



**SHASTA UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD  
Large Conference Room  
2200 Eureka Way  
Redding, CA 96001**

**April 28, 2026  
ADOPTED MINUTES**

A special meeting of the Governing Board of the Shasta Union High School District was called to order at 5:33 p.m. by Trustee Luke Wilson in the Shasta Union High School District Large Conference Room.

**ROLL CALL:** Trustees Luke Wilson, Mike Bridges, and Joe Ayer were present. Also present: Superintendent Owen Crosby, Associate Superintendent of Human Resources Jason Rubin, Associate Superintendent of Instructional Services Leo Perez, and Associate Superintendent of Business Services David Flores.

Trustee Wilson led the pledge of allegiance and Trustee Bridges recited the mission and vision statements.

**RES. 26-275** That the Board approve the agenda, as presented. (Motion Bridges, second Ayer, carried 5-0)

**RES. 26-276** That the meeting adjourn. (Motion Zufall, second Wilson, carried 5-0)

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Sonja Merrill raised concerns about the Foothill High School (FHS) wrestling room size, noting that with an expanding program there are concerns for safety and skill development. A possible expansion of the maintenance building was mentioned. She urged the Board to prioritize a solution and invited further discussion or a site visit.

Trustees Andrea Hoheisel and Ron Zufall arrived at 5:35 p.m.

Shaun Vega Sanchez commended EHS students and urged continued support for CTE programs. He emphasized the need for a wrestling space at FHS, opposed renting the SLC campus to UPrep, and stated that cell phones are a tool. He suggested leveraging technology by enabling Wi-Fi while restricting cell phone use. He also highlighted inclusivity in wrestling and expressed willingness to share space.

Taylor Brewer stated that the FHS wrestling room is too small for a growing program, with no space for gear and overcrowding leading to safety concerns. She stressed the need for a larger space and thanked the District for its support.

Matt Owens, new FHS head wrestling coach, stated that the program has grown and had two state qualifiers this year. He highlighted safety and space challenges in the current room and emphasized the need for a larger facility to support continued growth.

Paul Taylor raised concerns regarding the size of the FHS wrestling room.

Thomas Paul stated that student athletes are being held back from their full potential due to the lack of space to train in the FHS wrestling room.

Dominic Taylor stated that the FHS wrestling room fosters productive practices, strong focus, team culture, and a sense of pride, but raised concerns about the size of the room.

Cruise McKeller stated that the FHS wrestling program is growing and needs a larger room for future generations.

FHS wrestling parent (no name provided) stated that his son chose wrestling after leaving basketball and acknowledged that the room needs to be larger for better participation. He noted that he's seen his son's confidence grow from wrestling and urged the Board to support the program.

**DISCUSSION:**

Measure M Bond Project List: David Flores presented an overview of the Measure M Bond Project list, highlighting the five main projects of Phase 1. One major focus is to add or upgrade LED lighting to all varsity softball and baseball fields in addition to enhancing drainage. Topography studies have already been completed, and the addition of lighting would allow for evening use when temperatures are cooler, helping extend playtime and improve conditions for student-athletes.

Another project discussed was the construction of the EHS Culinary Building. This project will involve a modular structure built offsite, paired with a separate bid for onsite work. It is expected to go out to bid within the next few weeks. This project was originally planned under Measure I but was shifted to Measure M due to lack of funds.

Mr. Flores outlined plans for a Districtwide replacement of primary chiller units across all four school sites. This project is still in the design phase, with ongoing studies focused on energy efficiency and long-term cost savings. In addition, the Transportation Yard will undergo demolition and reconstruction, with bidding anticipated within the next two weeks. This project requires the relocation of five SHS portable buildings - three moving to FHS, one to the District farm and one remaining on site. These relocations must occur before August to make room for construction.

The final project of Phase 1 centers on Career Technical Education (CTE) grant opportunities. The District is pursuing funding for new Agricultural Resource Facilities at Foothill High School and the farm, which would include three science-based agriculture classrooms. Each site could receive up to \$3 million in state funding, which the District would match. Phase two applications are due by June 30, and if awarded, the District would allocate approximately \$6 million from the bond to complete the projects.

Mr. Flores emphasized that the District faces approximately \$174 million in overall infrastructure needs, including HVAC systems, paving, roofing, and air quality improvements. While the current projects will address some of these priorities, additional projects will be necessary. To manage cash flow, the District is staggering the projects, utilizing Bond Anticipation Notes (BANs), with plans for a bond sale in the next year.

Board discussion addressed project costs, inflation and timelines, with Phase 1 estimated at \$20 million of the total \$56 million bond. Questions were raised regarding the availability of matching grants for athletics and physical education, with limited opportunities identified compared to arts funding. There was also interest in whether schools could fundraise or partner with donors to support facilities, though such efforts typically rely on grassroots or philanthropic contributions rather than formal grant programs. Trustees noted the success of booster organizations in raising funds, while also acknowledging that any donated work would need to align with the Department of State Architect, contractor agreements and bidding requirements.

**RECESS:** 6:22 p.m. – 6:47 p.m.

Goal Setting: Dr. Owen Crosby introduced Educational Leadership Services Representative Dr. Ron Carruth who opened a discussion on future focus areas, developed from input gathered across the District. He presented four draft focus areas and had the Board and Executive Cabinet participate in a spend a dot activity to prioritize each area based on individual perceived importance.

*Focus Area 1: College and Career Readiness*

This area received the highest level of support. It focuses on expanding access to college and career pathways, strengthening industry partnerships, and improving student readiness for post-secondary opportunities. Key goals include increasing College and Career Indicator results, A-G completion rates, pathway completion and certifications, and overall post-secondary outcomes. Board discussion affirmed the importance of maintaining equitable access for all students, with agreement that CTE and internship opportunities remain an area for continued growth and expansion. The Board agreed that it is important for students to meet A-G standards to ensure students are prepared to be successful for all options after high school.

*Focus Area 2: Financial Stability and Long-Term Fiscal Planning*

This area emphasizes balanced budgets, strong reserves, and multi-year financial planning aligned with District priorities. While some noted fiscal stability has been historically strong, others emphasized its importance in ensuring staff stability and long-term flexibility. Board Members highlighted the need for continued discipline and collaboration across teams, including negotiations, to maintain financial health and avoid future deficits.

*Focus Area 3: Student Attendance, Engagement, and Instructional Systems*

This focus centers on improving attendance, engagement, and academic outcomes through RTI, FLEX time, and PLC structures. Goals include increasing ADA, reducing chronic absenteeism, lowering D/F rates, and strengthening intervention systems. Discussion noted both the importance of consistent attendance efforts and the long-term work required to fully implement and refine instructional systems. The connection between strong systems and improved teaching and learning was emphasized. Trustee Zufall noted that the PLC and RTI process started in 2018 and was agreed upon by all of SUHSD including the Board, Administration and teaching staff.

*Focus Area 4: Cabinet Leadership, Alignment, and Accountability*

This area focuses on strengthening leadership alignment, communication, and accountability across the Cabinet and site leadership teams. Goals include aligning leadership with district priorities, and improving communication structures. Board members discussed the importance of strong leadership continuity, succession planning, and maintaining a cohesive team culture. The Board agreed to add succession planning for future leaders. Recognition was given to current leadership stability.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Dr. Carruth asked whether the Board wished to adjust the order of priorities or leave them as presented. The Board generally agreed all areas are important, with some noting student attendance as a top concern.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

The Board adjourned to closed session at 7:53 p.m. to discuss the following: Public Employee Performance Evaluation (G.C. 54957). Title: Superintendent.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The Board readjourned to open session at 9:14 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

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Mike Bridges, Clerk  
Board of Trustees

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Owen Crosby, Executive Secretary  
Board of Trustees