

Minutes for Regular Meeting #2458
APPROVED on March 19, 2025

Santa Clara County Board of Education
1290 Ridder Park Drive
San Jose, CA 95131

Minutes for Regular Meeting #2458
Wednesday, February 26, 2025
San Jose Room -- 3:00 p.m.

Members present:

Jessica Speiser, Raeena Lari, Don Rocha, Maimona Afzal Berta, Victoria Chon, Jorge Pacheco, Tara Sreekrishnan

1. OPEN SESSION - 3:00 P.M.

A. Call to Order and Roll Call

President Berta called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

B. Public Comment on Closed Session Item 2A

There was no public comment on Closed Session Item 2A.

2. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

The meeting adjourned to Closed Session at 3:04 p.m. President Berta called Closed Session to order at approximately 3:08 p.m. and called roll call. All trustees were present. The Board concluded Closed Session at 5:18 p.m.

A. Public Employee Appointment/Discussion, Position: Superintendent (Government Code Section 54957)

3. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION - 5:30 P.M.

A. Call to Order

The meeting reconvened to Open Session at 5:30 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Student Board Member Pastrana Jimenez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Land Acknowledgement

President Berta read the Land Acknowledgment.

D. Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session

There were no reportable actions taken in Closed Session.

E. Set the Agenda

Motion #2458-1 by Victoria Chon, second by Jorge Pacheco to set the agenda. Motion carried 7-0 with the following vote:

Yes: Jessica Speiser, Raeena Lari, Don Rocha, Maimona Afzal Berta, Victoria Chon, Jorge Pacheco, Tara Sreekrishnan

4. STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT

A. The student member of the Board may give reports on activities related to their duties as a member of the Santa Clara County Board of Education.

Student Board Member Elvis Pastrana Jimenez expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve as a student board member. He shared his goal of catching up on credits, enrolling in a dual program, and going to college. He would like to use his voice to make positive changes while a student at Osborne. He looks forward to sharing updates about the schools at upcoming meetings.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS OF PERSONS DESIRING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

There were 9 public comments.

6. BARGAINING UNITS' REPORTS

The President or designee of each bargaining unit were invited to present comments. Sarah Gianocar, SEIU Chapter President, and Riju Krishna, ACE President, both provided remarks.

7. CONSENT ACTION ITEMS

- A. Request Approval of Consent Action Items as listed in Item #7 Consent Action Items
- B. Request Approval of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting of February 5, 2025 (#2457)
- C. Request Adoption of Resolution Recognizing Women's History Month
- D. Request Adoption of Resolution Recognizing Youth Arts Month
- E. Accept Donation to the Santa Clara County Office of Education
- F. Request Approval of the Santa Clara County Office of Education Comprehensive School Safety Plans

Motion #2458-2 by Raeena Lari, second by Don Rocha to approve Consent Action Items as listed in Item #7 Consent Action Items. Motion carried 7-0 with the following vote:

Yes: Jessica Speiser, Raeena Lari, Don Rocha, Maimona Afzal Berta, Victoria Chon, Jorge Pacheco, Tara Sreekrishnan

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. 2024-25 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Mid-Year Report

Dr. Deborah Gorgulho, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Progress presented the 2024-25 LCAP Mid-Year Report. The full LCAP Report will return to the Board in May for further review.

B. Board of Trustees Head Start & Early Head Start Training

Dr. Kristen Lee, Manager of Early Learning, Planning & Support presented a refresher of the roles and responsibilities of the governing body for Head Start and Early Head Start. In accordance with the Head Start Performance Standards, the program is required to provide an orientation to the Governing Body regarding its roles and responsibilities. This is to ensure that all members are equipped to continue providing strong leadership. Given the addition of two new board members, the presenter expressed appreciation for the Board's time and patience in allowing the orientation presentation to be repeated.

9. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

There were 2 public comments for item 9A.

The Board adjourned to a closed session at approximately 6:46 p.m. President Berta called Closed Session to order at approximately 6:53 p.m. and called roll call. All trustees were present. The Board concluded Closed Session at 9:13 p.m.

A. Public Employee Appointment (Government Code 54957), Title: Interim Superintendent

B. Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation Significant Exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(2): 2 cases

10. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

A. Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session

The meeting reconvened to Open Session at 9:19 p.m. There were no reportable actions taken in Closed Session.

11. ACTION ITEMS

A. Discussion and Approval of Candidate(s) for Region 20 CSBA Delegate Assembly

The Board voted to select candidates for four seats on CSBA's Delegate Assembly for Region 20. The top four candidates chosen were Teresa Castellanos, Naomi Nakano-Matsumoto, Jorge Pacheco Jr., and Vaishali Sirkay.

B. Action on the Oversight, Financial, and Operational Memorandum of Understanding by and Between the Santa Clara County Office of Education and Alpha Jose Hernandez Charter School as well as the addendum to the MOU complying with the conditions of approval of the Charter.

Mefula Fairley, Executive Director of the Charter Schools Department provided a brief background on the MOU and addendum between SCCOE and Alpha Jose Hernandez Charter School (AJH).

Motion #2458-3 by Vice President Chon and second by Trustee Pacheco to approve the MOU and the addendum to the MOU and direct SCCOE to execute both agreements, thereby fulfilling the condition that the parties enter into an MOU governing SCCOE's oversight of Alpha Jose Hernandez (AJH) Charter School and an addendum to the MOU addressing the conditions of renewal for the AJH charter term of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2027. Motion carried 7-0 with the following vote:

Yes: Jessica Speiser, Raeena Lari, Don Rocha, Maimona Afzal Berta, Victoria Chon, Jorge Pacheco, Tara Sreekrishnan

C. Approval of Agreement for Interim Superintendent

Motion #2458-4 by Don Rocha, second by Jorge Pacheco to approve the Employment Agreement for the Interim Superintendent, with edits, adding language for three on-site work days. Motion carried 5-2 with the following vote:

Yes: Raeena Lari, Don Rocha, Maimona Afzal Berta, Victoria Chon, Jorge Pacheco

No: Jessica Speiser, Tara Sreekrishnan

12. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Committee members may provide or report on recent committee activities.

Trustee Lari reported that the Strong Start Coalition met via Zoom on Tuesday, February 11. Members heard a presentation from Cynthia Fong-Wan, Manager for Region 5 of the California Preschool Instructional Network, on their activities and the rollout of the new California preschool/transitional kindergarten learning foundation. Also, Jessica Kranz, Chief Compliance Officer for Go Kids, gave an overview of Go Kids childcare programs and their conversion of preschool classrooms to infant toddler classrooms in order to meet the needs of their community following the expansion of TK eligibility and the increases in infant toddler reimbursement rates. In addition, John Sweeney, Senior Legislative and Policy Analyst at SCCOE provided this month's coalition advocacy activity, which was to send a letter to the governor in support of a temporary extension of enrollment based funding for childcare programs. The next meeting will be on March 11.

Trustee Speiser reported that the Head Start Policy Council met on February 11. She was impressed with Dr. Lee's leadership and the engagement of parent representatives. The meeting included a presentation of the budget by the parent treasurer. Dr. Lee and staff were responsive to questions and provided additional information as needed. A special meeting via Zoom is scheduled for Monday and the next regular meeting is March 11.

13. COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER REPORTS

A. The members of the Board may give reports on any activities related to their duties as members of the Santa Clara County Board of Education

Trustee Pacheco expressed thanks to SCCOE staff for signing him up for the Coast to Coast event, where he will join Trustee Speiser in advocating for special education and other priorities alongside CSBA trustees.

Trustee Lari attended the Gilroy Community Peach Gathering and Vigil at City Hall on February 8, supporting individuals and families facing vulnerability and discrimination. She also attended the Mental Health Symposium at the South Bay Labor Council on February 10, which discussed the impact of mental health on workers, with Angela Ramos from CTA addressing effects on teachers and students. On February 25, she attended a program at Britton Middle School in Morgan Hill focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion and how to resist the forces that would like to dismantle DEI. She also visited Voices Morgan Hill to learn about their dual immersion Spanish-English program.

Trustee Speiser attended the SCCSBA Network Lunch and Learn. As a member of the Hoffmann Awards Committee, she visited several sites that will be recognized as Hoffmann Award winners, including Sartorrette Elementary School who's Home and School Club supports ELL Spanish-speaking families in bridging achievement gaps and fostering community engagement. Also, Access East Side, where the high school district secured internet access for the entire district and is working with feeder elementary district to expand connectivity.

14. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. The superintendent may give a report on any activities related to their duties.

Dr. Hinman expressed gratitude to the Board for their support and reaffirmed his commitment to serving until a permanent replacement is hired. He emphasized the importance of transparency regarding layoffs, noting that he has met with union leadership 3 times and shared relevant information. A letter was sent regarding how the determinations were made and the funding considerations involved. Dr. Hinman assured that all data would be shared openly. A follow-up meeting with union representatives is scheduled for the next day.

15. INFORMATION ITEM

A. Future Agenda Items

Trustee Pacheco requested an update on scheduling a board retreat.

Vice President Chon suggested scheduling visits to Osborne and Blue Ridge community schools.

16. CONSENT INFORMATION ITEMS (Information items provided for review that do not require presentation or action.)

A. Countywide Letter to the Community in Support of LGBTQIA+ Students

B. Schedule of Monthly Budget Revisions for Fiscal Year 2024-2025

C. Head Start/Early Head Start Monthly Board Reports

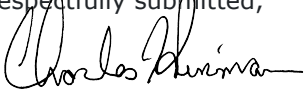
17. ADJOURNMENT

The next Santa Clara County Board of Education regular meeting is scheduled for March 5, 2025.

Motion #2458-5 by Raeena Lari, second by Victoria Chon to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 p.m. Motion carried 7-0 with the following vote:

Yes: Jessica Speiser, Raeena Lari, Don Rocha, Maimona Afzal Berta, Victoria Chon, Jorge Pacheco, Tara Sreekrishnan

Respectfully submitted,



Charles Hinman, Ed.D.
Interim County Superintendent of Schools
Ex-Officio Secretary