



BOARD MEETING REPORT

October 7, 2026

DMUSD counselors support student well-being

Del Mar Union School District's mission to provide students with a responsive and caring culture is reflected in the employment of counselors at each of our nine schools. During the October 2026 Governing Board Meeting, Ocean Air School Counselor Anna Swartout and Executive Director of Student Services Leslie Montoro shared information about the role of counselors on each campus, how they impact families, where to find resources, and much more.

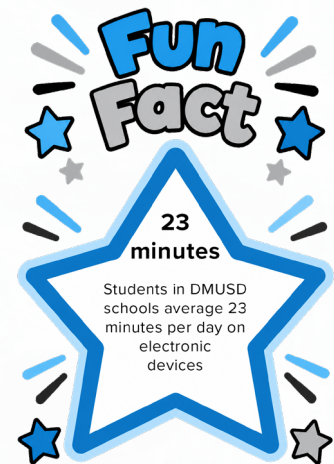


Overall, the DMUSD counseling program:

- Promotes student success through universal social-emotional learning and targeted interventions
- Provides direct services to all students, including monthly classroom lessons
- Identifies and supports students who may need additional targeted support
- Strengthens a positive, supportive schoolwide culture
- Provides resources and tools for teachers and families
- Uses data to identify needs and guide supports

Technology update

Five priority actions in DMUSD's Strategic Plan, Destination 2028!, include supports and actions for technology. During the meeting, Chief Technology Officer DeWayne Cossey and Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services Abby Domingo shared ways in which their departments are supporting those actions, ranging from assessing and empowering student learning to providing intentional safety guardrails to introducing a meaningful use for Artificial Intelligence for educators and students in third through sixth grade. In DMUSD, technology is intentionally used to transform and enhance the student experience.



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Del Mar
• UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT •

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Board Actions

- The Board announced a partnership with Computers2SDKids, a local nonprofit organization focused on providing low-cost, refurbished computers, training, and support to families in San Diego County. The partnership allows Computers2SDKids to pick up Del Mar Union School District items identified as e-waste to be sold or refurbished to provide to San Diego County families.

The Board approved school calendars for 2027-28, 2028-29 and 2029-30, which include shifting the weeks of parent-teacher conferences in both November and March for those respective school years and pushing back the start of the school year while maintaining continuity with San Dieguito Union High School District.

- The Board adopted policy 5141.75 to establish extreme weather protocols, recognizing that these conditions may pose significant risks to the health and safety of students participating in physical activities, particularly students who are at higher risk of weather-related health impacts.
- The Board adopted policy 5145.9 that protects students from discrimination, harassment, intimidation, bullying, or any other type of behavior that is motivated by hate.
- The Board endorsed a proclamation for DMUSD schools to support Red Ribbon Week.

School Report



Students in kindergarten through sixth grade at Del Mar Hills Academy gave a snapshot of a day in the life of a Del Mar Hills Surfrider, including what gives them “awe.” Students from the Spanish Language Immersion Program (SLIP) also shared in both English and Spanish what they love about their school. Additionally, DMHA Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) President Kim Milchteim provided information about how their organization supports the school.

Here are some samples of what students shared:

- “During math we learn new strategies to solve story problems. Our teachers encourage us to keep trying.” -- **Maxwell, first grader**
- “In class, we use something called the ladder of feedback to discuss math and other topics. We use the ladder to improve our work, give suggestions, and value each other.” -- **Lalitha, second grader**
- “I’m so excited that for the first time I get to perform in the school musical. I also have the opportunity to referee soccer for my younger brother’s grade during lunch. This responsibility allows the upper grades to be leaders and role models for the younger grades... Lo que más me gusta de Del Mar Hills es que todos se sienten parte de la comunidad.” -- **James, fourth grader**