CHATOM UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Chatom Elementary Room 32 and Zoom Platform
September 8, 2026

Tuesday, September 8, 2026
Closed Session: 6:30 p.m.
Public Session: 7:00 p.m.
(The 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 (6:40 pm)**

1.1 Roll Call

- ☑ Anthony Avila
- ☐ Karen Macedo
- ☐ Rob Santos
- ☑ Alison Carvalho
- ☑ Steve Soderstrom

1.2 Public Comment on Closed Session Agenda Items

1.3 Adjourn to Closed Session
APPROVED
Motion: Anthony Avila Second: Steve Soderstrom
Vote Ayes 3 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

2. **CLOSED SESSION**

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

2.1 Public Employee Appointment
(Gov. Code 54957 and 54954.5 (e)
2.1.1 Yard/Cafeteria Supervisor 1 hour
Pending

2.1.2 Bilingual Paraeducator 3.25 hours
Pending

2.1.3 Request Authority for the Superintendent to Hire Vacant Classified Staff Members that are Time Sensitive Under the Direction of the Board President or Board Representative
APPROVED
Motion: Anthony Avila Second: Steve Soderstrom
Vote Ayes 3 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)

2.3 Negotiations

2.4 Anticipated Litigation - One Potential Case (Gov. Code 54956.9)

2.5 Adjournment Back to Public Session

3. OPEN SESSION: CALL TO ORDER (7:08 pm)

3.1 Roll Call

- ☑ Anthony Avila
- ☐ Karen Macedo
- ☐ Rob Santos
- ☑ Alison Carvalho
- ☑ Steve Soderstrom

3.2 Flag Salute led by Board President, Alison Carvalho

3.3 Report from Closed Session
The Board authorized the Superintendent to hire vacant classified staff members that are time-sensitive under the direction of the Board President or Board Representative. There were no other items to report from closed session.

3.4 Approval of Agenda
APPROVED
Motion: Anthony Avila Second: Steve Soderstrom
Vote Ayes 3 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

4.1 Board Minutes

4.2 Fiscal Services – Warrants/Payroll

4.3 Declaration of Obsolete Items
4.3.1 Old Math Curriculum Eureka Math/ Engage New York

4.4 Collection of Developer Fees (if any)
APPROVED
Motion: Steve Soderstrom Second: Anthony Avila
Vote Ayes 3 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

5. PUBLIC COMMENT/RECOGNITION/COMMUNICATION

6. INFORMATION

6.1 Calendar of Events

6.2 Board Financial Summary Report

6.3 Program Reports:
Chatom Elementary School Principal, Sara Cruz, shared that the school has had a great start to the school year and expressed excitement about the Warrior spirit throughout campus. Mrs. Cruz highlighted several events and activities that have already taken place, including an Eco Assembly, Family Literature Night with an ice cream social, and the launch of the monthly attendance incentive program. National Dot Day will also be observed on September 15. The August character trait focus was "Being Respectful." Principal Cruz concluded by sharing that significant professional learning is taking place among Chatom staff, including training focused on implementing ELA support and the new Desmos math adoption.

Mrs. Lanum, Mountain View Principal, provided an overview of recent events and activities, including a successful and fun Back-to-School Dance. She also shared an update on the Desmos math curriculum rollout, noting positive student engagement and performance. The new Prop 28 Art Program is fully underway, with April Mailloux collaborating with teachers to incorporate curriculum content into student art projects. Mrs. Lanum concluded by sharing that the new desks and chairs are now being used by students.

Chatom Union School District Superintendent, Cherise Olvera, shared that enrollment has decreased. The decline in the number of kindergarten and third-grade students reflects a trend that many other districts are experiencing throughout Stanislaus County. She noted that last year enrollment started lower and increased throughout the year, and perhaps we will see a similar increase as this year progresses. Mrs. Olvera also provided a facilities project update regarding upcoming needs and projects, including sidewalk repairs, septic pipe replacement at Chatom, and fencing at Mountain View. She also shared the need for an ELOP portable classroom to support after-school programs at Mountain View, which was suggested last year. The Board agreed with the need and gave direction to begin the process with TPH.

6.4 Mountain View Water Project Update

Spencer Supinger provided an update on the Mountain View Water Project. He shared that they are currently working on the water system design phase to consolidate with the City of Ceres. In addition, the District is preparing a financial application to request state funding for the project's construction phase. Mr. Spencer also shared a map that indicates where the new 4" water line will connect with the City of Ceres. It will run along Crows Landing Road, and enter the Mountain View site on the south side entrance behind the gymnasium. He also presented a proposed diagram showing where the tank will be positioned. It will be installed near the existing fire tank and drain basin on the West side of the gymnasium. He is proposing a 24,00 gallon storage tank, which is smaller than the existing fire storage tank. The new connection to the school will be used for drinking water, and the existing wells on site will continue to be used for irrigation and restrooms.

7. ACTION

7.1 Consider Approval of a CEQA Notice of Exemption (NOE) for the Mountain View Middle School Consolidation Project with the City of Ceres

APPROVED
Motion: Anthony Avila Second: Steve Soderstrom
Vote Ayes 3 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

7.2 Consider Approval of Authorized Representative Resolution #09-08-26-01

APPROVED
Motion: Steve Soderstrom Second: Anthony Avila
Vote Ayes 3 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

7.3 Consider Approval of Increasing Custodian-Grounds Time by 30 Minutes for New Expanded Learning Opportunity Program (ELOP) Classrooms Funded by ELOP

APPROVED
Motion: Anthony Avila Second: Steve Soderstrom
Vote Ayes 3 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

7.4 Consider Approval of New Facilities Use Request from Turlock Crush Volleyball

APPROVED
Motion: Anthony Avila Second: Steve Soderstrom
Vote Ayes 3 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

7.5 Consider Approval of Core Educational Program

APPROVED
Motion: Steve Soderstrom Second: Anthony Avila
Vote Ayes 3 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

7.6 2026-2027 Instructional Materials Sufficiency

7.6.1 Open Public Hearing on Instructional Materials Sufficiency

APPROVED
Motion: Anthony Avila Second: Steve Soderstrom
Vote Ayes 3 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

7.6.2 Public Comment
7.6.3 Close Public Hearing
APPROVED
Motion: Steve Soderstrom Second: Anthony Avila
Vote Ayes 3 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

7.7 Consider Approval of Resolution No. 09-08-26-02 Instructional Materials Sufficiency
APPROVED
Motion: Steve Soderstrom Second: Anthony Avila
Vote Ayes 3 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

7.8 Consider Approval of Resolution No. 09-08-26-03 For Adopting the "GANN" Limit
APPROVED
Motion: Steve Soderstrom Second: Anthony Avila
Vote Ayes 3 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

7.9 Consider Approval of Unaudited Actuals for 2025-2026
APPROVED
Motion: Steve Soderstrom Second: Anthony Avila
Vote Ayes 3 Noes 0 Abstentions 0

8. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

8.1 Consider Changing the December 8, 2026, Board Meeting to a Date On or After December 11, per Ed Code 1007, 1009, 5017 Related to Oath of Office for Elected School District Officials
The Board agreed to change the December 8, 2026 Board Meeting to December 15, 2026 at 5 pm.

An additional item discussed was the current rate of pay or referees. The Superintendent will be collecting more information and will bring it back to the board in October for consideration.

9. ADJOURNMENT (7:55 pm)

APPROVED
Motion: Steve Soderstrom Second: Anthony Avila
Vote Ayes 3 Noes 0 Abstentions 0