

MEETING MINUTES

All meetings of the Governing Board are open to the general public with the exception of closed session items which are discussed confidentially in accordance with the law.

The Governing Board convenes in locations accessible in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Anyone planning to attend a meeting who has a disability and needs special assistance should call 408-535-6078 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to make special arrangements.

Spanish interpretation is available during meetings of the Governing Board. Anyone needing to arrange for interpretation services or to request a translated version of the agenda should call 408-535-6078 at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to make special arrangements.

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<https://sjusd.webex.com/sjusd/j.php?MTID=m6776492f6e0ed0f33d83951ce8c32443>

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Audio during the meeting will be available in English and Spanish.

Ms. Teresa Castellanos, President

Mr. José Magaña, Vice President

Ms. Carla Collins, Member

Ms. Nicole Gribstad, Member

Mr. Brian Wheatley, Member

Ms. Nancy Albarrán, Superintendent

Lara Harb, Student Board Member [Leland High School]

Gabriel Ruiz-Flores, Alternate Student Board Member [San José High School]

Current Board of Education information can be found at sjusd.org.

Attendance

Voting Members

Teresa Castellanos, Board President
Carla Collins, Board Member
Nicole Gribstad, Board Member
Jose Magana, Board Vice President
Brian Wheatley, Board Member

A. Call the Meeting to Order - 5:00 PM

Board President Teresa Castellanos called the special session meeting to order at 5:11 p.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

Student Board Member Lara Harb led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustee Nicole Gribstad entered the room at 5:12 p.m.

C. Adoption of Special Session Agenda

Superintendent Nancy Albarrán announced one amendment to the special session agenda. Amend Item E.4 Recognitions per Board Policy 1150: School Commendations and Awards. The list of honorees has been updated.

Motion to approve the special session agenda with the proposed change.

Motion made by: Jose Magana

Motion seconded by: Brian Wheatley

Voting:

Teresa Castellanos - Yes

Carla Collins - Yes

Nicole Gribstad - Yes

Jose Magana - Yes

Brian Wheatley - Yes

The special session agenda was adopted as amended by a vote of 5-0.

Adoption of the special session agenda is located at 0:45-1:46 on the 05.22.2025 Special Session Board Meeting Recording. <https://sjusd.app.box.com/v/boardmeetingaudio>

D. Public Comments Regarding Agenda Items

Board President Teresa Castellanos announced that equipment was available for Spanish interpretation. There were no public comments regarding agenda items.

E. Recognitions per Board Policy 1150: Commendations and Awards

Board President Teresa Castellanos announced that the Board was pleased to be honoring several individuals for their achievements and contributions.

1. Recognition of CSEA Scholarship Recipients: Daria Cisper, Aayaan Rao, Mia Rosa, Jonathan Sequeira

Superintendent Nancy Albarrán welcomed everyone and thanked them for arriving early.

CSEA Scholarship Chairperson Terry Gregersen introduced herself and made opening remarks. She announced the names of the scholarship award winners and read brief statements about the extracurricular activities, and the college plans of each of the recipients.

Board President Teresa Castellanos announced that photos would be taken at the end of the awards presentations.

The recognition of CSEA Scholarship recipients is located at 3:29-11:59 on the 05.22.2025 Special Session Board Meeting Recording. <https://sjusd.app.box.com/v/boardmeetingaudio>

2. Recognition of Outgoing Student Board Member Lara Harb and Alternate Student Board Member Gabriel Ruiz-Flores

Board President Teresa Castellanos announced outgoing Student Board members, Lara Harb from Leland High School and Gabriel Ruiz-Flores from San José High School.

Superintendent Nancy Albarrán acknowledged Lara and Gabriel for their thoughtfulness and honesty and their commitment to their peers as well as their community. She thanked them for showing up with integrity and modeling student leadership. She extended congratulations and wished them the best at Santa Clara University. Each of the Board members thanked Lara and Gabriel for their commitment, contributions and thoughtful insights and for being the voice of students in district governance.

The recognition of the outgoing student board members is located at 12:03-17:30 on the 05.22.2025 Special Session Board Meeting Recording. <https://sjusd.app.box.com/v/boardmeetingaudio>

3. Recognition of SJUSD Employees of the Year: Classified, Certificated, and Administrator

Director of Human Resources Peter Park made opening remarks about the process for selecting the San José Unified employees of the year and the celebration that was held at Gunderson High School on May 6th. He introduced the 2024-2025 classified employee of the year, Juvy Motas, who is an Instructional Associate, Specialized at Liberty Alternative High School. He read a brief statement about her hard work, compassion and commitment to student success. Next, he introduced the 2024-2025 certificated employee of the year, Mike Boston, who teaches at Trace Elementary School and has over 30 years of teaching experience. He read a brief statement about him, including his early morning drama classes that inspire creativity and confidence in students from TK to 5th grade. He introduced the 2024-2025 administrator of the year, Zoila Esquivel Moreno, Principal at River Glen K-8 School. He read a brief statement about her leadership and dedication to ensuring equitable access to a high-quality education for all students, particularly language learners in San José Unified.

Board President Teresa Castellanos, Student Board Member Lara Harb and each of the Board members expressed their gratitude and extended congratulations to the employees of the year.

The recognition of the SJUSD Employees of the Year is located at 17:35-29:38 on the 05.22.2025 Special Session Board Meeting Recording.
<https://sjusd.app.box.com/v/boardmeetingaudio>

4. Recognitions per Board Policy 1150: School Commendations and Awards

Board President Teresa Castellanos acknowledged the School Commendations and Awards aligned with Board Policy 1150. She thanked all the schools and teams that submitted recognitions. She asked all the honorees to stand up to be recognized. Superintendent Nancy Albarrán called out the names of each of the honorees and teams. She announced that each of the honorees and teams would receive a copy of a PowerPoint presentation that had been created by the Communications department staff. The PowerPoint presentation was displayed on the video screens in the Boardroom. After the PowerPoint ended, Board President Teresa Castellanos congratulated the honorees and announced the conclusion of the agenda for the special session.

Recognitions per Board Policy 1150: School Commendations and Awards are located at 29:41-36:30 on the 05.22.2025 Special Session Board Meeting Recording.
<https://sjusd.app.box.com/v/boardmeetingaudio>



School Commendations and Awards 2025 as updated

F. Adjourn Special Session

Board President Teresa Castellanos entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion made by: Jose Magana

Motion seconded by: Brian Wheatley

Voting:

Teresa Castellanos - Yes

Carla Collins - Yes

Nicole Gribstad - Yes

Jose Magana - Yes

Brian Wheatley - Yes


The special session meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m. The Board members stepped out of the room for photos with the honorees.



Supporting Documents

The following PDFs were attached to the minutes:

E. 4. Recognitions per Board Policy 1150: School Commendations and Awards

 School Commendations and Awards 2025 as updated



School Commendations and Awards

Liberty ACE Program Student Employees of the Year 2025

1. Joshua Arnett
2. Ava Fuentes Muniz
3. Miguel Garcia
4. Jahn Gonzalez
5. Eric Hoffman
6. Tyler Mullin
7. Haley Torres Chavarria

San José Unified Excellence Awards

8. Lukas Hines
9. Los Alamitos Elementary School
10. Liam Brough
11. Leland Football Team
12. Sophia Ramirez
13. Lauren Lee
14. Genevieve Garcia
15. Leland Girls Soccer Team
16. Benjamin Alton