

Humboldt County Board of Education

901 Myrtle Avenue – Eureka, CA 95501

Annex Conference Room

December 17, 2025

3:00 PM

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

1.0 CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME/FLAG SALUTE

President Eckenrode called the organizational meeting of the Humboldt County Board of Education to order at 3:01 PM with a quorum present.

PRESENT: Loretta Eckenrode, Thom McMahon, Dena McCullough, Robert Siekmann

ABSENT: Mary Scott

STAFF PRESENT: Michael Davies-Hughes, Natalie Carrigan, Corey Weber, Callie Coleman, Stacy Young, Colby Smart, Jen Belveal, Janice Lourenzo, Sean Schaefer, Katie Cavanagh, Lex Rohn

2.0 ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

(2.1) Appointment of Board Officers

It was moved/seconded by McMahon/Siekmann to nominate McCullough for Board Present. Ayes 4, noes 0, absent 1, abstain 0. Motion carried.

It was moved/seconded by McCullough/McMahon to nominate Eckenrode for Vice President. Ayes 4, noes 0, absent 1, abstain 0. Motion carried.

(2.2) Adopt Board Meeting Dates for Calendar Year 2026

It was moved/seconded by McMahon/Siekmann to adopt the 2026 meeting dates as proposed with a 4:00 PM start time. Ayes 4, noes 0, absent 1, abstain 0. Motion carried.

(2.3) Authorize Board Member Remuneration for Calendar Year 2026

It was moved/seconded by Siekmann/McMahon to increase the remuneration by 4% for 2026 for a total remuneration of \$257.62 per month. Ayes 2, noes 2, absent 1, abstain 0. Motion failed.

It was moved/seconded by Eckenrode/McCullough to increase the remuneration by 2.5% for 2026 for a total remuneration of \$253.91. Ayes 3, noes 1, absent 1, abstain 0. Motion carried.

3.0 ADJUSTMENT OF THE AGENDA

There were no adjustments to the agenda.

4.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

5.0 PRESENTATION

- (5.2) Enrollment Trends in Humboldt County – Sean Schaefer, Data Analyst

Sean Schaefer shared a presentation with the Board.

- (5.3) California Dashboard – Jancie Lourenzo, Director, School Support

Janice Lourenzo presented the current dashboard to the Board.

6.0 CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved/seconded by McMahon/McCullough to approve the consent agenda. Ayes 4, noes 0, absent 1, abstain 0. Motion carried.

Action was taken on the following consent items:

- (6.1) Approve Minutes – November 12, 2025, Regular Meeting
- (6.2) Approve Monthly Remuneration
- (6.3) Approve 2025-2026 Local Education Agency School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) for Court and Community Schools

7.0 ACTION ITEMS

The Board is asked to receive/discuss/take action on the following items.

- (7.1) Receive 2025-2026 First Interim Financial Report

Assistant Superintendent Weber and Internal Manager Jenn Belveal presented the First Interim Financial Report to the Board.

It was moved/seconded by McMahon/Siekmann to receive the 2025-2026 First Interim Financial Report. Ayes 4, noes 0, absent 1, abstain 0. Motion carried.

- (7.2) Review and Possible Adoption of Board Policy 5141, Health Care and Emergencies

Assistant Superintendent Katie Cavanagh explained that HCOE does not have the policy to coordinate care and support in the event of emergencies, one must be adopted by January 31, 2026. It was moved/seconded by McCullough/McMahon to adopt as presented. Ayes 4, noes 0, absent 1, abstain 0. Motion carried.

(7.3) Review and Possible Adoption of Board Policy 5141.5, Mental Health

Cavanagh explained the reason behind this new policy and informed the Board that it needs to be adopted by January 31, 2026. The Board will take action during the January meeting.

8.0 INFORMATION/ACTION ITEMS

The Board is asked to receive/discuss; however, the Board may decide to take action at their discretion.

(8.1) Introduction to the Association of California County Boards of Education (ACCBE) – Dr. Yvonne Chan, Trustee and Treasurer, ACCBE

The Board received a presentation from Dr. Chan. The Board asked to bring this item to the January Board meeting for further consideration.

(8.2) First Review of the Humboldt County Office of Education Board Policies: 0000 Series: Philosophy, Goals, Objectives, and Comprehensive Plans, 1000 Series: Community Relations, 2000 Series: Administration, 3000 Series: Business and Noninstructional Operations, 7000 Series: Facilities, 9000 Series: Board Bylaws

Superintendent Davies-Hughes explained to the Board the process of bringing the first reading to the Board. Trustee McMahon asked staff to review more restrictive language on Board Policy 0441: Artificial Intelligence. McCullough asked a question about the Administrative Regulation around the Uniform Complaint Procedure.

(8.3) Discussion Regarding New Rules for Remote Participation in Board Meetings

Davies-Hughes highlighted the fact that when a Board member participates in a Board meeting remotely, then the public must also be able to provide public comment remotely.

(8.4) Superintendent's Report

Assistant Superintendent Corey Weber introduced Callie Coleman as the new Director of Fiscal Services.

9.0 BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS/REPORTS

There were no board member announcements.

Board recess 4:55 – 4:59 PM.

10.0 CONSIDERATION OF INTERDISTRICT TRANSFER REQUEST APPEALS

OPEN SESSION

(10.1) Interdistrict Appeal Hearing for Student 2025-2026 #10 (Z.L.) Trinidad Union School District (TUSD) and Student 2025-2026 #11 (S.L.) (TUSD)

Eckenrode reviewed the appeal process and asked for introductions.

Board acknowledged the receipt of both parties' written appeal records.

Eckenrode asked the parent if both appeals could be considered together. Parent agreed.

Parent, Hanna Norton, addressed the Board from 5:04 PM to 5:07 PM.

Board questions.

Alyse Nichols, Superintendent of the Trinidad Union School District, addressed the Board from 5:09 PM to 5:11 PM.

Board questions.

The Board moved to closed session at 5:20 PM

CLOSED SESSION

(10.2) Board Deliberation RE: Interdistrict Appeal Hearing for Student 2025-2026 #10 (Z.L.) (TUSD) and Student 2025-2026 #11 (S.L.) (TUSD)

OPEN SESSION

(10.3) Board Report Out of Closed Session (Cal. Educ. Code Section 35146)

At 5:39 PM Eckenrode reported that it was moved/seconded by Siekmann/McCullough to deny the appeal of Student 2025-2026 #10 (Z.L.). The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

Ayes: McMahon, Eckenrode, McCullough, Siekmann
Noes: None
Absent: Scott
Abstain: None

At 5:39 PM Eckenrode reported that it was moved/seconded by Siekmann/McCullough to deny the appeal of Student 2025-2026 #11 (S.L.). The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

Ayes: McMahon, Eckenrode, McCullough, Siekmann
Noes: None
Absent: Scott
Abstain: None

(10.4) ~~Interdistrict Appeal Hearing for Student 2025-2026 #11 (S.L.) Trinidad Union School District (TUSD)~~

CLOSED SESSION

(10.5) ~~Board Deliberation RE: Interdistrict Appeal Hearing for Student 2025-2026 #11
(S.L.) (TUSD)~~

OPEN SESSION

(10.6) ~~Board Report Out of Closed Session (Cal. Educ. Code Section 35146)~~

11.0 ADJOURNMENT

Eckenrode adjourned the meeting at 5:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Davies-Hughes, Superintendent
MDH:nc