

ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES

WELCOME

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Orange County Board of Education was called to order by President Barke at 5:01 p.m., March 4, 2026, in the Board Room, 200 Kalmus Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 and via YouTube live stream <https://youtube.com/live/C5Mf8xIpyc0>.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Lisa Sparks, Ph.D.
Jorge Valdes, Esq.
Mari Barke
Tim Shaw

Absent:

Ken L. Williams, D.O. (joined the meeting at approximately 5:54 p.m.)

AGENDA

Motion by Valdes, seconded by Sparks, and carried by a vote of 4-0 (Williams absent) to approve the agenda for the March 4, 2026, Regular Meeting.

MINUTES

Motion by Sparks, seconded by Valdes, and carried by a vote of 4-0 (Williams absent) to approve the minutes of the Regular meeting of February 2, 2026.

INVOCATION

Rabbi Adam Greenwald
Congregation B'nai Israel

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Greg Rolen, General Counsel

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Sparks, seconded by Valdes, and carried by a vote of 4-0 (Williams absent) to approve Consent Calendar items No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, and No. 4.

1. Approve the granting of diplomas to the students listed from Alternative, Community, and Correctional Education Schools and Services, Alternative Education Division.
2. Adopt Resolution No. 07-26 to recognize April 11-17, 2026, as Week of the Young Child.
3. Adopt Resolution No. 08-26 to recognize April 2026 as Public Schools Month.

4. Receive the Orange County Department of Education's Transportation Plan for fiscal years 2026-27 through 2028-29.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (General)

- DA
- Laurie
- Greg/ Teren

Note

Teren Shaffer (CEO) and Greg Endelman (COO) of the Orange County School of the Arts presented Resolution 2026-01, recognizing OCDE, the County Board, and Superintendent Dr. Bean for their leadership and commitment to educational excellence.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (continued)

- Heidi
- Michele
- Ronna
- Katherine

PRESENTATIONS

5. Recognition of Connections at University HS Wrestling Team – Analee Kredel, Associate Superintendent, Connections
 - David Longo, Principal
 - Joshua Marks, Wrestling Coach
 - Tiffanie Laird and Rene Mosquera, Interpreters
 - Winners/ Recognition
 - Luis – 1st Place (106 lbs.)
 - Emma – 1st Place (above 120 lbs.), voted Most Outstanding Wrestler for the girls' division.
 - Ayiana – 2nd Place (under 120 lbs.)
 - Victor – 3rd Place (144 lbs.)
 - Jayden and Erik, 4th in their respective weight classes.
 - Joshua competed in the team competition (190 lbs.) but was unable to participate in the individual competition due to injury.

INTRODUCTIONS

There were no introductions at the meeting.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

6. Charter submissions – None
7. Charter School Public Hearing – Vista Condor Global Academy Renewal Charter Petition
Aracely Chastain, Executive Director, Charter Schools Unit, facilitated the public hearing.
 - Dr. Collin Felch, Superintendent

Note

Trustee Williams joined the board meeting at approximately 5:54 p.m.

8. Motion by Barke, seconded by Sparks, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to approve Option I for the Vista Condor Global Academy Renewal Charter Petition.
9. Charter School Public Hearing – Orange Springs Charter School Material Revision
Aracely Chastain, Executive Director, Charter Schools Unit, facilitated the public hearing.
 - Michelle Sapanara, Assistant Superintendent, Student Services, Orange Springs
 - Dr. Vivian Price, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services, Orange Springs
10. Motion by Barke, seconded by Valdes, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to approve Option I for the Orange Springs Charter School Material Revision.
11. Charter School Public Hearing – TLC (Tomorrow's Leadership Collaborative) Renewal Charter Petition & Material Revision
Aracely Chastain, Executive Director, Charter Schools Unit, facilitated the public hearing.
 - Dr. Jessica Tunney, Executive Director & Founder, TLC
 - Marisol Leal

PUBLIC COMMENTS (Item No. 11)

- Ronnie
 - Kelly
 - Richard/ Stella
 - Sandra
 - Micah/ Madden
 - Kelly
 - Nickie
 - Valentina
 - Vivian
 - Karina
12. Charter School Public Hearing – Orange County Workforce Innovation High School Material Revision
Aracely Chastain, Executive Director, Charter Schools Unit, facilitated the public hearing.
 - Corrine Manley, Area Superintendent, OCWIHS

BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

13. Motion by Sparks, seconded Williams, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to approve board date change from July 1, 2026, to July 8, 2026.

14. Discussion: Grade Inflation – Video

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

15. Budget Presentation – Dave Giordano, Associate Superintendent, Administrative Services.
16. Motion by Williams, seconded by Sparks, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to approve the Second Interim Report that is certified Positive by the County Superintendent of Schools.

INFORMATION ITEMS

COMMUNICATION/INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

- Memorial Day Essay Contest
 - Sunburst Youth Academy Color Guard
 - The Freedom Committee
- Board Liaison

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Deputy Superintendent
 - Dr. Bean was named the 2026 California Association of Asian and Pacific Leaders in Education (CAAPLE) Superintendent of the Year.
 - Form 700 due April 1.
 - Next board meeting is on Wednesday, April 8, 2026; submission deadline is March 25; board packet delivery is April 3.
- Superintendent
 - March 10 event in Irvine supporting students with disabilities, connecting families with 75+ agencies.
 - Recognition of student achievements, including OC Spelling Bee winner Sydney Tran.
 - Upcoming March 31 countywide education career fair connecting districts and candidates.
 - OC Pathways showcase drew 1,200+ attendees, highlighting career technical education opportunities.
 - April 14 active shooter preparedness forum planned with law enforcement collaboration.
 - Launch of innovative use of state “differentiated assistance” funds, awarding \$525K to six districts to develop and share best practices.
 - OC State of Education – RSVP to Darou.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- Discussed SB 249, AB 84, and SB 414.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

- Trustee Sparks noted she made a brief visit to TLC and, based on that experience, expressed interest in returning to spend more time there.
- Trustee Valdes noted that an ACCESS teacher raised concerns about insufficient transportation and outdated laptops. He requested a detailed follow-up email outlining the scope of transportation gaps and the number and condition of devices.
- Vice President Shaw shared that Luke Shaw was accepted to Cal Poly Pomona and Brigham Young University, with decisions from UCLA and UC San Diego still pending.
- Board President Barke shared that she visited TLC, described it as an excellent experience, and encouraged others to visit and spend time there.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly made and seconded, the March 4, 2026, board meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.



Renee Hendrick
Assistant Secretary, Board of Education



Mari Barke
President, Board of Education

Next Regular Board Meeting – Second Wednesday, April 8, 2026

Location - Orange County Department of Education, Boardroom, 200 Kalmus Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626 and via YouTube Livestream

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