



**Santa Cruz County Board of Education
Regular Board Meeting
Thursday, May 21, 2026 05:30 PM
COE Boardroom and/or Zoom**

Trustee Larson participated in the meeting via teleconference from the following location, which was open to the public: 57 Moloaa Street, Honolulu, HI 96825.

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

President Williams called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Trustees Present:

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

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

Trustee Absent at the time of Roll Call:

Ed Acosta, Abel Sanchez

Staff Present:

Faris Sabbah (Superintendent), Verenise Figueroa, Nick Ibarra, Rebecca Olker, Andres Ortiz, Dr. Marcia Russell

1.1 Board Member Remote Attendance Approval

There were no requests for remote attendance.

President Williams disclosed that Vice President Larson is participating in the meeting under traditional Brown Act teleconferencing, with his location disclosed on the agenda. She also disclosed that all votes will be roll call.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

President Williams opened the meeting with a land acknowledgment. This

acknowledgment honored the original stewards of the land and affirms the Board’s commitment to respect, reflection, and responsibility in our service to the community.

Superintendent Sabbah disclosed that live Spanish interpretation is available for any members of the public.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Superintendent Sabbah led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved By Trustee Van Allen

Seconded By Trustee Kyle

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
Trustee Van Allen	X				
President Williams	X				
Results	5	0	0	0	2

Motion Type: Majority Voted, Recorded

Carried (5 to 0)

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

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Bina Lefkovitz (Community Member) thanked the board for their membership to ACCBE and encouraged board members to join the advocacy committee.

Trustee Sanchez arrived at the meeting at 5:41 p.m.

6. STUDENT TRUSTEE REPORTS

Student Trustee Guillen Martinez:

He worked at the outdoor science camp recently and enjoyed his experience returning to the campus. He shared that he's received several scholarships and announced that he will be attending California State University, Monterey Bay in the Fall.

Student Trustee Immoor:

He shared that he participated in an EMT class ride along. He spoke at the COE Pride Flag Harvey Milk Celebration. He also shared that he received an award at the Queer Youth Leadership Awards.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

Trustee Roth disclosed that she will abstain from voting since she was absent for the April 16, 2026, board meeting.

Moved By Trustee Van Allen

Seconded By Student Trustee Immoor

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				
Trustee Van Allen	X				
President Williams	X				
Results	5	0	1	0	1

Motion Type: Majority Voted, Recorded

Carried (5 to 0)

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

7.1 Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on April 16, 2026

7.2 Budget Revisions

7.3 2026-2027 Personnel Commission Budget

8. DEFERRED CONSENT ITEMS (if required)

No consent items were deferred.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence received from Monica Nichols regarding kinder oral health was added to the packet.

10. REPORTS, DISCUSSIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS

10.1 2026 Educators and Community Partner of the Year

Each year, the Santa Cruz County Board of Education celebrates the accomplishments of teachers, classified employees, administrators, school counselors, and a local Community Partner. Award recipients are nominated by their peers and are awarded a plaque of outstanding achievement by Superintendent Sabbah.

Award Recipients:

Teacher of the Year - Shireen Goudarzi, Pajaro Valley Unified School District

Co-Counselor of the Year - Cynthia Fernandez, Santa Cruz City Schools District

Co-Counselor of the Year - Kayla Raymond, San Lorenzo Valley Unified School District

Classified Employee of the Year - Emily Tatro, Linscott Charter School

Administrator of the Year - Marina Maldonado, Pajaro Valley Unified School District

Community Partner of the Year - Cabrillo College

Michael Berman, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, Pajaro Valley Unified School District, shared appreciation for Shireen Goudarzi.

Keresha Durham, Ark Independent Studies & AFE Teacher, shared appreciation for Cynthia Fernandez.

Shanna Urbancic, Principal of San Lorenzo Valley Middle School, shared appreciation for Kayla Raymond.

Alicia Doolittle, Administrative Director and Principal, shared appreciation for Emily Tatro.

Various staff members from Amesti Elementary School shared appreciation for Marina Maldonado.

Dr. Marcia Russell, Associate Superintendent, Educational Services, shared appreciation for Cabrillo College.

Trustee Acosta arrived at the meeting at 6:09 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Diego Montes (Student) shared his appreciation for Emily Tatro.

10.2 Santa Cruz COE’s Youth Led Leadership Alliance Presentation

Alongside Andres Ortiz, Student Leadership and Engagement Coordinator, students from the Santa Cruz County Office of Education’s Youth Led Leadership Alliance (YLLA), representing eight leadership groups with specific goals and objectives, shared their projects and highlights during the 2025-2026 school year.

10.3 Pacific Collegiate School Annual Diversity Update and Report

Christopher Guyer, Head of School, Pacific Collegiate School, alongside Mike Kubo, PCS board president, Rosamaria Garcia, PCS board vice president, and Jessica Alvarez, Director of Special Education, presented the Pacific Collegiate School report.

11. NEW BUSINESS AND ACTION

11.1 Resolution #26-23 Ordering Election, Requesting County Elections To Conduct The Election, Requesting Consolidation Of The Election, And Specifications Of The Election Order (Santa Cruz County)

Moved By Trustee Van Allen

Seconded By Trustee Roth

A motion was made to approve Resolution #26-23 Ordering Election, Requesting County Elections To Conduct The Election, Requesting Consolidation Of The Election, And Specifications Of The Election Order.

Voters	For	No	Abstain	Conflict	Absent
Trustee Acosta	X				
Trustee Kyle	X				
Vice President Larson	X				
Trustee Roth	X				
Trustee Sanchez	X				
Trustee Van Allen	X				
President Williams	X				
Results	7	0	0	0	0

Motion Type: Majority Voted, Recorded

Carried (7 to 0)

Student Trustee Guillen Martinez and Student Trustee Immoor voted yes to the

motion.

11.2 Resolution #26-24 Designating Authorized Representatives For State Allocation Board (SAB) Administered Programs

Moved By Trustee Kyle

Seconded By President Williams

A motion was made to approve Resolution #26-24 Designating Authorized Representatives For State Allocation Board (SAB) Administered Programs.

Voters	For	No	Abstain	Conflict	Absent
Trustee Acosta	X				
Trustee Kyle	X				
Vice President Larson	X				
Trustee Roth	X				
Trustee Sanchez	X				
Trustee Van Allen	X				
President Williams	X				
Results	7	0	0	0	0

Motion Type: Majority Voted, Recorded

Carried (7 to 0)

Student Trustee Immoor voted yes to this motion.

Student Trustee Guillen Martinez was absent during the vote.

11.3 Resolution #26-25 Recognizing National Foster Care Month

Moved By President Williams

Seconded By Student Trustee Immoor

A motion was made to approve Resolution #26-25 Recognizing National Foster Care Month.

Voters	For	No	Abstain	Conflict	Absent
Trustee Acosta	X				
Trustee Kyle	X				
Vice President Larson	X				
Trustee Roth	X				
Trustee Sanchez	X				
Trustee Van Allen	X				
President Williams	X				
Results	7	0	0	0	0

Motion Type: Majority Voted, Recorded

Carried (7 to 0)

Student Trustee Immoor voted yes to this motion.

Student Trustee Guillen Martinez was absent during the vote.

11.4 Resolution #26-26 Recognizing LGBTQIA2S+ Pride Month

Moved By Student Trustee Immoor

Seconded By Trustee Kyle

A motion was made to approve Resolution #26-26 Recognizing LGBTQIA2S+ Pride Month.

Voters	For	No	Abstain	Conflict	Absent
Trustee Acosta	X				
Trustee Kyle	X				
Vice President Larson	X				
Trustee Roth	X				
Trustee Sanchez	X				
Trustee Van Allen	X				
President Williams	X				
Results	7	0	0	0	0

Motion Type: Majority Voted, Recorded

Carried (7 to 0)

Student Trustee Guillen Martinez and Student Trustee Immoor voted yes.

11.5 Resolution #26-27 Recognizing Juneteenth

Moved By Trustee Van Allen

Seconded By Trustee Kyle

A motion was made to approve Resolution #26-27 Recognizing Juneteenth.

Voters	For	No	Abstain	Conflict	Absent
Trustee Acosta	X				
Trustee Kyle	X				
Vice President Larson	X				
Trustee Roth	X				
Trustee Sanchez	X				
Trustee Van Allen	X				
President Williams	X				
Results	7	0	0	0	0

Motion Type: Majority Voted, Recorded

Carried (7 to 0)

Student Trustee Guillen Martinez and Student Trustee Immoor voted yes.

11.6 Resolution #26-28 SOS For Student Achievement: Calling On The State Of California To Develop a Coherent, State-Focused Plan For Supporting Local Schools In Closing Achievement Gaps

Moved By Trustee Van Allen

Seconded By Student Trustee Immoor

A motion was made to approve Resolution #26-28 SOS For Student Achievement: Calling On The State Of California To Develop a Coherent, State-Focused Plan For Supporting Local Schools In Closing Achievement Gaps

Voters	For	No	Abstain	Conflict	Absent
Trustee Acosta	X				
Trustee Kyle	X				
Vice President Larson	X				
Trustee Roth	X				
Trustee Sanchez	X				
Trustee Van Allen	X				
President Williams	X				
Results	7	0	0	0	0

Motion Type: Majority Voted, Recorded

Carried (7 to 0)

Student Trustee Guillen Martinez and Student Trustee Immoor voted yes.

11.7 Resolution #26-29 Opposing the Expansion of Immigration Detention Facilities and Affirming Safe Access to Public Education

Moved By Trustee Acosta

Seconded By President Williams

A motion was made to approve Resolution #26-29 Opposing the Expansion of Immigration Detention Facilities and Affirming Safe Access to Public Education

Voters	For	No	Abstain	Conflict	Absent
Trustee Acosta	X				
Trustee Kyle	X				
Vice President Larson	X				
Trustee Roth	X				
Trustee Sanchez	X				

Trustee Van Allen	X				
President Williams	X				
Results	7	0	0	0	0

Motion Type: Majority Voted, Recorded

Carried (7 to 0)

Student Trustee Guillen Martinez and Student Trustee Immoor voted yes.

12. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

13. TRUSTEE REPORTS (3 minutes each)

Trustee Acosta left the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Vice President Larson:

He attended the PVUSD CAC meeting, attended the United Way Awards, Ed Tech for Success meeting, assisted at Queer Prom, attended the AEC planning meeting, the Think Big event, and attended QYLA.

Trustee Sanchez:

He attended the Women of the Year celebration and the CSBA webinar on the SOS campaign. He attended the Charter committee meeting and participated in a site visit with PCS.

Trustee Kyle:

She attended the CalKids luncheon, COE all staff picnic, CCBE webinar, attended Harbor High Scholarship night, and various end of the school year events.

Trustee Roth:

She attended the Scotts Valley Parcel Oversight Committee. She also attended the Charter committee meeting and participated in a site visit with PCS.

Trustee Van Allen:

He attended the YEA Summit and is looking forward to Black Grad and Santa Cruz Pride.

President Williams:

She attended the Live Oak Farm Lab dinner, the rainbow flag raising at the COE, Mar Vista anniversary celebration, webinar on building budgets, and a webinar on the SOS resolution.

14. AD HOC/STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS/ACTIONS

None.

14.1 Charter Committee Report

15. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Verenise Figueroa, Executive Assistant, Superintendent Department and County Board, disclosed that a closed session meeting will be added to the June 25th meeting to hold an Interdistrict Transfer Appeal Meeting.

16. ADJOURNMENT

President Williams adjourned the meeting at 9:06 p.m.