

SULPHUR SPRINGS UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Meeting of the Governing Board

May 28, 2025

MINUTES

Meeting Location:

Pinetree Community School
29156 Lotusgarden Drive
Canyon Country, CA 91387

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 7:06 PM and noted the roll.

Pledge of Allegiance

Frankie Payne, a sixth-grade student at Pinetree Community School, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda,

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

Mr. DeFigueiredo announced that the Board requested the following changes to the agenda order.

Action Item A. Resolution R-25-14 to Levy Alternative Fees Level 2 Developer Fees on Residential Construction will precede Conference Calendar Item B, State Preschool 2024-2025 End of Year Report - Preschool Self-Evaluation. Following Action Calendar Item, A, Resolution R-25-14 to Levy Alternative Fees Level 2 Developer Fees on Residential Construction, the following order will take place:

- Action Calendar Item B, Personnel Action Report #25-09
- Action Calendar Item C, Retirement Resolution R-25-15 through R-25-23
- Conference Calendar Item B, State Preschool 2024-2025 End of Year Report - Preschool Self-Evaluation
- Conference Calendar Item C, Reading Difficulties Risk Screener Adoption Update
- Action Calendar Item D, Recommendation for Preschool-6th ESN Program Developmental Curriculum Adoption

Following Action Calendar Item D, Recommendation for Preschool-6th ESN Program Developmental Curriculum Adoption, the regular agenda order will resume.

The motion was made by Mr. Chase, seconded by Mrs. Weinstein, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve the Agenda with the requested changes to the agenda order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of the May 14, 2025, REGULAR MEETING

*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 approve the Minutes of the May 14, 2025, Regular Board Meeting.

Hearing Session,
Golden Oak Community School, Fair Oaks Ranch Community School, Leona Cox Community School, and Mint Canyon Community School - Capturing Kids' Hearts National Showcase Schools for 2024-2025 School Year

The Board of Trustees and Dr. Kawaguchi recognized Golden Oak Community School, Fair Oaks Ranch Community School, Leona Cox Community School, and Mint Canyon Community School for being named Capturing Kids' Hearts National Showcase Schools for the 2024-2025 school year.

Dr. Kawaguchi expressed gratitude to the principals for exceeding expectations and for creating an environment where students feel safe, connected, and eager to learn.

The Board of Trustees awarded a plaque to Principals Jenna Oikawa, Diane Diamond, Heather Drew, and Paulette Volmer, recognizing their students and staff for being selected as Capturing Kids' Hearts National Showcase Schools.

Dr. Kawaguchi also introduced Mr. Vern Hazard, Senior Vice President of the Flipping Group, who joined the meeting via Zoom. Dr. Kawaguchi noted his ongoing support for initiatives aimed at strengthening Capturing Kids' Hearts.

Dr. Kawaguchi thanked the principals, as well as their staff and families, for their dedication to making a difference in the lives of our students.

Hearing Session,
California Distinguished School, 2025- Leona Cox Community School

Dr. Kawaguchi announced that Leona Cox Community School, under the leadership of Principal Heather Drew, has been recognized as a 2025 California Distinguished School. This prestigious award honors elementary schools that demonstrate exceptional student performance or significant progress in closing the achievement gap, as evaluated by the California School Dashboard. This year, out of numerous schools across the state, 336 were selected for their excellence in education, innovation, dedication to student success, and positive school climate. The Board of Trustees presented a plaque and banner to Principal Drew and the school to commemorate this achievement. Congratulations were extended to Principal Drew and the entire Leona Cox community for this well-deserved honor.

Hearing Session,
Site Presentation - Pinetree Community School

Pinetree Community School Principal Nicole Packer welcomed everyone in attendance, and presented a slideshow highlighting the accomplishments of students, staff, and various activities at Pinetree Community School.

During the meeting, the Board of Trustees, Dr. Kawaguchi, and Principal Nicole Packer presented certificates of recognition to the following individuals:

- Gayle Berentsen, Certificated Employee
- Susie Starcer, Classified Employee
- Bernadette Garcia, Classified Employee
- Josh Faibisenco, Classified Employee

Hearing Session,
Public Hearing regarding Resolution R-25-14 to Levy Alternative Fee Level 2 Developer Fees on Residential Construction

Mr. DeFigueiredo opened a Public Hearing Session at 7:42 PM for the purpose of hearing comments and responding to questions regarding Resolution R-25-14 to Levy Alternative Fee Level 2 Developer Fees on Residential Construction. As there were no written or verbal comments or questions, the Public Hearing was closed at 7:43 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 N/A
- Field Trip Action Report N/A
- Gift Action Report N/A
- LACOE BEST Advantage System and HRS System Contract 2025-2026
- LACOE High-Speed Network Services and Support Contract Amendment No. 1 (2025-2026)
- Approval of the 2025-2026 Schedule of Rates for Facilities Use
- Approval of Proposal for Surveying Services for the New School Site Located in the Skyline Ranch Community
- Consultant Agreement - Mobile Ed Productions, Inc. - Mitchell Community School
- Consultant Agreement - Jonathan Solis DBA DJ Soul Event Specialist - Fair Oaks Ranch Community School
- Consultant Agreement - Carl Abajian - Canyon Springs Community School
- Consultant Agreement - CEC Entertainment - Mint Canyon Community School
- 2Teach Global - Consultant Services for Professional Development and Coaching
- Approval of Proposal for Green Dinosaur to Provide Commissioning Services for the New School Project in the Skyline Development
- Contract Agreement - Santa Clarita Valley School Food Services Agency - Sulphur Springs Union School District: Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP) at Golden Oak, Pinetree and Valley View Community Schools
- Establish Dates, Hours, and Place(s) for the Board Meetings of the Governing Board, 2025-2026
- License Agreement - Santa Clarita Valley YMCA
- License Agreement - Camp Sunshine, Inc. at Fair Oaks Ranch Community School
- License Agreement - Camp Sunshine, Inc. at Pinetree Community School
- License Agreement - Camp Sunshine, Inc. at Mitchell Community School
- Consultant Agreement - Amy Malunowicz-Boyle - Canyon Springs Community School
- Consideration of Master Services Agreement and Task Order with NV5 For Professional Services Related to Analysis of Solar Proposal
- Memorandum of Understanding between Sulphur Springs District Teachers Association and Sulphur Springs Union School District: Early Retirement Insurance

Mr. DeFigueiredo announced a recess at 8:10 PM.

The meeting reconvened at 8:16 PM.

Conference Calendar,

*Presentation of
Proposed Adoption of A
School Facilities Needs
Analysis for Level 2
Developer Fees*

Dr. Joshua Randall, Deputy Superintendent, Business Services, introduced Mr. Ken Reynolds from SchoolWorks. Mr. Reynolds then provided the Board of Trustees with an overview of the School Facilities Needs Analysis, as well as the establishment of alternative Facility Fees under sections 6599.5 and 6599.7.

Action Calendar,

*Resolution R-25- 14 to
Levy Alternative Fees
Level 2 Developer Fees
on Residential
Construction
DeFigueiredo-Aye
Weinstein-Aye*

Dr. Randall presented Resolution R-25- 14 to Levy Alternative Fees Level 2 Developer Fees on Residential Construction to the Board of Trustees for approval. Dr. Randall stated that the District has conducted a School Facilities Needs Analysis and determined that levying alternative fees (Level 2 Developer Fees) on residential construction is appropriate.

*Chase-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Jellings-Aye*

The motion was made by Mr. Chase, seconded by Mrs. MacDonald, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve Resolution R-25-14 to Levy Alternative Fees, Level 2 Developer Fees on Residential Construction.

Action Calendar,
*Personnel Action Report
#25-09*

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

Dr. Kawaguchi recommended the Personnel Action Report for approval to the Board of Trustees, and shared that she had pending comments about one individual, contingent upon board approval.

The motion was made by Mrs. Weinstein, seconded by Mrs. MacDonald, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve Personnel Action Report#24-09.

Dr. Kawaguchi introduced Mrs. Amanda Parsons as the new Assistant Principal, starting in the 2025–2026 school year. Mrs. Parsons has been with the District since 2000 and has served as the Learning Support Teacher at Leona Cox Community School since 2021. Dr. Kawaguchi announced that Mrs. Parsons would be assigned to Pinetree Community School as the Assistant Principal. Principal Nicole Packer warmly welcomed her into the Pinetree Community School family by presenting her with a Pinetree Community School Spirit Wear T-Shirt.

Mrs. Parsons expressed her gratitude for the opportunity and shared her excitement about growing within the District. Mrs. Parsons emphasized her dedication to student success and her commitment to helping all students achieve high levels of learning. The Board of Trustees congratulated her on her promotion to Assistant Principal for the 2025-26 school year.

Action Calendar,
*Retirement Resolution
R- 25-15 through R-25-
23*

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

The Board of Trustees recognized the retirement of several staff members, listed below. The retirees received a Resolution Plaque and a flower bouquet from the District, as well as certificates from representatives of the City of Santa Clarita and the State of California. The Board of Trustees recognized the contributions of the following District staff members.

- R-25-15 Carol Malcolm
- R-25-16 Glenn Endo
- R-25-17 Glenn Endo
- R-25-18 Jan La Joice
- R-25-19 Laura Johnson
- R-25-20 Lori Thompson
- R-25-21 Yvette Carmichael
- R-25-22 Manuel Lopez
- R-25-23 Anette Aiken

The motion was made by Mrs. Weinstein, seconded by Mrs. Jellings, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve Retirement Resolutions R-25-15 through R-25-23.

**Conference
Calendar,**
*State Preschool 2024-
2025 End of Year
Report - Preschool Self-
Evaluation*

Ms. Edna Rodriguez, the Early Childhood Administrator of Sulphur Springs Union State Preschools, presented the 2024–2025 State Preschool Program Self-Evaluation to the Board of Trustees. She highlighted that the program fully complies with key requirements. The preschool demonstrated strong family engagement, maintained high standards in classroom quality, and met all administrative and fiscal obligations. The Board of Trustees asked questions and provided comments.

**Conference
Calendar,**

Mrs. Julie McBride, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services, presented an update to the Board of Trustees regarding the District's process for reviewing and selecting a Reading Difficulties Risk Screener for students in Kindergarten through 2nd Grade. In alignment with Senate Bill 114, which mandates screening for students in

**Reading Difficulties Risk
Screener Adoption
Update**

Kindergarten through 2nd grade beginning in the 2025–2026 school year, the Sulphur Springs Union School District piloted several screening tools across school sites. The goal is to identify students at risk for reading difficulties, including dyslexia, and provide them with timely support. The District will present its final recommendation for adopting the screener at the Board Meeting on June 11, 2025.

**Action Calendar,
Recommendation for
Preschool-6th ESN
Program Developmental
Curriculum Adoption
DeFigueiredo-Aye
Weinstein-Aye
Chase-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Jellings-Aye**

Mrs. Julie McBride presented the recommendation for the adoption of a developmental curriculum for Preschool–6th-grade students in the Extensive Support Needs (ESN) Program. Throughout the 2024–2025 school year, Educational Services administrators collaborated with teachers to pilot and evaluate developmentally appropriate instructional programs, specifically ARIS and Attainment. Following a thorough review, both programs were identified as effective, state-approved curricula that support key areas of student development, including mathematics, language and literacy, social-emotional development, and physical growth. Mrs. McBride recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the adoption of ARIS and Attainment beginning in the 2025–2026 school year.

The motion was made by Mrs. Weinstein, seconded by Mrs. Jellings, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve the adoption of ARIS and Attainment beginning in the 2025–2026 school year for Preschool-6th ESN Program Developmental Curriculum Adoption.

**Action Calendar,
Memorandum of
Understanding between
Sulphur Springs Union
School District and
Sulphur Springs District
Teachers Association
Regarding
Mild/Moderate Special
Education Teachers
DeFigueiredo-Aye
Weinstein-Aye
Chase-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Jellings-Aye**

Dr. Randall presented the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Sulphur Springs Union School District and the Sulphur Springs District Teachers Association to the Board of Trustees. The MOU addresses a retention bonus specifically for Mild/Moderate Special Education Teachers, aiming to support staff retention in this area.

The motion was made by Mr. Chase, seconded by Mrs. Jellings, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Sulphur Springs Union School District and Sulphur Springs District Teachers Association Regarding Mild/Moderate Special Education Teachers.

**Action Calendar,
Memorandum of
Understanding between
Sulphur Springs Union
School District and
Sulphur Springs District
Teachers Association
Regarding Music
Teachers
DeFigueiredo-Aye
Weinstein-Aye
Chase-Aye
MacDonald-Aye
Jellings-Aye**

Dr. Randall presented the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Sulphur Springs Union School District and Sulphur Springs District Teachers Association Regarding Music Teachers to the Board of Trustees. The MOU outlines agreements related to the roles, responsibilities, or conditions specific to Music Teachers during 2025-2026 school year.

The motion was made by Mrs. Jellings, seconded by Mrs. Weinstein, and passed 5-0 by voice vote to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Sulphur Springs Union School District and Sulphur Springs District Teachers Association Regarding Music Teachers.

**Action Calendar,
Business Services
Report #25-09
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 Business Services Report #25-09.

**Correspondence
and Board
Information**

Mr. Chase attended the Santa Clarita Valley Trustees Association meeting, where guest speaker Tracy Peyton-Perry, the Executive Director of the Santa Clarita Valley SELPA, presented information about the SELPA. The intended guest speaker, Joe Satorhelyi, Executive Director of the SCV Education Foundation, was unable to attend, but they hope to have him speak at the next meeting. Mr. Chase mentioned that he will provide the date and location of the next SCV Trustees Association meeting once he double-checks the details.

Mrs. Jellings had no comments.

Mrs. Weinstein reported on her attendance at the recent CLASS Education Foundation meeting, noting the appointment of new board officers William Foster and Laura Patterson. She shared the Foundation's enthusiasm and described the meeting as very positive. Mrs. Weinstein invited everyone to attend the upcoming Drum Circle event at Fair Oaks Ranch Community School on Friday, encouraging families to bring their children. The event will include water and Kona Ice, provided by the Foundation, as well as a drum set giveaway sponsored by Remo. With over 200 RSVPs, it promises to be a fun community event. Mrs. Weinstein also mentioned that the Foundation is still seeking new board members and encouraged interested parents to get involved.

Mr. DeFigueiredo expressed appreciation to Remo for their continued support of the community. He also reminded the Trustees that the promotion schedule had been shared and asked them to review it again for any potential conflicts.

Mrs. MacDonald had no comments but wished everyone well as the school year winds down, encouraging positive attitudes and enjoyment during this busy and exciting time.

Dr. Kawaguchi extended her gratitude to teachers still in the midst of testing and acknowledged the efforts of parents throughout the school year. She gave a special shout-out to Mrs. Julie McBride, Mrs. Stephanie Cruz, and the Educational Services team for their hard work and dedication in managing multiple curriculum adoptions, noting the significant effort involved.

Mr. DeFigueiredo mentioned that he did not attend the SCV Trustees meeting because he was participating in the LACSTA meeting, which involved the annual election of officers. Although some positions were contested initially when he was present, the seats ultimately went uncontested, and votes were still submitted accordingly.

**ITEMS FOR THE June
11, 2025, MEETING
AT Sulphur Springs
Union School
District
Administrative
Offices**

District staff will present the proposed Local Control and Accountability Plan Goals and Actions for 2025-2026 and proposed Budget and Multi-Year Projections for 2025-2026 for input and feedback.

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

The motion was made by Jellings, seconded by Mrs. Weinstein, and passed 5-0 by voice vote, to adjourn to Closed Session at 9:01 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: CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
Initiation of litigation pursuant to Paragraph (4) of Subdivision (d) of Government Code § 54956.9 :
Consideration of One (1) Potential Case—PowerSchool Data Breach Litigation

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 Mr. Chase, seconded by Mrs. Jellings, and passed 5-0 by voice vote, to reconvene to Open Session at 9:44 PM.

Report of Closed Session

In closed session, motioned by Mrs. MacDonald, seconded by Mrs. Weinstein, 5-0 the Board, decided to approve the legal services agreement with Frantz Law Group for purposes of PowerSchool Data Breach Litigation.

Roll Call Vote as follows:

Names of members in favor: Mrs. Jellings, Mrs. Weinstein, Mr. Chase, Mrs. MacDonald, Mr. DeFigueiredo

Reconvene to Closed Session

*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 reconvene to Closed Session at 9:45 PM for discussion regarding:

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

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 11:01 PM.

June 11, 2025


Mr. Denis DeFigueiredo, President


Mrs. Shelley Weinstein, Clerk