



# El Camino Real Charter High School

## Minutes

### Board Meeting

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**Date and Time**

Thursday September 27, 2018 at 4:30 PM

**Location**

El Camino Real Charter High School, Library, 5440 Valley Circle Boulevard, Woodland Hills, CA 91367

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**BOARD MEETING**

For board meeting materials, please go to the school's main office, or call (818) 595-7500. Some board meeting materials are also posted in the school's website (<http://ecrchs.net/ecr-board/>).

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD BY PARENTS AND CITIZENS**

El Camino Real Alliance ("ECRA") welcomes your participation at ECRA's Board meetings. The purpose of a public meeting of the Board of Directors ("Board") is to conduct the affairs of ECRA in public. Your participation assures us of continuing community interest in our charter school. To assist you in the ease of speaking/ participating in our meetings, the following guidelines are provided:

1. Agendas are available to all audience members at the door to the meeting.
2. "Request to Speak" forms are available to all audience members who wish to speak on any agenda items or under the general category of "Oral Communications." "Oral Communications" is set aside for members of the audience to raise issues that are not specifically on the agenda. However, due to public meeting laws, the Board can only listen to your issue, not respond or take action. These presentations are limited to three (3) minutes and total time allotted to non-agenda items will not exceed thirty (30) minutes. A member of the public who requires the use of

a translator, in order to receive the same opportunity as others to directly address the Board, shall have twice the allotted time to speak. The Board may give direction to staff to respond to your concern or you may be offered the option of returning with a citizen-requested item.

3. You may also complete a "Request to Speak" form to address the Board on Agenda items. With regard to such agenda items, you may specify that agenda item on your "Request to Speak" form and you will be given an opportunity to speak for up to three (3) minutes before the item, and total time allocated to agenda items will not exceed six (6) minutes for a discussion item and nine (9) minutes per vote item. A member of the public who requires the use of a translator, in order to receive the same opportunity as others to directly address the Board, shall have twice the allotted time to speak, and the total allocated time shall be appropriately increased as well.

4. When addressing the Board, speakers are requested to state their name and adhere to the time limits set forth. In order to maintain allotted time limits, the Board Chair may modify speaker time allocations or the total amount of allotted time for an item.

5. Any public records relating to an agenda item for an open session of the Board which are distributed to all, or a majority of all, of the Board members shall be available for public inspection at 5440 Valley Circle Blvd., Woodland Hills, California, 91367.

**Consent Agenda:** All matters listed under the consent agenda are considered by the Board to be routine and will be approved/enacted by the Board in one motion in the form listed below. Unless specifically requested by a Board member for further discussion or removed from the agenda, there will be no discussion of these items prior to the Board votes on them. The Executive Director recommends approval of all consent agenda items.

*In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and upon request, El Camino Real Alliance may furnish reasonable auxiliary aids and services to qualified individuals with disabilities. Requests for disability related modifications or accommodations shall be made 24 hours prior to the meeting to Daniel Chang, in person, by email at d.chang@ecrchs.net, or by calling (818) 595-7537.*

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### **Directors Present**

Beatriz Chen, Brian Archibald, Bruce Takeguma, Darin Ryburn, Kenneth Lee, Lisa Crosthwait, Scott Silverstein, Steven Kofahl

### **Directors Absent**

None

### **Directors who arrived after the meeting opened**

Darin Ryburn

### **Directors who left before the meeting adjourned**

Lisa Crosthwait

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## **Guests Present**

Alan Darby, Daniel Chang, David Hussey

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### **I. Opening Items**

#### **A. Call the Meeting to Order**

Scott Silverstein called a meeting of the board of directors of El Camino Real Charter High School to order on Thursday Sep 27, 2018 at 4:36 PM.

#### **B. Record Attendance and Guests**

#### **C. Pledge of Allegiance**

#### **D. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

#### **E. Executive Director Update**

The Office of Inspector General suggested that Mr. Hussey state every year, for transparency and on the public record, that he hosts international students. This is his 10th year hosting international students; he is hosting three students this year. Also, Mr. Hussey reminded the Board that his daughter, Stephanie Hussey, has been working at the school on weekends for Youth Services.

AVID students participated in a coastal clean-up day; 29 students and 2 teachers volunteered on a Saturday. They were part of the overall team of volunteers who collected 35,580 pounds of trash at 73 sites.

Mr. Zahur's physics class participated in a 2-dimensional project during lunch, using slingshots and spongeballs to test angles and velocity.

Mr. Hussey will be meeting with Jose Cole-Gutierrez to ask for clarity regarding issues that all conversion charter schools have jointly been having, such as middle school articulation and the oversight requirements. The goal is to subsequently have a meeting with Mr. Cole-Gutierrez with all conversion schools attending.

Programming for the Spring semester has started. Juan Alba, assistant principal in charge of counseling, was introduced. Mr. Alba is in charge of the programming.

Mr. Alba and Ms. Clark have been working with departments to create a more uniform grading and curriculum policies, to create more equity among classes and for students. Open enrollment lottery is being moved up to November 1st through January 11th, in order to allow us to compete with other charter schools. The lottery will take place on January 24th, and students will be notified on that day whether they were accepted or put on a wait list. We will also enroll local students earlier, so we know how many students we can accept through the lottery. The principal of Hale has agreed to provide numbers earlier.

Mr. Hussey and Mr. Alba will be visiting a number of schools in the area during their high school nights, including Chime Charter, the Multicultural Learning Center, Hale, Millikan, Jordan, Ivy Bound Academy, and Portola. Mr. Alba shared what happens during these high school nights, and what we are trying to do to distinguish ourselves.

Schools tours will start, two per month starting October and ending in April. These tours are typically conducted by Mr. Bennett, and we will ask some teachers as well. Students have not previously been part of these tours, as we do not want to disrupt learning time. Mr. Archibald shared about the ambassador program at Chaminade, which is conducted by Chaminade students. The Board asked that Mr. Hussey consider having student participation, whether exceptional students who are TAs or members of Student Council. The 2018-19 CSD oversight visit will be in April 2019. However, we have to start turning in documents starting October 5th.

Regarding the Prop 39 allocations, to date we have received \$775,932 in grants; we have spent \$783,627.54, for a net cost of \$7,695.54. The Tech Dept. is asking to install 2 new dataports. LADWP came to the campus on 9/19 for an inspection, and will take up to 30 days to complete the review of the project. If so, we will receive the final rebate of \$256,000 after LADWP's final sign-off.

For facility usage, Mr. Hussey stated that classrooms are rented out at \$100 per room, plus utilities (which range from \$300-\$600) and custodial hours. For Youth Services, the main gym and small gym, the track, and the football field are all rented out at various rates that are comparable to what LAUSD charges. All users are required to provide proof of insurance. Mr. Darby will provide a breakdown of how much income this has brought, broken down into the various facilities.

## **II. Board Procedure**

### **A. Vote to Install New Teacher Representative**

A total of 63 teachers voted, 86% voted for Gregory Basile.

Beatriz Chen made a motion to install Gregory Basile as the Teacher Representative, term ending June 30, 2020.

Lisa Crosthwait seconded the motion.

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

#### **Roll Call**

Scott Silverstein Aye

Darin Ryburn Absent

Beatriz Chen Aye

Bruce Takeguma Aye

Steven Kofahl Aye

Kenneth Lee Aye

Lisa Crosthwait Aye

Brian Archibald Aye

## **III. Consent**

### **A.**

### **Approve Minutes of August 23, 2018 Annual Meeting and Board Meeting**

Steven Kofahl made a motion to approve minutes from the Annual Meeting and Board Meeting on 08-23-18 Annual Meeting and Board Meeting on 08-23-18.

Brian Archibald seconded the motion.

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

### **B. Approve Minutes of September 5, 2018 Special Board Meeting**

Steven Kofahl made a motion to approve minutes from the Special Board Meeting on 09-05-18 Special Board Meeting on 09-05-18.

Brian Archibald seconded the motion.

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

#### **Roll Call**

Beatriz Chen	Aye
Steven Kofahl	Aye
Kenneth Lee	Aye
Darin Ryburn	Absent
Bruce Takeguma	Aye
Scott Silverstein	Aye
Brian Archibald	Aye
Lisa Crosthwait	Abstain

## **IV. Financial**

### **A. Review and Vote on May 2018 and June 2018 Check Registers**

The revised May and June check registers were presented, with all gaps accounted. Mr. Kofahl noted that the registers appeared to indicate that we were spending about \$15,000 per week on substitute teachers. Mr. Kofahl asked if there was anything we do to encourage teacher attendance. That is something that administration has discussed, whether we can offer incentives.

The register items in blue are those items that were previously in another month's check register, but are being repeated in a subsequent month's register to account for a gap. Mr. Archibald also noted that there were a manual payroll checks in the registers, and asked how we are making sure that duplicate checks are not being issued. We would need to create a policy that would ensure that such duplicate payments are not being made.

Mr. Kofahl asked that, since our payroll company did not get our June payroll checks to us in a timely manner, is ECR being compensated for the time and expense associated with having to rectify this issue by having to manually cut 30-40 payroll checks. Mr. Darby noted that we have continued to work with EdTec on such issues.

Mr. Silverstein asked who was overseeing ECR's investment of its resources. Staff and EdTec is asked to look into whether an oversight board could be created to oversee ECR's investments.

Steven Kofahl made a motion to approve the May 2018 and June 2018 check registers.

Bruce Takeguma seconded the motion.

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

#### **B. Discuss and Possible Approval of 2017-2018 Unaudited Actual Report**

Unaudited actuals were presented last month, but there were some adjustments that were needed. The adjustments resulted in a reduction in income of @ \$1M, due to: the updated lifetime benefits actuarial report; some expenses that occurred in July and August that were not previously identified; and a bill from LAUSD going all the way back to 2014 for maintenance and operations work orders that were finally reconciled. The Business Office is still discussing this last item with LAUSD to ensure that it is reconciled correctly. Mr. Hussey asked why this would not be covered by the approximately \$50,000 quarterly for our maintenance account.

Mr. Darby also gave an update on the tree trimming - the initial work was done on September 15th; the remaining work will be done on October 13th.

Mr. Archibald asked why there is no update aside from the Unaudited Actual Report. Susan Kim responded that there was an error made in the reconciliation in Netsuite between ECR and EdTec, which the Business Office is working on to correct in time for the next Board meeting.

The 2017-18 Balance Sheet shows a positive adjustment in the cash balance.

Mr. Silverstein asked as to where we were in the unfunded liability for the lifetime benefits; Mr. Darby stated that we are about 50% funded now based on current market conditions. The goal is to be 100% funded in about 15 more years. Ms. Silverstein questioned whether a committee should be established to oversee how the money was being invested for lifetime benefits. Mr. Darby is one of the trustees of the lifetime benefits trust, and works with the actuary and the investment company to make sure the money is being properly managed. The other option is to create a separate Board to oversee the investment account, which may require a change to our Charter petition. The Board will table creating the committee depending on what impact it may have on the Charter petition.

Steven Kofahl made a motion to approve the 2017-2018 Unaudited Actual Report.

Beatriz Chen seconded the motion.

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

### **V. School Business**

#### **A. Tech Update and Possible Approval of IT Audit**

Mr. Delgado noted that, five weeks into the school year, approximately 77% of teachers are using Canvas now. Mr. Delgado also discussed August and September technology tickets: 88 tickets submitted, 80 resolved, 8 still open. Mr. Delgado was asked to provide information as to how long it took to resolve the tickets. Also, this only reflects tech tickets; other staff will either email or come in to the tech office with issues.

Professional development (PD) is taking place, including this past Wednesday during common planning time, and this Saturday for 4 hours. There is a 3 month calendar in

place for tech training. Mr. Hussey and Mr. Darby are working to create a budget for the additional PD needed. Mr. Silverstein questioned out of which budget this additional PD would be deducted; this has to be discussed.

A Promethean Summit is taking place on Saturday, November 3rd from 9 am to 2 pm here at ECR.

The Tech Committee has met and talked about the parameters for an independent IT audit. The Tech Committee is requesting quotes to look into the infrastructure only, which will include hardware, network security, connectivity, etc. The budget would be up to \$25,000 to conduct the audit. The Tech Committee will provide the parameters and reach out. The Tech Committee advised that they were going to reach out to two vendors, NIC Partners and GST; however, as GST has provided goods to ECR, the Board requested that they be not considered. As such, NIC Partners will be the vendor from whom a quote will be requested.

Beatriz Chen made a motion to approve an independent IT audit with NIC Partners, at a cost not to exceed \$25,000.

Steven Kofahl seconded the motion.

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

**Roll Call**

Scott Silverstein Aye

Kenneth Lee Aye

Darin Ryburn Abstain

Brian Archibald No

Lisa Crosthwait Absent

Steven Kofahl Aye

Beatriz Chen Aye

Bruce Takeguma Aye

Lisa Crosthwait left.

Darin Ryburn arrived.

**B. Discuss Marketing Plan to Deal with Declining Enrollment, Fundraising and General School Promotions**

Ms. Rodriguez presented a packet of documents with marketing updates.

New website is going up shortly, as soon as all stakeholders have an opportunity to provide feedback.

Mr. Takeguma questioned how spirit-building activities for students was designed to increase enrollment, and how to get students involved in such activities. Ms. Rodriguez replied that she was working with student council for ideas.

Mr. Archibald questioned what the marketing plan was, based on measurable metrics.

Ms. Rodriguez replied that one of her goals was to increase our wait list, from approximately 100 students to 200 students.

Mr. Ryburn asked if alumni was being notified to participate/donate, etc. Ms. Rodriguez stated that she was having difficulty finding a list of alumni, she has been reaching out to private groups to see if she can obtain this information. Mr. Lee noted that this

information should be kept by the historian of each class, perhaps look through ASB records.

Mr. Silverstein asked about the grants, and whether Ms. Rodriguez was writing the grants; Ms. Rodriguez replied that she was, and she had reached out to organizations such as Kellogg's and Nissan. Mr. Silverstein requested that staff look into finding a grant writer(s) who would be paid out of the amount they are able to obtain.

Ms. Rodriguez advised that she was sending donation envelopes out, with a goal of raising \$50,000. In the past, a similar campaign had raised \$20,000.

#### **C. Discuss Possible Increase in Safety Officer Cost**

The contract with AEGIS allows for AEGIS to request an increase in the hourly rate paid, to reflect an increase in minimum wage. The overall increase in cost to ECR if we were to agree to raise the rate by \$2.00 per hour, would be about \$23,314. The Board asked how much of the rate we pay AEGIS actually goes to the individual officers, and how much of the increase would go to the safety officers. It has been noted that there is a concern as to the quality of the guards that we have recently been getting, and part of that may be due to the fact that they are unable to pay a competitive wage versus the increased minimum wage, for the limited hours and available working days. The Board questioned whether increasing the rate would necessarily improve the quality of the safety officers sent.

Mr. Ryburn advised that he would communicate with the head of the safety officers, Suki Dhillon, to discuss the concerns and whether the issues with current safety officers are being documented in order to increase the quality of service for which we are currently paying.

#### **D. Shoup Update**

The campus passed final inspection today. The next step is to get the Certificate of Occupancy, and then to submit the material revision. The Board thanked Alan Darby and David Honda and all the others who worked to make this happen. Mr. Hussey noted that a special meeting is necessary in order to approve the material revision so that it can be submitted to LAUSD before their October Board meeting.

### **VI. Closing Items**

#### **A. Adjourn Meeting**

Darin Ryburn made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Steven Kofahl seconded the motion.

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

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel Chang