MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, ALTA LOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO–WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2026

OPEN SESSION, CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The regular meeting was called to order by Board President Eric Chung at 6:01 PM. Present were members Buller, Chung, Davies, Hurley, and Martinez. Absent none.

PLEDGE OF ALLIGIANCE

Kathi Jackson, retiring Vineyard Junior High School teacher led the flag salute.

PUBLIC COMMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. Chung read aloud the Public Comment Announcement.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by Mrs. Davies, seconded by Mr. Buller, and carried unanimously to adopt the agenda of the meeting, as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Buller, seconded by Dr. Hurley, and carried unanimously to approve the minutes of April 15, 2026, as presented.

RECOGNITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Alta Loma School District Employees of the Year

Classified Employee of the Year: **Jennifer Gruber,** TK Aide/Elementary Art Instructor at Alta Loma Elementary School
Certificated Employee of the Year: **Sandy Au** of Victoria Groves School
Management Employee of the Year: **Jenny Vetere** of Vineyard Junior High School
Volunteer of the Year: **Matt Gordon**, Hermosa Watch D.O.G.
District Support Center Employee of the Year: **Patricia Chavez Urias**, Credential Specialist

Retiree Recognition

Nancy Petriello, Lauren Lewan, Shirlee Curatolo, Teresa Gutierrez, Brenda Gordon, Susan Andazola, Emily Garza, Electra Klomp, Cynthia Baker, and Katherine Jackson.

Principals and Directors reflected on the achievements of each retiree, and the Board and Executive Cabinet expressed gratitude for their years of dedicated service to Alta Loma School District. Each retiree in attendance was presented with the traditional acrylic paperweight and a *Certificate of Excellence* from the Board.

The Board took a ten-minute recess at 6:50 PM to visit with those present for the recognitions and their guests.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

1. Letter of Positive Certification from San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools.
2. Letter of Third Quarterly Williams Reports for all monitored sites, from San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kurtis Downs, community member spoke about concerns regarding children's use of digital technology, social media, AI chatbots, and online gaming. He shared that increased device use has reduced face-to-face social interaction among young people and that online platforms are designed to maximize engagement. He warned about risks such as emotional dependence on AI companions, online predators, and harmful interactions in gaming environments. He encouraged parents to closely supervise children's online activity and device use.

Volette Downs, member of the community spoke about the importance of moral and ethical leadership, referencing Noah Webster, whom she described as a legal writer and author of books on laws and principles. She emphasized the idea that a republic's success depends on leaders and citizens who "fear the Lord," which she characterized as the foundation of wisdom. She concluded her remarks with a prayer asking for God's guidance, wisdom, and blessings for the nation, the community, and its leaders, and expressing gratitude for those who stand for justice, truth, and righteousness.

PUBLIC HEARING

None.

BOARD REPORTS

Board member Brad Buller …attended several school events since the last Board meeting, he attended the PTA Honorary Awards program at Sierra Lakes and described it as a great evening; he also attended the combined concert featuring students from Vineyard Junior High and Los Osos High School, noting how impressive the students' musical talents and instrumental performances were; Trustee Buller highlighted Vineyard Junior High's May 4th "May the Fourth Be With You" themed musical performance as one of his favorite recent events; Trustee Buller noted that the conductor was dressed in a Star Wars costume and that the program featured music from Star Wars, praising the students for an excellent performance.

Board member Jessica Martinez …attended the West End SELPA Art and Writing Showcase, themed "The Superhero in Me," she described the event as engaging and noted a variety of creative student submissions; she reported 479 student participants, highlighting continued growth from prior years, up from 375 participants last year ("Better Together") and 209 participants in the inaugural year ("Reach for the Stars"); Trustee Martinez noted a goal of surpassing 500 participants next year; also attended the PTA Honorary Service Awards Dinner and acknowledged the presence of fellow Board members and staff and expressed appreciation for PTA's efforts in organizing the event; Trustee Martinez attended the teacher appreciation luncheon at Carnelian Elementary with Superintendent Smith, Dr. Pierce, and Mrs. Cerecerez, and expressed gratitude for the opportunity to participate; concluded by noting her school visit to Stork Elementary, it was during testing but even though it was in the middle of the school year, there was still a lot of learning taking place.

Board member Rebecca Davies …congratulated Victoria Groves Elementary School staff and Principal Peralta for being recognized as a 2026 Character Strong Certified Spotlight School, reflecting the school's commitment to student well-being and positive school culture; attended several community and District events, including the Victoria Gardens Cultural Center ribbon-cutting ceremony and State of the City Address, the Rancho Cucamonga Public Safety Recognition Celebration, and the inaugural Battle of the Books competition at Stork Elementary School; thanked Dr. Pierce for her leadership in bringing the successful program to the District

and noted PTA support for next year's competition; Trustee Davies also participated in the Parent Leader Group meeting and Special Board Meeting, where District leaders provided updates on the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP), District priorities, and financial planning; attended the Alta Loma Elementary Spring Music Concert, the Alta Loma Council of PTAs Honorary Service Awards Dinner, the Vineyard Junior High School Spring Concert, and Alta Loma Junior High School's production of *Beauty and the Beast*, commending students, staff, and volunteers for their outstanding efforts; during Staff Appreciation Week, Trustee Davies visited several school sites to thank employees for their dedication and shared staff appreciation for the Board's planned hospitality and wellness activities for the upcoming staff development day.

Board member Dr. Malinda Hurley . . . recognized May as Foster Care Awareness Month and expressed appreciation for the District's commitment to supporting foster youth; thanked the Foster Youth Advisory Committee for its continued advocacy and support of some of the District's most vulnerable students; extended gratitude to all teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week, acknowledging their dedication and positive impact on students; commended the outstanding student performances and school events throughout the month, including Vineyard Junior High School's Cinco de Mayo celebration, organized by Principal Jenny Vetere, Christopher Brazeau, Mrs. Zubiate, and Mr. Evans, she praised the exceptional performances of the Vineyard band and choir students; highlighted Alta Loma Junior High School's Open House, noting the impressive student work and the dedication of teachers and families who supported the event; Dr. Hurley also recognized the collaborative concert between Vineyard Vikings and Los Osos High School, celebrating the partnership between junior high and high school music programs and the opportunity it provided students to connect across grade levels; she applauded Alta Loma Junior High School's production of *Beauty and the Beast*, thanking Director Nadia Castanea, Choreographer Gabby Castañeda, the student performers, and supportive parents for a successful production; during visits to Alta Loma Elementary School and Victoria Groves Elementary School Open Houses, Dr. Hurley praised the creativity, academic achievement, and hard work demonstrated through student projects, writing, and artwork; she thanked ALEA and recognized Shari Megowan for her leadership, expressing appreciation for the dedication and commitment of the District's educators; Dr. Hurley concluded by extending Mother's Day wishes to all mothers.

Board member Eric Chung …thanked his fellow Board members for taking time out of their busy schedules to go to all the events mentioned; Member Chung recognized Principal Peralta and praised the work being done by staff, noting the positive feedback from Mr. Alyassi, the West End SELPA's Chief Administrative Officer regarding the inclusion program at Victoria Groves; Trustee Chung had the opportunity to attend the *Beauty and the Beast* performance at Alta Loma Junior High, shared the production was highly engaging, noting that it successfully captured the interest of his 10 year old son, who continued discussing the performance afterwards to family; he commended the Alta Loma Junior High team for the quality of the production.

SUPERINTENDENT & STAFF REPORTS

Superintendent Smith began by recognizing the District's Employees of the Year, stating they are highly deserving of their recognition and expressing appreciation for their service to students, staff, and the community. She also honored District retirees, describing them as "legends" and noting the significant collective years of service they have contributed, expressing gratitude and pride in their dedication and longevity.

Associate Superintendent, Eric Hart provided a budget update, sharing that the preliminary federal Title program allocations currently show no reductions, which he described as positive news heading into budget planning season. He also noted that the Governor's May Revision would be released the following day and stated that he would provide further budget updates afterward.

Director Andrew Carter and the ALSD School Counseling Team, comprised of Jamie Castro, Leslie Gledhill, Jorge Martinez, Lilianna Moreno, Sarah Perri, Jonet Thomas, and Alyssa Zepeda presented data on the District's Counseling Program. The team reviewed their next steps from the 2024–25 school year. They provided an overview of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), including its purpose and importance, and reviewed the District's tiered system of support. The team reported that all 10 school sites received PBIS State Recognition. In addition, Victoria Groves was awarded Character Strong Certified Level I "Spotlight School" status for building a schoolwide culture that supports student well-being and life readiness. The presentation highlighted a reduction in Tier 3 services, from 130 students in the 2024–25 school year to 67 students in the 2025–26 school year. Looking ahead to the 2026–27 school year, the District plans to strengthen anti-bullying and anti-drug programs, enhance PBIS and Character Strong/Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) initiatives, develop Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) teams at all sites, and continue expanding the school counseling program.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Moved by Mr. Buller, seconded by Dr. Hurley, and carried unanimously to adopt the following Consent Calendar items, as presented.

Vendor Agreements

Approved agreements with the following vendors, and authorized Sherry Smith and/or applicable administrators to sign all related documents:
1) Global CTI; 2) Prismatic Magic; 3) Retro Rolling Video Games; 4) Riley's Farm; 5) Sawdust Factory; 6) Sonrisa Entertainment; 7) Visser Bus Services.

Board Payment Report

Approved the Board Payment Report

Routine Personnel Items

Approved employment, terminations, resignations, leaves and temporary assignments, as presented.

Donations

Accepted with appreciation the following donations:

a.) Donation of $700.00 from Cucamonga District Host Lions to Alta Loma Elementary School's Student Fundraiser Account to be used to enhance the instructional program.
b) Donation of $100.00 from American Legion Auxiliary Unit 277 to Alta Loma Junior High School's Student Fundraiser Account to be used to enhance the instructional program.
c) Donation of a Brother Color Printer, valued at approximately $465.00 from Kim Giron to Jasper Elementary to be used to enhance the instructional program.
d) Donation of $300.00 from Rene Tellez to Jasper Elementary School's Student Fundraiser Account to be used to enhance the instructional program.
e) Donation of $488.11 from Stork PFSA to Stork Elementary School's Student Fundraiser Account to be used to enhance the instructional program.

f) Donation of $50.00 from Angela Eisenbrey to Victoria Groves Elementary School's Student Fundraiser Account to be used to enhance the instructional program.
g) Donation of $370.20 from Kroger to Victoria Groves Elementary School's Student Fundraiser Account to be used to enhance the instructional program.

Amend Board Policies
A second reading was held to amend Board Policies related to Community Relations, Business and Noninstructional Operations, and Students.
BP 1100 – Communication with the Public
BP 3300 – Expenditures and Purchases
BP 6142.7 – Physical Education and Activity
BP 6173 – Education for Homeless Children
BP 6173.1 – Education for Foster Youth

Deloitte Leadership Academy
Authorized attendance at the following conference, and approve all related expenses: Deloitte Leadership Academy, on June 5, 2026 through June 7, 2026, in West Lake, Texas. Attendees: Superintendent Sherry Smith, Associate Superintendent Eric Hart, Assistant Superintendent Cara Cerecerez, and Assistant Superintendent Christina Pierce.

National Schools to Watch Conference
Authorized attendance at the following conference, and approve all related expenses: National Schools to Watch Conference on June 25, 2026 through June 27, 2026, in Washington, D.C. Attendees: Director of Educational Programs, Andrew Carter.

Broadway Teachers Workshop
Authorized attendance at the following conference, and approve all related expenses: Broadway Teachers Workshop on July 1, 2026 through July 16, 2026, in New York City. Attendees: Teacher, Jennifer Vandergrift.

Fieldwork Student Agreement – Chaffey Community College
Approved the Fieldwork Student Agreement with Chaffey Community College University and authorize Superintendent Sherry Smith, and/or Associate Superintendent Cara Cerecerez to sign all related documents.

School Affiliation Agreement – University of Phoenix
Approved the School Affiliation Agreement with University of Phoenix and authorized Superintendent Sherry Smith and/or Assistant Superintendent Cara Cerecerez to sign all related documents.

Amend Job Description
A first reading was held and action was taken to amend job description –
Fiscal Services Technician.

CURRICULUM & INSTRUCTION

2026-2027 School Plan for Student Achievement
Moved by Dr. Hurley, seconded by Mr. Buller, and carried unanimously to approve the 2026-2027 School Plan for Student Achievement for all District schools.

Benchmark-Adelante Spanish Curriculum
Moved by Dr. Hurley, seconded by Mr. Buller, and carried unanimously to approve Benchmark-Adelante Spanish Curriculum for the Dual Language Immersion Program, Grade TK and authorized Superintendent Sherry Smith and/or Associate Superintendent Eric Hart to sign all related documents.

Adoption of Open Up Resources

Moved by Dr. Hurley, seconded by Mr. Buller, and carried unanimously to approve the Adoption of Open Up Resources (OUR) for Integrated Math I Courses and authorize Superintendent Sherry Smith and/or Assistant Superintendent Christina Pierce to sign all related documents.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Classified Salary Range List

Moved by Mr. Buller, seconded by Dr. Hurley, and carried unanimously to approve the amended Classified Salary Range List, effective May 14, 2026, as presented.

BOARD INFORMATION/DISCUSSION

Amend Board Policy – First Reading

BP 6175 – Migrant Education Program

Adopt Job Description – First Reading

Payroll Technician

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The date of the next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is Wednesday, June 10, 2026, 6:00 PM at the Alta Loma School District Support Center, 9390 Base Line Road.

CLOSED SESSION

The Board adjourned to Closed Session at 8:07 PM for the purpose of discussing matters expressly authorized by Government Code Section §3549.1, §54956.9, §54956.9(d), §54957, and §54957.6.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM, no announcements were made.