

SULPHUR SPRINGS UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting of the Governing Board

May 14, 2025

MINUTES

Meeting Location:

Sulphur Springs Union School District
Administrative Offices
27000 Weyerhaeuser Way
Santa Clarita, CA 91350

STAFF PRESENT:

Dr. Catherine Kawaguchi, Superintendent
Dr. Joshua Randall, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services
Mrs. Julie McBride, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services
Ms. Nancy Raygoza, District Executive Secretary

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Mr. Denis DeFigueiredo, President
Mrs. Shelley Weinstein, Clerk
Mr. Ken Chase, Member
Mrs. Lori MacDonald, Member
Mrs. Paola Jellings, Member

Call to Order, Roll Call

Mr. DeFigueiredo called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:02 PM and noted the roll. Mr. DeFigueiredo established that there is a quorum.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. DeFigueiredo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda,

*DeFigueiredo-Aye
Weinstein-Aye
Chase-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Jellings-Aye*

The motion was made by Mr. Chase seconded by Mrs. Jellings, and passed 5-0 by voice vote, to approve the Agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the April 30, 2025, REGULAR MEETING

*DeFigueiredo-Aye
Weinstein-Aye
Chase-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Jellings-Aye*

The motion was made by Mrs. Weinstein, seconded by, Mrs. MacDonald and passed 5-0 by voice vote, to approve the Minutes of the April 30, 2025, Regular Board Meeting.

Hearing Session, *Recognize District Spelling Bee Winners*

The Board of Trustees congratulated the winners of the District's Spelling Bee Contest. The Board of Trustees and District staff shared that the dedication, hard work, and exceptional spelling skills displayed by these students is commendable. Their achievements highlight the academic excellence nurtured within the District, and the Board is incredibly proud to celebrate their success. The Board of Trustees recognized the following students and presented them with plaques:

- 1st Place: Zadié Aguilar, Canyon Springs Community School
- 2nd Place: Yuktha Saravana Kumar, Golden Oak Community School
- 3rd Place: Liam Flores, Mitchell Community School

Mr. DeFigueiredo announced a recess at 7:10 PM.

The meeting reconvened at 7:12 PM.

Hearing Session,
*Advance Request(s)
to Address the
Board*

Mr. DeFigueiredo asked if any advanced requests to address the Board had been received. There were no requests to address the Board.

Hearing Session,
*Comments and/or
Questions Regarding
Agenda Items*

Mr. DeFigueiredo asked if there were any comments or questions regarding agenda items. There were no comments or questions regarding agenda items.

**Consent
Calendar,**
*DeFigueiredo-Aye
Weinstein-Aye
Chase-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Jellings-Aye*

The motion was made by Mrs. Jellings, seconded by Mr. Chase, and passed 5-0 by voice vote, to approve the Consent Calendar, as follows:

- Conference Action Report #25-08
- Field Trip Action Report #25-08
- Gift Action Report #25-08
- Personnel Action Report #25-08
- Eide Bailly Audit Services Contract
- Agreement with Fagen Friedman & Fulfrost, LLP
- Contract with Parker & Covert, LLP
- Consultant Agreement - Mobile Ed. Productions, Inc. - Expanded Learning Opportunities Program
- LA County Public Safety and Security Services, LLC
- Transportation Rates 2025-2026
- Assistant Principal Job Description Update
- Memorandum of Understanding Between Sulphur Springs Union School District and Alliant International University Regarding Student Teaching and Counseling Internship
- Memorandum of Understanding between Sulphur Springs Union School District and the Newhall School District Regarding the Teacher Induction Agreement
- Obsolete Benchmark Advance English Language Arts for California, 2013
- Approval of Proposal for Engineering Services for the Solar PV Design for the New School Located in the Skyline Ranch Community.

**Conference
Calendar,**
*Preschool-6th
Extensive Support
Needs (ESN)
Curriculum Adoption
Update*

Mrs. Julie McBride, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, and Mr. Paul Frisina, Executive Director of Special Education Services and Student Support Services, presented an update on the curriculum adoption for the Preschool-6th Grade Valley View Regional Program to the Board of Trustees. The Sulphur Springs Union School District is currently reviewing, piloting, and recommending the adoption of a research-based and developmentally appropriate curriculum for our Preschool-6th Grade Extensive Support Needs (ESN) students at Canyon Springs, Leona Cox, Pinetree, and Sulphur Springs Community Schools.

**Conference
Calendar,**
*Expanded Learning
Opportunities
Program (ELO-P)
Presentation 2024-
2025*

Mrs. Vivian Fiss, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Educational Services, presented an update to the Board of Trustees on the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELO-P) for the 2024–2025 school year. The presentation reviewed the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELO-P) for the 2024–2025 school year. It outlined program requirements under Assembly Bill 130, focusing on serving unduplicated students (English learners, low-income, foster youth, or homeless). Key components included a 9-hour day, targeted academic instruction using i-Ready, and various enrichment activities such as music, art, and sports. Mrs. Fiss shared the summer program details, highlighting free meals, transportation, and academic support. Ms. Fiss shared a two-year comparison of student enrollment across school sites, which showed participation trends.

Conference Calendar,
Los Angeles County School Trustees Association (LACSTA), Executive Board Election

Mr. DeFigueiredo shared information with the Board of Trustees regarding the Los Angeles County School Trustees Association (LACSTA), Executive Board Election list of candidates. The Board of Trustees reviewed the list of candidates and provided direction to President DeFigueiredo on which candidates to vote for regarding the LACSTA Executive Board.

Action Calendar,
Recommendation for Preschool-6th Valley View Regional Program Developmental Curriculum Adoption
DeFigueiredo-Aye
Weinstein-Aye
Chase-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Jellings-Aye

Ms. McBride presented the recommendation to the Board of Trustees to approve Frog Street as the developmental curriculum for Preschool-6th grade students in the Valley View Regional Program, starting in the 2025-2026 school year. Ms. McBride shared that the recommendation follows a review and pilot of Frog Street and Creative Curriculum during the 2024-2025 school year, focusing on early learning and development across various subjects.

The motion was made by Mrs. Weinstein, seconded by Mrs. MacDonald, and passed 5-0 by voice vote, to approve the recommendation to adopt Frog Street for the Preschool-6th Valley View Regional Program Developmental Curriculum beginning in the 2025-2026 school year.

Action Calendar,
Inclusive Primary Playground - Canyon Springs Community School
DeFigueiredo-Aye
Weinstein-Aye
Chase-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Jellings-Aye

Dr. Kawaguchi presented information regarding the new primary inclusive playground at Canyon Springs Community School. She shared that the new playground incorporates the principles of inclusive play and addresses the whole child. Dr. Kawaguchi shared the importance of every child, regardless of their ability, having access to the playground and being able to play side-by-side with other children.

Dr. Kawaguchi noted that our District was the first in Santa Clarita Valley to have an inclusive playground, highlighting the Valley View Community School's playground, which opened in 2017. This playground received national recognition from a healthcare staffing company in 2023.

The Board of Trustees expressed pride in serving as a model for inclusive playgrounds not only in the city of Santa Clarita Valley but also for other school districts. The District has inspired other districts to incorporate more play structures for children of all abilities.

The motion was made by Mrs. Weinstein, seconded by Mrs. MacDonald, and passed 5-0 by voice vote, to approve the Inclusive Primary Playground - Canyon Springs Community School.

Action Calendar,
Approval of Low Bid Contractor JAM Fire Protection dba JAM Corp. to Provide Construction Services for the Canyon Springs Community School Fire Alarm Replacement Project
DeFigueiredo-Aye
Weinstein-Aye
Chase-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Jellings-Aye

Dr. Joshua Randall, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services, presented the low bid proposal for the Fire Alarm Replacement Project at Canyon Springs Community School, allowing JAM Corp. to provide construction services. Dr. Randall explained that the project involves replacing all wiring and devices related to the fire alarm system. JAM Corp. was the only company to submit a bid for this project.

The motion was made by Mrs. Jellings, seconded by Mrs. Weinstein, and passed 5-0 by voice vote, to approve the low bid contractor, JAM Fire Protection, doing business as JAM Corp., to provide construction services for the Canyon Springs Community School Fire Alarm Replacement Project.

Action Calendar,
Business Services Report #25-08
DeFigueiredo-Aye

The motion was made by Mr. Chase, seconded by Mrs. Jellings, and passed 5-0 by voice vote, to approve Business Services Report #25-08.

Weinstein-Aye
Chase-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Jellings-Aye

**Correspondence
and Board
Information**

Mr. Chase shared that it was wonderful to see the spelling bee winners and to celebrate their achievements. Mr. Chase shared that the next SCV Trustees meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 19, at 6:00 PM. The guest speakers for this meeting will be Joe Satorhelyi, Executive Director of the SCV Education Foundation, and Tracy Peyton-Perry, Executive Director of the Santa Clarita Valley SELPA.

Mrs. MacDonald had no comments.

Mrs. Jellings shared that she had the opportunity to attend the end-of-year band concert, where her daughter played the trombone. She shared that she is grateful to the District for providing such a meaningful opportunity for students. Mrs. Jellings enjoyed a fun part of the performance when the instructor allowed each section of instruments to play songs for their parents. She appreciated this experience and feels thankful to be part of a District that helps kids explore playing instruments.

Mr. Chase added an acknowledgment to Mr. DeFigueiredo, sharing that Mr. DeFigueiredo had much to do with ensuring that the District received quality instruments.

Mr. DeFigueiredo expressed his happiness about the thriving music program in our District.

Mrs. Weinstein expressed her enthusiasm for the District spelling bee and shared that she enjoyed celebrating the winners at the Board meeting. She believes it should be mandatory for all nine sites to participate. Mrs. Weinstein would love to see all nine sites compete in the district-wide spelling bee next year and the same level of engagement for a math field day.

Dr. Kawaguchi shared that state testing is currently taking place, and she wants to thank students for their efforts and encourage them to do their best. She expressed her appreciation to the Parent Advisory Committee, with whom she meets monthly. Dr. Kawaguchi had a wonderful discussion at their last meeting. She described the committee members as wonderful parents who provide valuable insights.

Dr. Kawaguchi shared that she also met with the District English Learners Advisory Committee. It was a productive hour and a half meeting with great learning experiences. The DELAC parents offered excellent suggestions that will help improve our goal-setting process in the fall. She expressed her gratitude to our parents, stating that their involvement is invaluable.

Mr. DeFigueiredo expressed his admiration for the bulletin board in the boardroom, describing it as wonderful and even spectacular. He noted that the Board of Trustees recognized the impressive work done by Pinetree Community School in creating the bulletin board. The Pinetree Bulletin Board features skyscrapers and personification crafted by one of the classes, which he finds amazing. He complimented the board's colors and effective use of space, remarking that it was great.

**ITEMS FOR THE
May 28, 2025,
MEETING AT
Pinetree
Community
School**
*Fair Oaks Ranch,
Golden Oak, Leona
Cox, and Mint
Canyon Community*

Staff will recognize the following schools for being awarded National Showcase Schools for Capturing Kids' Hearts: Fair Oaks Ranch, Golden Oak, Leona Cox, and Mint Canyon Community Schools. All four schools are being recognized for exceeding expectations and creating an environment where students feel safe, connected, and eager to learn.

**ITEMS FOR THE
May 28, 2025,
MEETING AT
Pinetree
Community
School**
*Leona Cox
Community School -
California
Distinguished School*

Leona Cox Community School will be recognized as a California Distinguished School for 2025 at the May 28, 2025 Board Meeting. This prestigious award is bestowed upon schools that demonstrate exceptional educational programs and practices in specific areas, showcasing outstanding student performance and innovative approaches to teaching and learning.

Closed Session
*DeFigueiredo-Aye
Weinstein-Aye
Chase-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Jellings-Aye*

The motion was made by Mrs. Jellings, seconded by Mr. Chase, and passed 5-0 by voice vote, to adjourn to Closed Session at 8:20 PM for discussion regarding:

With respect to every item of business to be discussed in Closed Session pursuant to Section 54956.9 (i.e., potential litigation).

- Potential Litigation: LIABILITY CLAIMS: Government Code section 54954.5(d). Name of claimant unspecified pursuant to Government Code section 54964 (b). Agency claimed against: Sulphur Springs Union School District.

With respect to every item of business to be discussed in Closed Session pursuant to Section 54957 (i.e., Personnel).

- Personnel:
Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release: Government Code Section 54957

**Reconvene to
Open Session**
*DeFigueiredo-Aye
Weinstein-Aye
Chase-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Jellings-Aye*

The motion was made Mrs. Jellings, seconded by Mrs. Weinstein, and passed 5-0 by voice vote, to reconvene to Open Session at 8:31 PM.

**Report of Closed
Session**

On a motion by Mr. Chase, seconded by Mrs. MacDonald, the Governing Board took action by a vote of 5-0 to deny Claim Number #653967.

Names of Members in Favor:

Mrs. MacDonald, Mrs. Weinstein, Mr. Chase, Mrs. Jellings, Mr. DeFigueiredo

In Closed Session, the Board members present approved by a unanimous 5 to 0 vote, with no abstentions the resignation of WD4850975, by agreement, from the position of noon supervisor, effective June 12, 2025.

In exchange for the employee's resignation and release of any and all claims, the District will agree to place the employee on paid administrative leave until the employee's resignation date of June 12, 2025.

The roll-call vote was as follows:

Ayes: Mrs. MacDonald, Mrs. Weinstein, Mr. Chase, Mrs. Jellings, Mr. DeFigueiredo.

**Reconvene to
Closed Session**
DeFigueiredo-Aye

The motion was made by Mrs. Jellings, seconded by Mr. Chase, and passed 5-0 by voice vote, to reconvene to Closed Session at 8:34 PM for discussion regarding:

Weinstein-Aye
Chase-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Jellings-Aye

With respect to every item of business to be discussed in Closed Session pursuant to Section 54957.6 (i.e., labor negotiations)

- Labor Negotiations

With respect to every item of business to be discussed in Closed Session pursuant to Section 54957.8 (i.e., property negotiations).

- Property Negotiations

With respect to every item of business to be discussed in Closed Session pursuant to Section 54956.9 (i.e., potential litigation).

- Potential Litigation

With respect to every item of business to be discussed in Closed Session pursuant to Section 54957 (i.e., personnel).

- Personnel

Adjournment
DeFigueiredo-Aye
Weinstein-Aye
Chase-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Jellings-Aye

The motion was made by Mrs. Jellings, seconded by Mrs. MacDonald, and passed 5-0 by voice vote, to adjourn the Board Meeting at 10:54 PM.

May 28, 2025



Mr. Denis DeFigueiredo, President



Mrs. Shelley Weinstein, Clerk