

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
SANTA MARIA JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

A regular meeting of the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District Board of Education was held at the Support Services Center on March 11, 2025 with a closed session scheduled at 5:00 p.m. and an open session immediately following.

Members present: Aguilar, Hernandez, Baskett, Serrano, Castillo-Shiffer

OPEN SESSION

Call to Order

Mr. Aguilar called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION PUBLIC COMMENTS

Name	Topic
Stacie Martinez	Personnel
Melissa Diaz	Personnel
Jessie Zambrano (read by Jenn Montanez)	Personnel
Jenn Montanez	Personnel
Teri Magni	Personnel
Laura Baines	Personnel
Sophia Hill	Personnel
Kathy Grimes	Personnel

The meeting was adjourned to a closed session.

RECONVENED IN OPEN SESSION/ANNOUNCED CLOSED SESSION ACTIONS

Mr. Aguilar called the meeting to order at 6:48 p.m. Student Board Representative, Abbygail Velazquez, led the Flag Salute.

The Board unanimously approved the Certificated/Classified Personnel Actions and Student Matters as presented.

In closed session, the Board unanimously approved Resolution 16-2024-2025 and authorized the Superintendent or his designee to notify a certificated administrative employee of the release and non-reelection from their current position. The Board also unanimously voted to approve Resolution 17-2024-2025 and authorize the Superintendent or his designee to notify a certificated Principal of the release from their current position and reassignment for the 2025-26 school year.

The Board acknowledged and thanked the community for sharing their thoughts on Ms. Herrera, recognizing her impact. It was emphasized that a thorough, impartial investigation with an external investigator, interviewing over 30 witnesses and reviewing extensive evidence, was conducted. While personnel decisions are taken seriously and require confidentiality,

the Board remains focused on students. Moving forward, they aim to provide more support for staff, particularly those working with students requiring specialized services. They encourage the community to unite in ensuring every student gets the education and support they deserve.

REPORTS

Student Reports

Abbygail Velazquez/PVHS: National FFA Week was a success. Pioneer Valley hosted its first campus cleanup on March 1st, rewarding clubs that collected the most trash. The theater program is wrapping up “Newsies” and will debut “You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown” in September. ASB elections concluded with newly installed officers. The Sprouts program continues educating elementary students on gardening. Seniors announced their Great Gatsby-themed prom for May 31st. FFA members competed in regional public speaking, with one advancing to the state finals and several proficiency and scholarship winners heading to the State FFA Convention in April. Upcoming events include the Panther Olympics and a Special Education Prom. Pioneer Valley has won the Outstanding Leadership Program Award.

Brooke Kelman/ERHS: Righetti is gearing up for spring with several events and achievements. The counseling team is recognizing students' academic success with awards and a special breakfast for the top ten Seniors. The Live Music Club will perform in the Greek Theater and Latinos Unidos is preparing for its annual district-wide conference. The FFA Fruit Tree Pruning team placed 3rd in the state and the Nursery Landscape team won first place at Allan Hancock College Field Day. ELPAC testing is nearly complete, and statewide testing is set to begin after spring break. Winter sports had a strong season, with all teams making CIF playoffs. Theater production “Mean Girls” and “The Big Show” are upcoming highlights. ASB has been busy with student engagement efforts, including a successful blood drive, leadership conferences, and planning for Class Spirit Week.

Manuel Zamudio Calderon/SMHS: The school is hosting the Jostens Renaissance Conference. ASB is preparing for the Castle Lead Leadership Conference and celebrating their Outstanding Leadership Award. They’re also running projects to recognize staff members. The College and Career Center has helped with over 400 FAFSA applications through Cash for College workshops and is planning an overnight college trip for juniors. They are also conducting financial literacy sessions and recognizing A-G students over the next two months. The Wellness Center is hosting support sessions focused on positive affirmations and goal setting. Class of 2025 will soon attend Grad Night. Santa Maria FFA is sending students to the State Leadership Conference. Teacher Mark DeBernardi is a finalist for the Golden Owl Award, and the chapter was recently named the #1 FFA chapter in California. The Santa Maria girls' soccer team won the CIF championship and reached the state semi-finals, while the track team is preparing for their upcoming home meet.

Flor Santos-Rodriguez/DHS: Delta’s counselor is taking students on a university tour of CSU Los Angeles, Northridge, and Channel Islands. The Robotics team is heading to the state championships for the third consecutive year. They also have a Zoom meeting scheduled

for the Judges' Choice Award. Next week, the annual College and Career Fair will feature over 25 businesses, colleges, and trade organizations. Term three ends on March 24th, and new students will start the final term of the school year. Yesterday, seniors and graduating juniors participated in the first Allan Hancock Launch to College event, where they met with counselors to plan their first semester schedules.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Garcia attended Pioneer Valley's "Newsies" musical and is looking forward to seeing Righetti's "Mean Girls" play and "The Big Show". Santa Maria High's FFA program was named the #1 chapter in California for 2024 out of over 360 chapters, recognizing student achievements and awards. The program, established in 1931, now has nine agricultural teachers and over 1,000 student members. Santa Maria's Counseling program has earned recognition as an ASCA Model Program (RAMP) by the American School Counselor Association, a national honor. The 10-member counseling team will be recognized at the ASCA Annual Conference in July.

In career and technical education, students in the Diesel Mechanics, Culinary, Cybersecurity, and Engineering pathways competed in the SkillsUSA regional competition, with six advancing to the state finals in April. The Family and Community Engagement program will celebrate a graduation tomorrow. Over the past seven weeks, parents in the Signature Family Engagement in Education program have developed skills to better support their children's education.

Board Member Reports

Mr. Aguilar: He attended a grant distribution event by the Fund for Santa Barbara, where students awarded grants to fellow students. He witnessed Melanie Smith from Righetti High School deliver powerful poetry readings at the Black History Month celebration at Allan Hancock College. He also attended the SMBSD Excellence in Education Awards and Gala, where several community members were present. Among the honorees was Dr. Castillo-Schiffer.

Ms. Hernandez: She is looking forward to the upcoming "Mean Girls" play and also acknowledged the recent student-led walkouts. While not district-supported, the student leaders did an outstanding job organizing and voicing their concerns. Her main reason for attending was to remind students that the school board supports them, that they have a right to education, and that the district remains a safe place for them.

Mr. Baskett: He had the opportunity to congratulate the Robotics team and recognize their ingenuity and hard work in developing new generations of robots. He expressed his respect for attendees despite differences of opinion.

Ms. Serrano: She visited the Righetti and Pioneer Valley Wellness Centers. She thanked and recognized Righetti staff for their support and for creating an inclusive space that provides safety and resources for students. At Pioneer Valley, the constant flow of students highlighted the importance of these spaces. Witnessing these wellness efforts reinforced the

significance of creating a positive and supportive school climate. She looks forward to visiting more campuses.

Dr. Castillo-Shiffer: She thanked the public who shared their thoughts. Their time and input are valued. She attended the Black History Month celebration at Allan Hancock College, where student leadership and community engagement were showcased. The event was co-sponsored by the district and the NAACP Santa Maria-Lompoc chapter. The family engagement team promoted literacy at the fair with books celebrating African American excellence. She is looking forward to seeing “Newsies” and “Mean Girls” to witness the incredible talent within our schools.

REPORTS FROM EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATIONS

CSEA: Ms. Grimes thanked personnel for facilitating the attendance of four instructional aides at a parent educator conference, with all expenses covered by the district. She looks forward to hearing their insights next month, and administrators will follow up to explore potential implementations. She appreciated resolving a misunderstanding, noting the importance of open communication for a positive workplace. Similarly, her meeting with the Superintendent was productive, addressing concerns and discussing ways to boost employee morale. Negotiations begin tomorrow with a focus on progress. She also highlighted the importance of ensuring all members feel encouraged and supported in their board meeting participation, emphasizing the need for a welcoming and respectful environment.

Faculty Association: No report.

OPEN SESSION PUBLIC COMMENTS

Name	Topic
Michael Loew	Personnel
Dr. Jaqueline Loew	Personnel

ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR ACTION

GENERAL

Initial Proposal for Successor Negotiations from the District to the California School Employees Association (CSEA) 2025-2028. INFORMATION ONLY. - Appendix D

Resource Person: Kevin Platt, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources; Joni McDonald, Director of Classified Human Resources

Government Code 3547 requires that all initial proposals in collective bargaining must be presented at a public meeting of the public school employer. The District’s initial proposals to CSEA are being presented to the public as an informational item. At the Board of Education meeting to be held on April 8, 2025, a public hearing will be held on the District’s initial proposals to CSEA. The public, having had a reasonable time to inform itself regarding the provisions of the initial proposals, will have an opportunity to express itself regarding the

proposals in the form of public comment during the hearing. Having received the public comment, the Board will vote to adopt the initial proposals. A copy of the initial proposal is attached as Appendix D in the agenda.

NO ACTION REQUIRED.

BUSINESS

2024-2025 Second Interim Report – Appendix E

Resource Person: Yolanda Ortiz, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services; Michelle Coffin, Director of Fiscal Services

California Education Code requires each school district to file two interim reports detailing the financial and budgetary status to the County Office of Education. The Second Interim report shall cover the period of July 1, 2024 through January 31, 2025 and be approved by the Board of Education no later than 45 days after the close of this period.

The County Superintendent shall certify in writing that the district can meet its financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year, based on current forecasts and assumptions, and for the subsequent two fiscal years.

The certification shall be classified as:

- 1) Positive Certification will be assigned indicating that the district can meet its financial obligations for the current and subsequent two years, or
- 2) Qualified Certification will be assigned to a school district if it may not meet its financial obligations for the current year and the subsequent two years, or
- 3) Negative Certification will be assigned to a school district that, based upon current projections, will be unable to meet its financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year or in the subsequent two fiscal years.

The full report is in accordance with the state-adopted Standards and Criteria, is posted on the District website at www.smjuhsd.org.

A motion was made by Ms. Serrano and seconded by Ms. Hernandez to adopt a Positive Certification for the Second Interim report for fiscal year 2024-2025 as shown in Appendix E. The motion passed with a roll call vote of 5-0.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Aguilar	Yes
Ms. Hernandez	Yes
Mr. Baskett	Yes
Ms. Serrano	Yes
Dr. Castillo-Shiffer	Yes

Authorization to Make Budget Revisions – Resolution 15-2024-2025

Resource Person: Yolanda Ortiz, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services

Income and expenditures have been updated in accordance with revenues, grant awards, personnel and other expenditure adjustments. The working budget, as shown in the Projected Year Totals column of the 2024-2025 Second Interim Report has been adjusted to reflect these changes, is presented as Resolution Number 15-2024-2025.

A motion was made by Mr. Baskett and seconded by Dr. Castillo-Shiffer to approve Resolution Number 15-2024-2025 authorizing budget revisions as identified in the 2024-2025 Second Interim Report. The motion passed with a roll call vote of 5-0.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Aguilar	Yes
Ms. Hernandez	Yes
Mr. Baskett	Yes
Ms. Serrano	Yes
Dr. Castillo-Shiffer	Yes

Measure H2016 Bond Audit for Year Ended June 30, 2024

Resource Person: Yolanda Ortiz, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services

In accordance with Proposition 39 Bond Funding Requirements, an independent audit of the financial statements of the proceeds and expenditures from the issuance of the Measure H2016 Bond was conducted for the year ended June 30, 2024. The audit was completed by the firm of Christy White Accountancy Corporation. The audit report is hereby presented to the Board of Education for review and acceptance. Copies of the report are on file at the District Support Services Center for review by the public.

A motion was made by Mr. Baskett and seconded by Dr. Castillo-Shiffer to review and accept the Measure H2016 Bond Financial Statements for the year ended June 30, 2024. The motion passed with a roll call vote of 5-0.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Aguilar	Yes
Ms. Hernandez	Yes
Mr. Baskett	Yes
Ms. Serrano	Yes
Dr. Castillo-Shiffer	Yes

CONSENT ITEMS

A motion was made by Ms. Hernandez and seconded by Mr. Baskett to approve the consent items as presented. The motion passed with a roll call vote of 5-0.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Aguilar	Yes
Ms. Hernandez	Yes
Mr. Baskett	Yes
Ms. Serrano	Yes
Dr. Castillo-Shiffer	Yes

A. Approval of Minutes – **Appendix G**

Regular Board Meeting - February 11, 2025
 Governance Team Training – February 14, 2025
 Special Board Meeting - February 25, 2025

B. Approval of Warrants for the Month of February 2025

Payroll	\$ 12,118,967.54
Warrants	\$ 2,189,315.13
Total	\$ 14,308,282.67

C. Attendance Report

Ms. Yolanda Ortiz, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, was available to answer questions regarding the sixth month of the 2024-2025 monthly attendance report.

D. Approval of Contracts

Company/Vendor	Description of Services	Amount/ Funding	Resource Person
Audiology Solutions LA	Independent Educational Evaluation services - Audiology assessment for student JM - Case S-0155-24/25 from February 7, 2025 to February 5, 2026.	\$1,800/LEA Medical Billing	Krista Herrera
Dr. Cornelius Miettus / Vision Therapy Santa Barbara	Independent Educational Evaluation services - Vision assessment for student JM - Case S-0155-24/25 from February 26, 2025 to February 26, 2026.	\$2,000/LEA Medical Billing	Krista Herrera

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Dr. Spencer Wetter/ Applied Neuropsychology, Inc.	Independent Educational Evaluation/Psych services for student JM - Case S-0155-24/25 from February 19, 2025 to February 19, 2026.	\$6,000/LEA Medical Billing	Krista Herrera
Kellie Henkel/Lights on Learning	Independent Educational Evaluation services for student JM - Case S-0155-24/25 from February 7, 2025 to February 5, 2026	\$3,000/LEA Medical Billing	Krista Herrera
Magic School, Inc.	AI tools for education will be used for lessons plans, to build content, create custom content from June 1, 2025 to May 31, 2026.	\$45,000/LCAP 2.2	Krista Herrera
Savvas	Integrated Math II textbooks adoption beginning June 1, 2025	\$453,420/Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant	Krista Herrera
SOS Entertainment	DJ sound, lighting and photo booth services for ERHS Prom on May 10, 2025.	\$8,270/Class of 2025	Yolanda Ortiz

E. Facility Report – **Appendix B**

F. Obsolete Equipment - **Appendix C**

Education Code §17545 and 17546 allows the district to dispose of personal property belonging to the district that is unsatisfactory, no longer necessary (obsolete), or unsuitable for school use. The district administration requested authorization to dispose of obsolete items in the list below in compliance with government regulations. If an auction is warranted, the district will conduct an auction via the internet by and through the website <https://www.publicsurplus.com/sms/browse/home>. Auction notice will be posted in no less than three public places within the District, including the District’s website at <http://www.smjuhsd.org>

G. Annual Update of Pupil Transportation Services Plan – **Appendix F**

In accordance with Education Code Section 39800.1 (a) the district adopted a plan describing the transportation services it will offer to its pupils and how it will prioritize planned transportation services for pupils who are low income. The plan requirement shall be updated by April 1 each year and is a condition of receiving 60% transportation funding under Education Code Section 41850.1. It was recommended that the Board of Education approve the Annual Update of Pupil Transportation Services Plan as presented in Appendix F.

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- H. District-Wide Edge Switch Refresh ERATE #24-480: Approval of Deductive Change Order (CO) No. 1.

The original contract amount was \$2,244,010.60. CO. No. 1 is for the credit amount of \$411,955.93 and includes reimbursements for overestimated taxes, three unused pieces of equipment, and E-RATE grant funds routed through the contractor from the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC). The cost of the deductive CO decreases the contract amount to \$1,832,054.67.

- I. Notice of Completion

The following projects are substantially complete. To file the necessary Notice of Completion forms with the County of Santa Barbara, the Acceptance of Substantial Completion needs to be formally accepted by the Board of Education.

1) Mark Richardson Career Technical Education and Agricultural Farm #25-512 Base Stabilization with Nex Gen General Engineering, Inc., Contractor. Substantial Completion on February 3, 2025.

- J. Purchase Orders

PO #	Vendor	Amount	Description/Funding
PO25-01246	Convergeone, Inc.	\$652,357.42	Project 25-515 Verkada Security Cameras all sites / GF 01 LCAP 3.1
PO25-01241	Santa Barbara County SELPA	\$344,280.00	NPS FY 24-25 / GF 01 Federal & State Mental Health
PO25-01210	Lenovo (United States) Inc.	\$76,636.25	ThinkStationP3 Tiny, Computers & Monitors SMHS / GF 01 CTEIG & LCAP 1.3
PO25-01254	Apple Computer, Inc.	\$78,871.63	Freshman iPads & covers SPED Dept Qty 200 – GF 01 LCAP 2.1
PO25-01175	Bentley Mills, Inc.	\$38,986.04	Project 17-267.2.2 SMHS 37 Classroom MOD carpet / FD 40
PO25-01176		\$47,011.74	Project 17-267.2.1 SMHS Admin to Classroom carpet / FD 40
PO25-01190		\$31,166.40	Project 17-267.2.2 SMHS 37 MOD Phase 2 / FD 40
PO25-01191		\$45,271.12 <u>\$162,435.30</u>	Project 17-267.2.2 SMHS 37 MOD Phase 3 / FD 40
R25-03985	County Clerk-Recorder-Assessor	\$157,071.14	2024 Presidential General Election Trustee Area # 3 & Measure J2024 / GF 01 Business Admin. Budget

- K. Student Matters - Education Code Sections §35146 & §48918

Administrative Recommendation to order expulsion: 358774, 368791

L. Approval of New Course Adoptions

The following new courses were presented to the Board of Education for approval. Full course descriptions are available for review at the District Office or on the district website www.smjuhsd.org under [Curriculum Dept – Course Descriptions](#).

Stagecraft 1

This is a class designed to teach the art of theatrical design, implementation, and production to students who are interested in set construction and decoration, lighting, sound, properties, costumes, company or stage management, and arts administration. Each student will be able to demonstrate a mastery of the fundamental principles of technical production work. This class will also be responsible for running and maintaining the theater complex for the other performing arts disciplines, the school, and the community.

Stagecraft 2

In this class, the skills and understandings demonstrated in Stagecraft 1 are further developed. Knowledge and skills in set construction and working with stage lighting and sound move away from being demonstrated in classroom projects to being applied to the larger productions being produced on the main stage by the department. The emphasis in this class is on further developing skills in working with sets, lighting, and sound rather than on the designing of these aspects of technical theater.

Dance 1

The Beginning Dance course will allow students to meet the general High School Arts requirement. In this course, students will explore the art forms of jazz, contemporary, modern, ballet, lyrical, hip hop, and choreography.

Dance 2

The Advance Dance course will allow students to meet the general High School Arts requirement. In this course, students will explore the art forms of jazz, contemporary, modern, ballet, lyrical, hip hop, and choreography.

Performance Theatre 1

This course is designed to immerse students in the world of theater, focusing on both performance and production aspects. Students will delve into the art of theatrical performance, which includes audition techniques, character study, memorization, connection, rehearsing, choreography, and vocal training.

Performance Theater 2

This course is designed to offer students an advanced look at theatrical performance while focusing on both performance and production aspects. Students

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will continue to refine their skills in theatrical performance, which includes audition techniques, character study memorization, connection, rehearsing, choreography, and vocal training.

M. Discard or Sell Obsolete Textbooks

The following textbooks were submitted for discard by PVHS.

Textbook Title	ISBN #	# of Copies
Arcadia	978-0-8021-2699-3	36

N. Out of State Travel

Person/Reason	Location/Date	Description	Funding Source
Krista Herrera (DO), Matt Fraijo (DO), Emily Valdez-Rodriguez (LC) + up to 16 Instructional Coaches Teaching Learning Coaching Conference	Phoenix, AZ Oct 5, 2025 – Oct 7, 2025	Largest conference designed specifically for instructional coaches and the team members who work with them. This event includes sessions to improve overall school culture and facilitate healthy conversations, and is a valuable learning opportunity for coaches, administrators, and teachers.	LCAP 4.1

O. UCSB Supervised Field Placement Agreement for 2024/25 School Year

The Regents of the University of California (UCSB) have requested the District's participation in field placement for their Counseling, Clinical, and School Psychology students commencing on March 1, 2025 – June 30, 2029, whereby the District would provide experience in a practical school setting. The District's participation in these programs benefit both the new educators that are training for their credentialing programs and also allows the District firsthand experience with prospective candidates for future Counselor and School Psychologist vacancies.

P. Acceptance of Gifts

Pioneer Valley High School		
<u>Donor</u>	<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Snap Mobile, Inc.	G. Basketball	\$1,201.40
Rotary Club of Santa Maria Breakfast	PVHS Band	\$150.00
Rotary Club of Santa Maria Breakfast	PVHS Cheer	\$150.00
Total Pioneer Valley High School		<u>\$1501.40</u>
Righetti High School		

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<u>Donor</u>	<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Snap! Mobile, Inc.	Soccer-Girls	\$6,062.38
Snap! Mobile, Inc.	Righetti Swim 2025	\$1,447.00
Central Coast Traffic Safety, Inc./Jose Negrete	Basketball-Boys	\$451.64
Snap! Mobile, Inc.	Soccer-Girls	\$6,062.38
Total Righetti High School		<u>\$7,961.02</u>
Santa Maria High School		
<u>Donor</u>	<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Groupraise.com, Inc	Boys Wrestling	\$307.41
Panda Restaurant Group, Inc	Boys Wrestling	\$149.80
Walden Au	Boys Wrestling	\$300.00
CAUSE Central Coast Alliance	Ballet Folklorico	\$150.00
Cops and Cars	FFA – Swine	\$1250.00
Total Santa Maria High School		<u>\$2,157.21</u>
Delta High School		
<u>Donor</u>	<u>Recipient</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Robotics Education & Competition Foundation	DHS Robotics	300.00
Total Delta High School		<u>\$300.00</u>

FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2025

Unless otherwise announced, the next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on April 8, 2025 Closed session is scheduled to begin at 5:15 p.m. Open session begins at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the District Support Services Center. For view only live-stream links, please refer to page 1 of the agenda.

Regular Board Meetings for 2025:

- | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| May 13, 2025 | July 15, 2025* | October 14, 2025 |
| June 10, 2025 | August 5, 2025* | November 4, 2025* |
| June 13, 2025* | September 9, 2025 | December 9, 2025 |

**Not on the second Tuesday of the month*

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.