

**Notice of Exemption**

To:  Office of Planning and Research  
*Electronically submitted*

**From:** (Public Agency)

County Clerk-Recorder's Office  
County of Santa Cruz  
701 Ocean St., Room 310  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Bonny Doon Union Elementary School District  
1492 Pine Flat Road  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**Project Title:** Bonny Doon Elementary School Site and Building Improvements Project

**Project Location - Specific:** 1492 Pine Flat Road, Santa Cruz, CA 95060 (Bonny Doon Elementary School)

**Project Location - City:** Santa Cruz

**Project Location - County:** Santa Cruz

**Description of Nature, Purpose, and Beneficiaries of Project:** The District plans to construct the Work, which is a Sitework Improvements and Building Modernization project on a District-owned site of approximately seven acres located at 1492 Pine Flat Road, in Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz County, California. The scope of site work includes improvements to the accessible path of travel throughout the campus and a new accessible ramp leading to the existing playground. The Project will include approximately 23,700 square feet of existing classroom building modernization, including fire alarm upgrades for the full campus. Athletic facilities will include renovation of the softball field and running track. Parking areas will be reconfigured, and new electrical service and fire alarm upgrades will be extended throughout the site. Existing landscape retaining walls (less than 4' in height) will be repaired in specific areas around the playground. Scope of work will include new fencing, a backup generator and enclosure, provision for a future battery energy storage system, and existing restroom upgrades. Site alterations include campus wide upgrades to fire alarm, electrical, and audio-visual system infrastructure. Classroom building upgrades include lighting, casework, signage, hardware, and interior finishes. In addition to the Sitework and Building Modernization projects, a domestic water infrastructure project is to be included. These improvements consist of new water storage tanks, new pressure pumps, a distribution system, fire hydrants, controls, and appurtenances. A retaining wall and concrete pad will support the new tanks. Gravel paving, fencing, gates, and storm drainage improvements, and demolition of existing systems are included.

**Name of Public Agency Approving Project:** Bonny Doon Union Elementary School District

**Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:** Bonny Doon Union Elementary School District

**Exempt Status:** (check one)

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268;
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a));
- Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Cal. Code Regs. Tit. 14 § 15302 (Class 2)
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Cal. Code Regs. Tit 14 § 15303 (Class 3)
- Categorical Exemption. State type and section number: Cal. Code Regs. Tit 14 § 15314 (Class 14)
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number:

**Reasons why project is exempt:** On March 19, 2026, the Board approved Lease Lease-Back agreements between the District and SC Builders Inc. for construction services related to the Bonny Doon Elementary School Site and Building Modernization Projects ("Project"). The Project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, sections 15302 (Class 2 – replacement or reconstruction or existing structures and facilities), 15303 (Class 3 – new construction of small structures), and 15314 (Class 14 – minor additions to schools). The Project involves replacement or minor expansion of existing school facilities and does not increase capacity beyond regulatory thresholds. It does not trigger any exceptions to categorical exemptions under CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2, as the Project is not located in a particularly sensitive environment and will not have cumulative impacts resulting from successive projects of the same type, there are no unusual circumstances associated with the Project, no impact on scenic

highways, no location on a hazardous waste site, and no substantial adverse effect on historical resources.

**Lead Agency**

Contact Person: Mike Heffner

Area Code/Telephone/Extension: (831) 427-2300

**If filed by applicant:**

1. **Attach certified document of exemption finding.**
2. **Has a Notice of Exemption been filed by the public agency approving the project?**  Yes  No

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2026 Title: Superintendent

Signed by Lead Agency