

# Humboldt County Board of Education

901 Myrtle Avenue – Eureka, CA 95501  
Annex Conference Room

January 13, 2026  
4:00 PM

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

### 1.0 CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME/FLAG SALUTE

President McCullough called the regular meeting of the Humboldt County Board of Education to order at 4:00 PM with a quorum present.

PRESENT: Thom McMahon, Dena McCullough, Loretta Eckenrode  
ABSENT: Mary Scott, Robert Siekmann (joined at 4:04 PM)  
STAFF PRESENT: Michael Davies-Hughes, Natalie Carrigan, Colby Smart, Corey Weber, Ariel Aaron, Stacy Young, Rosie Slentz, Sean Schaefer

### 2.0 BOARD RECOGNITION

The Board recognized a recent HCOE retiree with ten or more years of service to the organization.

Trustee Siekmann joined the meeting at 4:04 PM.

### 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

Interdistrict Transfers, From Analog to Digital – Colby Smart  
Colby Smart shared a presentation on the new digital interdistrict transfer process with the Board.

### 6.0 CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved/seconded by Eckenrode/McMahon 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—December 17, 2025, Regular Meeting
- (6.2) Approve Monthly Remuneration
- (6.3) Adopt Proclamation in Support of Career and Technical Education Month

- (6.4) Adopt 2024-2025 School Accountability Report Cards (SARC) for HCOE Court and Community Schools and Glen Paul School
- (6.5) Approve Membership with EdBuy for 2026-2027 Standard School Supplies
- (6.6) Receive and File Williams Quarterly Report – Instructional Materials, Facilities, & Teacher Certification

## **7.0 ACTION ITEMS**

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

### **(7.1) Adoption of Board Policy 5141.5, Mental Health – Second Reading**

Superintendent Davies-Hughes reminded the Board that this policy was presented separately from the global board policy update because Education Code 49428.2 requires this policy be adopted prior to January 31, 2026.

President McCullough requested that “may” be changed to “shall” change language in the last sentence of the first paragraph of the training paragraph. And training may be provided to parents and guardians

It was moved/seconded by McMahon/Siekmann to adopt Board Policy 5141.5 with the noted change. Ayes 4, noes 0, absent 1, abstain 0. Motion carried.

### **(7.2) Adoption 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 – Second Reading**

President McCullough asked for clarification on Board Policy 9110.2, specifically around which districts are in each trustee area. Staff explained that the following changes would be made, the removal of Peninsula Union School District from Area 3 and Arcata School District from Area 5. McMahon shared that he was informed that the 5000 Series would address his previous question regarding BP 4110 – Artificial Intelligence.

It was moved/seconded by Eckenrode/McMahon to adopt the HCOE Board Policies with the noted change to Board Policy 9110.2. Ayes 4, noes 0, absent 0, abstain 0. Motion carried.

### **(7.3) Consideration of Membership with the Association of California County Boards of Education (ACCBE)**

Davies-Hughes recommended that the Board approve membership with ACCBE and remain members of CSBA.

It was moved/seconded by Eckenrode/McCullough to join membership with ACCBE. Ayes 4, noes 0, absent 1, abstain 0 . Motion carried.

(7.4) Discussion and Action Regarding Board Member Travel and Reimbursement for the CSBA Annual Education Conference (AEC)

Davies-Hughes explained that a Board member independently made travel arrangements to attend AEC, a conference not offered to all members of the Board. HCOE paid the registration fee and notified the Board member they would be responsible for other travel expenses. The Board member requested reimbursement of these expenses.

It was moved/seconded by McMahon/Eckenrode to approve reimbursement for the AEC. Ayes 4, noes 0, absent 1, abstain 0. Motion carried.

(7.5) Approval of Tentative 2026 Calendar of County Board Conferences and Conventions and Discussion on Travel Approval Process

Davies-Hughes informed the Board that approval of a calendar of conferences and conventions should be approved annually during the organizational meeting.

It was moved/seconded by Eckenrode/Siekmann to approve the tentative 2026 calendar of conferences and conventions. Ayes 4, noes 0, absent 1, abstain 0. Motion carried.

(7.6) Discussion and Action Regarding an Increase to the 2025-2056 Board Budget

Davies-Hughes made the Board aware that the previously approved budget for travel and conferences had been exceeded and would require an increase to account for additional pre-approved travel expenses.

It was moved/seconded by Siekmann/McMahon to accept the recommendation for the increase the budget as presented. Ayes 4, noes 0, absent 1, abstain 0. Motion carried.

**8.0 INFORMATION/DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

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

(8.1) Superintendent's Report

Davies-Hughes shared highlights from the Governor's January 2026 Budget Proposal, expressed appreciation to the members of the Board in honor of School Board Appreciation Month, acknowledged Janice Lourenzo, Director of School Support for taking the role of Interim Principal at Hoopa High School, informed the Board that staff, in partnership with

state parks, continues plans for the outdoor school, and shared an update on HCOE's new facility located at 1105 Myrtle Avenue in Eureka.

**9.0 BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS/REPORTS**

There were no board member announcements.

**10.0 ADJOURNMENT**

President McCullough adjourned the meeting at 5:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Davies-Hughes, Superintendent  
MDH:nc