

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
May 12, 2026
Regular Meeting of the Board of Education
Alameda City Hall
2263 Santa Clara Avenue
Alameda, California 94501

ADOPTED MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING: The regular meeting of the Board of Education was held at the date and location mentioned above.

A. CALL TO ORDER

1. Public Comment on Closed Session Topics:
There were no public comments on Closed Session topics

2. Adjourn to Closed Session – 5:30pm:
Board Members met privately in Conference Room 391 in City Hall for Closed Session. Agenda items discussed in Closed Session included:

Request to Hear Appeal of Uniform Complaint Against Employee (Govt. Code, §54957, subd. (b) (1)): (1 Appeal Request):
1) Complaint #26-0008

Public Employee Performance Evaluation - (Govt. Code, §54957, subd. (b)(1)):
1) Superintendent

3. Reconvene to Public Session – 6:30pm
The Board reconvened to Public Session in Council Chambers at 6:30pm

4. Call to Order - Public Session – 6:30pm
Board President Ryan LaLonde called the meeting to order in Council Chambers at 6:30pm.

5. Pledge of Allegiance
Board President Ryan LaLonde led the Pledge of Allegiance.

6. Introduction of Board Members and Staff:
Board of Education Members present: Board President Ryan LaLonde, Board Vice President Heather Little, Board Clerk Jennifer Williams, Board Trustee Carrie Hahnel and Board Trustee Gary K. Lym.

Student Board Members Ruth Woldeamayyat (Alameda High), Roan Byrne Sarno (ASTI), and Donovan Smith (Encinal Jr. & Sr. High) were present.

AUSD staff members present: Superintendent Pasquale Scuderi, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources Timothy Erwin; Assistant Superintendent, Business Services Shariq Khan; Assistant Superintendent,

Educational Services, Kirsten Zazo; Senior Manager of Community Affairs, Susan Davis; and Senior Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, Kerri Lonergan.

7. Closed Session Action Report:
In Closed Session the Board voted unanimously to accept the request to hear an appeal of Uniform Complaint #26-0008.

B. MODIFICATION(S) OF THE AGENDA:

There were no modifications to the agenda.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes from the March 24, 2026 Board of Education meeting were considered for approval.

Motion to approve the minutes from the March 24, 2026 Board of Education meeting.

MOTION: Member Williams **SECONDED:** Member Hahnel

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER VOTES

AYES: Members Byrne-Sarno, Smith, and Woldesemayat

NOES:

ABSENT:

BOARD MEMBER VOTES

AYES: Members LaLonde, Williams, Hahnel, and Lym

ABSTAIN: Member Little

ABSENT:

MOTION APPROVED

D. COMMUNICATIONS

1. Recognition of Outgoing Student Board Members
Board members recognized outgoing Student Board Members Roan Byrne Sarno (ASTI), Ruth Woldesemayat (Alameda High School), and Donovan Smith (Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School). Board members expressed appreciation for the students' service, professionalism, participation in Board and committee meetings, and representation of student voices throughout the 2025-2026 school year. Student Board Members were congratulated on their upcoming graduations and post-secondary plans.
2. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items:
Isaac Mukusi, Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School student: Isaac spoke about the positive impact lacrosse has had on his personal growth, confidence, and sense of belonging and encouraged the District to provide opportunities for students to continue playing at the high school level.

Merritt Stevens, Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School student: Merritt spoke in support of high school lacrosse programs, citing the sport's physical, social, and educational benefits.

Atari Wong, Lincoln Middle School student, advocated for expanding athletic opportunities through the addition of high school lacrosse programs.

Logan Green, Lincoln Middle School student: Logan shared his experiences participating in lacrosse and encouraged the District to consider adding lacrosse at the high school level.

Archer Will, Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School student: Archer described the positive impact of lacrosse on confidence, teamwork, and friendships and requested consideration of a high school program.

3. Written Correspondence:

The Board received one email regarding General Business Item F-1, Staff Recommendation for Elementary English Language Arts Curriculum Adoption.

4. Report from Employee Organizations:

Alameda Education Association (AEA): Judy Ganley, President of AEA recognized classified employees during Classified School Employee Week, acknowledged the service of the Student Board Members, highlighted AEA scholarship awards, and commended student participation in Board meetings and civic engagement activities.

California School Employees Association (CSEA), Chapter 27: Amy Keegan, President of CSEA 27 reported on the Chapter's annual scholarship program, statewide CalPERS Board election activities, member recognition awards, and Classified School Employee Week. Ms. Keegan recognized classified employees for their contributions to District operations and student success.

5. Report from PTA Council:

PTA Council (PTAC): No PTA Council report was presented. Staff shared that PTA Council President Katie Honegger was unable to attend and noted that PTA Council is seeking a new president due to term limits.

6. Board Members' Report:

Board Vice President Heather Little: Board Vice President Little recognized Classified School Employee Week and expressed appreciation for classified staff members for their essential contributions to schools and students. Vice President Little also acknowledged the students who spoke in support of lacrosse programs, noting the growing community interest in the sport and encouraging continued advocacy at the school level, where decisions regarding athletics, facilities, staffing, and funding are made.

Board Member Carrie Hahnel: Board Member Hahnel thanked the students who addressed the Board regarding lacrosse and commended them for their preparation and advocacy. Board Member Hahnel also acknowledged efforts

to promote equitable access to lacrosse opportunities throughout Alameda and encouraged future presentations to include implementation details and specific requests for support.

Board Member Gary K. Lym: Board Member Lym recognized Classified School Employee Week and highlighted his attendance at the CSEA Chapter 27 scholarship dinner. Board Member Lim congratulated scholarship recipient Chloe Ann and reported on a visit to Sean Foster’s bilingual student discussion group, where students explored topics related to life choices and personal growth. He also noted the opportunity to meet graduating seniors and expressed support for helping students take advantage of postsecondary opportunities available through the Alameda Promise program. Board Member Lim concluded by thanking students for their continued advocacy and participation in Board meetings.

Board President Ryan LaLonde: Board President LaLonde reported on his volunteer service as an Advanced Placement (AP) exam proctor at Alameda High School. President LaLonde recognized the efforts of parents, volunteers, site administrators, and staff involved in coordinating AP testing and highlighted the breadth of AP course offerings available in the District. He also acknowledged students participating in AP exams and thanked Alameda High School staff for their work administering the testing program.

7. Superintendent’s Report:

Superintendent Pasquale Scuderi: Superintendent Scuderi thanked the students who spoke in support of lacrosse programs and commended their advocacy and public speaking skills. Superintendent Scuderi announced the recommendation of Mark Segato, current Assistant Principal at Love Elementary School, for appointment as the next Principal of Love Elementary School. He noted that Mr. Segato was selected following a comprehensive recruitment process involving 41 applicants and highlighted his educational leadership experience, commitment to students, and strong connections within the school community. Mr. Segato briefly addressed the Board and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to serve in his new role.

Superintendent Scuderi also highlighted two proclamations included on the Consent Calendar. The first recognized Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, honoring the contributions of AAPI students, families, educators, staff, and community members. The second recognized Harvey Milk Day on May 22, 2026, honoring Harvey Milk’s legacy as a civil rights leader and reaffirming the District’s commitment to inclusion, respect, and belonging for all students and staff, including members of the LGBTQ+ community.

8. Student Board Member Reports:

Donovan Smith (Encinal Jr. & Sr. High): Student Board Member Smith congratulated the students who spoke during public comment and reported on upcoming senior activities, including the Senior Picnic, graduation rehearsals, Senior Breakfast, Unity Week, and Unity Day. Donovan also reported on student athletic achievements, including baseball and softball teams advancing to WACC playoffs and track and field athletes qualifying for NCS competition. Donovan shared plans to

attend Santa Barbara City College and later transfer to University of California, Santa Barbara. He thanked the Board for its support and reflected on his experience serving as a Student Board Member.

Ruth Woldesemayat (Alameda High): Student Board Member Woldesemayat reported on upcoming student activities, including the Junior-Senior Ball, Student Appreciation Day, Senior Picnic, Open House, and Spring Dance Showcase. Ruth shared plans to attend University of Southern California to study biochemistry on a pre-medical track and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to serve as a Student Board Member, noting the valuable experience gained through participation on the Board.

Roan Byrne Sarno (ASTI): Student Board Member Byrne-Sarno reported on recent and upcoming school activities, including the ASTI prom, Spring Awards Night, talent show, and ASB elections. Rowan also noted the upcoming College of Alameda graduation ceremony and shared plans to attend the University of California, Santa Cruz to study legal studies with the goal of pursuing a career in public interest law. Rowan thanked the Board for its support and reflected positively on the experience of serving as a Student Board Member.

Student Board member Donovan Smith left the meeting in order to participate in Senior activities.

E. ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1) Certificated Personnel Actions
- 2) Classified Personnel Actions
- 3) Approval and Acceptance of Donations
- 4) Approval and Ratification of Contracts Executed Pursuant to Board Policy 3300
- 5) Approval and Ratification of Facilities Bond Measure I and Measure B Contracts
- 6) Approval and Ratification of Individual Service Agreements (ISAs) with Non-Public Schools and Non-Public Agencies
- 7) Approval of Bill Warrants and Payroll Registers
- 8) Approval of Contract Award per Request for Proposal (RFP) No. 026-049-05 Virtual Year-Round Literacy Tutoring Program for Selected K-3 Students at Various Elementary School Sites
- 9) Approval of Revised Course Description: Sheltered English at Encinal High School
- 10) Proclamation: Asian-Pacific Islander Heritage Month - May
- 11) Proclamation: Harvey Milk Day - May 22, 2026
- 12) Resolution No. 2025-2026.52 Approval of Budget Transfers, Increases, Decreases
- 13) Resolution No. 2025-2026.53 Authorization to Dispose of Surplus

Property

Board President Ryan LaLonde let the audience know that he has been taking time to update Proclamations as they come for approval. He read part of the Proclamation for Asian Pacific Islander Month out loud to highlight the additions that reflect the impact of current and previous Alameda Unified School District Board members, including Sam Huey, Philip Hu, Niel Tam, and Board Member Gary K. Lym.

Motion to adopt the Consent Calendar.

MOTION: Member Williams

SECONDED: Member Little

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER VOTES

AYES: Members Byrne-Sarno and Woldesemayat

NOES:

ABSENT: Member Smith

BOARD MEMBER VOTES

AYES: Members LaLonde, Little, Williams, Hahnel, and Lym

NOES:

ABSENT:

MOTION APPROVED

Student Board Members Donovan Smith and Ruth Woldesemayat left the meeting at 7:44pm to study for AP Tests.

F. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Staff Recommendation for Elementary English Language Arts (ELA) Curriculum Adoption

Shannon Reinhart, Coordinator of Language and Literacy, presented the recommendation of the Elementary ELA Curriculum Adoption Committee. Ms. Reinhart was joined by Jen Howell, Third Grade Teacher at Edison Elementary School; Esperanza “Espy” Mendez, Kindergarten Teacher at Otis Elementary School; and Erin Ashworth, PK–3 Alignment Coach.

The presentation reviewed the curriculum review and pilot process, data collected during the pilot, the committee’s recommendation, implementation planning, and projected costs. Staff explained that the process was grounded in the science of reading, aligned with the District’s literacy framework, and included the evaluation of multiple curricula using research-based rubrics. Three programs were piloted during the 2025-2026 school year: Benchmark Advance, Wonders, and EL Education. Staff reported that 90 percent of pilot participants recommended adoption of Benchmark Advance as the District’s new elementary ELA curriculum.

Pilot teachers shared their experiences using the curriculum. Key reasons cited for recommending Benchmark Advance included:

- Strong, systematic phonics and foundational skills instruction.

- Alignment with the science of reading and explicit teaching practices.
- Engaging and culturally responsive instructional materials.
- Opportunities for students to build background knowledge through complex texts.
- Strong vertical alignment across grade levels.
- Integration of science and social studies content.
- Positive student engagement and accessibility for diverse learners.
- Support for language development and reading comprehension.

Public Comment:

Emily Allegrotti, Alameda community member and parent of two Paden Elementary School students: Ms. Allegrotti addressed the Board regarding the proposed elementary ELA curriculum adoption. Ms. Allegrotti expressed appreciation for the work of staff and pilot teachers and shared concerns regarding the research base supporting Benchmark Advance. She encouraged the District to consider additional curricula with stronger evidence of student achievement outcomes and requested that the Board postpone adoption to allow further review of other curriculum options.

Board members commented on the extensive work completed by the curriculum adoption committee and thanked the participating teachers and staff. A Board member asked about school-site representation in the pilot process, and staff explained that seven of the District’s nine elementary schools participated and represented a broad range of student populations, teaching experiences, and socioeconomic backgrounds. A Board member asked how the District would address concerns regarding the use of excerpts rather than full-length novels. Staff explained that Benchmark Advance includes novel study units and that plans are already underway to identify and purchase additional full-text novels to supplement the curriculum.

A Board member asked questions regarding the curriculum selection process, the science of reading research, and the upcoming California instructional materials review process. Staff described the multi-step review and pilot process and noted that Benchmark Advance is already an approved curriculum and has been updated to align more closely with current science of reading practices. Board members also discussed the importance of ongoing professional development, teacher feedback, curriculum evaluation, and continuous refinement of instructional materials following adoption. Staff outlined plans for implementation support, professional learning, and continued alignment with the District’s literacy framework and social studies curriculum.

The item was presented for information and public hearing only. Staff indicated that the curriculum adoption recommendation would return to the Board for action at a future meeting.

2. Committee Recommendations for Naming Encinal Jr. & Sr. High School Athletic Field

Susan Davis, Senior Manager of Community Affairs, and Kirsten Snyder, Principal of Encinal Junior & Senior High School, presented the

recommendations of the Encinal Athletic Field Naming Committee. Staff reviewed the naming process established under Board Policy 7310 and summarized the community engagement efforts conducted following the Board's direction to solicit naming suggestions. Staff reported that the District received 101 submissions from alumni, staff, students, and community members. After reviewing the submissions and considering the Board Policy criteria, the committee recommended three potential names for the athletic field, with Jet Pride Field identified as the committee's preferred recommendation.

Staff explained that committee discussions initially considered honoring an individual but ultimately focused on names that reflected the school's culture, traditions, and values. Committee members expressed a desire to recognize the broader Encinal community while preserving opportunities to honor notable alumni, coaches, and community members through other means, such as plaques, banners, dedications, or recognition displays at the facility. Staff noted that existing facility names, including Willie Stargell Field and the Don Grant Track, would remain unchanged.

Board members thanked the committee for its work and emphasized the importance of obtaining student input before a final decision is made. A Board member asked how students would be engaged in the process. Staff indicated that surveys and outreach through advisory periods would be used to ensure students have an opportunity to provide feedback on the recommended names. Board members also commented on the opportunities the new facility provides to celebrate Encinal's history and recognize distinguished alumni and contributors in ways that complement, rather than replace, existing honors.

Staff stated that feedback on the recommended names would continue to be collected and that the item would return to the Board for consideration and action at a future meeting.

3. Parcel Tax Program Annual Reports for 2024-2025

Susan Davis, Senior Manager of Community Affairs, presented the Staff Annual Report and Parcel Tax Oversight Committee Annual Report for the 2024-2025 Parcel Tax Program. Ms. Davis provided an overview of Measure B1 and Measure A revenues and expenditures, noting that 2024-2025 was the final year of reporting for both measures prior to the implementation of Measure E. The presentation reviewed historical revenue and expenditure data, the impact of parcel tax funding on District programs and staffing, oversight committee activities, and future reporting plans under Measure E.

Ms. Davis also recognized Assistant Superintendent of Business Services Shariq Khan and Director of Fiscal Services Steve Chanel for their work managing the parcel tax program.

Joyce Boyd, Chair of the Parcel Tax Oversight Committee, presented the Committee's Annual Report. Ms. Boyd reviewed the Committee's responsibilities, meeting activities, and review process, noting that the

Committee met four times during the year and examined revenue, expenditures, and program impacts associated with Measures B1 and A. Ms. Boyd reported that the Committee concluded the District had complied with voter-approved funding priorities and that the Staff Annual Report accurately represented parcel tax expenditures for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. She also encouraged community members to consider serving on the Parcel Tax Oversight Committee.

Board members commented on the value of the Parcel Tax Oversight Committee and expressed appreciation for the work of the committee members and staff. Board members noted that the annual reports continue to improve in quality and transparency, highlighted the importance of parcel tax revenues in sustaining District programs and services, and encouraged continued community involvement in oversight activities. A board member also requested that staff provide an update on any future changes to the parcel tax reporting format as the District transitions to reporting under Measure E.

4. 2026-2027 Budget Adoption Process: Categorical Programs and Parcel Tax Funds

The purpose of this presentation is to provide the Board of Education with an update on inclusive special education practices featuring Paden Elementary School and Lincoln Middle School, highlighting how inclusion is being implemented as a core general education practice to support students with disabilities academically, socially, and physically. The presentation shares implementation strategies, staffing models, student outcomes, and firsthand perspectives from educators and students.

5. Resolution No. 2025-2026.54 Declaration of Intent to Grant an Easement to the City of Alameda at Otis Elementary School

Shariq Khan, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, presented Resolution No. 2025-2026.54, Declaration of Intent to Grant an Easement to the City of Alameda at Otis Elementary School. Mr. Khan explained that, during planning for the Otis Elementary School construction project, the District discovered an existing City storm drain located beneath the future building site. The project requires relocation of the storm drain to a new location on District property, along with maintenance access points. The proposed easement would allow the City of Alameda to access and maintain the relocated storm drain.

Mr. Khan explained that the action represented the first step in a two-step process, with a public hearing on the easement scheduled for a future Board meeting.

A Board member asked why the District would be responsible for the costs associated with relocating the storm drain and whether the City would share in those costs. Staff explained that relocation of the storm drain benefits the District because the existing line is located beneath the future building site. Staff also noted that discussions with the City had resulted in a significant reduction in permit-related fees associated with the project.

Motion to approve Resolution No. 2025-2026.54 Declaration of Intent to Grant an Easement to the City of Alameda at Otis Elementary School.

MOTION: Member Williams

SECONDED: Member Little

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER VOTES

AYES: Member Byrne-Sarno and Woldesemayat

NOES:

ABSENT: Member Smith

BOARD MEMBER VOTES

AYES: Members LaLonde, Little, Williams, Hahnel, and Lym

NOES:

ABSENT:

MOTION APPROVED

6. Approval of Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators

Timothy Erwin, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources, presented the annual Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators. Mr. Erwin explained that the declaration allows the District, when necessary, to employ qualified individuals who have not yet completed all credential requirements through the use of emergency permits. He noted that the District rarely needs to utilize this authority due to successful recruitment efforts but recommended annual approval as a precautionary measure.

Board members noted that the declaration is a routine annual item and did not raise additional questions.

Motion to approve Approval of Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators.

MOTION: Member Hahnel

SECONDED: Member Little

STUDENT BOARD MEMBER VOTES

AYES: Member Byrne-Sarno and Woldesemayat

NOES:

ABSENT: Member Smith

BOARD MEMBER VOTES

AYES: Members LaLonde, Little, Williams, Hahnel, and Lym

NOES:

ABSENT:

MOTION APPROVED

- G. ADJOURNMENT** - Board President Ryan LaLonde adjourned the meeting at 8:50pm in honor of Mike Janvier, a longtime Alameda Unified School District educator, administrator, mentor, and Alameda resident who passed away on April 23, 2026. President LaLonde noted that Mr. Janvier dedicated 34 years of service to Alameda Unified School District, beginning as a district custodian before serving as a teacher at Lincoln Middle School, vice principal at Encinal High School, principal at Lincoln and Washington Elementary Schools, and principal of Alameda High School from 2004 to 2010. President LaLonde recognized Mr.

Janvier's lasting impact on students, families, colleagues, and the broader Alameda community and extended condolences to his family and friends. The Board observed a moment of silence in his honor before adjourning the meeting.

Respectively Submitted,

Kerri Lonergan
Senior Executive Assistant
Alameda Unified School District