

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

EAST NICOLAUS JOINT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
2454 Nicolaus Avenue, Nicolaus, CA 95659

Monday, March 9, 2026
6:00 p.m. Closed Session
Approx. 6:30 p.m. Open Session
Closed Session to follow

1. CALL TO ORDER Time: 6:00 p.m.

2. PUBLIC SESSION—ROLL CALL FOR

Tom Engler (President)
Jill Bramhill (Clerk)
David Fales
Jeff Moore
Erin VanDyke

Present	Absent
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>

PRESENT: Neil Stinson, Maria Foster, Debbie Coupé, Tommy DeGeorge, Rachel Lydon, Leanne Herrington, Doug/National Demographics

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

4. CLOSED SESSION Time: 6:01 p.m.

Prior to breaking into closed session is the time to identify closed session topics of discussion and to allow for public comment on closed session topics. Immediately following public comments, the Board of Trustees will adjourn to closed session.

- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – Government Code 54956.9
Existing Litigation – Government code 54956.9(d)(1)
Sutter County Case No. CVCS23-0000492
- PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION - Government code 54957 - Title: Superintendent

RECONVENE – CLOSED SESSION REPORT OUT

Time: 6:31 p.m.

Action taken: No action taken

5. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

6. APPROVAL OF MARCH 9, 2026 AGENDA

Motion: Fales

Second: VanDyke

Vote: 5-0

Abstentions: None

7. PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION

- 7.1 Board Elections – Transitioning from At-Large to By-Trustee Area: Doug from National Demographics was present and gave a brief description of what his company does for government entities. They have years of experience, but cautioned it is a long process. You will be required to hold several public hearings and the final approval would go before the county. They have experience working with small districts like ours. Changing to boundaries can sometimes lead to a less competitive election process. Their process uses the most recent census data to draw boundary lines for election purposes. It is based on the number of residents, not children, registered voters or homes with children. Their fee is based on the size of the district and the number of meetings that need to be held. The board asked if it would be wise for us to wait until the next census is done which will be in 2030. It appears to make more sense to wait, but he stated there are advantages and disadvantages. He warned that if we were to receive a letter from anyone questioning our At-Large Trustee elections, it could cost us up to \$40k to then proceed with the mapping boundary process.

- 7.2 2025-26 ENHS 2nd Interim Budget Report – Mrs. Foster went through the PowerPoint handout. Noted the increase in expenditures was due to sub cost increase, books & supplies increased because of the Freshman baseball team, and legal fees also increased. Some discussion about what changed from 1st Interim and 2nd Interim.
- 7.3 2024-2025 Annual Financial Audit Report – Mr. Stinson went over the 2 Findings in the Audit report and the plan to remedy the findings before the next audit.
- 7.4 CSBA Board Policy updates (February, 2026 list) – Mr. Moore pointed out to his fellow board members that some of the policies in this “batch” have multiple choice options, so they need to be careful not to just give a “blanket approval” without carefully selecting our options. He noted some policies in there regarding Board Member compensation, which he said he is against. Board members are basically volunteers and should not be compensated. There was also a policy regarding Teacher personal property damage. VanDyke stated that the school she works for does not allow teachers to use personal property on campus without first being approved by a supervisor. Foster pointed out that we don’t have to approve all of the policies, as some may not even pertain to our school.
- 7.5 APCO Grant / Bus Quotes – Two quotes were provided; one bus with AC and the other without AC. Moore stated he is reluctant to approve spending any money since we are already in deficit spending. He asked, do we really need a new bus? Foster replied she thought the last time we purchased a new bus was 2021, and our other 2 buses are old. Stinson said considering the final cost after the grant money is applied, he feels it’s a good time to purchase. Engler also stated, costs will only go up from here. Moore stated he would be more comfortable with the purchase if we were to spread it out over a few years with financing, even though that would ultimately cost us more due to interest. Other Board members agreed that seemed to be the best option.

8. REPORTS / UPDATES

- 8.1 Student Representative – No report
- 8.2 Athletic Director – No report; Neil will update during Superintendent report
- 8.3 Director of Guidance – Gillespie provided a written report to the Board since she was unable to attend in person.
- 8.4 Board of Trustees – Mrs. VanDyke requested Admin to reiterate the cell phone policy to our teachers. She said it appears there are still a few teachers that are allowing cell phones in their classes. She’s seen the videos in the classrooms, tik-tok videos being filmed by our students during class time and even a tik-tok by a teacher. She said there’s no excuse for a teacher not to follow this simple rule. She feels it is unacceptable and any teachers that cannot follow this policy should be written up. She would like for Admin to enforce this by doing random drop-ins to make sure the phones are in the pockets where they belong. Moore agrees. They asked Admin to do walk-throughs on frequent offenders.
- 8.5 Superintendent/Principal – Mr. Stinson noted we are down one custodian; Dave has been covering as best he can while keeping up the athletic fields for Spring sports. Wrestling had 13 qualify for Masters, 6 made it to the podium and 1 is the North Section Champion (Carter Fales) and made it to State. We gave Carter a nice Spartan sendoff. Girls Basketball hosted and won the first round of playoffs, but lost in Round 2. We’re really focusing on improving attendance during the month of March with our March Madness program. We also host a No Tardy Party every month. Our recent February Party rewarded 180 students that qualified with No Tardies during the month of February. Our P2 is coming up on April 15th and we’re hoping to establish better attendance patterns by that date. {Also see Superintendent reports}

9. CONSENT AGENDA

The following items on the Consent Agenda may be acted upon through one motion. Board Members may request that individual items be withdrawn from the Consent Agenda for separate action.

- 9.1 Approval of Warrants & Expenditures / February, 2026 - \$168,931.88
- 9.2 Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes – February 9, 2026

Motion: Bramhill Second: VanDyke Vote: 5-0 Abstentions: None

10. ACTION ITEMS

- 10.1 Review and Approve the CSBA Board Policy Updates (Jan, 2026 list / presented Feb 2026)

Motion: Moore Second: VanDyke Vote: 5-0 Abstentions: None

- 10.2 Review and Approve the 2025-2026 ENHS 2nd Interim Budget Report

Motion: VanDyke Second: Fales Vote: 5-0 Abstentions: None

10.3 Review and Approve the 2024-2025 Annual Financial Audit Certification

Motion: Moore Second: Fales Vote: 5-0 Abstentions: None

10.4 Review and Approve the 2024-2025 Audit Finding Corrective Action Plan

Motion: Fales Second: Moore Vote: 5-0 Abstentions: None

10.5 Review and Approve the Engagement Letter for Audit Services 2025-2026 SY

Motion: Bramhill Second: VanDyke Vote: 5-0 Abstentions: None

10.6 Review and Approve the Class of 2026 Valedictorian and Salutatorian

Motion: VanDyke Second: Bramhill Vote: 5-0 Abstentions: None

10.7 Review and Approve the Monthly Personnel Report

Motion: VanDyke Second: Moore Vote: 5-0 Abstentions: None

10.8 Review and Approve Resolution #2526-VI Reduction/Lay Off of Classified Employee Services for the 2026-2027 School Year Due to Lack of Work and/or Lack of Funds

Motion: Fales Second: Bramhill Vote: 5-0 Abstentions: None

10.9 Review and Approve APCO Grant / CAP7-1 (applied 10/16/25) Awarded \$165,000 (Bus)

Motion: Fales Second: Moore Vote: 5-0 Abstentions: None

10.10 Review and Approve Quote/Purchase of new School Bus – *Quote 1 with No AC, 5-year Financing option with interest rate below 7%*

Motion: Moore Second: Bramhill Vote: 5-0 Abstentions: None

10.11 Review and Approve Transitioning from At-Large to By-Trustee Area Board Elections and Board Direction to Proceed – {TABLE}

Motion: Moore Second: Bramhill Vote: 5-0 Abstentions: None

11. FUTURE BOARD AGENDA ITEMS

- 11.1 Complete & Return Form 700 (due no later than April 1st)
- 11.2 Sutter Pointe
- 11.3 ENTA / ENJUHS D CBA
- 11.4 Williams Quarterly Uniform Complaint
- 11.5 Superintendent's Contract
- 11.6 2026 Valedictorian & Salutatorian presentation
- 11.7 DOC / Inter-District Class size cap / Lottery discussion
- 11.8 Transitioning from At-Large to By-Trustee are for future Elections

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

13. CLOSED SESSION

Time: 8:10 p.m.

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- CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS - *Government Code Section 54957.6*
Designated agency representatives: Neil Stinson, Rebecca Gillespie, Maria Foster
Employee Organization: ENTA
- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – *Government Code 54956.9*
Existing Litigation – *Government code 54956.9(d)(1)*
Sutter County Case No. CVCS23-0000492
- PUBLIC EMPLOYEE'S DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE - pursuant to *Government code 54957*

RECONVENE – CLOSED SESSION REPORT OUT

Time: 10:05 p.m.

Action taken: No action taken, nothing to report

14. ADJOURNMENT

Time: 10:06 p.m.

Motion: VanDyke

Second: Moore

Vote: 5-0

Abstentions: None



Board President



Board Clerk / Secretary



Board Meeting

Superintendent Update- March 9 2026

Staffing: Currently we are down one custodian position. Dave Coupe been helping provide coverage, difficult time to do so due to the spring sports schedule of game day field prep.

Wrestling- All 13 wrestlers qualified to the section Master tournament- 12 of the 13 advanced to Finals day. Carter Fales 175 lb. Section Champion advanced to State Tourney.

Girls BBALL – hosted and won opening round playoff game. Lost to #1 seed Modoc who is playing the for the NorCal title.

Girls Softball off to a 3-0 start. Varsity Baseball went 2-1 at tourney this weekend in Redding. Track participated at Wheatland Invite last Friday. Golf's first match is today in Chico.

March Madness Attendance Challenge- Every Period Every Day Matters! Class Competition for a BBQ lunch which will be presented - Pie in the Face 97% or Better, No Tardy Party- Period Perfect Attendance- Eligible for Prizes- Ice Cream Social for all students who meet attendance expectations- P2 attendance funding is April 15th. Last Week celebrated No Tardy Party- 180 of 304 Students for No Tardies to any class for February.

School Discipline report- From Feb. 9th to present we have had 6 students suspended. 4 freshman, 1 soph , 1 junior. All Males- Horseplay- Hands on another student. 63 students issued detentions-(disruptive behavior, a few for tardies, (7) cell Phone violations, 38 freshman, 17 sophomores, 3 juniors, 5 seniors.

GSPP- Patient Care- Athletic Trainer- Grant Submitted- Awards later this month.

Bond Refinance Meeting – Thursday Maria myself-

Board President

Board Clerk / Secretary

