



KEYES UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Jeff Reed, Board President
Jeffrey Greener, Board Vice President
Jimmy Emmons, Sr., Board Clerk

Wesley Greene, Board Member
Mike Bernal, Board Member
Dr. Craig Mello, Superintendent

August 11, 2026

RECEIVED

AUG 12 2026

BY: _____

Honorable Sonny Sandhu, Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California, County of Stanislaus
Post Office Box 3488
Modesto, California 95353

Re: 26-27GJ: Obligations, Obstacles and Opportunities in School Bond Oversight

To the Honorable Judge Sundhu:

The purpose of this letter is to respond to the Stanislaus County Civil Grand Jury report #26-26GJ entitled "Obligations, Obstacles and Opportunities in School Bond Oversight" (the "Report"), received by the Keyes Union School District (the "District") on June 15, 2026. This response was approved by the Board of Trustees of the District on August 11, 2026.

Your report directed Stanislaus County school district, including the District, to respond to all its findings and recommendations, which responses are outlined below.

The District thanks and acknowledges the members of the 2025-26 Stanislaus County Civil Grand Jury for their time and effort.

Respectfully,

Dr. Craig Mello, Superintendent

Cc: Cynthia Young
2025-26 Foreperson
via email: cgj@stanct.org



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KEYES UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT RESPONSE TO THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE 2025-26 STANISLAUS COUNTY CIVIL GRAND JURY REPORT 26-27GJ: OBLIGATIONS, OBSTACLES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN SCHOOL BOND OVERSIGHT

Finding 1: Many school districts in Stanislaus County lack required transparency regarding school bonds because they fail to fully comply with Ed Code mandates.

Recommendation 1: The governing board of the district should instruct its Superintendent to comply with Ed Code pertaining to CBOCs by December 31, 2026. The areas of compliance include posting minutes, posting annual performance and financial audits, and posting annual CBOC reports on the district's website as cited by Ed Code section 15280(b).

Response to Recommendation 1: *The District does not believe that this recommendation is applicable to the District. As noted in the Report, the District's website includes a Measure U tab, which includes all available information about Measure U and the oversight committee. As the committee meets and annual reports are produced, the website will be updated accordingly.*

Finding 2: Stanislaus County CBOCs frequently do not have appropriate membership as required by Ed Code. Some CBOCs lack members representing each qualifying group, and/or members are regularly serving terms longer than specified in the bylaws

Recommendation 2a: The governing board of any district lacking full membership should appoint additional members to their CBOC committees to comply with both Ed Code section 15282 and their respective CBOC bylaws by December 31, 2026.

Response to Recommendation 2a: *This recommendation has been implemented. After an exhaustive search, the District At the June 15, 2026, meeting of the oversight committee, a taxpayer representative was appointed, resulting in a seven-member committee representing all categories required under the Education Code.*

Recommendation 2b: The governing board of the district should review CBOC membership to determine if long-serving members have exceeded their term limit stated in both Ed Code section 15282 and their respective CBOC bylaws. Remediation may include reappointment or replacement of the member. This should be completed by December 31, 2026.

Response to Recommendation 2b: *The District does not believe that this recommendation is applicable to the District. As noted in the Report, the Measure U oversight committee is newly formed as Measure U was approved by voters in November 2024. As oversight committee members reach their term limits, the District will review membership and replace members as needed to ensure compliance.*



KEYES UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Board Meeting
08/11/2026 - 06:00 PM
Spratling Middle School - Cafeteria
5277 Washington Rd.
Hughson, CA 95326

MEETING MINUTES

NOTICE OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING

August 11, 2026

Closed Session – 5:30 P.M.

Regular Session – 6:00 P.M.

POSTED: August 7, 2026

Persons wishing to address the Keyes Union School District's Board of Trustees regarding any agenda item(s) can email questions and/or comments to: dgaribay@keyes.k12.ca.us by 4:00 P.M. the day before the meeting and are invited to attend the Board Meeting in real time where any question/comments submitted. Minutes of this Board meeting can be found on our District website at: www.keyes.k12.ca.us. Interested persons may inspect a copy of the Board Packet at Keyes Union School District Office, 4801 Lucinda Avenue, Keyes, CA 95328; please contact the district office at (209) 669-2921.

Attendance

Voting Members

Mike Bernal, Board Member

Jimmy Emmons, Board Member Clerk

Wesley Greene, Board Member

Jeffrey Greener, Board Member

Jeff Reed, Board President

1. OPENING

1. Call to Order

2. Establishment of a Quorum and Attendance

Motion to go into closed session:

Motion made by: Jeffrey Greener

Motion seconded by: Jimmy Emmons

Voting results: Unanimously Approved

2. INVITATION TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

3. CLOSED SESSION

1. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release/Complaint

4. BOARD REPORTS OUT CLOSED SESSION ITEMS AND APPROVAL/AMENDMENT OF AGENDA

Motion to come out of closed session:

Motion made by: Jimmy Emmons

Motion seconded by: Jeffrey Greener

Voting results: Unanimously Approved

1. Report Out Closed Session Items

Nothing to report out.

2. Approval/Amendment of Agenda

No Amendments to the existing agenda.

Motion made by: Mike Bernal

Motion seconded by: Jeffrey Greener

Voting results: Unanimously Approved

5. FLAG SALUTE –

6. INVITATION TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES on any items listed or not listed on agenda

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

8. RECOGNITION/PRESENTATION

1. Staff Reports

A. Early Childhood Programs Board Report

B. KES Board Report

C. SMS August Board Report

D. KTL Board Report - August 2026

E. Exp Learning Programs Report for August 2026

2. Presentation(s) –

9. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. Approval of Minutes

2. Approval of Claims and Payroll

3. Approval of Williams Quarterly Report April - June

4. Approval of Head Start Documents

A. Approval of EHS/HSP May and June Program Summary - EHS/HSP May and June Monthly Data - EHS Toddler and CCTR Teir Contract 26-27 - Recruitment and selection Procedure - Bylaws - Impasse Procedure - Disability MOU - CCTR, Head Start, CSPP Parent Handbook

5. Approval of Revised/Updated Board Policies / Administrative Regulations

6. We request the board of trustees approve the Minutes, Payroll, Head Start Documents, and Williams Quarterly as presented.

Motion made by: Jeffrey Greener

Motion seconded by: Mike Bernal

Voting results: Unanimously Approved

10. ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of Personnel Actions

Motion made by: Jimmy Emmons

Motion seconded by: Jeffrey Greener

Voting results: Unanimously Approved

2. Approval of Authorized Agents

Motion made by: Jimmy Emmons

Motion seconded by: Jeffrey Greener

Voting results: Unanimously Approved

3. Approval of Independent Study Master Agreement 26-27

Motion made by: Jeffrey Greener

Motion seconded by: Mike Bernal

Voting results: Unanimously Approved

4. Approval of Keyes Union School District Response to the Findings and Recommendations in

the 2025-26 Stanislaus County Civil Grand Jury Report 26-27GJ: Obligations, Obstacles and Opportunities in School Bond Oversight

Motion made by: Wesley Greene

Motion seconded by: Jimmy Emmons

Voting results: Unanimously Approved

5. Approval of Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") between the Hughson Unified School District ("HUSD") and Keyes Union School District ("KUSD")

Motion made by: Jimmy Emmons

Motion seconded by: Jeffrey Greener

Voting results: Unanimously Approved

6. Approval of Agreement for Special Services ("Agreement") between the law firm of ATKINSON, ANDELSON, LOYA, RUUD & ROMO, a professional corporation, hereinafter referred to as the "Law Firm" and, KEYES UNION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT, hereinafter referred to as "District."

Motion made by: Jeffrey Greener

Motion seconded by: Jimmy Emmons

Voting results: Unanimously Approved

7. Approval of 2026 Developer Fee Justification Study

Motion made by: Jeffrey Greener

Motion seconded by: Jimmy Emmons

Voting results: Unanimously Approved

8. Approval of KTL High School Course Catalog

Motion made by: Jimmy Emmons

Motion seconded by: Jeffrey Greener

Voting results: Unanimously Approved

9. Approval of KTL Student Handbook - revised

Motion made by: Jeffrey Greener

Motion seconded by: Wesley Greene

Voting results: Unanimously Approved

10. Approval of Central Region School Insurance Group (CRSIG) General Liability Certificates

of Insurance for the 2026–2027 policy period

Motion made by: Jimmy Emmons

Motion seconded by: Jeffrey Greener

Voting results: Unanimously Approved

11. Approval of Consulting Agreement between KUSD & Mariza Herros, School Psychologist for the 26-27 School Year

Motion made by: Jimmy Emmons

Motion seconded by: Jeffrey Greener

Voting results: Unanimously Approved

12. Approval of SMS to Anaheim '27

Motion made by: Wesley Greene

Motion seconded by: Jeffrey Greener

Voting results: Unanimously Approved

13. KUSD/SCPAL Contract for Expanded Learning Staff for 26/27 School Year

Motion made by: Jeffrey Greener

Motion seconded by: Mike Bernal

Voting results: Unanimously Approved

11. DISCUSSION ITEMS

12. REPORTS

1. Superintendent Report - Craig Mello, Ed.D.

We're off to an amazing start this year! Yesterday, we held our whole-district back-to-school meeting, and it was a very positive and productive day. We completed all of our mandated trainings, enjoyed an amazing breakfast provided by Jackie and our cafeteria team, and were treated to lunch by Grand Canyon University, with whom we are partnering for extended education. It was a great opportunity to come together as a district and prepare for the year ahead.

All of our school sites are up and running and ready to welcome students tomorrow. As promised, I'll begin visiting our school sites at the end of this week, and I'm looking forward to seeing our staff and students in action.

Over the past two to three weeks, I've also had the opportunity to meet with many of our district stakeholders, including our CSEA and KTA union presidents, site principals, and district managers, just to name a few. I've gathered a tremendous amount of valuable information about both the strengths of our district and the challenges we need to address. I look forward to sharing more of what I've learned with the Board in the months ahead as we continue working together to build on our successes and identify opportunities for growth!

With appreciation & gratitude,

Craig Mello, Ed.D.
Superintendent, Keyes USD

2. Board Members Comments

A. Jimmy Emmons Sr.

Welcome back to everyone, especially our new Superintendent and new Principal! Excited to see the progress of KES projects. Have a great year everyone!

B. Wesley Greene

Expressed devotion to this district and community - pride he feels to serve on the Board of Trustees.

C. Mike Bernal

Welcome back and wishing everyone a great year ahead!

D. Jeff Greener

Excited for the new year!

E. Jeff Reed

Welcome back to staff & students! Excited to see the finished projects at KES and the start of school sporting events! Wishing everyone a great year ahead!

13. INFORMATION

1. Next Board Meeting

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting at 6:33 pm.

Motion made by: Jeffrey Greener

Motion seconded by: Mike Bernal

Voting results: Unanimously Approved

