SANTA CRUZ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL #28

The Little Red School

School Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 8, 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, September 8, 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: @ 5:32pm

1. Roll call:

Mr. Ron Fish nominates Mrs. Gonzales to be interim Board President, Dr. Fish 2nd

Dr. Pottinger nominates Mr. Fish to be interim Board Clerk, Mr. Ron Fish 2nd.

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 present. Mr. Robert Noon arrived @ 5:35pm.

B. Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Mrs. Debbie Gonzales

C. Call to the Public: NONE

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.

D. Reports:

1. Superintendent/ Principal Report: by Ms. Romero

a. Current enrollment 128, 1/2 = 121 Kinder 121.5

b. District happenings

Ms. Romero reported Volleyball games and Football games started. Football games have been cancelled due to rain, Title on Meeting with parents was held, students working on Santa Cruz County Fair Projects Fair starts September 18, applied for A+ School Status once selected, and A+ Status will be valid 4 years.

2. Board Member Briefing:

Dr. Pottinger spoke to Chris Young at the county about flash signs, they will commission a study on South River Rd and Duquesne rd. to understand traffic patterns, they made recommendations on what needs to be fixed, it will be two more years of construction.

Mrs. Debbie Gonzales attended Board of Supervisors meeting , did a Call to the Public to acknowledge the amount of traffic during construction, it is a concern for safety, thanked the county management team for being receptive to ideas, coming up with solutions, thanked deputies who have patrolled in front of the school. Mrs. Gonzales said she is still working on National Historic Places Registry, and the Arizona Historical Society until school gets recognized.

Ms. Romero added Mrs. Gonzales is working with the Women's Club, she comes and reads to all class rooms students, started a book mark project, will be handing one out to each student.

3. Reports/Discussion:

a. Discussion on professional development and trainings for Board members beginning January 2027.

E. School Board Minutes:

Discuss/Approve the following Board Minutes:

Board Meeting Minutes August 11th, 2026.

Dr. Dean Fish motioned to approve minutes, Mr. Ron Fish 2nd

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

F. New Business:

1. Executive Session – The Governing Board may vote to convene an executive session pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3) and (4) for discussion or consultation for legal advice concerning the District's financial losses arising from the former Santa Cruz County Treasurer Elizabeth "Liz" Gutfahr's diversion of public funds, the District's potential and existing claims arising from those losses, and possible avenues for resolution involving Santa Cruz County and the Arizona Auditor General. The attorney may appear in person, virtually, or telephonically.

a. Motion to convene to executive session in Library.
Mr. Ron Fish motioned to convene to executive session, Dr. Pottinger 2nd

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

b. Motion to convene into regular session.

Dr. Dean Fish motioned to convene into regular session, Mr. Ron Fish 2nd @ 6:22pm

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

2. Discuss/Approve $1,500 Extra Duty Science Stipend every quarter for Mable Shaju to instruct and prepare 5th grade students in Science for SY 2026-2027.

Mr. Ron Fish motioned to approve stipend, Mr. Robert Noon 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 $2700.00 Stipend for Suzanna Gabriel to conduct vision/hearing screenings and provide records to the school for SY 26-27. Last name changed from Alvarez to Gabriel.
Dr. Dean Fish motioned to approve stipend, Dr. Pottinger 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 to designate Ms. Kathy Romero as designated compliance officer for Title IX.
Mr. Robert Noon 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		

5. Discuss/Approve Wellness Policy for FY 26-27.
Dr. Pottinger motioned to approve, Dr. Dean Fish 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 Bus Maintenance program policy to support safe, reliable, and high-quality transportation for school year 2026-2027.
Dr. Dean Fish motioned to approve, Mr. Robert Noon 2nd.

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

7. Discuss/Approve IGA (Inter Government Agreement) between Santa Cruz Elementary School District #28 and Nogales Unified school District #1 for school meals.
Mr. Robert Noon 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		

8. Discuss/Approve IGA (Inter Government Agreement) between Santa Cruz County Superintendent and Santa Cruz Elementary #28 for the purpose of implementing the SY26-27 Parents Commission on Drug Education and Prevention Program: Project SHIELD.
Dr. Dean Fish motioned to approve, Mr. Robert Noon 2nd.

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

9. Policies for Adoption:

Policy Advisory No. 1047	Policy BEDB	Agenda
Policy Advisory No. 1048	Policy CBA	Qualifications and Duties of the Superintendent
Policy Advisory No. 1049	Policy DJ	Purchasing Ethic
Policy Advisory No. 1050	Policy DJE	Bidding / Purchasing Procedures
Policy Advisory No. 1051	Policy IHA	Basic Instructional Program
Policy Advisory No. 1052	Regulation IHB-R	Special Instructional Program
Policy Advisory No. 1053	Regulation IKE-RB	Promotion and Retention of Students
Policy Advisory No. 1054	Policy IKF	Graduation Requirements
Policy Advisory No. 1055	NEW Regulation JF-R	Student Admissions
Policy Advisory No. 1056	NEW Regulation JFAA-R	Admission of Resident Students
Policy Advisory No. 1057	NEW Regulation JFAB-R	Tuition / Admission of Nonresident Students
Policy Advisory No. 1058	NEW Regulation JFABC-R	Admission of Transfer Students
Policy Advisory No. 1059	NEW Regulation JFABD-RB	Admission of Homeless Students
Policy Advisory No. 1060	NEW Regulation JFABDA-RB	Admission of Students in Foster Care
Policy Advisory No. 1061	NEW Regulation JFB-RB	Open Enrollment
Policy Advisory No. 1062	Policy JJAB	Limited Open / Closed Forum
Policy Advisory No. 1063	Regulation JR-R	Student Records
Policy Advisory No. 1064	Policy KFA	Public Conduct on School Property
Policy Advisory No. 1065	Policy DGD, DGD-R, DGD-E	Credit Cards

10. Policies for study:

Policy Advisory No. 1066	Policy DJ-R	Purchasing Ethics
Policy Advisory No. 1067	Policy BCB, BCB-E	Board Member Conflict
Policy Advisory No. 1068	Policy GBEAA, GBEAA-E	Conflict of Interest

Mr. Robert Noon motioned to approve, Dr. Dean Fish approved.

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

FY 2026-2027 Ratify/Expenses

September 2026

RATIFY: FY2026-2027

PP0004	$12,446.58
PP004.1	$16,413.18
PP0005	$19,755.91
PP005.1	$12,944.80

APPROVE: FY2026-2027

PP00011	$50,000
PP00012	$50,000
PP00013	$50,000
PP00014	$50,000
PP00015	$50,000

EXPENSE

RATIFY: FY2026-2027

E-2702	$22,672.44
E-2703	$61,644.19

APPROVE: FY2026-2027

E-2711	$40,000
E-2712	$40,000
E-2713	$40,000
E-2714	$40,000
E-2715	$40,000

Dr. Dean Fish motioned to raftify expenses, 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. BUDGET BALANCE SUMMARY: by Denisse Melendez Business Manager

Mr. Robert Noon motioned to approve Budget balance, Dr. Pottinger 2nd.

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

H. Future Agenda Item:

Discussion/approval of AFR report, 2nd quarter stipends.

Next Board Meeting Tuesday October 6, 2026@ 5:30pm.

I. Adjournment: @ 6:54pm

Mr. Ron Fish motioned to adjourn, Dr. Dean Fish 2nd at 6:54pm

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