

**CHATOM UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Chatom Elementary Room #32 and Zoom Platform
August 12, 2025**

Tuesday, August 12, 2025

Closed Session: 6:30 p.m.

Public Session: 7:00 p.m.

(Public can obtain access to the Zoom meeting by contacting the District Office at 209-664-8505 or online at www.chatom.k12.ca.us)

Any writings or documents that are public records and are provided to the Governing Board regarding an open session item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection in the District Office located at 7201 Clayton Road, Turlock, CA, during normal business hours.

The Chatom Union School Board of Trustees welcomes you to its meetings which are regularly scheduled on the second Tuesday of each month. Your interest is encouraged and appreciated. There are two procedures for public comment. They are:

Commenting on Items Not on the Agenda

California law prohibits the Board from taking action on any matter which is not on the posted agenda unless it is determined to be an emergency by the Board of Trustees.

The audience may comment on items that are not on the agenda during the Public Comments section, only. Public comments are limited to three (3) minutes maximum.

Commenting on Agenda Items

Procedures

1. Prior to the meeting, fill out a 3x5 agenda comment card. Wait for the Item to be announced.
2. Item Announced
3. Board Motion/ Second
4. Public Comment (3 minute maximum)
5. Close of Public Comments
6. Board Discussion
7. Board Vote

Consent Calendar

Items listed under the Consent Calendar are considered to be routine and are acted on by the Board of Trustees in one motion. There is no discussion of these items before the vote unless a Board member, staff or public requests specific items be discussed and/or removed from the Consent Calendar. It is understood that the administration recommends approval on all Consent Items. Each item approved by the Board shall be deemed to have been considered in full and adopted as recommended.

The District welcomes Spanish and other language speakers to Board meetings. Anyone planning to attend and needing an interpreter should call (209) 664-8505, 24 hours in advance of the meeting, so arrangements can be made for an interpreter. *El Distrito da la bienvenida a las personas que hablan español a las juntas de la Mesa Directiva. Si planea asistir y necesita interpretación llame al (209) 664-8505, 24 horas antes de la junta, para poder hacer arreglos de interpretación.*

1. CALL TO ORDER

6:45 pm

1.1 Roll Call

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anthony Avila | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alison Carvalho |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karen Macedo | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Steve Soderstrom |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rob Santos | |

1.2 Public Comment on Closed Session Agenda Items

1.3 Adjourn to Closed Session

APPROVED

Motion: Anthony Avila Second: Rob Santos
Vote Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

2. CLOSED SESSION

Disclosure of Items Discussed in Closed Session (Gov. Code 54947.7)

2.1 Public Employee Appointment

2.1.1 Paraeducator (6.25 hour)

Lilly Lizama

APPROVED

Motion: Rob Santos Second: Alison Carvalho
Vote Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

2.1.2 Mountain View Yard/Cafeteria Supervisor (1.75 hours)

Becky Mendoza

APPROVED

Motion: Rob Santos Second: Alison Carvalho
Vote Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

2.1.3 Bilingual Paraeducator (5 hours)

The position is still in process.

2.1.4 Paraeducator Art/Music Experience (5 hours)

The position is still posted.

2.1.5 Request Authority for the Superintendent to
Continue to Hire Vacant Certificated and Classified
Staff Members that are Time Sensitive Under the
Direction of the Board President or Board
Representative

APPROVED

Motion: Rob Santos Second: Alison Carvalho
Vote Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

2.2 Public Employees Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Non-re-election/Leaves of Absence/Resignation/Retirements And Resolution Regarding Reduction or Discontinuance of Source (Gov. Code 44949 (e) and Gov. Code 44955)

2.2.1 Resignation of Employee #08-12-25-01

APPROVED

Motion: Anthony Avila Second: Rob Santos
Vote Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

2.2.2 Resignation of Employee #08-12-25-02

APPROVED

Motion: Anthony Avila Second: Rob Santos
Vote Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

2.3 Negotiations

2.4 Adjournment Back to Public Session

APPROVED

Motion: Anthony Avila Second: Karen Macedo

Vote Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

3. OPEN SESSION: CALL TO ORDER

7:05 pm

3.1 Roll Call

Anthony Avila

Alison Carvalho

Karen Macedo

Steve Soderstrom

Rob Santos

3.2 Flag Salute led by Board President, Steve Soderstrom

3.3 Report from Closed Session

The Board approved the following Public Employee appointments: Lilly Lizama for the Paraeducator (6.25 hour) position & Becky Mendoza for the Mountain View Yard/Cafeteria Supervisor (1.75 hours) position. The Bilingual Paraeducator (5 hours) position is still in process & the Paraeducator Art/Music Experience (5 hours) is still posted. They also granted authorization for the Superintendent to continue hiring vacant Certificated and Classified staff members who are time-sensitive to the start of school, under the direction of the Board President or a Board Representative. The Board also accepted the resignations of employees 08-12-25-01 & 08-12-25-02.

3.4 Approval of Agenda

APPROVED

Motion: Anthony Avila Second: Rob Santos

Vote Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

4.1 Board Minutes

4.2 Fiscal Services – Warrants/Payroll

4.3 Declaration of Obsolete Items

4.4 Consider Approval of Foothill Horizons Contract

4.5 Consider Approval of Mitchell Community Church Religious Release

4.6 Consider Renewal of Blocks Technology School Management Platform Contract

4.7 Collection of Developer Fees

APPROVED

Motion: Rob Santos Second: Alison Carvalho
Vote Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

5. PUBLIC COMMENT/RECOGNITION/COMMUNICATION

6. INFORMATION

6.1 Calendar of Events

Reviewed by Superintendent, Cherise Olvera

6.2 Board Financial Summary Report

Reviewed by Business Manager, Kelly Machado

6.3 Program Reports:

Chatom Elementary School Principal, Sara Cruz, shared that Chatom Elementary had a great first day of school. The TK-K family orientation also went well. She shared that many parents showed up, including those of new students, and described it as a “sea of people” on the first day of school. Mrs. Cruz took time to call and ask new families if they had any questions, which parents appreciated. There are currently 407 students enrolled at Chatom. She also shared that there is an upcoming Book Fair and recognized Daniel Jimenez to thank him for all of his help and assistance with all the technology needs.

Mountain View Middle School Principal, Lauren Lanum, shared that they had a great first day of school. She noted that it has been rewarding to see the small changes made over her three years there become part of the school's new norms. The first day went smoothly overall, and she was pleased to observe that the new 8th-grade teacher also had a successful start. Mrs. Lanum reported current enrollment at 171 students, with three additional students enrolling that afternoon. Dismissal also went very smoothly, thanks in part to parents doing an excellent job following the pick-up procedures that had been communicated a couple of times before the school year began.

Chatom State Preschool Director, Sandra Nunes, shared that she and her team have been working on organizing seven pallets of preschool items and supplies. She shared that the Preschool orientation took place today, and a “Meet and Greet” will take place tomorrow. Parents will have the opportunity to tour the classroom and take pictures. She concluded by sharing that enrollment for the morning class is at twenty students and enrollment for the afternoon class is at nine students.

Chatom Union School District Superintendent, Cherise Olvera, extended a special thank you to all staff members who worked hard to prepare for the new school year. She shared that all staff completed mandated training last week and participated in a team-building "train" activity, which tied into this year's welcome back theme: *"All Aboard for a Great School Year"* (2025–2026). Mrs. Olvera also noted that the U.S. Department of Education had temporarily withheld \$810 million in July. Although the district had already developed alternate funding plans in case the funds were not released, no changes were necessary, as the USDE released the funds on July 28, 2025.

- 6.4 District Information Posted on the Chatom Website:
Mrs. Olvera shared that the revised Staff Handbook, District Basic Commitment (DBC) Handbook, and Parent Rights and Responsibilities Annual Notification were available for viewing on the Chatom website.
- 6.5 Review of Board Policy 1330 and Administrative Regulation 1330 Regarding Use of School Facilities
Mr. Avila and Mrs. Macedo reported that, as members of the appointed Ad Hoc Committee along with Mrs. Olvera, they reviewed Board Policy (BP) 1330 and Administrative Regulation (AR) 1330. They also reviewed Assembly Bill 2073 (2015), CRSIG recommendations, and compared the Chatom Union policy and facility use fees to those of other Districts. Mr. Avila and Mrs. Macedo recommended to the Board that no changes be made at this time.

7. ACTION

- 7.1 Consider Approval of University of Massachusetts Global Fieldwork Agreement
APPROVED
Motion: Rob Santos Second: Alison Carvalho
Vote Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0
- 7.2 Consider Approval of Revised Bilingual Paraeducator Job Description
APPROVED
Motion: Anthony Avila Second: Karen Macedo
Vote Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0
- 7.3 Consider Approval of Paraeducator and After School Coordinator Job Title/Reclassification and Job Description
APPROVED
Motion: Rob Santos Second: Alison Carvalho
Vote Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

7.4 Consider Approval of Prop 28 Arts and Music in Schools (ASM) Plan

APPROVED

Motion: Rob Santos Second: Anthony Avila

Vote Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

7.5 Consider Approval of Superintendent Contract Term

APPROVED

Motion: Anthony Avila Second: Rob Santos

Vote Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

8. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

The Board gave direction to the Superintendent to open an additional third-grade class to help decrease class size, protect grade span adjustment funding, and allow room for added enrollment to other grade levels.

9. ADJOURNMENT

7:49 pm

APPROVED

Motion: Anthony Avila Second: Rob Santos

Vote Ayes 5 Noes 0 Abstentions 0