

Minutes for Regular Meeting #2685
APPROVED on June 10, 2026

Santa Clara County Board of Education

1290 Ridder Park Drive
San Jose, CA 95131

Wednesday, June 3, 2026
Regular Board Agenda (#2685)
San Jose Room
5:00 p.m.

1. SCCBOE CALL TO ORDER

A. Call to Order

Vice President Speiser called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION

There were no public comments.

3. CLOSED SESSION

The Board moved to Closed Session at approximately 5:04 p.m. Vice President Speiser called Closed Session to order at 5:14 p.m. and called roll. All trustees were present, except for President Chon, who arrived at 5:35 p.m.

A. Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Filed on Behalf of Student, Resident District: Alum Rock Union Elementary School District, Desired District: Berryessa Union School District

B. Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Filed on Behalf of Student, Resident District: Alum Rock Union Elementary School District, Desired District: Evergreen Elementary School District

C. Interdistrict Attendance Appeal Filed on Behalf of Student, Resident District: Palo Alto Unified School District, Desired District: Mountain View-Los Altos Union High School District

D. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation (Gov. Code § 54956.9(d)(2)): 4 cases

4. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

The Board concluded the Closed Session at approximately 6:57 p.m. and reconvened the Open Session at 7:01 p.m.

A. Roll Call (Including Action on Absences if Necessary)

Trustees Present:

Raeena Lari (*via teleconference*)
Maimona Afzal Berta
Don Rocha
Victoria Chon (*via teleconference - Just Cause*)
Jessica Speiser
Jorge Pacheco
Tara Sreekrishnan

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Student Board Member Andino led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. Land Acknowledgement

Student Board Member Andino read the Land Acknowledgement after the adoption of the agenda.

D. Set the Agenda

Motion #2685-1 by Tara Sreekrishnan, seconded by Maimona Afzal Berta, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

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

No: None

E. Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session

Vice President Speiser indicated that in the matter of 3A, the Board voted to approve the interdistrict transfer appeal.

Motion #2685-2 by Tara Sreekrishnan, seconded by Jessica Speiser, to approve the appeal based on factors 5 and 12 through 8th grade. Motion carried 4-2-1 with the following vote:

Yes: Raeena Lari, Jessica Speiser, Jorge Pacheco, Tara Sreekrishnan

No: Maimona Afzal Berta, Don Rocha

Not Present at Vote: Victoria Chon

Vice President Speiser indicated that in the matter of 3B, no action was taken.

Vice President Speiser indicated that in the matter of 3C, the Board voted to approve the interdistrict transfer appeal.

Motion #2685-3 by Raeena Lari, seconded by Tara Sreekrishnan, to approve the appeal based on factors 2 and 12 through 12th grade. Motion carried 5-2 with the following vote:

Yes: Raeena Lari, Victoria Chon, Jessica Speiser, Jorge Pacheco, Tara Sreekrishnan

No: Maimona Afzal Berta, Don Rocha

Vice President Speiser indicated that in the matter of 3D, no action was taken.

5. SPECIAL RECOGNITION

A. Recognition of the SCCOE Employee of the Month

Trustee Berta introduced the Santa Clara County Office of Education Employee of the Month, Srijita Sengupta Saha, Administrative Assistant II in the Youth Health & Wellness Department, who has served SCCOE for three years. Srijita was recognized for her strong collaboration and commitment to supporting her team. She balances priorities and projects while remaining responsive to her teammates' needs. She was also recognized for consistently offering ideas and solutions while serving as a reliable resource for both new and senior staff. Trustee Berta acknowledged Srijita's contributions and presented a plaque in recognition of her work at the Santa Clara County Office of Education, along with an engraved pen and a reserved parking space.

B. Recognition of the Santa Clara County Classified School Employees of the Year

Dr. Toston and Vice President Speiser recognized the 2026 Classified School Employees of the Year, selected from countywide nominations across nine occupational categories.

Certificates were presented to the following county honorees:

- Clerical and Administrative Services – Melody Jones, Campbell Union High School District
- Custodial and Maintenance Services – Maria Castillo, Alum Rock Union Elementary School District
- Food and Nutrition Services – Karina Duran, Franklin-McKinley School District
- Health and Student Services – Evelyn Lopez, Alum Rock Union Elementary School District
- Paraprofessional Services – Margarita Venegas Rayas, Franklin-McKinley School District
- Security Services – Archie Ljepava, Los Gatos-Saratoga Union High School District
- Skilled Trades Services – Manuel Delgado, Gilroy Unified School District
- Technical Services – Jenny Torres, Union School District
- Transportation Services – Fernando Crespo, Alum Rock Union Elementary School District

6. STUDENT BOARD MEMBER REPORT

Student Board Member Andino shared the following updates:

- Blue Ridge School: The forklift cohort completed training, with most students earning certification to operate forklifts on job sites.
- Osborne School: A student completed a State Seal of Civic Engagement project and presented it to family and staff.
- Community Schools: Students volunteered at an SCCOE family engagement event, assisting with setup and activities.

Student Board Member Andino shared that his State Seal of Civic Engagement project is near completion and expressed appreciation for the support received

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS OF PERSONS DESIRING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

There were seven public comments, including five in-person and two by phone.

8. BARGAINING UNITS' REPORTS

The President or designee of each bargaining unit was invited to present comments. Sarah Gianocar, Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Chapter President, provided remarks, including reading the report on behalf of Riju Krishna, Association of County Educators (ACE) President.

9. CONSENT ACTION ITEMS

- A. Request Approval of Consent Action Items as listed in Item #6 Consent Action Items**
- B. Request Adoption of Resolution Recognizing Juneteenth**
- C. Request Adoption of the Order of Election, Specifications of the Election, and Consolidation Request Resolution**

Motion #2685-4 by Tara Sreekrishnan, seconded by Victoria Chon, to approve Consent Action Items as listed in Item #9 Consent Action Items. Motion carried 6-0-1 with the following vote:

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

No: None

Not Present at Vote: Raeena Lari

10. PUBLIC HEARING

A. Conduct a Public Hearing for the 2025-26 Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP)

A public hearing on the 2025–26 Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) was conducted, with Vice President Speiser serving as Chairperson of the hearing. Dr. Matt Wayne, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, Eugene Santillan, Director of Alternative Education, Gema Alvarez, Manager, Implementation and Compliance, and Danny Martinez, a student at South County Community School, provided an overview of the LCAP development process, including stakeholder engagement and a needs assessment identifying key priorities such as attendance, academic achievement, and college and career readiness. Staff outlined strategies to improve outcomes, including enhanced instruction, targeted interventions, and expanded student supports. A student shared their experience, and a budget overview aligned to student needs was provided. The LCAP adoption is scheduled for June 10, 2026.

B. Conduct a Public Hearing on the 2026-27 County School Service Fund Budget

A public hearing on the 2026–27 County School Service Fund Budget was conducted, with Vice President Speiser serving as Chairperson of the hearing. Stephanie Gomez, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, and Lauren Nguyen, Director of Internal Business Services, acknowledged that the budget reflects the contributions of multiple departments and was developed in alignment with local, state, and federal requirements. It was noted that the budget addresses current fiscal challenges while maintaining long-term solvency. They presented an overview of the 2026-27 budget, developed using the most current information available from state and local sources. The budget reflects a multi-year planning process and includes projected revenues, expenditures, and funding allocations, with an emphasis on restricted funding requirements and ongoing fiscal constraints.

11. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Employee Compensation Increase Exceeds the EC 1302 (a) Limit

Dr. Toston presented an informational item regarding a negotiated salary increase affecting nine employees in the PSWA bargaining unit. The increase reflects efforts to align salary schedules with comparable positions requiring similar credentials.

B. Future Agenda Items

Trustee Sreekrishnan acknowledged staff efforts related to an upcoming resolution on air pollution awareness.

Trustee Pacheco requested an update on the implementation of Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) strategies in December 2026.

12. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Vice President Speiser reported on recent meetings of the Head Start Policy Council and Policy Development Subcommittee. The Head Start Policy Council concluded its final meeting of the school year, where members were recognized for their service. Discussion included recruitment, governance, and strategies to increase engagement and input. The Policy Development Subcommittee reviewed updates to board policies, with multiple revised policies to be presented at an upcoming meeting.

13. COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER REPORTS

Trustee Sreekrishnan highlighted SCCOE's participation in the Santa Clara County Youth Climate Initiative and requested that related outcomes be shared through Impact Weekly or brought back to the Board.

Trustee Berta reported attending various events, including the Hoffman Awards, Student Board Member Symposium, staff recognition awards, and school site visits.

Trustee Pacheco reported making contact with the East Side Union High School District, including a visit with the Superintendent. He noted that he has now connected with all districts in his trustee area and expressed his intent to continue strengthening those relationships.

14. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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

Dr. Toston reported attending recent events, including the staff appreciation awards, Hester and Ann Darling completion ceremonies, and the Ridder Park Preschool graduation. He also highlighted ongoing engagement with the Student Board Member Andino to gather student perspectives and noted upcoming end-of-year activities, including staffing transitions and recruitment efforts.

15. ADJOURNMENT

The next Santa Clara County Board of Education regular meeting is scheduled for June 10, 2026.

Motion #2685-5 by Maimona Afzal Berta, seconded by Jorge Pacheco, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 6-0-1 with the following vote:

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

No: None

Absent: Raeena Lari

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dr. David M. Toston, Sr.
County Superintendent of Schools
Ex-Officio Secretary