

APPROVED



# Environmental Charter Schools

## Minutes

### Special Board of Directors' Meeting

By Teleconference/Zoom

**Date and Time**

Thursday November 21, 2024 at 2:00 PM

**Location**

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

OR

Dial By Phone: Phone #: 669-900-6833, Meeting ID: 147 466 498, Passcode: 133043#

Two-way Teleconference Locations: ECS Home Office - 2625 Manhattan Beach Blvd #100, Redondo Beach, CA 90278 / 3011 Elm St, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266 / 2001 Palm Ave, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266 / 3513 Walnut Ave, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266 / 1943 Yosemite Rd, Berkeley, CA 94707 / 2741 Peachwood Cir, Corona, CA 92882 / 14407 Larch Ave, Lawndale, CA 90260 / 4163 Sea View Lane, Los Angeles, CA 90065 / 9607 Kirkside Rd, Los Angeles, CA 90035 / 4161 W 147th St, Lawndale, CA 90260

ECS Board Members	Term and End Date
Dr. Betsy Hamilton, President.....	3 years June 30, 2025
Dr. Denise Berger, Secretary.....	3 years June 30, 2026
Mr. Anthony Jowid.....	3 years June 30, 2025
Ms. Zena Fong.....	3 years June 30, 2026
Ms. Jenina Ramirez.....	3 years June 30, 2027
Dr. Madhu Chatwani.....	3 years June 30, 2026
Mr. Kennedy Hilario.....	3 years June 30, 2026

Mr. Herb Sims.....3 years June 30, 2025  
Mr. Mason Williams.....3 years June 30, 2025  
Mr. Andrew Ellenbogen.....3 years June 30, 2026  
Lawndale Elementary School District Representative, Rotating Position

**ECS Staff**

Ms. Farnaz Golshani-Flechner, Superintendent  
Ms. Danielle Kelsick, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction  
Ms. Tracy Bondi, Director of Finance  
Mr. Jeremiah David, Director of Compliance & Operations  
Ms. Sarah Jamieson, Director of Human Resources  
Ms. Jen Fenton, Director of Strategic Initiatives  
Dr. Shalene Wright, Director of SpEd and English Language Development  
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**

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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**

Andrew Ellenbogen (remote), Dr. Denise Berger, Dr. Madhu Chatwani, Herb Sims (remote), Jenina Ramirez (remote), Kennedy Hilario (remote), LESD Representative, Mason Williams (remote), Zena Fong (remote)

### **Directors Absent**

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Anthony Jowid, Dr. Betsy Hamilton

**Directors who arrived after the meeting opened**

Dr. Denise Berger, Dr. Madhu Chatwani, LESD Representative

**Directors who left before the meeting adjourned**

Mason Williams

**Guests Present**

Alison Diaz (remote), Farnaz Golshani-Flechner (remote), Jeremiah David (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 Nov 21, 2024 at 2:03 PM.

**C. Approve the agenda**

Kennedy Hilario made a motion to approve the agenda.  
Zena Fong seconded the motion.  
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

**Roll Call**

Mason Williams	Aye
Dr. Betsy Hamilton	Absent
Jenina Ramirez	Aye
Kennedy Hilario	Aye
LESD Representative	Absent
Dr. Denise Berger	Absent
Andrew Ellenbogen	Aye
Herb Sims	Aye
Anthony Jowid	Absent
Dr. Madhu Chatwani	Absent
Zena Fong	Aye

**D. Opener**

Tabled.  
LESD Representative arrived.

**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. Presentation on California Healthy Air, Plumbing, and Efficiency Program (CalSHAPE) Phase 2 grants for ECHSG, ECHSL and ECMS-I**

Founder and Director of Growth & Sustainability Alison Diaz presented the CalSHAPE Phase 2 grants slides in detail. This was followed by a full Q&A and discussion among the board members and the ECS staff in attendance.

Dr. Madhu Chatwani arrived.

Dr. Denise Berger arrived.

Mason Williams left.

**IV. Action Item**

**A. Approve California Healthy Air, Plumbing, and Efficiency Program (CalSHAPE) Phase 2 for ECHSG, ECHSL and ECMSI**

Kennedy Hilario made a motion to approve California Healthy Air, Plumbing, and Efficiency Program (CalSHAPE) Phase 2 for ECHSG, ECHSL and ECMSI, with service agreement changes to be made after attorney recommendations.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

Jenina Ramirez	Aye
Dr. Betsy Hamilton	Absent
Kennedy Hilario	Aye
LESD Representative	Aye
Mason Williams	Absent
Andrew Ellenbogen	Aye
Dr. Madhu Chatwani	Aye
Herb Sims	Aye
Anthony Jowid	Absent
Zena Fong	Aye
Dr. Denise Berger	Aye

**B. Approve revised 2024-25 board & committee calendar**

Andrew Ellenbogen made a motion to approve revised 2024-25 board & committee calendar with additional revision of rescheduled board meeting date from March 13, 2025 to February 27, 2025.

Dr. Denise Berger seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

Dr. Madhu Chatwani	Aye
LESD Representative	Aye
Andrew Ellenbogen	Aye
Anthony Jowid	Absent
Zena Fong	Aye
Jenina Ramirez	Aye
Dr. Betsy Hamilton	Absent
Herb Sims	Aye
Kennedy Hilario	Aye
Mason Williams	Absent
Dr. Denise Berger	Aye

**V. Closing Items**

**A. Adjourn Meeting**

Kennedy Hilario made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Zena Fong seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

Andrew Ellenbogen	Aye
Kennedy Hilario	Aye
Zena Fong	Aye
Dr. Madhu Chatwani	Aye
Mason Williams	Absent
Herb Sims	Aye
Dr. Betsy Hamilton	Absent
Dr. Denise Berger	Aye
Jenina Ramirez	Aye
LESD Representative	Aye
Anthony Jowid	Absent

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 2:47 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jenina Ramirez