



Environmental Charter Schools

Board of Directors' Meeting

In-Person at ECS Home Office

Date and Time

Thursday September 19, 2024 at 5:00 PM PDT

Location

In-person location: ECS Home Office - 2625 Manhattan Beach Blvd #100, Redondo Beach, CA 90278

Two-way teleconference locations: 1100 Shasta Avenue, San Jose, CA 95126, 13885 Dogleg Lane, Broomfield, CO 80023

ECS Board Members	Term	and	End Date
Mr. Anthony Jowid, President.....	3 years		June 30, 2025
Dr. Betsy Hamilton, Vice President.....	3 years		June 30, 2025
Dr. Denise Berger, Secretary.....	3 years		June 30, 2026
Ms. Zena Fong.....	3 years		June 30, 2026
Ms. Jenina Ramirez.....	3 years		June 30, 2027
Dr. Madhu Chatwani.....	3 years		June 30, 2026
Mr. Kennedy Hilario.....	3 years		June 30, 2026
Mr. Herb Sims.....	3 years		June 30, 2025
Mr. Mason Williams.....	3 years		June 30, 2025
Mr. Andrew Ellenbogen.....	3 years		June 30, 2026
Lawndale Elementary School District Representative, Rotating Position			

ECS Staff

Ms. Farnaz Golshani-Flechner, Superintendent

Ms. Danielle Kelsick, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction

Ms. Tracy Bondi, Director of Finance
Mr. Jeremiah David, Director of Compliance & Operations
Ms. Sarah Jamieson, Director of Human Resources
Ms. Jen Fenton, Director of Strategic Initiatives
Dr. Shalene Wright, Director of SpEd and English Language Development
Ms. Lucia Bañuelos, Principal at ECHS-Lawndale
Dr. Geneva Matthews, Principal at ECMS-Inglewood
Mr. Dave Trejo, Principal at ECMS-Gardena
Dr. Cindy Guardado, Principal at ECHS-Gardena

Mission:

Reimagine public education in low-income communities of color to prepare conscious, critical thinkers who are equipped to graduate from college and create a more equitable and sustainable world.

Values:

JUSTICE - We examine bias, racism, and prejudice. We deliver culturally-responsive curricula. We succeed when students' race and class cease to predict their level of achievement.

COMMUNITY - We care. We collaborate. We respect the rights and voices of our stakeholders.

CURIOSITY - We question. We explore. We innovate.

SUSTAINABILITY - We think globally and act locally. We adapt. We encourage systems thinking to create a sustainable future.

LEADERSHIP - We listen. We think critically. We advocate. We shift public discourse. We are our own superheroes.

THE ORDER OF BUSINESS MAY BE CHANGED WITHOUT NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the order of consideration of matters on this agenda may be changed without prior notice.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS AT BOARD MEETINGS

Notice is hereby given that consistent with the requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act, special presentations not mentioned in the agenda may be made at this meeting. However, any such presentation will be for information only. The public should be aware that the Board is unable by law to deliberate or take action on items raised during the Presentations from the Floor section.

Environmental Charter Schools recognizes that it benefits greatly from public input and perspective. Individuals are invited to address the Board on any topic or subject matter that falls within the Environmental Charter School's purview. Speakers may sign up in person immediately prior to the beginning of the Board meeting by turning in a Speaker Form (available at the check-in table in English and Spanish).

Should a member of the public wish to speak on matters not listed on the agenda, they may speak during the Presentations from the Floor section of the agenda. Speakers will be given a maximum of three (3) minutes each to address the Board (non-English speakers utilizing translators will be given a maximum of six (6) minutes each). Please note that the Board allows a maximum of 10 minutes to each subject as determined by the Board's presiding officer.

Should a member of the public wish to speak on matters listed on the agenda, they may speak during the Presentations from the Floor section of the agenda. Speakers will be given a maximum of five (5) minutes each to address the Board (non-English speakers utilizing translators will be given a maximum of ten (10) minutes each).

The public should be aware that the Board is unable by law to deliberate or take action on items raised during the Presentations from the Floor section.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION WILL BE PROVIDED FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY

Pursuant to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, any individual with a disability who requires reasonable accommodation to attend or participate in this meeting of the Governing Board may request assistance by contacting ECS at (310) 214-3408, option 5.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information concerning this agenda or for materials relating to this meeting, please contact ECS at (310) 214-3408, option 5. Previous board meeting minutes may be viewed on the Board On Track public portal website at <https://app2.boardontrack.com/public/3tHo3u/home>.

Agenda

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
I. Opening Items			5:00 PM
Opening Items			
A. Record attendance and guests		Dr. Betsy Hamilton	1 m

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alberto Paredes, Director of Student Support Services (https://www.lawndalesd.net/departments/educational-services/student-support-services) 			
B. Call the Meeting to Order		Dr. Betsy Hamilton	1 m
C. Approve the agenda	Vote	Dr. Betsy Hamilton	1 m
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Versión en español 			
D. Opener	Discuss	Farnaz Golshani-Flechner	5 m
II. Presentations from the Floor			5:08 PM
A. Presentations from the floor on non-agenda Items	FYI		10 m
<p>Should a member of the public wish to speak on matters not listed on the agenda, they may speak during the Presentations from the Floor section of the agenda. Speakers will be given a maximum of three (3) minutes each to address the Board (non-English speakers utilizing translators will be given a maximum of six (6) minutes each).</p>			
B. Presentations from the floor on agenda items	FYI		10 m
<p>Should a member of the public wish to speak on matters listed on the agenda, they may speak during the Presentations from the Floor section of the agenda. Speakers will be given a maximum of five (5) minutes each to address the Board (non-English speakers utilizing translators will be given a maximum of ten (10) minutes each).</p>			
III. Discussion Items / Updates			5:28 PM
A. 2023-24 financial review and 2024-25 revised budgets	FYI	Dorothy Lee & Jair Ventura	20 m
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2023-24 financial review and 2024-25 forecast <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECHS-L 2023-24 Unaudited Actuals vs Forecast ECMS-G 2023-24 Unaudited Actuals vs Forecast ECMS-I 2023-24 Unaudited Actuals vs Forecast ECHS-G 2023-24 Unaudited Actuals vs Forecast 			

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2024-25 revised budgets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ ECHS-Lawndale ◦ ECMS-Gardena ◦ ECMS-Inglewood ◦ ECHS-Gardena • 2024-25 consolidated balance sheet 			
B. ECMS-Inglewood school update	FYI	Dr. Geneva Matthews	20 m
IV. Consent Items A-L			6:08 PM
A. Approve 8/1/2024 board minutes	Approve Minutes	Jeremiah David	3 m
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8/1/2024 board meeting minutes 			
B. Approve 9/13/2024 Finance Committee meeting minutes	Approve Minutes	Jeremiah David	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9/13/2024 Finance Committee meeting minutes 			
C. Approve private donations over \$1,000 as recommended by Finance Committee	Vote	Jen Fenton	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of private donations over \$1,000 			
D. Approve check registers and credit card statements as recommended by Finance Committee	Vote	Tracy Bondi / Sarahai Garibay	
<p>ECS management certification: ECS management attests to having reviewed and approved the individual line items on the attached check registers and credit card statements in accordance with current ECS Financial Policies.</p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check registers: June 2024, July 2024, August 2024 			

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beneficial State Bank credit card statements: June 2024, July 2024, August 2024 Ramp credit card statements: June 2024, July 2024, August 2024 		
E.	Approve Unaudited Actuals for ECHS-L, ECMS-G, ECMS-I, ECHS-G as recommended by Finance Committee	Vote	Tracy Bondi
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECHS-Lawndale ECMS-Gardena ECMS-Inglewood ECHS-Gardena 		
F.	Approve ECS Resolutions for 2024 Financing as recommended by Finance Committee	Vote	Tracy Bondi & Farnaz Golshani-Flechner
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECS Resolutions for 2024 Financing to execute loan documents for the purchase of the Concordia Lutheran Church property where ECMS-Inglewood is located. 		
G.	Approve 2024-25 Finance Committee Goals as recommended by Finance Committee	Vote	Tracy Bondi
	Recommended 2024-25 goals:		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage board in a critical assessment of the budget as it relates to organizational priorities and goals Hold a yearly ECS financial training course for ECS Staff and/or New Board members Ensure school budgets and cash flows are transparent, supportable, and sustainable Support ECHSG's financial objectives in the facilities development and school startup process 		
H.	Approve contracts	Vote	Jeremiah David
	1. ECHSG - Boojum 10th Grade Outdoor Education Trip - Fall 2024		

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staff analysis: contract cost within school outdoor education budget. Approval in arrears proposed due to time being of the essence between board meetings. 2. ECMSG - Boys & Girls Club of the Los Angeles Harbor Space Usage Agreement Renewal 2024-25 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staff analysis: full year renewal for use of outdoor and indoor spaces by ECMS-G student and staff. Monthly renewal costs flat from previous contract. Approval in arrears proposed due to time being of the essence between board meetings. 3. ECHS-Gardena school van (1) not to exceed \$45,000 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staff analysis: van cost is accounted for in school budget. Research on prices completed--see sample listing of vans for purchase. Van inventory is limited and availability regularly fluctuates. 4. CalSHAPE Grant Agreement & Board Resolution for ECHS-Gardena <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staff analysis: This California Schools Healthy Air, Plumbing, and Efficiency Program (CalSHAPE) grant agreement and board resolution provides up to \$1.25M in funding to upgrade heating, air conditioning, and ventilation (HVAC) systems at ECHS-Gardena. 		
I.	Approve revised 2024-25 Board & Committee Calendar	Vote	Jeremiah David
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed revised 2024-25 Board & Committee Calendar 		
J.	Approve LACOE Certification of Signatures 2024-25	Vote	Jeremiah David
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LACOE Certification of Signatures 2024-25 		
K.	Approve Parent-Student Handbooks	Vote	Jeremiah David & school principals
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECHS-Lawndale • ECMS-Gardena • ECMS-Inglewood • ECHS-Gardena 		
L.	Approve School Plans for Student Achievement	Vote	Jeremiah David
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECHS-Lawndale 		

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECMS-Gardena • ECMS-Inglewood • ECHS-Gardena 			
V. Action Item			6:11 PM
A. Approve 2024-25 budgets for ECHS-L, ECMS-G, ECMS-I, ECHS-G as recommended by Finance Committee	Vote	Tracy Bondi & Farnaz Golshani-Flechner	3 m
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attached in Discussion Items / Updates III.A above 			
VI. Upcoming Dates/Announcements			6:14 PM
A. Next ECS Board Meeting	FYI	Farnaz Golshani-Flechner	1 m
B. Next ECS Committee Meetings	FYI	Farnaz Golshani-Flechner	1 m
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance Committee - October 22, 2024 at 10:30am • Audit Committee - December 4, 2024 at 1:00pm 			
C. Appreciations	Discuss	All Attendees	1 m
VII. Transition to Closed Session			6:17 PM
A. Adjourn to Closed Session	Vote	Dr. Betsy Hamilton	1 m
VIII. Closed Session			6:18 PM
A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Gov’t Code § 54956.9)	Discuss		25 m
Name of Case: Environmental Educators United, CTA/NEA v. Environmental Charter Schools. Case No. LA-CE-6934-E.			
B. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Gov’t Code §54957.6)	Discuss		5 m
Agency Designated Representative: Robert Escalante			

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
Employee Organization: Environmental Educators United			

IX. Report Out of Closed Session			6:48 PM
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A. Report Out	FYI	Dr. Betsy Hamilton	1 m
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X. Closing Items			6:49 PM
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A. Adjourn Meeting	Vote	Dr. Betsy Hamilton	1 m
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