



# Environmental Charter Schools

## Minutes

### Board of Directors' Meeting

By Teleconference/Zoom

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#### Date and Time

Thursday December 8, 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	and	End Date
Mr. Anthony Jowid, President.....	3 years		June 30, 2025
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
Dr. Betsy Hamilton.....	3 years		June 30, 2025
Lawndale Elementary School District Representative, Rotating Position			

#### ECS Staff

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

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Ms. Danielle Kelsick, Chief Academic Officer  
Ms. Alison Diaz, Director of Growth and Sustainability (Facilities)  
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. Betsy Hamilton (remote), Dr. Denise Berger (remote), Jenina Ramirez (remote), Kennedy Hilario (remote), LESD Representative (remote)

### **Directors Absent**

Anthony Jowid, Dr. Madhu Chatwani, Zena Fong

### **Guests Present**

Andrew Ellenbogen (remote), Dave Trejo (remote), Farnaz Golshani-Flechner (remote), Geneva Matthews (remote), Gretchen Janson (remote), Herbert Sims (remote), Jeremiah David (remote),

Lucia Banuelos (remote), Mason Williams (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

Farnaz Golshani-Flechner called a meeting of the board of directors of Environmental Charter Schools to order on Thursday Dec 8, 2022 at 5:03 PM.

### C. Approve the agenda

Dr. Denise Berger made a motion to approve the agenda.

Dr. Betsy Hamilton seconded the motion.

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

#### Roll Call

Dr. Madhu Chatwani	Absent
Zena Fong	Absent
Dr. Denise Berger	Aye
Dr. Betsy Hamilton	Aye
Jenina Ramirez	Aye
LESD Representative	Aye
Anthony Jowid	Absent
Kennedy Hilario	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. Discussion Items / Updates

### A. Opener

The meeting attendees engaged in a brief opener.

### B. Leadership update

Chief Executive Officer Farnaz Golshani-Flechner and Chief Academic Officer Danielle Kelsick presented the Leadership Update slides.

### C. Prospective board member introductions

The prospective board members listed in the agenda item introduced themselves to the meeting attendees and will move through the ECS pre-onboarding and nomination process with election votes planned at the 1/26/2023 board meeting.

## IV. Consent Items A-H

### A. Approve Board Resolution 2022-2023 #3 - Authorizing Remote Board Meetings

Dr. Denise Berger made a motion to approve Board Resolution 2022-2023 #3 - Authorizing Remote Board Meetings.  
Kennedy Hilario seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

#### Roll Call

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

### B. Approve revised 8/4/2022 board meeting minutes

Dr. Denise Berger made a motion to approve revised 8/4/2022 board meeting minutes.  
Kennedy Hilario seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

#### Roll Call

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

### C. Approve 9/22/2022 board meeting minutes

Dr. Denise Berger made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Directors' Meeting on 09-22-22.  
Kennedy Hilario seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

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

**D. Accept LACOE Governance & Instructional Program Reviews**

Dr. Denise Berger made a motion to accept LACOE Governance & Instructional Program Reviews.

Kennedy Hilario seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**E. Approve First Interim Financial Reports for ECHS-L, ECMS-I, ECMS-G, ECHS-G**

Dr. Denise Berger made a motion to approve First Interim Financial Reports for ECHS-L, ECMS-I, ECMS-G, ECHS-G.

Kennedy Hilario 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	Absent
Dr. Betsy Hamilton	Aye
LESD Representative	Aye
Zena Fong	Absent
Jenina Ramirez	Aye

**F. Approve FY 2022-23 contracts**

Dr. Denise Berger made a motion to approve FY 2022-23 contracts.

Kennedy Hilario seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**G. Approve revised Board & Committee Calendar**

Dr. Denise Berger made a motion to approve revised Board & Committee Calendar.

Kennedy Hilario seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**H. Approve revised ECHS-G Academic Calendar 2022-2023**

Dr. Denise Berger made a motion to approve revised ECHS-G Academic Calendar 2022-2023.

Kennedy Hilario seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

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

**V. Action Item**

**A. Approve Leadership Title Changes**

Dr. Denise Berger made a motion to approve Leadership Title Changes.  
Kennedy Hilario seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

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

**B. Approve revised Conflict of Interest Code**

Dr. Betsy Hamilton made a motion to approve revised Conflict of Interest Code.  
Dr. Denise Berger seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

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

**VI. Upcoming Dates/Announcements**

**A. Next ECS Board Meeting**

**B. Next ECS Committee Meetings**

**C. Appreciations**

Tabled.

**VII. Closing Items**

**A. Adjourn Meeting**

Dr. Denise Berger made a motion to adjourn meeting.  
Jenina Ramirez seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.



**Roll Call**

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

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Farnaz Golshani-Flechner