

DRAFT



California Online Public Schools

California Online Public Schools

Minutes

California Online Public Schools (CalOPS) Board Meeting

Date and Time

Tuesday March 10, 2026 at 4:00 PM

Location

CalOPS NorCal: 580 N. Wilma Avenue, Suite G, Ripon, CA 95366

CalOPS SoCal: 33272 Valle Road, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

1201 Cara Road, Dinuba, CA 93618

32946 Calle San Marcos, San Juan Capistrano, 92675

3753 W. Norberry Street, Lancaster, CA 93536

9423 Reseda Blvd. Apt #230, Northridge, CA 91324

4108 W Avenue J6, Lancaster, CA 93536

3950 Crondall Dr, Sacramento, CA 95864

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://californiaops-org.zoom.us/j/92843576813>

Meeting ID: 928 4357 6813

Dial In: +1 (669) 900-9128 ext. 928-4357-6813# US

This meeting is open to members of the public. For information about meetings or for members of the public who require special accommodations to attend, please visit our website at www.californiaops.org/governance or contact the school offices: Dana Hohn (NorCal) or Eva McGahey (SoCal) at (800) 906-5166 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. The board packet can be made available for public review by contacting the school offices prior to the Board meeting in compliance with California open meeting law.

Directors Present

A. Pulsipher (remote), D. Rivas (remote), E. Wickliffe (remote), J. Stockdale (remote), M. Henjum (remote), P. Pulsipher (remote), Z. Robeson (remote)

Directors Absent

None

Directors who arrived after the meeting opened

A. Pulsipher

Guests Present

A. Bailey (remote), A. Larsen (remote), A. Philips, Aiko Akers (remote), Ayele Dodoo (remote), B. Daseler (remote), Brendon Harrington (remote), Courtney Chambers (remote), D. Hertzler (remote), Doreen Stringer (remote), E. McGahey (remote), H. Tamayo (remote), J. Colombero, J. Sitomer (remote), Jenny Woo (remote), K. Eng (remote), L. Carter (remote), L. Dombek (remote), M. Brockway (remote), M. Duran (remote), M. Rushing (remote), M. White (remote), R. Romero (remote), R. Savage (remote), Victoria Acton (remote), Z. Kidd (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Roll Call

CalOPS Staff

Aiko Akers - High School Teacher

Amy Phillips - High School Assistant Principal - NorCal Office

Ashley Larsen - Administrative Assistant

Avery Bailey - Student Board Member

Bryan Daseler - Interim High School Assistant Principal

Courtney Chambers - High School Teacher

Dan Hertzler - Director of Operations

Doreen Stringer - High School Teacher

Eva McGahey - Operations Coordinator

Heather Tamayo - Middle School Principal

Jenny Woo - High School Teacher

Julie Colombero - Assistant Director of Operations, Family Relations - SoCal Office

LaChelle Carter - Director of Finance

Leslie Dombek - Director of Educational Services

Mackenzie Duran - Director of Student Services

Marcus White - Elementary School Principal

Matt Brockway - High School Principal

Michele Rushing - High School Assistant Principal

Richard Savage - Co-Superintendent

Richie Romero - Co-Superintendent

Victoria Acton - High School Teacher
Zana Kidd - Director of Human Resources

Contracted Staff

Jason Sitomer - Charter Impact Managing Director
Kate Eng - Charter Impact Director of Client Finance
Brendon Harrington - SoftMSP
Ayele Dodoo - WestEd

B. Call the Meeting to Order

J. Stockdale called a meeting of the board of directors of California Online Public Schools to order on Tuesday Mar 10, 2026 at 4:09 PM.

C. Approval of Agenda

J. Stockdale requested to push Action Item B to after Closed Session.

Preferential Vote:

A. Bailey - Aye

Z. Robeson made a motion to approve the CalOPS Board Meeting Agenda with the previously mentioned adjustments.

E. Wickliffe seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

M. Henjum Aye

A. Pulsipher Absent

D. Rivas Aye

J. Stockdale Aye

P. Pulsipher Aye

E. Wickliffe Aye

Z. Robeson Aye

II. Public Comment

A. Public Comment

The Board welcomes participation by the members of the public telephonically. To address an item on the agenda, before the scheduled start of the meeting, an individual must write their name and a short description of the agenda item on which they wish to comment on the card provided and submit this to the Chair, along with any materials they want to have distributed to the Board. Individuals who wish to address the Board telephonically must contact the School Leader by phone or by email at least twenty four (24) hours before the scheduled start of the Board meeting. If the individual wants to provide any written materials to the Board, these should be emailed to the School Leader at least twenty-four (24) hours before the scheduled start of the meeting.

The total time for any individual to present, either in person or via telephone, on an item on the agenda shall not exceed three (3) minutes, or six (6) minutes if the individual requesting to comment is a non English speaker and requires a translator, unless the Board grants additional time. However, in compliance with Board policy and the Brown Act, the Board is not permitted to discuss or take action on non-agenda items. Individuals desiring to make a formal presentation to the Board on an item not on the agenda but desiring it be placed on the agenda must provide notice and written submissions detailing the subject of the presentation to the School Leader at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting. Any such presentations shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes in duration, unless otherwise permitted by the Chair.

To view the Board Open Meeting Policy, visit the CalOPS Governance Page at californiaops.org/governance.

No requests for public comment were submitted in advance. No member of the public was present in person.

III. Oral Reports

A. Superintendent's Report

R. Savage offered updates on enrollment, which sat around 9274. He noted that enrollment had closed and moving forward, there will be very rare exceptions for special circumstances. He mentioned that the Intent to Return (ITR) process had begun and currently enrolled families would be submitting their ITR for the upcoming school year. For general school updates, he mentioned the upcoming Spring Break and Testing. The whole school staff "Brown Bag" meeting would be occurring the next day.

R. Romero informed the board that February was a busy one for the team, with several conferences occurring. He noted that Dan, Leslie, Than, Ryan, Ayesha, Matt, and he were all given the opportunity to speak at DLAC. Leadership was also able to attend CCSA. He announced that budget development for the upcoming school year had begun, and the SPuDs leadership retreat was soon to come.

B. Principals' Report (attached)

M. Brockway offered updates at the high school level. He mentioned the busy conference season and noted some of the collaborative efforts that occurred between Student Services and High School at CCSA. He noted a successful Mid-Year festival season, and noted third interim testing was beginning. PFT was upcoming in the next few weeks. He welcomed 2 new staff to the HS team, and Student Board Member, A. Bailey.

H. Tamayo offered updates at the middle school level. She noted PFT testing was upcoming and would be in person to collaborate with the team in preparation. She

mentioned hundreds of families were onboarded for second semester and the recent completion of interim assessments. Third interims were upcoming for students.

M. White offered updates at the elementary school level. He noted that the elementary team onboarded over 300 new students and families for second semester. He highlighted Read Across America celebrations in the previous week, and mentioned upcoming CAASPP interim activity.

D. Rivas offered thanks for teachers and staff onboarding new students and families mid year.

C. Student Representative Updates

A. Bailey offered updates for the student population. She noted the career fair which occurred the previous week and how useful it was for students to interact with professionals and ask questions about their fields. She also noted the social meet ups mixer which allowed students to discuss various clubs they may have interest in joining (Psychology, K-Pop, DND, Creative Writing, etc.). She also mentioned a large turnout at the Mid-Year Festivals and positive feedback on Read Across America. She noted upcoming CAASPP and AP testing.

D. CalOPS Financial Services Update

L. Carter went over the Second Interim presentation and informed the board that the information in those slides was what would be included in the final Second Interim documentation for submission.

Summary:

- **Attendance:** P2 projection +303 to prior month, based on trend
Revenue: +\$6.2M (+5.2%), driven by added ADA
- **Expenses:** -\$450K (-0.4%), driven by reduced STRS audit adjustment (-\$120K) and hot spots (-\$200K)
- **Surplus:** \$12.3M (10.8% of expenses)
- **Ending Fund balance:** \$40M (35% of expenses)
- **Cash:** \$32.5M (as of 1/31)

E. Policy, Compliance, and Legislative Updates

D. Hertzler offered updates on the recent conference season. He noted positive sessions and engagement at the CCSA conference.

He noted that there is not much legislation in the works that would impact Charter Schools at this time. He addressed some outstanding things occurring with STRS, pertaining to the GreenDot case with CALSTRS. He noted that settlement was on the horizon, and Charter School employees would remain STRS eligible.

He thanked board members that had submitted their Form 700s, and reminded anyone who had not completed theirs to ensure completion by April 1.

A. Pulsipher arrived at 4:39 PM.

F. Educational Services Updates

L. Dombek presented the School Enhancement Target (SET) Report slides.

1. Grad Rate - Every 10 weeks, 68% of 12th grade students in their 4th year of high school will be on track for graduation.
 1. Grad rate goals met for the 2025 school year at most schools
2. Academic - Every 10 weeks, 50% of PLC SMART goals (math and schoolwide) will be met.
 1. Academic goals met
3. Engagement - Every 10 weeks, 90% of students will receive 5 successful contacts.
 1. At 89.2% schoolwide for Q2 and 98.7% schoolwide for Q1

P. Pulsipher asked about the engagement data not meeting the goal. L. Dombek said that the team was looking into whether it was a systems error not reporting all the engagements for recording. Regardless, the team was looking into ways to increase this figure.

IV. Consent Items

- A. Approval of Minutes from the February 10, 2026 CalOPS Board Meeting (attached)**
- B. Approval of Staffing Report (attached)**
- C. Approval of Check Register (attached)**
- D. Ratification of Special Education Service Contracts (attached)**
- E. Approval of Expenditures over \$20k (attached)**

Preferential Vote:

A. Bailey - Aye

M. Henjum made a motion to approve the consent agenda, Items A-E.

E. Wickliffe seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

A. Pulsipher Aye

Z. Robeson Aye

M. Henjum Aye

E. Wickliffe Aye

D. Rivas Abstain

J. Stockdale Aye

Roll Call

P. Pulsipher Aye

V. Action Items

A. Approval of CCSA Membership Agreement (2 Year Term) (attached)

D. Hertzler presented the CCSA membership agreement for a 2 term renewal. He gave background on the benefits of this agreement and the relationship in previous years.

Preferential Vote:

A. Bailey - Aye

Z. Robeson made a motion to approve a 2 year agreement with CCSA and payments for the duration of the agreement term.

M. Henjum seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

A. Pulsipher Aye

M. Henjum Aye

Z. Robeson Aye

P. Pulsipher Aye

J. Stockdale Aye

E. Wickliffe Aye

D. Rivas Abstain

B. Approval of Board Compensation (attached) - pulled from agenda

C. Approval of SoftMSP Payment Schedule (attached)

L. Carter presented the SoftMSP payment schedule and invoices waiting on payment. She explained that when the contract with SoftMSP was adjusted at the November board meeting, that these payments also required approval and so are being brought for consideration.

Preferential Vote:

A. Bailey - Aye

M. Henjum made a motion to approve the SoftMSP payment schedule.

E. Wickliffe seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

P. Pulsipher Aye

D. Rivas Abstain

J. Stockdale Aye

Z. Robeson Aye

A. Pulsipher Aye

Roll Call

M. Henjum Aye
E. Wickliffe Aye

D. Approval of Second Interims (attached)

L. Carter informed the board that the attached documents are the official documents for submission and they align with the information offered in her Second Interim Presentation.

Preferential Vote:

A. Bailey - Aye

M. Henjum made a motion to approve the Second Interims.

E. Wickliffe seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Z. Robeson Aye
J. Stockdale Aye
A. Pulsipher Aye
M. Henjum Aye
D. Rivas Abstain
P. Pulsipher Aye
E. Wickliffe Aye

E. Approval of Audit Firm Selection (attached)

L. Carter presented the audit firm selected for 2025 and noted that this is an annual task for board approval.

Preferential Vote:

A. Bailey - Aye

Z. Robeson made a motion to approve the Audit Firm Selection and payments over 20k for the duration of the agreement term.

A. Pulsipher seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

P. Pulsipher Aye
Z. Robeson Aye
D. Rivas Abstain
A. Pulsipher Aye
E. Wickliffe Aye
M. Henjum Aye
J. Stockdale Aye

F. Approval of 2027 BTS Venue Contract (attached)

R. Savage presented the board with the newly selected venue for the 2027 BTS event. He noted the differences from the previous venue and the ability to grow into this venue.

Preferential Vote:

A. Bailey - Aye

M. Henjum made a motion to approve the 2027 BTS Venue Contract and payments over 20k for the agreement term.

E. Wickliffe seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

E. Wickliffe Aye

D. Rivas Abstain

M. Henjum Aye

Z. Robeson Aye

A. Pulsipher Aye

P. Pulsipher Aye

J. Stockdale Aye

G. Approval of WestEd Contract (attached)

R. Romero presented the WestEd contract for board approval. He noted that this is a vendor for the current school year PD and gave insight on the program thus far.

Z. Robeson commented that PD is so important and well worth the cost. A. Dodoo noted the PD for the current school year was going well and looked forward to a continued PD experience.

Preferential Vote:

A. Bailey - Aye

Z. Robeson made a motion to approve the WestEd Contract and payments over 20k for the duration of the agreement term.

E. Wickliffe seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

P. Pulsipher Aye

J. Stockdale Aye

D. Rivas Aye

M. Henjum Aye

E. Wickliffe Aye

A. Pulsipher Aye

Z. Robeson Aye

H. Approval of Transition Stipend (attached)

R. Romero presented the transition stipend for board approval. He explained this is possible due to high ADA rates, matching the rates that occurred in 2021-22 during the pandemic. A portion of this increased revenue would allow for a one time stipend to all staff.

M. Henjum made a motion to approve the transition stipend, which includes a \$7,929.18 stipend to the Co-Superintendent of Operations, Human Resources and Business Services and a stipend of \$7,458.31 to the Co-Superintendent of Finance, Educational Services, and Student Services.

Z. Robeson seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

- P. Pulsipher Aye
- D. Rivas Aye
- M. Henjum Aye
- A. Pulsipher Aye
- J. Stockdale Aye
- Z. Robeson Aye
- E. Wickliffe Aye

VI. Closed Session

A. CLOSED SESSION - Brown Act; California Gov't Code §54956.9

M. Henjum made a motion to move to closed session.

E. Wickliffe seconded the motion.

The CalOPS Board moved into a breakout room for conference with legal counsel regarding one case of anticipated litigation and one case of existing litigation, discussion regarding 2 public employee performance evaluations, and 3 confidential student enrollment/expulsion matters.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

- E. Wickliffe Aye
- J. Stockdale Aye
- A. Pulsipher Aye
- D. Rivas Aye
- Z. Robeson Aye
- P. Pulsipher Aye
- M. Henjum Aye

B. Closed Session Report Out

J. Stockdale reported that regarding the 3 cases of confidential student enrollment/expulsion matters, all students were approved for enrollment.

He reported that the Board voted [unanimously or indicate roll call vote] to approve/ratify a Settlement Agreement in *Mannix v California Online Public Schools* whereby plaintiff shall receive \$625,000 in exchange for a full settlement and release of all claims.

He noted that Action Item B, Approval of Board Compensation, would be pulled from the agenda and would not be voted on this meeting.

VII. Closing Items

A. Future Business

No board members requested any topics be agendized for future discussion.

B. Adjourn Meeting

Z. Robeson made a motion to adjourn the CalOPS Board Meeting.

M. Henjum seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

M. Henjum Aye

Z. Robeson Aye

J. Stockdale Aye

P. Pulsipher Aye

A. Pulsipher Aye

D. Rivas Aye

E. Wickliffe Aye

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:49 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. Stockdale