



Environmental Charter Schools

Minutes

Special Board of Directors' Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday December 19, 2018 at 2:00 PM

Location

ECHS Auxiliary Office, 2625 Manhattan Beach Blvd, Suite 100, Redondo Beach, CA 90278 /
Call-In Locations: 101 S. Main Street Pomona, CA 91766 | 3513 Walnut Ave, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

| <u>ECS Board Members</u> | <u>Term and End Date</u> |
|---|--------------------------|
| Mr. Anthony Jowid, President..... | 2 years June 30, 2019 |
| Mr. Ken Deemer, Vice President..... | 3 years June 30, 2019 |
| Ms. Denise Berger, Secretary..... | 3 years June 30, 2020 |
| Ms. Cathy Creasia..... | 3 years June 30, 2020 |
| Ms. Zena Fong..... | 2 year June 30, 2020 |
| Mr. Ernie Levrony..... | 2 year June 30, 2019 |
| Ms. Jenina Ramirez..... | 3 years June 30, 2021 |
| Lawndale Elementary School District Representative..... | Rotating Position |

ECS Staff

- Ms. Alison Diaz, Executive Director & Founder
- Ms. Farnaz Golshani-Flechner, Chief Operating Officer
- Ms. Kami Cotler, Director of Strategic Initiatives
- Ms. Danielle Kelsick, Director of Curriculum and Instruction
- Ms. Beth Bernstein-Yamashiro, Principal at ECMS - Inglewood
- Ms. KC Villoria, Principal at ECHS
- Dr. Qiana O'Leary, Principal at ECMS - Gardena
- Mr. Dave Trejo, Principal-in-Residence

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. (footnote Noguera).

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.

Directors Present

Anthony Jowid (remote), Cathy Creasia (remote), Dr. Denise Berger, Ernie Levroney (remote), Jenina Ramirez (remote), Ken Deemer (remote), Zena Fong (remote)

Directors Absent

LESD Representative

Guests Present

Jeremiah David

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Anthony Jowid called a meeting of the board of directors of Environmental Charter Schools to order on Wednesday Dec 19, 2018 at 2:04 PM.

C. Approve the Agenda

Dr. Denise Berger made a motion to approve agenda.

Ernie Levroney seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Jenina Ramirez | Aye |
| Dr. Denise Berger | Aye |
| Zena Fong | Aye |
| LESD Representative | Absent |
| Anthony Jowid | Aye |
| Ernie Levroney | Aye |

II. Presentations from the Floor

A. Presentations from the Floor on Non Agenda Items

None.

B. Presentations from the Floor on Agenda Items

None.

III. Reports/Presentations

A. SELPA Update

Chief Operating Officer Farnaz Flechner and Chief Executive Officer Alison Diaz provided context around the evaluation of the current SELPA (Southwest SELPA) and the potential move to another SELPA (El Dorado Charter SELPA).

Board member Zena Fong asked how involved SW SELPA was in providing services toward nonpublic school placement in 2017-2018. Farnaz Flechner responded that SW SELPA did not provide any significant assistance with this matter.

A discussion around the benefits and drawbacks of making the move to El Dorado Charter SELPA took place.

Board member Jenina Ramirez asked about the ramifications of a delay in funding if the move to El Dorado Charter SELPA takes place. Farnaz Flechner responded that though there will be a delay of several months', this delay would not impact ECS school budgets.

IV. Approve Consent Items A-C

A. Approve Previous Meeting Minutes for November 26, 2018 Board Meeting

Ernie Levroney made a motion to approve minutes from the Board of Directors' Meeting on 11-26-18 Board of Directors' Meeting on 11-26-18.

Jenina Ramirez seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| LESD Representative | Absent |
| Jenina Ramirez | Aye |
| Dr. Denise Berger | Aye |
| Anthony Jowid | Aye |
| Zena Fong | Aye |
| Ernie Levroney | Aye |
| Cathy Creasia | Aye |

B. Approve Revised ECS Financial Policies

Ernie Levroney made a motion to approve revised ECS Financial Policies.

Jenina Ramirez seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Zena Fong | Aye |
| Jenina Ramirez | Aye |
| Anthony Jowid | Aye |
| Ernie Levroney | Aye |
| LESD Representative | Absent |
| Cathy Creasia | Aye |
| Ken Deemer | Aye |
| Dr. Denise Berger | Aye |

C. Approve 2019-2020 ECHS Outdoor Education Program Contracts

Ernie Levroney made a motion to approve 2019-2020 ECHS Outdoor Education Program Contracts.

Jenina Ramirez seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Dr. Denise Berger | Aye |
| LESD Representative | Absent |
| Anthony Jowid | Aye |
| Zena Fong | Aye |
| Ernie Levroney | Aye |
| Jenina Ramirez | Aye |
| Cathy Creasia | Aye |

V. Action Items

A. Accept FY 17-18 Audit Report

Board member Ken Deemer asked if the FY 17-18 Audit Report had been reviewed and approved by the Finance Committee. Farnaz Flechner responded that a draft audit report had been reviewed and accepted by the Finance Committee and that there were only two

additional items to assess and this did not materially change the positive outcome of the audit report.

Dr. Denise Berger made a motion to accept FY 17-18 Audit Report.

Cathy Creasia seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Anthony Jowid | Aye |
| Dr. Denise Berger | Aye |
| Ernie Levroney | Aye |
| Cathy Creasia | Aye |
| Jenina Ramirez | Aye |
| LESD Representative | Absent |
| Zena Fong | Aye |
| Ken Deemer | Aye |

B. Approve SELPA Action

Dr. Denise Berger made a motion to approve the El Dorado SELPA Participation Agreement and SELPA LEA Assurances.

Jenina Ramirez seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Cathy Creasia | Aye |
| Anthony Jowid | Aye |
| Ken Deemer | Aye |
| LESD Representative | Absent |
| Jenina Ramirez | Aye |
| Dr. Denise Berger | Aye |
| Ernie Levroney | Aye |
| Zena Fong | Aye |

C. Approve Alder GSE Education Services Agreement

Jenina Ramirez asked if the Alder Education Services agreement has been reviewed by the Finance Committee. Alison Diaz responded that it had not been reviewed by the Finance Committee and then provided a detailed explanation of the fiscal and operational impact of joining this teacher residency partnership.

Dr. Denise Berger made a motion to approve Alder GSE Education Services Agreement.

Ernie Levroney seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Anthony Jowid | Aye |
| Jenina Ramirez | Aye |
| Ken Deemer | Aye |
| LESD Representative | Absent |

Roll Call

| | |
|-------------------|-----|
| Zena Fong | Aye |
| Dr. Denise Berger | Aye |
| Ernie Levronney | Aye |
| Cathy Creasia | Aye |

VI. Upcoming Dates/Announcements

A. Next ECS Board Meeting

B. Next ECS Committee Meetings

C. Student Led Tours

D. Upcoming Events

- ECS Board Pot Luck @ Alison's House
 - January 12 from 6pm-9pm.
 - See ECS Board Calendar for details.
- Farnaz Flechner reinforced the benefits of forwarding the end of the year donation email to all friends and acquaintances of board members.

E. Appreciations

Ken Deemer wished everyone a happy holiday.

Farnaz Flechner appreciated the board members for being flexible in attending this special board meeting at this time of the year.

Alison Diaz appreciated Anthony Jowid for taking charge and facilitating the board meeting well.

Jenina Ramirez appreciated all of the board members and ECS staff, feeling very inspired to be a part of this board.

Anthony Jowid appreciated all of the board members and the positive impact that ECS is having.

VII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

Ken Deemer made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Dr. Denise Berger seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

| | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Zena Fong | Aye |
| LESD Representative | Absent |
| Ernie Levrony | Aye |
| Dr. Denise Berger | Aye |
| Jenina Ramirez | Aye |
| Cathy Creasia | Aye |
| Ken Deemer | Aye |
| Anthony Jowid | Aye |

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 2:46 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Anthony Jowid