

**CUTTEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

August 10, 2026

6:00PM

Ridgewood Commons
2060 Ridgewood Drive
Eureka, CA 95503

1.0 CALL TO ORDER/FLAG SALUTE- Called to order at 6:03pm. Board Members in attendance: Mary DeWald, Beth Johnston, Mindy Sehon, and Becky Reece.

2.0 CONSENT AGENDA- Motioned by Becky Reece. Seconded by Mindy Sehon. Motion carried 4-0.

- 2.1 Approval of Minutes-May 26, 2026; June 22, 2026; June 23, 2026; July 2, 2026; July 22, 2026
- 2.2 Approval of Warrants
- 2.3 Approval of Salary Schedules for 2026-2027
- 2.4 Approval of 2.0 FTE Credentialed Resignations: Ridgewood School Speech Teacher; SPED Director/School Psychologist
- 2.5 Approval of 3.37 FTE Classified Position New Hires
- 2.6 Approval of 2026-27 Consolidated Application for Funding-Certification
- 2.7 Approval of 2026-2027 HCOE MOU for Glen Paul, Special Beginnings, & Transportation
- 2.8 Approval of 2026-27 CESD and HBTA MOU's for Leadership Team, School Climate Team, Drama, Yearbook, and Athletic Director.
- 2.9 Approval Agreement Updated 2026-27 IRS Mileage Reimbursement rate to 76 cents per mile

3.0 VISITOR COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

The Board reserves the right to limit speakers to 3 minutes only. The Board may comment, but cannot take action at this time. The Board President may refer the matter to the Superintendent for review if appropriate.

Benbow-Grant full teaching credit to any employee who has been hired at Cutten School District, prior was 5 year max taken and does not require union approval moving forward not retroactively. This will improve hiring recruitment as well as make things right moving forward. Mike-New hires could also be affected and some research done, ECS made the change in 2023.

4.0 REPORTS

- 4.1 PTA Report- Christine Tyson President of PTA has started the program.
- 4.2 HBTA Report- Excited for two new principals to be joining our team, from everyone. Summer school was one of the best summer programs and attendance was great compared to last year.

Teachers were amazing during the whole program. Park and hot dog bbq for all, popsicle friday was implemented, which made the students want to not miss out. Mirror image day was done to provide something different for kids to look forward to.

4.3 Enrollment/Staffing Report- Lists are being pushed back because so many enrollment changes have happened.

4.4 LCAP Report- To be brought back up due to a business officer being out.

4.5 Bond and Construction Report- Notice of completion for HVAC at Cutten went in finally, should be closing. Notice of completion for Ridgewood was also received, only some window issues that will need to be fixed, once that is fixed will have completion. Furniture is still being received and a bookshelf is being built for it to be fully done and functional.

4.6 Superintendent/Principals' Report

SUPERINTENDENT-Summer school was a great success and ran smoothly compared to last year. A conference during the summer time was held which 8 employees attended. Besides a great time, we acknowledge relationships within the work environment and how important it is even when split in different sites.

PRINCIPAL-**Wendy**- Working on parent outreach to send out to the parents. Meeting new staff and getting the systems knowledge has been great as well as being involved during summer school for the hot dog day. Williams compliance is being worked on, and learning class composers as well to try and get to know the students. Lots of moving around to make things as tidy as possible. **Tiffany**- New letter to staff if they would like to meet with her to get to know everyone personally as well as get input on changes they would like to see. Letter to parents also being worked on to be sent out. The volunteer process is being worked on so that it can be clear and well known to them as well as looking for a scholarship to be able to help some families that aren't able to afford the fingerprint process. Priority is trying to get the campus looking like it's ready to be back in action for the kids' first day of school.

5.0 INFORMATION/POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

5.1 Consider Approval of Annual Evaluation of Conflict of Interest Code *BB 927* -Previously approved just discussed.

5.2 Discussion/Consider Approval Mold Remediation Phase 1 and Next Steps- Testing was done for rooms 1,2,3 and 7 at Ridgewood. An average mold was found in Humboldt county unfortunately, another company looked at it for an extensive plan to make sure that it doesn't come back. For now phase one will be done which is a big cleaning to make sure that it isn't as severe in hopes, then the HVAC will be the next project update which will be in the hundreds of thousands to fix, as well as fixing the roofs. So for now an outside cleaning area will be coming in to clean it up and try to prevent it. Motioned by Becky Reece. Seconded by Beth Johnston. Motion carried 4-0.

5.3 Discussion/Consider Approval Upgrade-Quantity 1 Level 2 Charger 12W (ZESBI Grant) and Quantity 2 Level 2 Charger 19.2W Installation (PG&E Grant) - Grant for electric bus and charger was received, also received a PGE grant that was given. Electricity being pulled from Arbutus for free and Cutten will have to hire a contractor to land a new box, but the power to the box will have to be paid by Cutten. Motioned by Mindy Sehon. Seconded by Becky Reece. Motion carried 4-0.

5.4 Discussion/Consider Approval .4 FTE Coordinator Position Ridgewood Afterschool Program - Tk-1st at Ridgewood is heavily loaded which has caused a large amount of need for the one coordinator. Motioned by Mindy Sehon. Seconded by Becky Reece. Motion carried 4-0.

5.5 Discussion/Consider Approval of the Phase 2 Measure K Ridgewood Project Notice of Completion- Motioned by Beth Johnston. Seconded by Becky Reece. Motion carried 4-0.

5.6 Discussion/Consider Approval of Archiving Historical Cutten Elementary School District Documents with the Humboldt County Historical Society- Motioned by Mindy Sehon. Seconded by Becky Reece. Motion carried 4-0.

5.7 Discussion/Consider Date for Ribbon Cutting of Ridgewood New Building- New letters still to be put up. Doesn't have to be the beginning of the school year. Write up for the community to be able to see where the money went and how the project is being completed. On a Friday during school to get all students and staff involved.

5.8 Discussion/Consider Date for a Possible Special Board Meeting- Pending on things that are happening with facilities.

6.0 BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/COMMUNICATION- Becky Reece is thanking Jay for fixing the big pot hole that was out in the front of the school.

7.0 PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEM- Benbow- Appreciates that Keenan was opened up well before school started to have more time to get them completed by their due date. Required by insurance in order to be in compliance.

8.0 CLOSED SESSION- Meeting closed at 7:05pm.

8.1 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (GC § 54957.6)

Agency Negotiator: Becky MacQuarrie

Unrepresented Employee: Classified

- Months ago in regards to employees retiring, but train and fully prepare the new employee coming onboard. Positions currently, though hours are wonky and there is time that is crucially needed when it's not being unkempt. Proposal is that they are transportation director as well as grounds and custodial at either site. But also a full time custodian to be hired on.
- Motioned by Mindy to approve hiring transportation/custodian director position. Seconded by Becky Reece. Motion carried 4-0.

8.2 CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR (GC § 54957.6)

Agency Negotiator: Becky MacQuarrie

Unrepresented Employee: HBTA

- More facts need to be reviewed at. More information. **Closed 8:14pm.**

9.0 RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION- Reconvened at 8:14pm. New hire share.

10.0 ADJOURNMENT- Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.