



Environmental Charter Schools

Special Board of Directors' Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday October 1, 2026 at 1:00 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)
- 1656 Vorhees Ave, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266 | 3011 Elm St., Manhattan Beach, CA 90266 | 3513 Wa Inut Avenue Manhattan Beach, CA 90266 | 1341 Comstock Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90024 | 333 Continent al Blvd, El Segundo, CA 90245 | 14407 Larch Ave, Lawndale, CA 90260 | 4161 W 147th St. Lawndale CA 90260

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
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.

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.

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 o lo antes posible a partir de entonces.

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			1:00 PM
Opening Items			
A. Call the Meeting to Order		Zena Fong	1 m
B. Board member roll call		Zena Fong	1 m
C. Approve the agenda	Vote	Zena Fong	1 m
<i>Note any agenda items to be tabled or reordered.</i>			
II. Presentations from the Floor			1:03 PM
A. Presentations from the floor on agenda items	FYI		
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.			
III. Informational Item			1:03 PM
A. Public Presentation of ECS Initial Collective Bargaining Proposals (Gov. Code § 3547)	FYI		3 m
Under Gov. Code § 3547(a) and (b), both ECS's and the union's initial proposals must be presented at a public meeting, and the public must have a chance to comment before negotiations begin. ECS's initial proposals are submitted at this meeting:			

Purpose	Presenter	Time
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- [ECS Initial Proposals to Environmental Educators United/CTA/NEA](#)

The Board will hear public comment on the ECS Initial Proposals. No action will be taken.

IV. EEU Comments to the Board	1:06 PM
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| A. EEU Comments to the Board | FYI | EEU | 5 m |
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- EEU will be given a maximum of five (5) minutes to address the Board.

V. Action Items	1:11 PM
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| A. Acknowledge receipt of Dr. Betsy Hamilton's written resignation effective September 25, 2026 | Vote | Zena Fong | 1 m |
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| B. Designation of Labor Negotiator | Vote | Danielle Kelsick | 2 m |
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Gov. Code § 54957.6(a) requires the Board to name its designated representatives in open session before meeting with them in closed session. Staff recommends that the Board designate Superintendent Danielle Kelsick as ECS's labor negotiator for collective bargaining with Environmental Educators United/CTA/NEA. She may act through designees, including Deputy Superintendent of Schools Lucia Bañuelos, and labor counsel Robert Escalante of ACLIENT PC.

Proposed: Designate Superintendent Danielle Kelsick as the ECS labor negotiator for negotiations with Environmental Educators United/CTA/NEA, with authority to act through designees including Lucia Bañuelos and Robert Escalante of ACLIENT PC.

VI. Transition to Closed Session

VII. Closed Session	1:14 PM
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| A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code § 54956.9(d)(1)) | Discuss | 10 m |
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Name of Case: OAH Case No. 2026090128

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| B. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Gov. Code § 54957.6) | Discuss | 3 m |
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	Purpose	Presenter	Time
Agency designated representatives: Danielle Kelsick, Superintendent; Lucia Bañuelos, Deputy Superintendent of Schools; Robert Escalante, ACLIENT PC			

Employee organization: Environmental Educators United/CTA/NEA

VIII. Reconvene to Open Session			1:27 PM
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A. Report out	FYI	Zena Fong	1 m
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IX. Action Item			1:28 PM
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A. Adoption of ECS Initial Proposals to Environmental Educators United/CTA/NEA (Gov. Code § 3547(c))	Vote	Danielle Kelsick	1 m
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- Attached in Informational Item III.A

X. Closing Items			1:29 PM
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A. Adjourn Meeting	Vote	Zena Fong	1 m
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