

APPROVED



# Environmental Charter Schools

## Minutes

### Board of Directors' Meeting

By Teleconference/Zoom

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#### Date and Time

Thursday August 4, 2022 at 5:00 PM

#### Location

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/147466498?pwd=MnB5Vkc4aG41OEZ1dDdtcWoxQjV0dz09>

OR

Dial-In: (669) 900-6833, Meeting ID: 147 466 498, Passcode: 133043

Two-way Teleconference Location: 2625 Manhattan Beach Blvd, Suite 100, Redondo Beach, CA 90278

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ECS Board Members	Term	End Date
Mr. Anthony Jowid, President.....	3 years	June 30, 2022
Dr. Denise Berger, Secretary.....	3 years	June 30, 2023
Ms. Zena Fong.....	2 year	June 30, 2023
Ms. Jenina Ramirez.....	3 years	June 30, 2024
Dr. Madhu Chatwani.....	3 years	June 30, 2023
Mr. Kennedy Hilario.....	3 years	June 30, 2023
Lawndale Elementary School District Representative, Rotating Position		

#### ECS Staff

Ms. Farnaz Golshani-Flechner, Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director  
Ms. Danielle Kelsick, Chief Academic Officer

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Ms. Alison Diaz, Director of Growth and Sustainability (Facilities)  
Dr. Beth Bernstein-Yamashiro, Director of Principal Development/Principal Coach  
Ms. Tracy Bondi, Director of Finance  
Mr. Jeremiah David, Director of Compliance and Operations  
Ms. Sarah Jamieson, Director of Human Resources  
Mr. Michael Martucci, Director of Student Services  
Ms. Jen Fenton, Director of Health and Safety  
Ms. Lucia Bañuelos, Principal at ECHS-Lawndale  
Dr. Geneva Matthews, Principal at ECMS-Inglewood  
Mr. Dave Trejo, Principal at ECMS-Gardena  
Dr. Cindy Guardado, Principal at ECHS-Gardena

**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>.

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#### **Directors Present**

Dr. Denise Berger (remote), Dr. Madhu Chatwani (remote), Jenina Ramirez (remote), Kennedy Hilario (remote), LESD Representative (remote), Zena Fong (remote)

#### **Directors Absent**

Anthony Jowid

#### **Guests Present**

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Alison Diaz (remote), Farnaz Golshani-Flechner (remote), Gretchen Janson (LESD board representative) (remote), Jeremiah David (remote), Michael Martucci (remote), Sarah Jamieson (remote), Tracy Bondi (remote)

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## I. Opening Items

### A. Record Attendance and Guests

### B. Call the Meeting to Order

Jenina Ramirez called a meeting of the board of directors of Environmental Charter Schools to order on Thursday Aug 4, 2022 at 5:04 PM.

### C. Approve the agenda

Zena Fong made a motion to approve the agenda.

Dr. Madhu Chatwani seconded the motion.

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

#### Roll Call

Jenina Ramirez	Aye
Dr. Denise Berger	Absent
Kennedy Hilario	Aye
Zena Fong	Aye
LESD Representative	Aye
Anthony Jowid	Absent
Dr. Madhu Chatwani	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. Public Hearing

### A. Public Comment: Revised ECS - Safe Return to In Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

No speakers were present to provide comments at this public hearing.

## IV. Consent Items A-K

### A.

**Approve Board Resolution 2022-2023 #1 - Authorizing Remote Board Meetings**

Dr. Madhu Chatwani made a motion to approve Board Resolution 2022-2023 #1 - Authorizing Remote Board Meetings.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

Anthony Jowid	Absent
LESD Representative	Aye
Dr. Denise Berger	Aye
Dr. Madhu Chatwani	Aye
Zena Fong	Aye
Jenina Ramirez	Absent
Kennedy Hilario	Aye

**B. Approve minutes for 6/23/2022 ECS board meeting**

Dr. Madhu Chatwani made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Directors' Meeting on 06-23-22.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

Dr. Denise Berger	Aye
LESD Representative	Aye
Zena Fong	Aye
Kennedy Hilario	Aye
Dr. Madhu Chatwani	Aye
Jenina Ramirez	Absent
Anthony Jowid	Absent

**C. Approve revised ECS - Safe Return to In Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan**

Dr. Madhu Chatwani made a motion to approve revised ECS - Safe Return to In Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

Jenina Ramirez	Absent
Anthony Jowid	Absent
Dr. Madhu Chatwani	Aye
Dr. Denise Berger	Aye
Kennedy Hilario	Aye
LESD Representative	Aye
Zena Fong	Aye

**D.**

**Approve revised 2022-2023 Board & Committee Calendar**

Dr. Madhu Chatwani made a motion to approve revised 2022-2023 Board & Committee Calendar.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

LESD Representative	Aye
Jenina Ramirez	Absent
Dr. Madhu Chatwani	Aye
Anthony Jowid	Absent
Kennedy Hilario	Aye
Zena Fong	Aye
Dr. Denise Berger	Aye

**E. Approve FY 2022-23 contract(s)**

Dr. Madhu Chatwani made a motion to approve FY 2022-23 contract(s).

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

LESD Representative	Aye
Kennedy Hilario	Aye
Jenina Ramirez	Absent
Dr. Denise Berger	Aye
Zena Fong	Aye
Dr. Madhu Chatwani	Aye
Anthony Jowid	Absent

**F. Approve ECHS-Gardena to purchase one (1) school van up to \$45,000**

Dr. Madhu Chatwani made a motion to approve ECHS-Gardena to purchase one (1) school van up to \$45,000.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

Dr. Madhu Chatwani	Aye
Jenina Ramirez	Absent
Dr. Denise Berger	Aye
Zena Fong	Aye
Kennedy Hilario	Aye
LESD Representative	Aye
Anthony Jowid	Absent

**G. Approve revised Independent Study Policy 2022-2023**

Dr. Madhu Chatwani made a motion to approve revised Independent Study Policy 2022-2023.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

LESD Representative	Aye
Dr. Madhu Chatwani	Aye
Dr. Denise Berger	Aye
Jenina Ramirez	Absent
Anthony Jowid	Absent
Zena Fong	Aye
Kennedy Hilario	Aye

**H. Approve Parent-Student Handbook(s)**

Dr. Madhu Chatwani made a motion to approve Parent-Student Handbook(s).

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

Zena Fong	Aye
LESD Representative	Aye
Jenina Ramirez	Absent
Dr. Denise Berger	Aye
Kennedy Hilario	Aye
Anthony Jowid	Absent
Dr. Madhu Chatwani	Aye

**I. Approve sale or disposition of ECS technology equipment**

Dr. Madhu Chatwani made a motion to approve sale or disposition of ECS technology equipment.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

Anthony Jowid	Absent
Dr. Denise Berger	Aye
Kennedy Hilario	Aye
Zena Fong	Aye
LESD Representative	Aye
Jenina Ramirez	Absent
Dr. Madhu Chatwani	Aye

**J. Approve revised Academic Calendars 2022-2023**

Dr. Madhu Chatwani made a motion to approve revised Academic Calendars 2022-2023.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

Kennedy Hilario	Aye
Zena Fong	Aye
Jenina Ramirez	Absent
Anthony Jowid	Absent
LESD Representative	Aye
Dr. Madhu Chatwani	Aye
Dr. Denise Berger	Aye

**K. Approve Consolidated Applications for ECHS-L, ECMS-G, ECMS-I, ECHS-G**

Dr. Madhu Chatwani made a motion to approve Consolidated Applications for ECHS-L, ECMS-G, ECMS-I, ECHS-G.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

LESD Representative	Aye
Dr. Madhu Chatwani	Aye
Zena Fong	Aye
Kennedy Hilario	Aye
Anthony Jowid	Absent
Dr. Denise Berger	Aye
Jenina Ramirez	Absent

**V. Action Item**

**A. Approve ECS Employee Handbook 2022-2023**

Dr. Denise Berger made a motion to approve ECS Employee Handbook 2022-2023.

Dr. Madhu Chatwani seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

Jenina Ramirez	Absent
Zena Fong	Aye
Kennedy Hilario	Aye
Dr. Denise Berger	Aye
LESD Representative	Aye
Dr. Madhu Chatwani	Aye
Anthony Jowid	Absent

**B. Approve Teachers on Special Assignment for 2022-23 School Year (Board Policy 32188)**

Zena Fong made a motion to approve Teachers on Special Assignment for 2022-23 School Year (Board Policy 32188).

Dr. Denise Berger seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

Dr. Denise Berger	Aye
Kennedy Hilario	Aye
Zena Fong	Aye
Anthony Jowid	Absent
LESD Representative	Aye
Dr. Madhu Chatwani	Aye
Jenina Ramirez	Absent

**C. Approve CL500 Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators**

Kennedy Hilario made a motion to approve CL500 Declaration of Need for Fully Qualified Educators.

Dr. Madhu Chatwani seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

Dr. Denise Berger	Aye
Anthony Jowid	Absent
Kennedy Hilario	Aye
Dr. Madhu Chatwani	Aye
Zena Fong	Aye
Jenina Ramirez	Absent
LESD Representative	Aye

**VI. Closing Items**

**A. Adjourn Meeting**

Dr. Denise Berger made a motion to adjourn meeting.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

Kennedy Hilario	Aye
Zena Fong	Aye
Dr. Madhu Chatwani	Aye
Dr. Denise Berger	Aye
LESD Representative	Aye
Jenina Ramirez	Absent
Anthony Jowid	Absent

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jenina Ramirez