SANTA CRUZ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL #28

The Little Red School

School Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 17th, 2026

MINUTES

(Those in attendance are respectfully requested to silence their cell phones/electronic devices)

Pursuant to A.R.S. #38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Governing Board of the Santa Cruz Elementary School District #28 and to the general public that the Board will hold a Regular Board meeting, on Tuesday, March 17th 2026 at 5:30p.m., in the District Office located at 7 Duquesne Rd, Nogales, AZ. Doors will be opening for the public @ 5:15 P.M.

The Board may hold one or more executive sessions during the meeting pursuant as indicated below. Executive sessions are not open to the public. The Governing Board reserves the right to move into executive session pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03 (A) (3) for legal advice from the attorney for the district, either in person or telephonically, on any agenda item.

The governing Board reserves the right to reschedule, delete, or rearrange items on the agenda, to efficiently conduct its business.

Notices and agendas are posted at: Santa Cruz Elementary School District Office located at 7 Duquesne Road, Nogales, Arizona 85621, accessible to the public 24 hours a day District website at: http://www.sced28.com/

If you are in need of translation services or are a person with a disability seeking reasonable accommodation in order to access the Governing Board meeting, please contact Danitza Garcia @ dgarcia@sced28.com (1) working day prior to the Governing Board meeting.

A. Call to order: @ 5:30pm by Mr. R. Noon

1. Roll call:

Board President: Mr. Robert Noon
Board Clerk: Mrs. Debbie Gonzales
Board Member: Dr. Carrie Pottinger
Board Member: Dr. Dean Fish
Board Member: Mr. Ron Fish
Superintendent/Principal: Ms. Romero
All board members were present

B. Pledge of Allegiance:

Led by Mr. R. Noon

C. Call to the Public:

Members of the public wishing to address the Board on education-related matters within the jurisdiction of the Board are required to complete the appropriate "Request to Speak" form and submit the completed form to the Board prior to the meeting. The President will recognize individuals from the public to address the Board. Public comments should be limited to 3 minutes or less in order to continue with the efficiency of the meeting. The Board requests that the public refrain from the use of speech or language that is offensive or inappropriate to the proper conduct of the meeting. At the conclusion of the call to the public, individual members of the Board may only respond to criticism, ask staff to review a matter or ask that a matter be placed on a future agenda. The Board shall not discuss or take legal action on matters raised during an open call to the public unless the matters are properly noticed for discussion and legal action on the current agenda. Members of the audience are also reminded that personal attacks on individuals are discouraged; the Board policy allows complaints about individual employees of the District to be addressed by completion of Policy KEB.

NONE

D. School Board Minutes:

Discuss/Approve the following Board Minutes:

1. Board Meeting Minutes, February17th, 2026 (correction February 10, 2026)

Mrs. Gonzales motioned to approve, with amended clause to plant many trees through Arbor Day Foundation. Dr. D. Fish 2nd.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Mr. Noon	X		
Mrs. D. Gonzales	X		
Dr. Pottinger	X		
Dr. Fish	X		
Mr. R. Fish	X		

E. Reports/ Discuss: (Notice must be specific as to type of report that will be given, subject matter and whom will be the report)

1. Recognition to SCED#28's, first year Undefeated boys Volleyball Team
   Boys Volleyball Players were presented to the board as our 2026 undefeated Volleyball Champions

2. Report on Operational Efficiency reported by Kathy Romero
   Ms. Romero reported on District's spending by operational area, operational efficiency measures, monitoring of student enrollment, teacher salaries & teacher salary measures & student achievements as reported by Arizona Auditor General.

3. Report on Medical Health Coverage by Denisse Melendez
   Mrs. Denisse Melendez reported on the increase of medical 4%, dental 9% and life insurance 9.7% Vision plan remained the same. Increase will be paid by the employee with the exception of life.

F. New Business:

1. Discuss/Adopt calendar for school year 2026-2027.
   Mrs. Gonzales motioned to adopt, Dr. Fish 2nd.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Mr. Noon	X		
Mrs. D. Gonzales	X		
Dr. Pottinger	X		
Dr. Fish	X		
Mr. R. Fish	X		

2. Discuss/Approve Sean Doyle as Baseball coach for 4th Quarter SY 25-26 at $1,500.00.
   Mr. R. Fish motioned to approve, Dr. Pottinger 2nd.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Mr. Noon	X		
Mrs. D. Gonzales	X		
Dr. Pottinger	X		
Dr. Fish	X		
Mr. R. Fish	X		

3. Discuss/Approve Manny Romero as Girls Basketball coach for 4th Quarter SY 25-26 at $1,500.00.

Mr. R. Fish motioned to approve, Mrs. Gonzales 2nd.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Mr. Noon	X		
Mrs. D. Gonzales	X		
Dr. Pottinger	X		
Dr. Fish	X		
Mr. R. Fish	X		

4. Discuss/Approve hire of Aneth Rodriguez for Special education Self-Contained program for SY 25-26 starting date of February 16, 2026.

Dr. Pottinger motioned to approve hire, Dr. Fish 2nd.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Mr. Noon	X		
Mrs. D. Gonzales	X		
Dr. Pottinger	X		
Dr. Fish	X		
Mr. R. Fish	X		

5. Discuss/Approve resignation of Aneth Rodriguez Special Education Self-Contained Program as of February 25, 2026.

Dr. Fish motioned to approve resignation, Dr. Pottinger 2nd.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Mr. Noon	X		
Mrs. D. Gonzales	X		
Dr. Pottinger	X		
Dr. Fish	X		
Mr. R. Fish	X		

6. Discuss/Approve Agreement for Employee Staffing Services between Santa Cruz Elementary School District #28 and Educational Services, LLC an Arizona limited liability company ("ESI").

Item tabled for next board meeting, no motion

7. Santa Cruz Elementary District #28 and cap the increase of medical premiums the district pays.

Mrs. Gonzales motioned to approve, Dr. Fish 2nd.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Mr. Noon	X		
Mrs. D. Gonzales	X		
Dr. Pottinger	X		
Dr. Fish	X		
Mr. R. Fish	X		

8. Discussion of Policy BCB Board member conflict of interest statements.

Board members signed Board Member conflict of interest statements.

9. New Policy for study: correction for adoption

Policy No. 960 DIE, DIE-R Audits/Financial Monitoring

Dr. Fish motioned to adopt, Dr. Pottinger 2nd.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Mr. Noon	X		
Mrs. D. Gonzales	X		
Dr. Pottinger	X		
Dr. Fish	X		
Mr. R. Fish	X		

G. Reports:

1. Teacher/staff report:

2. Superintendent/ Principal Report:
District happenings:
Current enrollment: 130, Kinders = 122

Ms. Romero reported Azella Testing for English learners on the way, NHS counselor visit for 8th grade high school admissions, 8th graders visited RRHS, teacher professional development trainings outside campus, celebrated 100th day of School, parent teacher conferences, Love of Reading Week community readers in classrooms, ongoing 2nd observations and walk-throughs, Dr. Pottinger and Mrs. Debbie joined us for last Santa Cruz County meeting, county accepted the mistake they made on the taxes, Mrs. Gonzales joined Mrs. Melendez and I to legislation in Phoenix , we were the last ones to present for the day, they were in a hurry to get us out they are a very hard committee talked about ESA Vouchers, county embezzlement, and continue to work for what matter the most which are the Students. They tried to mention consolidation-it would only affect our community without resolving the real problem which is state funding.

3. Board Member Briefing: Mrs. Gonzales commented that it was an honor and privilege to see Ms. Romero and Dr. Pottinger present at Santa Cruz meeting and legislation in Phoenix. Both represented Little Red with integrity, conviction, both were passionate and they came through. Both were respectful with time limit. Mrs. Gonzales said she was also appalled that two school districts that drove from afar were not able to present. Was very proud how Little Red was represented. Mrs. Gonzales also reported on the quest for the National Historic registry, Ms. Romero provided her with a copy of a booklet written in 1955 &1958 that will give her a lot of information about Little Red School. She will get a packet together and send it to the state.

Dr. Dean Fish reported that he had a brief discussion with South 32 about possible funding for basketball court shade or permanent roof.

Mrs. Gonzales added that she went to the court house and got a proper form initiating a survey by the county for safety and proper use of Duquesne Rd from 82 until road pavement ends.

FY 2025-2026

March 2026

PAYROLL:

RATIFY: FY2025-2026

PP00017 $39,257.82
PP00018 $40,243.85
PP00018.1 $897.38

APPROVE: FY2025-2026

PP00024 $50,000
PP00025 $50,000
PP00026 $50,000

EXPENSE

RATIFY: FY2025-2026

E-2616 $20,033.61
E-2617 $47,342.26

APPROVE: FY2025-2026

E-2624 $40,000
E-2625 $40,000
E-2626 $40,000

- Mrs. Gonzales motioned to approve payroll, Dr. Fish 2nd.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Mr. Noon	X		
Mrs. D. Gonzales	X		
Dr. Pottinger	X		
Dr. Fish	X		
Mr. R. Fish	X		

H. BUDGET BALANCE SUMMARY: Reported by Mrs. Denisse Melendez

Dr. Fish motioned to approve, Dr. Pottinger 2nd.

Name	Aye	Nay	Abstain
Mr. Noon	X		
Mrs. D. Gonzales	X		
Dr. Pottinger	X		
Dr. Fish	X		
Mr. R. Fish	X		

I. Future Agenda Item: approval for health, dental, vision plans, certified salary schedule, certified contracts, ESI Contract. Superintendent Contract to be placed on June meeting agenda.

J. Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, April 14th, 2026@5:30pm

K. Adjournment: @6:45pm