



# Environmental Charter Schools

## Minutes

### Board of Directors' Meeting

**Date and Time**

Thursday October 24, 2019 at 5:00 PM

**Location**

Zoom info: <https://zoom.us/j/147466498> Or Telephone: (669) 900-6833 (Meeting ID: 147 466 498) // Two-way Teleconference Locations: ECHS Auxiliary Office, 2625 Manhattan Beach Blvd, Suite 100, Redondo Beach, CA 90278 / ECMS-Gardena (812 W. 165th Place, Gardena, CA 90247) / ECMS-Inglewood (3600 W Imperial Hwy, Inglewood, CA 90303) / ECHS (16315 Grevillea Ave. Lawndale, CA 90260) / 409 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite E, Santa Monica, CA 90401 / 2401 Pine Ave., Manhattan Beach, CA 90266 / 1150 S. Olive Street, Suite 2123, Los Angeles, CA 90015 / 3513 Walnut Avenue, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266 / 2741 Peachwood Circle, Corona, CA 92882

<u>ECS Board Members</u>	<u>Term and End Date</u>
Mr. Anthony Jowid, President.....	3 years June 30, 2022
Mr. Ken Deemer, Vice President.....	3 years June 30, 2022
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
Ms. Jenina Ramirez.....	3 years June 30, 2021
Lawndale Elementary School District Representative.....	Rotating Position

ECS Staff

- Ms. Farnaz Golshani-Flechner, Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director
- Ms. Danielle Kelsick, Chief Academic Officer/Director of Curriculum and Instruction
- Ms. Alison Diaz, Director of Growth and Sustainability (Facilities)
- Ms. Kami Cotler, Director of Strategic Initiatives

Dr. Beth Bernstein-Yamashiro, Director of Principal Development/Principal Coach  
Dr. Geneva Matthews, Principal at ECMS-Inglewood  
Ms. KC Fabiero, 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, Dr. Denise Berger (remote), Jenina Ramirez, Ken Deemer, Zena Fong

#### **Directors Absent**

Cathy Creasia, LESD Representative

#### **Guests Present**

Anthony Montano, Danielle Kelsick, Dave Trejo, Dorothy Lee, Dr. Beth Bernstein-Yamashiro, Dr. Geneva Matthews, Dr. Qiana O'Leary, Elvira Facio, Farnaz Golshani-Flechner, Greg Sewalt, Jeremiah David, Jessyka Ramirez-Holden, Jordan Limon, Luis Gonzalez, Mckenzie Selig, Roberto Montano, Tarviya Royal, Valery Montano

---

## **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 Thursday Oct 24, 2019 at 5:08 PM.

**C. Approve the agenda**

Ken Deemer made a motion to approve the agenda.

Jenina Ramirez seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**D. Opener**

The meeting commenced with a brief opener to familiarize meeting attendees with each other (board members, ECS staff, guests).

**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. CEO and CAO Update**

Tabled in lieu of Study Session led by CEO Farnaz Golshani-Flechner.

**B. Equity and Diversity Update**

*Chief Academic Officer Danielle Kelsick presented the Equity and Diversity Update.*

**C. Principals Updates**

*Dr. Geneva Matthews presented the ECMS-Inglewood Principal's Update.*

*Dr. Qiana O'Leary presented the ECMS-Gardena Principal's Update.*

*Dave Trejo presented the ECHS Principal's Update.*

**D. Development Update**

*Development Manager Julie Vo presented the Development Update.*

**E. Financial Update**

*EdTec Consultant Dorothy Lee presented the Financial Update.*

**IV. Study Session**

**A. 5-Year Strategic Priorities**

A study session comprised of board members and ECS staff took place on the ECS 5-Year Strategic Priorities.

**V. Approve Consent Items A-L**

**A. Approve previous meeting minutes for October 3, 2019 special board meeting**

Ken Deemer made a motion to approve minutes from the Special Board of Directors' Meeting on 10-03-19 Special Board of Directors' Meeting on 10-03-19.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**B. Approve previous meeting minutes for September 4, 2019 board meeting**

Ken Deemer made a motion to approve minutes from the Board of Directors' Meeting on 09-04-19 Board of Directors' Meeting on 09-04-19.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

LESD Representative	Absent
Zena Fong	Aye
Jenina Ramirez	Aye
Dr. Denise Berger	Aye
Ken Deemer	Aye

**Roll Call**

Anthony Jowid	Aye
Cathy Creasia	Absent

**C. Accept minutes from the following committee meetings**

Ken Deemer made a motion to accept minutes from the committee meetings listed on the agenda.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**D. Approve August & September 2019 check registers as recommended by Finance Committee**

Ken Deemer made a motion to approve August & September 2019 check registers as recommended by Finance Committee.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**E. Approve August-September 2019 private donations over \$1,000 as recommended by Finance Committee**

Ken Deemer made a motion to approve August-September 2019 private donations over \$1,000 as recommended by Finance Committee.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

Dr. Denise Berger	Aye
Ken Deemer	Aye
Cathy Creasia	Absent

**Roll Call**

Jenina Ramirez	Aye
Zena Fong	Aye
Anthony Jowid	Aye
LESD Representative	Absent

**F. Approve ECMSG Skyland Ranch 6th Grade Trip Contract as recommended by Finance Committee**

Ken Deemer made a motion to approve ECMSG Skyland Ranch 6th Grade Trip Contract as recommended by Finance Committee.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**G. Approve Diane Sweeney Consulting Agreement 2019-2020 (phase 2) as recommended by Finance Committee**

Ken Deemer made a motion to approve Diane Sweeney Consulting Agreement 2019-2020 (phase 2) as recommended by Finance Committee.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**H. Approve Dow Diversified Lab Tables Purchase for ECHS as recommended by Finance Committee**

Ken Deemer made a motion to approve Dow Diversified Lab Tables Purchase for ECHS as recommended by Finance Committee.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**I. Approve ECMSI Skyland Ranch 6th Grade Outdoor Education Trip Contract in arrears**

Ken Deemer made a motion to approve ECMSI Skyland Ranch 6th Grade Outdoor Education Trip Contract in arrears.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**J. Approve 19/20 Committee Memberships**

Ken Deemer made a motion to approve 19/20 Committee Memberships.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**K. Approve updated 19/20 committee calendars**

Ken Deemer made a motion to approve updated 19/20 committee calendars.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

Dr. Denise Berger	Aye
-------------------	-----

**Roll Call**

Jenina Ramirez	Aye
Ken Deemer	Aye
Zena Fong	Aye
LESD Representative	Absent
Cathy Creasia	Absent
Anthony Jowid	Aye

**L. Approve Special Education Master Contracts**

Ken Deemer made a motion to approve Special Education Master Contracts.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**VI. Action Items**

**A. Approve 2019 CA Dashboard Local Indicators**

Ken Deemer made a motion to approve 2019 CA Dashboard Local Indicators.

Jenina Ramirez seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**B. Approve El Dorado Charter SELPA participation agreement and LEA assurances for ECHS #2**

Ken Deemer made a motion to approve El Dorado Charter SELPA participation agreement and LEA assurances for ECHS #2.

Jenina Ramirez seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**VII. Upcoming Dates/Announcements**

**A. Next ECS Board Meetings**

**B. Next ECS Committee Meetings**

**C. Student Led Tours**

**D. Upcoming Events**

**E. Appreciations**

Appreciations were shared among the board members and ECS staff.

**VIII. Closing Items**

**A. Adjourn Meeting**

Zena Fong made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Jenina Ramirez seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Anthony Jowid