



Environmental Charter Schools

Board of Directors' Meeting

In-Person at ECMS-Inglewood

Date and Time

Monday January 12, 2026 at 5:00 PM PST

Location

In-person location: ECMS-Inglewood, 3600 W Imperial Hwy, Inglewood, CA 90303

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

ECS Board Members	Term and End Date
Dr. Betsy Hamilton, President.....	3 years June 30, 2028
Ms. Zena Fong, Vice President.....	3 years June 30, 2026
Dr. Denise Berger,	3 years June 30, 2026
Mr. Anthony Jowid.....	3 years June 30, 2028
Dr. Madhu Chatwani.....	3 years June 30, 2026
Mr. Kennedy Hilario.....	3 years June 30, 2026
Mr. Herb Sims.....	3 years June 30, 2028
Mr. Mason Williams.....	3 years June 30, 2028
Mr. Andrew Ellenbogen.....	3 years June 30, 2026
Mr. Remco Waller.....	3 years June 30, 2028
Lawndale Elementary School District Representative, Rotating Position	

ECS Staff

Ms. Danielle Kelsick, Superintendent

Ms. Lucia Bañuelos, Deputy Superintendent of Schools

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 & English Language Development
Mr. Cesar Delgado, Director of Student Wellness
Dr. Geneva Matthews, Principal at ECMS-Inglewood
Mr. Dave Trejo, Principal at ECMS-Gardena
Dr. Beth Bernstein-Yamashiro, Principal at ECHS-Gardena
Ms. Jennifer Larsen, Principal at ECHS-Lawndale

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
B. Call the Meeting to Order		Dr. Betsy Hamilton	1 m

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
C.	Approve the agenda	Vote	Dr. Betsy Hamilton	1 m
	• Versión en español			
D.	Opener	Discuss	Danielle Kelsick	5 m
II.	Presentations from the Floor			5:08 PM
A.	Presentations from the floor on non-agenda Items	FYI		10 m
	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).			
B.	Presentations from the floor on agenda items	FYI		10 m
	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).			
III.	Discussion Items / Updates			5:28 PM
A.	Superintendent update	FYI	Danielle Kelsick	5 m
B.	ECMS-Inglewood renewal charter petition study session	Discuss	Danielle Kelsick	45 m
	• ECMS-Inglewood renewal charter petition 2026-31 (handouts)			
C.	Publication of Fact-Finding Recommendations	FYI		2 m
	Purpose: Make public the fact-finding chair's written findings and recommendations received on December 9, 2025, pursuant to Gov. Code § 3548.3.			
	Fact-Finding Recommendations: PERB Chair email dated 12/9/2025			
	From: DAVID HART <[redacted]>			

Purpose	Presenter	Time
Sent: Tuesday, December 9, 2025 10:57:55 AM		
To: Lockhart, Wendy <[redacted]>		
Cc: [Tracy Bondi] <[redacted]>; factfinding@perb.ca.gov < factfinding@perb.ca.gov >		
Subject: Re: CASE NO:LA-IM-4190-E		

I have did my research and my advisory terms of settlement are as listed below.

I researched the Unified web site and found the CBA for certificated. For Arbitration they request a panel from SMCS. ECS can do that also. I also will contact SMCS that if either the Unified or ECS ask for a panel, my name will not be included. That erases any argument of a conflict of interest.

As to the money part. Mid year 25-26 a one percent increase to the Counselors etc.

Effective 26-27, a one per cent increase to the same classifications.

That is my advisory opinion. Now you can put ink in your pens and sign.

Thank you

Sent from my iPad

IV. Consent Items A-F

6:20 PM

A. Approve 12/1/2025 board meeting minutes	Approve Minutes	Jeremiah David	3 m
--	-----------------	----------------	-----

- [12/1/2025 board meeting minutes](#)

B. Approve 1/8/2026 Audit Committee meeting minutes	Approve Minutes	Jeremiah David
---	-----------------	----------------

- [1/8/2026 Audit Committee meeting minutes](#)

C. Approve contracts	Vote	Jeremiah David
----------------------	------	----------------

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
1. <u>Climate Action Pathways for Schools (CAPS) Sustainability Pre-apprenticeship Program Development Proposal</u>			
1. Staff analysis: Consulting proposal with Climate Action Pathways for Schools (CAPS). Services will support design and registration of ECS's Sustainability Specialist pre-apprenticeship pathway aligned to CAPS's Sustainability Specialist Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP), including RAP sponsorship documentation and an MOU at a cost of \$17,750.			
D. Approve School Accountability Report Cards of School Year 2024-25 for ECHS-L, ECMS-G, ECMS-I, ECHS-G	Vote	Jeremiah David & Robert Maxwell	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>ECHS-Lawndale</u> • <u>ECMS-Gardena</u> • <u>ECMS-Inglewood</u> • <u>ECHS-Gardena</u> 		
Background / Description:			
California law requires each school's School Accountability Report Card (SARC) to be issued annually and made available to the public on or before February 1. CDE guidance further contemplates that SARCs are locally prepared and approved by the school's local governing board prior to submission through the CDE SARC Web Application.			
ECS staff has prepared the 2024-25 SARCs for Board review. Following Board approval, the SARCs will be posted for public access (including on the school/LEA website and/or other required access points), and submitted to CDE by February 1, 2026.			
E. Approve Student Behavioral Health Referral Policy (based on CDE model policy)	Vote	Cesar Delgado & Jeremiah David	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>ECS Student Behavioral Health Referral Policy</u> 		

Background:

California Education Code §§ 49428.1 and 49428.2 require local educational agencies serving students in grades 7 through 12 to adopt a behavioral health referral policy

Purpose	Presenter	Time
that is based on, or consistent with, the California Department of Education's (CDE) model policy. The purpose of the statute is to ensure that schools have clear, equitable procedures for identifying and supporting students experiencing behavioral health needs, including mental health and substance use concerns.		

Environmental Charter Schools has developed a policy that reflects CDE's recommended referral protocols while incorporating ECS's existing wellness structures, Student Support Services Teams (SSST), and restorative practices. This policy outlines a network-wide framework for:

- Behavioral health referrals initiated by school personnel;
- Referral pathways for crisis and non-crisis concerns;
- Protocols for parent/guardian communication and student confidentiality;
- Required staff training and annual board reporting.

F. Approve updated ECS Salary Schedules to align with CA Minimum Wages Effective January 1, 2026	Vote	Tracy Bondi & Sarah Jamieson
--	------	------------------------------

To align with California Minimum Wages effective January 1, 2026, the updated ECS Salary Schedules includes all revisions in red.

- [Updated ECS Salary Schedules](#)

V. Action Items	6:23 PM
-----------------	---------

A. Approve submission of ECMS-Inglewood charter petition renewal package to Los Angeles County Office of Education	Vote	Danielle Kelsick	5 m
--	------	------------------	-----

Proposed: Adopt Resolution No. 2025-03 approving the ECMS-I charter renewal petition for a five-year term (July 1, 2026–June 30, 2031), approving the accompanying budget and supporting documents, and authorizing submission to LACOE designating the Superintendent as lead petitioner with authority to make non-substantive edits and submit by January 31 (or per any mutually agreed extension with LACOE).

- [ECMS-Inglewood charter petition renewal package 2026-31](#)

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ All required documents including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Draft renewal ECMS-Inglewood charter petition (package pages 00031-00348) ▪ Draft renewal ECMS-Inglewood budget • Board Resolution No. 2025-03 - ECMSI Charter Renewal Authorization to Submit to LACOE 			
B. Accept FY25 Annual Independent Audit Report (draft) as recommended by Audit Committee	Vote	Danielle Kelsick, Tracy Bondi & Jeremiah David	5 m
		• FY25 Annual Independent Audit Report (draft)	

Background / Description:

The FY25 Annual Independent Audit Report (draft) has been reviewed and recommended by the Audit Committee. The remaining edits are non-material and are not expected to impact the auditor's opinion or result in findings. ECS staff requests Board acceptance of the draft report and authorization for the ECS Superintendent to submit the final auditor-issued report once issued, provided there are no material changes, to ensure timely submission to required agencies.

VI. Upcoming Dates/Announcements			6:33 PM
A. Next ECS board meeting	FYI	Danielle Kelsick	1 m
		• Monday, February 23, 2026 @ 5pm	
B. Next ECS committee meetings	FYI	Danielle Kelsick	1 m
		• Finance Committee - June 18, 2026 @ 8:30am	
C. Appreciations	Discuss	All Attendees	1 m
VII. Transition to Closed Session			6:36 PM
A. Adjourn to closed session	Vote	Dr. Betsy Hamilton	2 m

		Purpose	Presenter	Time
VIII. Closed Session				6:38 PM
A.	CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code § 54956.9)	Discuss		35 m
	Name of Case: Environmental Educators United, CTA/NEA v. Environmental Charter Schools. Case No. LA-CE-6934-E.			
B.	CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Government Code §54957.6)	Discuss		30 m
	Agency Designated Representative: Robert Escalante			
	Employee Organization: Environmental Educators United			
IX.	Report out of Closed Session			7:43 PM
A.	Report out	FYI	Dr. Betsy Hamilton	1 m
X.	Closing Items			7:44 PM
A.	Adjourn Meeting	Vote	Dr. Betsy Hamilton	1 m