



Cradle-to-Career Data Governing Board
February 25, 2026
Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Gavin Payne, Chair

Robert G. Tagorda, Vice-Chair

Catalina Cifuentes, *entered meeting at 9:45 a.m.*

Deborah Cochrane

Nathan Evans, EdD

Chris Furgiuele

Ana Luz González-Vásquez, PhD

John Hetts, PhD

Su Jin Jez, PhD, *exited meeting at 1:40 p.m. and reentered meeting at 2:15 p.m.*

Meredith Lee, PhD, *exited meeting at 10:26 a.m. and reentered meeting at 11:33 a.m.*

Jessica Moldoff, PhD

Javier Romero, *exited meeting at 12:20 p.m.*

Gregory Scull

Brian G. Soublet, JD

Erin C. Sullivan, *exited meeting at 3:40 p.m.*

Thomas Vu

Members Absent:

Christopher J. Nellum, PhD

Liberty Van Natten

Designees Present:

Tobias Uptain-Villa for Christopher Cabaldon*, *exited meeting at 3:08 p.m. and reentered meeting at 3:51 p.m.*

Brandon Bjerke for Jacqui Irwin, *exited meeting at 12:00 p.m. and reentered meeting at 1:10 p.m. Exited meeting at 2:45 p.m.*

Agnieszka Rykaczewska

**Pursuant to Government Code section [11123.5](#) this member participated via teleconference from a remote location.*

Agenda Item 1 Call to Order, Establishment of Quorum, and Welcome
Gavin Payne, Chair, called the meeting of the Cradle-to-Career Governing Board to order on February 25, 2026 at 9:40 a.m. A quorum was present.

Agenda Item 2 Introduction of New Governing Board Member, Senator
Christopher Cabaldon

Gavin Payne, Chair, presented this item.

Agenda Item 3 Update from the Cradle-to-Career Governing Board
Chair and the Office of Cradle-to-Career Data Executive
Director

Gavin Payne, Chair, Ana Luz González-Vásquez, PhD, Governing Board Member, and Mary Ann Bates, Executive Director, presented this item.

Agenda Item 4 Update and Discussion on the Cradle-to-Career Data's Future
Operations and Strategic Planning Process

Gavin Payne, Chair, Mary Ann Bates, Executive Director, and Roni Jones, Leading Resources Inc., presented this item.

Agenda Item 12 General Public Comment

No public comment.

Agenda Item 5 Presentation on Learning Agendas

Amira Boland, Chief of Staff, New Practice Lab, presented this item.

[Agenda Item 6](#) [Presentation and Update on CalKIDS Data Sharing Project](#)
Ryan Estrellado, Director of Data Programs, and Cassandra DiBenedetto,
ScholarShare Investment Board Executive Director, presented this item.

[Agenda Item 7](#) [Presentation on California Student Aid Commission
Contributions to the Cradle-to-Career Data System](#)
Jessica Moldoff, PhD, Governing Board Member, Daisy Gonzalez, PhD, Executive
Director, and Abigail Barondess, Strategic Data Project Fellow, presented this
item.

[Agenda Item 8](#) [Approval of Consent Calendar](#)
Gavin Payne, Chair, and Robert G. Tagorda, Vice-Chair, presented this item.

Nathan Evans made a motion to approve the consent calendar as presented;
second Thomas Vu.

No public comment.

The motion carried (17-0; Bjerke and Romero absent for vote).

[Agenda Item 9](#) [Approval of the Minutes from the January 12, 2026 Executive
Director Review Committee Meeting and the December 10,
2025 Governance Manual Review Committee Meeting](#)
Gavin Payne, Chair, presented this item.

Robert G. Tagorda made a motion to approve the Executive Director Review
Committee meeting minutes from January 12, 2026; second Gavin Payne.

No public comment.

The motion carried (4-0). *This vote was limited to Executive Director Review
Committee members only.*

Robert G. Tagorda made a motion to approve the Governance Manual Review
Committee meeting minutes from December 10, 2025; second Brian G. Soublet.

No public comment.

The motion carried (3-0-1; Moldoff abstained). *This vote was limited to Governance Manual Review Committee members only.*

Agenda Item 10 Closed Session: Executive Director Annual Performance Review

The Governing Board went into closed session, with open session reconvening at 3:51 p.m. Upon return to open session, roll was called and quorum was present.

Agenda Item 11 Reconvene in Public Session to Report Out of any Action Taken During Closed Session

Gavin Payne, Chair, reported that there was no reportable action taken during the closed session.

Agenda Item 12 General Public Comment

No public comment.

Agenda Item 13 Adjournment

Gavin Payne, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m.