APPROVED

Environmental Charter Schools

Minutes

Board of Directors' Meeting

In-Person at ECS Home Office

Date and Time
Monday December 1, 2025 at 5:00 PM

Location
In-person location: ECS Home Office - 2625 Manhattan Beach Blvd #100, Redondo Beach, CA 90278

Two-way teleconference locations: 3011 Elm Ave, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266 | 1100 Shasta Avenue, San Jose, CA 95126 | 13885 Dogleg Lane, Broomfield, CO 80023

ECS Board Members Term and End Date
Dr. Betsy Hamilton, President.....3 years June 30, 2028
Dr. Denise Berger, ...3 years June 30, 2026
Mr. Anthony Jowid.....3 years June 30, 2028
Ms. Zena Fong.....3 years June 30, 2026
Dr. Madhu Chatwani.....3 years June 30, 2026
Mr. Kennedy Hilario.....3 years June 30, 2026
Mr. Herb Sims.....3 years June 30, 2028
Mr. Mason Williams.....3 years June 30, 2028
Mr. Andrew Ellenbogen.....3 years June 30, 2026
Mr. Remco Waller.....3 years June 30, 2028
Lawndale Elementary School District Representative, Rotating Position

ECS Staff
Ms. Danielle Kelsick, Superintendent

Ms. Lucia Bañuelos, Deputy Superintendent of Schools
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 & English Language Development
Mr. Cesar Delgado, Director of Student Wellness
Dr. Geneva Matthews, Principal at ECMS-Inglewood
Mr. Dave Trejo, Principal at ECMS-Gardena
Dr. Beth Bernstein-Yamashiro, Principal at ECHS-Gardena
Ms. Jennifer Larsen, Principal at ECHS-Lawndale

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.

Directors Present
Andrew Ellenbogen, Anthony Jowid (remote), Dr. Denise Berger (remote), Herb Sims, Kennedy Hilario (remote), LESD Representative, Mason Williams (remote), Remco Waller, Zena Fong

Directors Absent
Dr. Betsy Hamilton, Dr. Madhu Chatwani

Directors who arrived after the meeting opened
Andrew Ellenbogen

Directors who left before the meeting adjourned

Dr. Denise Berger, LESD Representative, Mason Williams

Guests Present
Albert Paredes (LESD Representative), Alison Diaz, Angel Maldonado (CTA), Angie Gutierrez, Anthony Gonzalez, Caitlin Krier, Cesar Delgado, Danielle Kelsick, Dave Trejo, Denise Hernandez, Dr. Geneva Matthews, Dr. Shalene Wright, Jair Ventura, Jean Yang, Jen Fenton, Jen Larsen, Jennica Tibbetts, Jeremiah Rosario David, Joe Batt, Katie Keller, Kristen Donahue, Lauren Pell, Lillian Chase, Lucia Bañuelos, Sabrina Acosta, Sarah Burger, Sarah Jamieson, Shawn Hua, Tracy Bondi (remote), Tulsi Patel

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I. Opening Items

A. Record attendance and guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Zena Fong called a meeting of the board of directors of Environmental Charter Schools to order on Monday Dec 1, 2025 at 5:06 PM.

C. Approve the agenda

Herb Sims made a motion to approve the agenda.
Remco Waller seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

D. Opener

The board, staff and guests engaged in a brief opener in small groups for the purpose of getting to know each other.

II. Presentations from the Floor

A. Presentations from the floor on non-agenda Items

ECS employees Lauren Pell, Kristen Donahue, and Sarah Burger gave public comment.

B. Presentations from the floor on agenda items

None.

III. Discussion Items / Updates

A. Superintendent update

Superintendent Danielle Kelsick presented the Superintendent Update slides, followed by a discussion and Q&A among the board members and staff.
Dr. Denise Berger left.

B. EdTec financial update

EdTec consultants Jair Ventura and Jean Yang presented the EdTec Financial Slides in the board packet. The presentation covered budget forecast changes for the current 2025-26 school year, CapEx impact on operating income, cash flow and investments, debt coverage ratios, and First Interim financials, followed by a discussion among the board members and ECS leadership.

IV. Consent Items A-C

A. Approve 11/10/2025 board meeting minutes

Remco Waller made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Directors' Meeting on 11-10-25.
Herb Sims seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

B. Approve revised 2025-26 Board & Committee Calendar

Remco Waller made a motion to approve revised 2025-26 Board & Committee Calendar.
Herb Sims seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

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

C. Approve Board Resolution No. 2025-02 - Withdrawing from Membership in SELF Insurance

Remco Waller made a motion to approve Board Resolution No. 2025-02 - Withdrawing from Membership in SELF Insurance.
Herb Sims seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

V. Action Item

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

Remco Waller made a motion to approve First Interim Financial Reports for ECHS-L, ECMS-I, ECMS-G, ECHS-G.
Herb Sims seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Dr. Denise Berger	Absent
LESD Representative	Aye

Roll Call	
Zena Fong	Aye
Dr. Madhu Chatwani	Absent
Anthony Jowid	Aye
Dr. Betsy Hamilton	Absent
Kennedy Hilario	Aye
Herb Sims	Aye
Remco Waller	Aye
Mason Williams	Aye
Andrew Ellenbogen	Absent

VI. Upcoming Dates/Announcements

A. Next ECS board meeting

B. Next ECS committee meetings

C. Appreciations

Appreciations were briefly shared among ECS leadership and board members.

VII. Transition to Closed Session

A. Adjourn to closed session

Herb Sims made a motion to adjourn to closed session.
Remco Waller seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

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

LESD Representative left.

VIII. Closed Session

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (Government Code § 54956.9)

Mason Williams left.
Andrew Ellenbogen arrived.

B. CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS (Government Code §54957.6)

IX. Report out of Closed Session

A. Report out

Coming out of closed session, Board Vice President Zena Fong stated there was nothing to report out.

X. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

Herb Sims made a motion to adjourn meeting.
Remco Waller seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:52 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeremiah Rosario David