

SANTA MARIA JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION

CSBA Professional Governance Standards

Adopted by the Santa Maria Joint Union High School District April 11, 2001

THE BOARD

School districts and county offices of education are governed by boards, not by individual trustees. While understanding their separate roles, the board and superintendent work together as a “governance team.” This team assumes collective responsibility for building unity and creating a positive organizational culture in order to govern effectively.

To operate effectively, the board must have a unity of purpose and:

- Keep the district focused on learning and achievement for all students.
- Communicate a common vision.
- Operate openly, with trust and integrity.
- Govern in a dignified and professional manner, treating everyone with civility and respect.
- Govern within board-adopted policies and procedures.
- Take collective responsibility for the board’s performance.
- Periodically evaluate its own effectiveness.
- Ensure opportunities for the diverse range of views in the community to inform board deliberations.

THE INDIVIDUAL TRUSTEE

In California’s public education system, a trustee is a person elected or appointed to serve on a school district or county board of education. Individual trustees bring unique skills, values and beliefs to their board. In order to govern effectively, individual trustees must work with each other and the superintendent to ensure that a high quality education is provided to each student.

To be effective, an individual trustee:

- Keeps learning and achievement for *all* students as the primary focus.
- Values, supports and advocates for public education.
- Recognizes and respects differences of perspective and style on the board and among staff, students, parents and the community.
- Acts with dignity, and understands the implications of demeanor and behavior.
- Keeps confidential matters confidential.
- Participates in professional development and commits the time and energy necessary to be an informed and effective leader.
- Understands the distinctions between board and staff roles, and refrains from performing management functions that are the responsibility of the superintendent and staff.
- Understands that authority rests with the board as a whole and not with individuals.



Board of Trustee Action Plans
Santa Maria Joint Union High School District

- **Maximize Student Success**
- **Develop and Maintain a Districtwide Accountability System**
- **Enhance Student Support Services: Facilities, Technology, Safe, Clean, Nurturing Environment; Expand Food Services**
- **Foster Partnerships**
- **Manage Rapid District Growth**

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD

The primary responsibilities of the board are to set a direction for the district, provide a structure by establishing policies, ensure accountability and provide community leadership on behalf of the district and public education. To fulfill these responsibilities, there are a number of specific jobs that effective boards must carry out.

Effective boards:

- Involve the community, parents, students and staff in developing a common vision for the district focused on learning and achievement and responsive to the needs of all students.
- Adopt, evaluate and update policies consistent with the law and the district's vision and goals.
- Maintain accountability for student learning by adopting the district curriculum and monitoring student progress.
- Hire and support the superintendent so that the vision, goals and policies of the district can be implemented.
- Conduct regular and timely evaluations of the superintendent based on the vision, goals and performance of the district, and ensure that the superintendent holds district personnel accountable.
- Adopt a fiscally responsible budget based on the district's vision and goals, and regularly monitor the fiscal health of the district.
- Ensure that a safe and appropriate educational environment is provided to all students.
- Establish a framework for the district's collective bargaining process and adopt responsible agreements.
- Provide community leadership on educational issues and advocate on behalf of students and public education at the local, state and federal levels.



BOARD OF EDUCATION

Special Meeting
February 14, 2025
8:00 a.m.

Santa Maria Inn – Hancock Room
801 South Broadway, Santa Maria, California 93454

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, for those requiring special assistance to access the Board meeting room, to access written documents being discussed at the Board meeting, or to otherwise participate at Board meetings, please contact Arcy Pineda at 805-922-4573, Ext. 4202 for assistance. Notification at least 48 hours before the meeting will enable the District to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the Board meeting and to provide any required accommodations, auxiliary aids or services.

Documents provided to a majority of the Governing Board regarding an open session item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection in the District Office at the noted address above, during normal business hours. In addition, such writings and documents are posted on the District's website: www.smjehsd.org

AGENDA

I. OPEN SESSION

A. Call to Order/Flag Salute

II. OPEN SESSION PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public comment for a special board meeting is limited to items on the agenda. The Board appreciates all public participation in the meeting, but it cannot engage in discussion or specifically respond during the public comment period (Board Bylaw 9323; citing Education Code § 35145.5; Government Code § 54954.3).

III. GOVERNANCE TEAM TRAINING

Resource Person: Antonio Garcia, Superintendent

The Board and Superintendent will participate in a Governance Team Training led by Superintendent Garcia.

IV. FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2025

Unless otherwise announced, the next regular meeting of the Board of Education will be held on March 11, 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, refer to page 1 of the agenda.

Regular Board Meetings for 2025:

April 8, 2025	July 15, 2025*	October 14, 2025
May 13, 2025	August 5, 2025*	November 4, 2025*
June 10, 2025	September 9, 2025	December 9, 2025
June 13, 2025*		

**Not on the second Tuesday of the month*

V. ADJOURN
