



**APPROVED**

**SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Agenda Item# 8.1e

**Meeting Date:** February 6, 2025

**Subject:** Approve Minutes for the December 19, 2024 Regular Board of Education Meeting

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
- Conference/First Reading (Action Anticipated: \_\_\_\_\_)
- Conference/Action
- Action
- Public Hearing

**Division:** Superintendent's Office

**Recommendation:** Approve Minutes for the December 19, 2024, Regular Board of Education Meeting.

**Background/Rationale:** None

**Financial Considerations:** None

**LCAP Goal(s):** Family and Community Empowerment

**Documents Attached:**

1. Minutes of the December 19, 2024, Regular Board of Education Meeting

<p><b>Estimated Time of Presentation:</b> N/A <b>Submitted by:</b> Lisa Allen, Superintendent <b>Approved by:</b> Lisa Allen, Superintendent</p>
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**Putting  
Children  
First**

# **BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING AND WORKSHOP**

**Board of Education Members**

- Tara Jeane (Trustee Area 1)*
- Jasjit Singh (Trustee Area 2)*
- Jose Navarro (Trustee Area 3)*
- April Ybarra (Trustee Area 4)*
- Chinua Rhodes (Trustee Area 5)*
- Taylor Kayatta (Trustee Area 6)*
- Michael Benjamin (Trustee Area 7)*
- Justine Chueh-Griffith, Student Member*

**Thursday, December 19, 2024**

**5:00 p.m. Closed Session**

**6:00 p.m. Open Session**

**Serna Center**

**Community Conference Rooms**

**5735 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

**Sacramento, CA 95824**

## ***MINUTES***

**2024/25-8**

*Allotted Time*

**1.0 OPEN SESSION / CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL**

*The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m.*

*Members Present:*

- Member Kayatta*
- Member Rhodes*
- Member Benjamin*
- Member Jeane*
- Member Ybarra*
- Member Navarro*
- Member Singh*

*Member Absent:*

*Student Board Member Chueh-Griffith*

**2.0 ANNOUNCEMENT AND PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION**

*No public comment*

**3.0 CLOSED SESSION**

***While the Brown Act creates broad public access rights to the meetings of the Board of Education, it also recognizes the legitimate need to conduct some of its meetings outside of the public eye. Closed session meetings are specifically defined and limited in scope. They primarily involve personnel issues, pending litigation, labor negotiations, and real property matters.***

- 3.1 *Government Code 54956.9 - Conference with Legal Counsel:*
  - a) *Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to subdivision (d)(2) of Government Code section 54956.9 (One Potential Case)*
  - b) *Existing litigation pursuant to subdivision (d)(1) of Government Code section 54956.9 (OAH Case No. 2024070465 & OAH Case No. 20247090463)*
- 3.2 *Government Code 54957.6 (a) and (b) Negotiations/Collective Bargaining SCTA SEIU, TCS, Teamsters, UPE, Non-Represented/Confidential Management (Cancy McArn)*
- 3.3 *Government Code 54957 – Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Complaint*
- 3.4 *Education Code 35146- The Board will hear staff recommendation on the following student expulsions from 24-25: Expulsions #12, 13, 14, and 15 2024/2025 (David Van Natten)*

**4.0 CALL BACK TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

*The meeting was called back to order at 6:15 p.m.*

- 4.1 *The Pledge of Allegiance*
- 4.2 *Broadcast Statement*
- 4.3 *Stellar Student introduced by Board Member Tara Jeane*

**5.0 ANNOUNCEMENT OF ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION**

*-The Board approved a settlement agreement related to OAH Case No. 2024070465 and a settlement agreement related to OAH Case No. 20247090463 by a vote of 7-0.*

**6.0 AGENDA ADOPTION**

*The Board adopted the agenda unanimously.*

**7.0 PUBLIC COMMENT**

*15 minutes*

*Members of the public may address the Board on non-agenda items that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. Public comment may be (1) emailed to [publiccomment@scusd.edu](mailto:publiccomment@scusd.edu); (2) submitted in writing through the district's website at <https://www.scusd.edu/submit-public-comment>; or (3) provided in-person at the meeting. The submission deadline for written public comments shall be no later than noon on the day of the meeting. If you intend to address the Board in-person, please fill out a yellow card available at the entrance. Speakers may be called in the order that requests are received, or grouped by subject area. We ask that comments are limited to two (2) minutes with no more than 15 minutes per single topic so that as many people as possible may be heard. By law, the Board is allowed to take action only on items on the agenda. The Board may, at its discretion, refer a matter to district staff or calendar the issue for future discussion.*

*Jeremy Smith  
Termin Knox  
Lisa Stanley*

Greg Sandlund  
Ryan Smith  
Micah Merrill  
Franschelle A. Brown  
Erinn Leone  
Vanessa Cudabac  
Cortnie Nelson  
Carrie Relles  
Amanda Panton  
Jeanine Rupert  
Mark Henrikson

## 8.0 COMMUNICATIONS

### 8.1 Employee Organization Reports:

- *SCTA- David Fisher congratulated Member Rhodes on his re-election and the newly elected members, April Ybarra, Michael Benjamin, and Jose Navarro. Mr. Fisher shared that the feeling among educators is one of optimism and positive expectation. SCTA is finalizing a survey among SCTA members in preparation for their bargaining. Back in 2016, they asked SCTA members if they felt the district was headed in the right direction. In that survey, 9.1% of the respondents agreed that it was headed in the right direction. Over the last ten days, they asked the same question again, and 71.5% agreed strongly or agreed that the district was headed in the right direction. Only 8% disagreed or strongly disagreed. In other words, it's been a complete turnaround. Significant efforts are underway to develop a state of the art MTSS program, while addressing a number of areas of improvement identified by the Black Parallel School Board action plan. It's no secret that Special Education remains an area of concern for all of us, but with the new leadership team, they believe that Sac City is uniquely positioned to both preserve the strong traditions that have made our district what it is, while making the necessary changes in improvements to realize the full potential of the Sacramento City Unified School District. With new contract negotiations to begin February 4<sup>th</sup>, together we have the ability in the spirit of problem solving and cooperation to unite together to accomplish our collective dream of making SCUSD the destination district for California.*
- *SEIU- Jim Riffel shared that SEIU has been through a lot of negotiations in the last year. Mr. Riffel shared that there was a very effective team working with the board and SEIU. SEIU really appreciated working with staff. Mr. Riffel shared that three years ago, they did negotiations*

*and the only answer they received was “no”. It sure has changed around a lot. They recently finished their round of negotiations and they have a tentative agreement on the agenda for the board to approve. SEIU believes this to be a good agreement, and they really suggest that it be approved by the board. Deborah Derrazzo welcomed the new board members and thanked them for joining the team. Karla Faucett thanked the board for supporting them throughout the whole bargaining process, and they are looking forward to the positive vote of the board members to pass the contract. SEIU looks forward to working with the board in the future.*

- *TCS- No update*
- *Teamsters- No update*
- *UPE- No update*

**8.2 District Advisory Committees:**

- *Student Advisory Council- No update*
- *Community Advisory Committee- No update*
- *District English Learner Advisory Committee- No update*
- *Local Control Accountability Plan/Parent Advisory Committee- No update*
- *Black/African American Advisory Board- No update*
- *Community Schools Advisory Committee- No update*
- *American Indian Education Program Parent Committee- No update*

**9.0 SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

**9.1 Ceremonial Oath of Office Given to Newly Elected Board Members:**

*Michael Benjamin  
Jose Navarro  
Chinua Rhodes  
April Ybarra*

*The newly elected board members completed their ceremonial oath of office. This is an information item.*

*Public Comment:  
No public comment*

*Board Comment:  
No board comment*

9.2 *Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board of Education Election of Officers:  
The Board Shall Elect a President, Vice President and Second Vice President*

*Superintendent Allen opened the nominations for board president, vice president, and second vice president. This is an action item.*

*Member Jeane nominated Member Singh to be the board president with a second from Member Rhodes. The board voted 7-0.*

*Member Rhodes nominated Member Jeane to be vice president with a second from Member Ybarra. The board voted 7-0.*

*Member Singh nominated Member Rhodes and Member Navarro nominated Member Kayatta for second vice president. Member Singh's nomination for Member Rhodes was seconded by Member Jeane. The board voted 4-3 with Member Kayatta, Member Navarro, and Member Ybarra abstaining.*

*Public Comment:  
No public comment*

*Board Comment:  
No board comment*

**10.0 ADJOURN AND CALL BACK TO ORDER**

*The meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.*

*The meeting was called back to order at 7:48 p.m.*

**11.0 BOARD WORKSHOP STRATEGIC INITIATIVE**

11.1 *Public Hearing AB1200 Public Disclosure and Approval of MOU between SCUSD and the Service Employees International Union (Cancy McArn & Janea Marking)*

*Cancy McArn and Janea Marking shared key provisions of SCUSD and SEIU agreement and fiscal impact. This is an action item.*

*Public Comment:  
No public comment*

*Board Comment:  
Member Navarro wanted to know why the agreement is impacting books, supplies, services, other operating expenditures, and capital outlay.  
Member Ybarra shared that eventually this will trickle down, and although the district is going to cover the costs for the increases, but after a certain time, the schools will have to pick up on that cost. Member Ybarra wanted to bring awareness to the fact that we will have to work down at the school levels, and just wanted to be transparent around this information.*

*Member Rhodes made a motion with a second from Member Singh. The board voted 7-0 with a student preferential yes vote.*

*11.2 Independent Audit Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024, Submitted by Crowe LLP (Janea Marking)*

*Janea Marking introduced Jeff Jensen, who presented the fiscal audit results for 2023-2024. Janea Marking thanked Karen Wiker and Cindy Tao for all their work. This is an information item.*

*Public Comment:  
No public comment*

*Board Comment:  
Member Kayatta shared that in the past, the board had talked about rotating audit firms, and would like to know where we are for that next year.  
Member Jeane appreciates that we have such a positive audit. Member Jeane thanked all the hardworking staff that made sure that the information that was needed was gotten to them, and she looks forward to the public hearing regarding instructional materials on our agenda for next time, so they don't drop the ball on that.*

*11.3 2024-25 First Interim Financial Report (Janea Marking)*

*Cindy Tao and Janea Marking presented the budget reporting cycle, revenues, expenditures, surplus/deficit and fund balance, multi-year projections and other funds, right sizing plan update, and summary and certification. This is an information item.*

*Public Comment:  
No public comment*

*Board Comment:  
Member Jeane wanted to know if 50% of our Special Education budget comes from our general education budget, or if it's less or more. Member Jeane shared that the fact that we know that Special Education and the funding that we get has never been fully funded from the federal government that comes from our general funds, etc. Considering the deep dive of work that we're doing in our action plan, that will have impact on our budget, so Member Jeane wanted to verbalize that and thank staff for using historical trends, but as we're cleaning up and changing in SPED as well, Member Jeane doesn't know if historical trends will be our only. Member Jeane shared that Cindy Tao mentioned that the two COLAs were generous, but Member Jeane doesn't know if she would call it generous considering inflation. Member Jeane shared that they projected the benefits at 8.8%, and she wanted to know if that is based on trends or is it based on the current belief. On slide 30, Member Jeane appreciates the history that was provided around fiscal insolvency. On slide 31, Member Jeane appreciates the work being done around budget literacy. Member Jeane wanted to know more around unbudgeted expenditures. Member Jeane appreciates the information around how we need to better prioritize our restricted funds. Member Jeane wanted to know if part of the budget literacy making sure that everyone understands where those restricted dollars can and should be spent. Member Jeane wanted to know what other funds are expiring soon. Member Jeane thanked Janea and her team for the great reset.  
Member Benjamin shared that he likes the process of educating on processes, because he finds that a lot of times people get kind of upset with the process when the transparency is not there. Member Benjamin shared that he is very impressed with the budget development process, and although we're talking about budgets, he believes that this is something that can be used throughout the district.*

*Member Rhodes made a motion with a second from Member Benjamin. The board voted 7-0 with a student preferential yes vote.*

*11.4 Special Education Update (Yvonne Wright, Becky Bryant, Geovanni Linares, & Dr. Iris Taylor)*

*Staff presented the SCUSD vision for Special Education,*



*department and SELPA responsibilities, organizational structure, who we serve and how we serve them, an overview of student performance and progress, and highlights, challenges, and opportunities. This is an information item.*

*Public Comment:  
David Fisher*

*Board Comment:  
Student Member Chueh-Griffith really liked the vision that includes the students with disabilities are seen, understood, celebrated, and experience joy. Member Chueh-Griffith wanted to know if there are any actions being taken currently to foster this welcoming atmosphere with general education students, and doing something similar for the general education population. Member Chueh-Griffith shared that when she thinks of how her peers see students with disabilities, she doesn't think she would use the words seen, understood, or celebrated, and she thinks that is an opportunity and a place for growth. Member Chueh-Griffith believes there should be more standardization of ensuring that general education students and Special Education students are interacting with each other, and actively being made to interact to understand and celebrate each other.*

*Member Kayatta shared that this plan to him seems iterative and he doesn't yet have the confidence that this is what we need to overcome this, which he thinks is one of the top challenges in our district. Member Kayatta referenced Janea Marking's presentation around the great reset and reimagining our culture, and that's what he is looking for with Special Education. Member Kayatta believes that vision 2.5 seems to be lacking things that he thinks are necessary to represent a cultural reset rather than an improvement to existing practices. It doesn't mention general education students with disabilities or general education students who have services. As long as we keep thinking about Special Education students and general education students, we're never going to have a cohesion, they're never going to be fully welcomed into our schools, and they won't have their needs fully met. Also, lacking in the vision was providing students with the services they need on a timely basis. Member Kayatta doesn't want Special Education students to be labeled as such, and have them be identified as students that are getting a particular set of services, and making sure that we identify those services. Another cultural change that Member Kayatta would like to see, is to stop being*

*responsive to litigation. Member Kayatta wanted to know what specific programs are offered to support students and teachers to get this from the district level to all staff. In terms of where and how our students are being served, Member Kayatta would like to get a sense of that data. Are they being served in non-public schools, are they at their home school, do they have to be transported somewhere, did they have to change their home school? Member Kayatta would like some sort of detail on the profile of a Special Education student, and would like to see it by the demographic categories that we have here. Member Kayatta wanted to know if there was an update on getting contracting under control, and what's our progress on bringing these services in house.*

*Member Jeane wanted to know how the specific training for Special Education lead teams will trickle down to the teachers and paraprofessionals. Member Jeane shared how staff mentioned how they need to be a part of the core development and how they mentioned bargaining, and each site needs to have specific access where they know where they're getting the help and support. Since we're out of time, Member Jeane is interested in continuing to hear how we're making that happen.*

*Member Benjamin really likes the vision and he thinks that it encompasses everything that we need to address. Member Benjamin wanted to know if facilitating family engagement and collaborating with external agencies includes community benefits organizations in the neighborhood and what it looks like. Member Benjamin wanted to know if we could get a list of those external agencies.*

*Member Ybarra wants to know what family engagement looks like and she envisions high impact family engagement. Member Ybarra wanted to know when staff reference technical assistance and facilitation of compliance items, what that looks like? When staff say, it takes a village, what comes to mind for Member Ybarra is having a child with an IEP is challenging, and you really don't know what the challenges are like until the student is in high school, because the dynamic of who needs to be inside of the IEP meeting. Member Ybarra shared that she hears teachers often talk about the lack of being met with co-teaching when it's requested by the family or staff. Member Ybarra shared that this is something to think about. When thinking about the lawsuit with the Black Parallel School Board, Member Ybarra wants to know if staff are talking to students who are affected by this. Especially, Black male students, who are being impacted by this. Member Ybarra wanted to know if*

*staff are talking to students, was it empathy interviews, surveys, or what it looks like. When we're talking about staffing shortages and increasing caseloads, Member Ybarra wants to highlight that action for reducing the psychologist ratio to 500 to 1 is really good, because it aligns with CDE's recommendation.*

*Member Singh shared that if you look at the makeup of this board, you have folks who have classroom experience, instructional aid experience, folks with lived experience, so you're going to get a lot of questions on this, but folks who really want to see a difference.*

*Member Singh appreciates that we're getting somewhere, but the urgency is real, and he thinks that with all this lived experience the urgency is going to continue to come back. Member Singh shared that the board is hoping to see a lot more updates and see a lot more improvement in this process.*

## **12.0 COMMUNICATIONS**

*12.1 Student Member Report (Justine Chueh-Griffith)- Member Chueh-Griffith shared that she had the opportunity to attend the California School Board Association Annual Education Conference Student Board Member Program. Member Chueh-Griffith had the opportunity to connect with a lot of student board members, and by attending, she was able to see how our district is unique in a lot of ways. Member Chueh-Griffith wanted to recognize how grateful she is to be at SCUSD, and at the conference she realized we really are unique, because of our ability to have such a diverse, urban, and large district, but also have shared goals and community commitment to change unity. Member Chueh-Griffith noticed that SCUSD students have a lot more opportunities for student impact and student engagement than other districts do. With finals coming up, Member Chueh-Griffith wanted to encourage and uplift that we need to continue to support our students, because she thinks a lot of students are academically stressed and burnt out. The Student Mental Wellness Committee has opened up applications a few weeks ago, and they have gotten 200+ responses from high schools in the district. Member Chueh-Griffith looks forward to this committee taking off in 2025.*

*12.2 Superintendent's Report (Lisa Allen)- Superintendent Allen Thanked staff for their work this school year. Superintendent Allen shared that our Family and Community Engagement Department held 5 popup events throughout SCUSD to provide enrollment, Parent Square, and Infinite Campus support, and free book and computer access. Last week, Niki Kangas held a food distribution at Parkway's Pancake Breakfast with 100 boxes of food provided by Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services were distributed to our community from E.V.E.L.Y.N. Our Homeless Education Services Program hosted a mobile movie night at one of the motels many of our unhoused families are temporarily staying at. Superintendent Allen thanked Foster Youth Services and those that participated in the gift drive for foster Youth students. Superintendent Allen thanked all the individuals that*

*donated for the Spirit of Giving Drive. Superintendent Allen gave a special shout out to Isador Cohen.*

*12.3 President's Report – President Singh wished the Board Specialist a Happy Birthday. Member Singh shared that he really appreciates the student board member, who takes her role very seriously, and he appreciates the commentary. Member Singh shared that it's so inspiring to hear how committed Member Chueh-Griffith is to the district. Member Singh shared that he appreciates his colleagues, and wants to stay focused on what's important, which are some of the issues that were discussed tonight.*

*12.4 Information Sharing by Board Members- Member Rhodes has had the opportunity to participate as dressing as Santa at different holiday events. Member Rhodes shared that a week ago, he worked on a project called Be The Light in South Sacramento, where individuals helped to decorate 40 houses on a block in the community. There were over 70 volunteers and great sponsors. Supervisor Kennedy, Councilwoman Mai Vang, the director of SMUD, SEIU, SCTA, the Yin family, McDonalds, job corps, and Area 5 principals came out. Community School Coordinators came out as well as Member Rhodes' team, David, Karissa, Anna, Maria, Danny, and Matt. Member Kayatta has a request for the community to help us protect our school services, our programs for our kids, and our budget. The City of Sacramento is facing a fairly significant budget deficit, and it has shown time and time again that it tries to balance its budget deficits by pushing costs onto other entities, like SCUSD. Member Kayatta wants to the community to join him in being vigilant to make sure that if the city is trying to push their budget deficit onto us, that we stand up and make sure we protect our schools and student programming.*

### **13.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

**Action**  
2 minutes

**Generally routine items are approved by one motion without discussion. The Superintendent or a Board member may request an item be pulled from the consent agenda and voted upon separately.**

#### **13.1 Items Subject or Not Subject to Closed Session:**

*13.1a Approve Grants, Entitlements and Other Income Agreements, Ratification of Other Agreements, Approval of Bid Awards, Approval of Declared Surplus Materials and Equipment, Change Notices and Notices of Completion (Janea Marking)*

*13.1b Approve Contracts Report >\$15,000 (Janea Marking)*

*13.1c Approve Business and Financial Report: Warrants, Checks, and Electronic Transfers issued for the Period of October 2024 (Janea Marking)*

*13.1d Approve Donations to the District for the Period of October 2024 (Janea Marking)*

*13.1e Approve Resolution No. 3467: Agreement for Termination of Leases and Quit Claim Deed for the C.K. McClatchy High School HVAC/Kitchen Served Project*

*(Janea Marking)*

*13.1f Approve Personnel Transactions (Cancy McArn)*

*13.1g Approval of Unauthorized Vendor Payments (Janea Marking)*

*13.1h Approve Purchase Order Board Report for the Period of October 15, 2024 – November 14, 2024 (Janea Marking)*

*13.1i Approve West Campus High School Cheer Competition in Las Vegas, NV from January 23-26, 2025 (Mary Hardin Young & Jerad Hyden)*

*13.1j Approve Minutes for the November 7, 2024, Regular Board of Education Meeting (Lisa Allen)*

*13.1k Approve Minutes for the November 21, 2024, Regular Board of Education Meeting (Lisa Allen)*

*13.1l Approve Staff Recommendation for Expulsions# 12, 13, 14, and 15 of the 2024-25 school year (David Van Natten)*

*13.1m Approve Labor Partner Agreements (Cancy McArn)*

*13.1n Approve New Citizen Bond Oversight Committee Member (Chris Ralston)*

*13.1o Approve Memorandum of Understanding Between SCUSD and California Montessori Project Regarding Facilities Modernization Project (Nathaniel Browning)*

*13.1p Approve Resolution No. 3466: Resolution Regarding Accounting of Developer Fees for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024, Pursuant to Gov. Code Sections 6001(d) and 6006(b) (Nathaniel Browning)*

*13.1q Approve Job Descriptions (Cancy McArn & Dan Schallock)*

*13.1r Approve Salary Schedules (Cancy McArn & Dan Schallock)*

*Prior to taking action on the consent agenda, Member Singh shared that he wanted to verify that on agenda item 13.1b, there has been a change to the contracts report over \$15k. Requisition number SA25-00604 with Dwight Taylor has been removed and an amended report has been prepared and provided for their consideration and approval. Expulsion #15 has been removed from agenda item 13.1l.*

*Public Comment:*

*No public comment*

*Board Comment:*

*No Board comment*

*Member Rhodes made a motion with a second from Member Jeane. The Board voted 7-0 with a student preferential yes vote.*

**14.0 BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION/REPORTS      *Receive Information***


*14.1 Business and Financial Information: Enrollment and Attendance Report, Month 2, Ending Friday, October 11, 2024 (Janea Marking)*

**15.0 FUTURE BOARD MEETING DATES / LOCATIONS**

- ✓ *January 16, 2025, 5:00 p.m. Closed Session, 6:00 p.m. Open Session, Serna Center, 5735 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Community Room, Regular Workshop Meeting*
- ✓ *February 6, 2025, 5:00 p.m. Closed Session, 6:00 p.m. Open Session, Serna Center, 5735 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Community Room, Regular Workshop Meeting*

**16.0 ADJOURNMENT**

*The meeting adjourned at 9:54 p.m.*

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*Lisa Allen, Superintendent and Board Secretary*

*NOTE: The Sacramento City Unified School District encourages those with disabilities to participate fully in the public meeting process. If you need a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, to participate in the public meeting, please contact the Board of Education Office at (916) 643-9314 at least 48 hours before the scheduled Board of Education meeting so that we may make every reasonable effort to accommodate you. [Government Code § 54953.2; Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, § 202 (42 U.S.C. §12132)] Any public records distributed to the Board of Education relating to an open session item will be available for public inspection at the Serna Center, at 5735 47<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Sacramento, during normal business hours or on the District's website at.*