



Environmental Charter Schools

Board of Directors' Meeting

In-Person at ECS Home Office

Date and Time

Monday August 24, 2026 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: ECMS-Gardena (812 W. 165th Place, Gardena, CA 90247) | ECMS-Inglewood (3600 W Imperial Hwy, Inglewood, CA 90303) | ECHS-Lawndale (16315 Grevillea Ave. Lawndale, CA 90260) | ECHS-Gardena (2818 Manhattan Beach Blvd, Gardena, CA 90249) | 1100 Shasta Avenue, San Jose, CA 95126 | 795 Poplar Street, Denver, CO 80220

Each teleconference location listed above is open and accessible to the public. Members of the public may attend and address the Board from any listed location.

ECS Board Members	Term and End Date
Dr. Denise Berger, President.....	3 years June 30, 2029
Mr. Anthony Jowid, Vice President.....	3 years June 30, 2028
Dr. Betsy Hamilton.....	3 years June 30, 2028
Ms. Zena Fong.....	3 years June 30, 2029
Mr. Kennedy Hilario.....	3 years June 30, 2029
Mr. Herb Sims.....	3 years June 30, 2028
Mr. Mason Williams.....	3 years June 30, 2028
Mr. Andrew Ellenbogen.....	3 years June 30, 2029
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

Mr. Jeremiah Rosario David, Director of Compliance & Operations

Ms. Sarah Jamieson, Director of Human Resources

Ms. Jen Fenton, Director of Development & Communications

Dr. Shalene Wright, Director of SpEd & English Language Development

Mr. Cesar Delgado, Director of Student Wellness

Ms. Sarahai Garibay, Senior Manager of Finance

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 regular meetings. 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 up to 30 minutes prior to the beginning of the Board meeting by turning in a Speaker Form (available at the check-in table in English and Spanish). Speaker Forms must be turned in by the time of the published start of the board meeting (e.g. 5:00 pm) in order to be added to the public comment section for that meeting.

Should a member of the public wish to speak on matters not listed on the agenda at regular meetings, they may speak during the Presentations from the Floor section of the agenda. Speakers will be given a maximum of two (2) minutes each to address the Board (non-English speakers utilizing translators will be given a maximum of four (4) minutes each). Please note that the Board allows a maximum of 16 minutes for this section, on a first-come, first-served basis.

Should a member of the public wish to speak on matters listed on the agenda, they may speak at the beginning of the specific agenda item. Speakers will be given a maximum of two (2) minutes each to address the Board (non-English speakers utilizing translators will be given a maximum of four (4) minutes each). Please note that the Board allows a maximum of 6 minutes to each agenda item on a first-come, first-served basis.

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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.

AGENDA POSTING

This agenda is posted in the exterior public display case adjacent to the side entrance of the ECS Home Office, 2625 Manhattan Beach Blvd, Suite 100, Redondo Beach, CA 90278, which is freely accessible to the public 24 hours a day, at each teleconference location listed above, and on the ECS public meeting portal.

ACCESO AL IDIOMA

Para solicitar una traducción de esta agenda o servicios de interpretación para esta reunión, comuníquese con ECS al (310) 214-3408, opción 5, con al menos 48 horas de anticipación.

PUBLIC INSPECTION OF AGENDA MATERIALS

Writings that are public records and are distributed to a majority of the Board in connection with an open session agenda item are available for public inspection at the ECS Home Office, 2625 Manhattan Beach Blvd, Suite 100, Redondo Beach, CA 90278, during regular business hours, and on the ECS public meeting portal. Writings distributed less than 72 hours before the meeting will be made available for public inspection at the same time they are distributed to members of the Board. For more information concerning this agenda or for materials relating to this meeting, please contact ECS at (310) 214-3408, option 5.

Agenda

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
I. Opening Items			5:00 PM
Opening Items			
A. Record attendance and guests		Anthony Jowid	1 m
• Tracy Pumilia, Asst. Superintendent of Educational Services https://www.lawndalesd.net/departments/educational-services			
B. Call the Meeting to Order		Anthony Jowid	1 m
C. Approve the agenda	Vote	Anthony Jowid	1 m
<i>Note any agenda items to be tabled or reordered.</i>			
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 this section of the agenda.			
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B. Presentations from the floor on agenda items	FYI		10 m

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
Should a member of the public wish to speak on matters listed on the agenda, they may speak at the beginning of the specific agenda item .			
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C.	Public hearing regarding sufficiency of instructional materials for 2026-27 for ECHS-L, ECMS-G, ECMS-I, ECHS-G	FYI	10 m
Education Code §60119 requires an annual public hearing, held within the first eight weeks of school, for the governing board to determine whether each pupil has sufficient standards-aligned instructional materials to use in class and to take home in the following areas: English Language Arts/ELD, Mathematics, History–Social Science, Science, and, as applicable for grades 6–12, World Language and Health. For grades 9–12 science laboratory courses, sufficiency of lab equipment must also be verified.			
Following the public hearing, staff recommends adoption of Resolution No. 2026-01 certifying sufficiency for Environmental Charter High School–Lawndale (ECHS-L), Environmental Charter High School–Gardena (ECHS-G), Environmental Charter Middle School–Gardena (ECMS-G), and Environmental Charter Middle School–Inglewood (ECMS-I). The LEA-Approved Instructional Materials Lists (ECHS-L, ECHS-G, ECMS-G, ECMS-I) and supporting documentation relied upon for this determination are available for public inspection at the ECS Home Office - 2625 Manhattan Beach Blvd #100, Redondo Beach, CA 90278, during regular business hours and at the meeting.			
III.	Discussion Items / Updates		5:38 PM
A.	Superintendent update	FYI	Danielle Kelsick 10 m
B.	2025-26 Unaudited Actuals and FY26 Financial Update	Discuss	Anita Amoh (Vertex Education) 20 m
• Vertex Education ECS FY26 UA Financial Update presentation ◦ ECHS-L 2025-26 Unaudited Actuals vs Forecast ◦ ECMS-G 2025-26 Unaudited Actuals vs Forecast ◦ ECMS-I 2025-26 Unaudited Actuals vs Forecast			

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
◦ ECHS-G 2025-26 Unaudited Actuals vs Forecast ◦ 2025-26 consolidated balance sheet • 2025-26 unaudited actuals ◦ ECHS-Lawndale ◦ ECMS-Gardena ◦ ECMS-Inglewood ◦ ECHS-Gardena			
C. Committee Chair updates	FYI	Andrew Ellenbogen, Anthony Jowid, Kennedy Hilario	9 m
IV. EEU Comments to the Board			6:17 PM
A. EEU Comments to the Board	FYI	EEU	5 m
EEU will be given a maximum of five (5) minutes to address the Board.			
V. Consent Items A-I			6:22 PM
A. Approve 7/27/2026 board meeting minutes	Approve Minutes	Jeremiah Rosario David	3 m
• 7/27/2026 board meeting minutes			
B. Approve private donations over \$1,000 as recommended by Finance Committee	Vote	Jen Fenton	
• List of private donations over \$1,000			
C. Approve check registers and credit card statements	Vote	Sarahai Garibay	
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 ECS Financial Policies. • Check registers: April 2026, May 2026, June 2026, July 2026			

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
	Credit card statements: April 2026, May 2026, June 2026, July 2026		
D.	Approve contracts	Vote	Jeremiah Rosario David
	1. ECMS-Gardena Wheelchair Lift Door Operator Replacement Quote, Nomad Elevator Engineering Corp. Staff Analysis: Replacement of the damaged automatic door operator on wheelchair lift at ECMS-Gardena. Contract selected after bidding process. Total cost is \$25,609.47. Nomad warrants parts furnished and installation workmanship for twelve (12) months from substantial completion. Board approval requested in arrears due to time being of the essence for this replacement.		
E.	Approve revised 2026-27 Board & Committee Calendar	Vote	Jeremiah Rosario David
	Revised 2026-27 Board & Committee Calendar (redlined)		
F.	Approve 2026-27 Parent-Student Handbooks for ECHS-L, ECMS-G, ECMS-I, ECHS-G	Vote	Jeremiah Rosario David
	ECHS-Lawndale ECMS-Gardena ECMS-Inglewood ECHS-Gardena		
G.	Approve revised Independent Study Policy	Vote	Jeremiah Rosario David
	Revised Independent Study Policy (redlined) - Clarifications to program structure, approval authority, and the relationship between board policy and administrative regulation; and updates to conform with current laws and regulations, including eligibility for students with individualized education programs, signature requirements, the statutory exemption for short-term independent study, and pupil-to-teacher ratio documentation required by AB 126 (2026).		

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
H. Approve Board Resolution No. 2026-01 - Sufficiency of Instructional Materials for 2026-27	Vote	Jeremiah Rosario David	

- [Board Resolution No. 2026-01 - Sufficiency of Instructional Materials for 2026-27](#)

I. Approve ECS English Learner Master Plan	Vote	Dr. Shalene Wright	
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- [ECS English Learner Master Plan](#)

Background: The ECS English Learner Master Plan provides a single network-wide framework for identifying, serving, monitoring, and supporting English Learners across ECMS-Inglewood, ECMS-Gardena, ECHS-Lawndale, and ECHS-Gardena.

The plan is grounded in the four principles of the California English Learner Roadmap and reflects the 2012 California ELD Standards, the ELA/ELD Framework, Proposition 58, ELPAC implementation, and applicable provisions of the Every Student Succeeds Act and California Education Code.

Adoption of a network-wide plan supports the Castaneda v. Pickard three-part standard by documenting program design rationale, implementation resources, and annual evaluation in a single governing document.

VI. Action Items 6:25 PM

A. Approve 2025-26 Unaudited Actuals for ECHS-L, ECMS-G, ECMS-I, ECHS-G as recommended by Finance Committee	Vote	Sarahai Garibay & Danielle Kelsick	3 m
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- Attached in Discussion Items / Updates III.B

B. Approve revised ECS Salary Scales/Schedules Compensation 2026-27	Vote	Danielle Kelsick	3 m
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- [ECS Salary Scales/Schedules Compensation 2026-27](#)
 - All salary scales/schedules unchanged except for:
 - Facilities Staff & Culture Clerks Hourly Schedule: Year 1 increased from \$18.00 to \$18.47 to meet the unincorporated Los Angeles County minimum wage effective 7/1/2026

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
▪ Home Office Annual Salary Levels: Assistant level range minimum increased from \$37,600 to \$38,418			
VII. Upcoming Dates/Announcements			6:31 PM
A. Next ECS board meeting	FYI	Danielle Kelsick	1 m
• Tuesday, December 1, 2026 @ 5pm			
B. Next ECS committee meetings and events	FYI	Danielle Kelsick	1 m
Committee meetings			
• ECS Governance Committee - Wednesday 10/28/2026 • ECS Labor & Compensation Committee - Wednesday 11/4/2026 • ECS Finance Committee - Wednesday 11/18/2026			
School events			
• ECMSG Leaders Like Me - 10/9/2026 • ECHSG Fiesta De Colores - 10/15/2026 • ECHSL Dia De Los Muertos - 11/6/2026 • ECMSI Harvest Fest - 11/7/2026			
C. Appreciations	Discuss	All Attendees	1 m
VIII. Transition to Closed Session			6:34 PM
A. Adjourn to closed session	Vote	Anthony Jowid	2 m
IX. Closed Session			6:36 PM
A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code § 54956.9(d)(1))	Discuss		5 m
Name of Case: Environmental Educators United, CTA/NEA v. Environmental Charter Schools. Case No. LA-CE-7156-E.			

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
Name of Case: JOHN DOE 7148 v. Environmental Charter Middle School. Case No. 25TRCV02819.			

X.	Report out of Closed Session		6:41 PM
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A.	Report out	FYI	Anthony Jowid	1 m
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XI.	Closing Items		6:42 PM
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A.	Adjourn Meeting	Vote	Anthony Jowid	1 m
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