APPROVED

El Camino Real Charter High School

Minutes

Regular Board Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday November 17, 2022 at 5:30 PM

Location
Main Campus - SCHOOL LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

For 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 (https://ecrchs.net - click the ECR Board tab).

ATTENTION:

WE HAVE RETURNED TO "IN-PERSON" REGULAR AND SPECIAL BOARD MEETINGS AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD BY PARENTS AND OTHER MEETING ATTENDEES:

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 “Public Comments.”

“Public Comments” 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 ***two (2) 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 be permitted 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 the item(s) on your “Request to Speak” form and you will be given an opportunity to speak for up to three (3) minutes before the item is addressed, 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 be permitted 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.

IMPORTANT NOTE REGARDING PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Effective September 2022, public comments presentations at all ECRA Regular and Special Board Meetings and at Committee Meetings must be made in person.

There is no obligation on the part of the school to have a school official read public comments during in-person Board Meetings.

A member of the public is welcome to appear at the Board meeting to make a public comment or make arrangements with another person in attendance to speak on the person's behalf.

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 or more motions 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 vote(s) on the Consent Agenda item(s). 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 David Hussey, in person, by email at comment@ecrchs.net, or by calling (818) 595-7500.

Directors Present
Alexandra Ramirez, Brad Wright, Daniela Lopez-Vargas, Danielle Malconian, Gregg Solkovits, Steven Kofahl

Directors Absent
Linda Ibach

Guests Present
David Hussey, Gregory Wood, Kurt Lowry

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

Brad Wright called a meeting of the board of directors of El Camino Real Charter High School to order on Thursday Nov 17, 2022 at 5:30 PM.

B. Record Attendance and Guests

Quorum Established with 6 members present and one member absent.

C. Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America (USA)

Ms. Kyna Collins, Teacher, and UTLA Representative, led members and attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America (USA).

D.

Public Comments

There were three (3) requests for public comments, with a summary as follows:

1. Anita Gruen (Retired Teacher) - Reminded the Board of what she termed its promise and fiduciary responsibility to provide retiree health benefits that are equal to or better than LAUSD's benefits to its retirees.

2. Katie Tselesky (Student) - Urged the Board and administration to reduce an unnamed student's alleged "unjust punishment" in response to the student's alleged speaking out about an unsafe condition on our campus.

3. Kyna Collins (Teacher and UTLA Rep.) - Expressed support for ensuring that ECRCHS retirees receive retiree benefits that are equal to or better than LAUSD's benefits. Noted that UTLA is in process of reviewing and responding to ECRA's side letter on retiree benefits. Overall, we need to have conversations about we can do in classrooms to support teachers and in offices to support our counselors; requested conversations at a larger, structural level to ensure people are provided support; noted teacher shortage and stressful conditions.

E. Executive Director Update

Mr. Hussey presented his Executive Director Update, with highlights as follows:

* ECRCHS and UTLA are in process of codifying a side letter with UTLA regarding retiree benefits and we are hoping to get this done.

* Charter School Operations noted that Student Services' compliance data has been "amazing," especially in response to the recent LAUSD technology breach that had prevented our Special Education staff from accessing the Welligent platform for about three weeks. Thanked our special education staff for their efforts.

* School Band under the direction of Kevin Thurow was invited to participate in the Southern California School Band and Orchestra Association Field Band Championships which will take place this weekend.

* Data on School Based Therapists: 175 students assessed, totaling 550 sessions; have consulted 105 parents and 283 staff/counselors; have made 45+ classroom presentations on depression and suicide so over 1,380 students have seen these presentations; provided over 60 hours of crisis counseling and follow-up; 75 risk assessments completed; 40 completed safety plans; 13 high-risk assessments resulting in hospitalization and/or parent transport; 18 completed DCFS reports have been completed; Mr. Hussey noted that the school intends to add a fourth school-based therapist and he wanted to inform the Board about the work the therapists do and why the fourth therapist will be added.

* Met with Councilmember John Lee during an educator's roundtable, wherein Crisis Prevention and Recovery was the main topic; the LA City Attorney also spoke about school safety; other topics and representatives present/discussed included "movies that matter," "enRich LA" School Garden program, and the Holocaust Museum (noted the rise in anti-semitic statements and acts); Mr. Hussey noted that the school will look into these programs/opportunities.

* Mr. Hussey noted that there are two and a half weeks until final exams after we return from the Thanksgiving Break.

F. Chief Business Officer Update

Mr. Wood presented his Chief Business Officer Update, with highlights as follows:

* Cafeteria continues to do well; we also expect an additional $190K in funds from the State to support the cafeteria and infrastructure; these funds will be restricted for equipment and services on the student side and staff side; intend to invite our Cafeteria manager to make a presentation for the Board and to get into the student council to help increase participation; Mr. Wood noted that the food provided tonight was catered by the cafeteria.

* Mr. Hussey noted briefly that the cupcakes were provided by Ms. Gamez and students.

* Our enrollment is down 84 students from this time last year at this time, while our ADA is improved from last year; our ADA is down 43; we'll continue to provide monthly updates as noted in the materials.

* Prop. 28 passed in the recent election, which means the school will receive new or supplemental funds next year for arts and music education; we'll need to put together a plan for spending these additional funds (supplemental, not supplanting); as of the time of the report, Mr. Wood noted that the estimated amount of funding we might receive is $508K.

* Mr. Wood noted that the State Legislative Analyst noted that the State of CA is facing a $25B deficit for 23-24; our reserves will likely help us deflect some of the impact of this expected deficit; we'll find out more in January when the Governor proposes his preliminary budget.

G. Board Chair Update

Mr. Wright presented his Board Chair Update, with highlights as follows:

On behalf of the Finance and Investment Committee:

* Ms. Malconian thanked Mr. Wood for the October 2021 ADA to emphasis the point that the students we have are coming to school. She also informed the Board that the Dec. F & I Committee meeting will be canceled as it is too difficult for the Business Office to provide the necessary information in a short time window; the information will be presented to the full board at the Regular December Board Meeting. Lastly, Ms. Malconian noted that the F&I Committee had recommended that the full board approve the Fiscal Policies and Procedures (FPPs); she noted that the FPPs had been discussed and open for comments/input to all stakeholders and hoped that the full board would approve the FPPs at today's board meeting.

Mr. Wright noted that he is frustrated by what teachers have to go through on a day to day basis, noting that they are underpaid, and that is frustrates him that we cannot pay teachers more right now, but "we can pay attention to them." Mr. Wright noted that our teachers and administrators have to deal with our students, some of whom call them "racists," "hard," "this and that," and that teachers did not go to school and do the hard work to get their masters degrees to be attacked. Accordingly, when a teacher comes to administrators with a complaint or to vent, listen to them because if they cannot talk to you, they cannot talk with anyone and it leaves them in the stratosphere of nowhere. We need to listen to our teachers, the students will always come, but without teachers we don't have a school. Ms. Ibach and I discussed this; Ms. Ibach noted and I agree that our teachers deal with "vaping," "hazing," and being "attacked verbally." So, we need to make a change.

Committee Updates included the following:

F & I Committee - see aforementioned comments above by Ms. Malconian)

School Site Safety - Nothing to report other than that with Mr. Hussey's guidance, kids are no longer able to walk around during 5th and 6th period; we're also addressing some of our adults who are walking around, too, and coming at our teachers.

Athletics Oversight and Support - Ms. Malconian noted that they seem to be doing a good job. Mr. Wright noted, too, that Mr. Russell will be our athletic director.

Capitalization Projects Committee - D. Malconian reported that many projects are in a holding pattern, as we are waiting for the LAUSD to have their DEC meeting. Everything is in place to get started; library, marquee, floor, etc., per Mr. Delgado; again, waiting on LAUSD; Mr. Wright noted that they are trying to push to get these items addressed.

Facilities Maintenance and Operations and Support - Nothing to report out at this time.

Instruction and Data Analysis - Nothing to report out at this time.

Travel Committee - Nothing to report out at this time.

Instructional Technology - Mr. Wright invited Mr. Hussey to speak on the technology items, including the move over to Outlook from Gmail; Mr. Hussey acknowledged that and noted that with a transition this large, there are going to be some bugs to work out; praised the Tech. office for their hard work and noted that the change also adds another layer of security to our school.

II. Consent

A. Approve Minutes of the October, 27th, 2022, Regular Board Meeting

Danielle Malconian made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 10-27-22.
Steven Kofahl seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
Gregg Solkovits	Aye
Linda Ibach	Absent
Danielle Malconian	Aye
Steven Kofahl	Aye
Alexandra Ramirez	Aye
Brad Wright	Aye
Daniela Lopez-Vargas	Aye

B. Approve the October, 2022, Check Registers

Alexandra Ramirez made a motion to Approve the October, 2022, Check Register.
Danielle Malconian seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
Steven Kofahl	Aye
Gregg Solkovits	Aye
Danielle Malconian	Aye
Alexandra Ramirez	Aye
Daniela Lopez-Vargas	Aye
Brad Wright	Aye
Linda Ibach	Absent

C. Approve the October, 2022, Credit Card Charges

Steven Kofahl made a motion to Approve the October, 2022, Credit Card Charges.
Daniela Lopez-Vargas seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
Steven Kofahl	Aye
Daniela Lopez-Vargas	Aye
Linda Ibach	Absent
Brad Wright	Aye
Gregg Solkovits	Aye
Danielle Malconian	Aye
Alexandra Ramirez	Aye

III. Investment

A. Investment Update

Mr. Wood, CBO, provided the Investment Report for Quarter Ended September 30th, with updates through October 31st, with highlights as follows:

* Beacon Pointe Investment Advisor, Mike Breller, was present during our Nov. Finance and Investment Committee Meeting last week wherein he presented this information which is also in the materials. Mr. Wood noted that the market has been floundering which has impacted our OPEB and Gen. Accounts. He noted that Beacon Pointe is in the process of restructuring investments as a result of market conditions and the fact that one of our investment advisors (Polen Capital) has underperformed general market indexes. Mr. Wood noted that our investments remain with our Investment Policy ranges and expectations.

* Through October, the school moved $725K out of Polen Capital from the OPEB Account holdings and moved $125K out of Polen Capital from the General Account holdings. Funds were moved into the more broad and conservative Beacon Pointe investment funds.

* The overall OPEB account is up over $20.8M in October as opposed to 19.7; now up to $21.8M in the OPEB.

* The Market is coming back and is reflected in the accounts.

IV. Finance

A. Financial Update

Mr. Wood, CBO, provided the Financial Update, with highlights as follows:

* Mr. Wood noted that at the last meeting the information for September had been presented. He noted that the business office hasn't closed October yet, and that he doesn't have anything substantive to add except for maybe the information that is on the

IMA and Textbook budget. He noted that the school will continue to provide monthly updates to the Board, including actual expenditures for textbooks and Instructional Materials and Supplies (IMA).

B. Discussion and Vote on ECRCHS's Fiscal Policies and Procedures

Danielle Malconian made a motion to Approve ECRCHS's Fiscal Policies and Procedures.
Alexandra Ramirez seconded the motion.
Prior to the Vote, Ms. Malconian and Mr. Wood noted the following:

* the FPPs had been discussed and recommended for approval during the F & I Committee; and

* had been the subject of invited comment and input from ECRCHS stakeholders.

Mr. Wood and Ms. Malconian noted that they had not received additional stakeholder comments and input in response to their making the FPPs available for comment.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Linda Ibach	Absent
Danielle Malconian	Aye
Steven Kofahl	Aye
Daniela Lopez-Vargas	Aye
Alexandra Ramirez	Aye
Brad Wright	Aye
Gregg Solkovits	Aye

V. School Business

A. Discussion and Vote on A-G Block Grant

Steven Kofahl made a motion to Approve the A-G Block Grant.
Daniela Lopez-Vargas seconded the motion.
Prior to the vote, Mr. Hussey led the discussion on the A-G Block Grant in Mr. Alba's absence. He noted that the grant allows us to invest in 1.) increased credit recovery courses; 2.) increased counseling services; and 3.) increased staffing in the college office.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Danielle Malconian	Aye
Gregg Solkovits	Aye
Alexandra Ramirez	Aye
Steven Kofahl	Aye
Linda Ibach	Absent

Roll Call	
Daniela Lopez-Vargas	Aye
Brad Wright	Aye

B. Discussion and Vote on Compliance Monitoring and Certification of Board Compliance Review 2022-2023

Gregg Solkovits made a motion to Approve the Compliance Monitoring and Certification of Board Compliance Review 2022-2023.
Steven Kofahl seconded the motion.
Prior to the vote, Dr. Lowry, Director, HR and Compliance, provided an overview of the CSD Oversight Visit/Audit purpose and the school's compliance checklist and submittal requirements and due dates.

Dr. Lowry noted we're on track.

Ms. Lopez-Vargas noted that this process is in preparation for the Charter School's Division Oversight Visit, to which Dr. Lowry confirmed.

Mr. Kofahl wondered how the signage will be installed to ensure that the signage will not be destroyed, to which Dr. Lowry responded that he has discussed this issue with Mr. Bennett who is in process of working with custodial staff to install signage that is appropriately secured/protected.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
Steven Kofahl	Aye
Daniela Lopez-Vargas	Aye
Linda Ibach	Absent
Alexandra Ramirez	Aye
Gregg Solkovits	Aye
Danielle Malconian	Aye
Brad Wright	Aye

C. Discussion and Vote on Request for One Period Coach Authorization(s) During 2022-2023

Gregg Solkovits made a motion to Approve One Period Coach Authorization(s) During 2022-2023, per Education Code 4258.7 (B) including verification of requests and consent for aforementioned specified sports/courses and authorized Teachers/Coaches.
Danielle Malconian seconded the motion.
Prior to the Vote, Mr. Hussey, Executive Director, presented the need and basis for One Period Coach Authorization(s) Per Education Code 44258.7(B).

Mr. Hussey read the language of Ed. Code Section 44258.7 (B).

Winter/Spring 2023 Sports/Courses and One Period Coach Authorizations are Requested as follows:

1. Jason Camp - Aquatics
2. Jason Camp - Lacrosse
3. Camille King - Track and Field, Varsity
4. Alyssa Lee - Volleyball, Varsity (Boys)
5. Alyssa Lee - Sand Volleyball (Beach Volleyball)

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

Roll Call

Alexandra Ramirez	Aye
Daniela Lopez-Vargas	Aye
Brad Wright	Aye
Danielle Malconian	Aye
Gregg Solkovits	Aye
Linda Ibach	Absent
Steven Kofahl	Aye

D. Discussion and Vote on Proposed 2022-2023 Classified Management Salary Schedule Adjustment to Include New Position and Salary for "Marketing and Communications Outreach Coordinator"

Danielle Malconian made a motion to Approve Proposed 2022-2023 Classified Management Salary Schedule Adjustment to Include New Position and Salary for "Marketing and Communications Outreach Coordinator" on a 260 Day Contract.
Daniela Lopez-Vargas seconded the motion.
Prior to the Vote, Mr. Hussey noted that four or five years ago, this position existed, but had been closed about three (3) years ago. He noted that the school sees a need again to open the position.

Mr. Solkovits stated that he assumes that the projected $25B State budget deficit projected for next year had been factored into the decision to re-open this position.

Mr. Solkovits asked whether or not this position would be temporary or permanent, to which Mr. Hussey replied that it depended on whether or not the position is able to generate enrollment and ADA at the Main Campus and North Campus.

Ms. Lopez-Vargas asked Mr. Hussey is the new position will be responsible for fundraising, to which Mr. Hussey replied that will depend on how much as ask him to do.

Mr. Solkovits asked whether or not we have someone in mind for the position, to which Mr. Hussey replied in the affirmative, noting that we've already offered the position to somebody and he's accepted the job.

In response, Mr. Solkovits asked, "You've offered someone the job before the position has been approved?" to which a robust discussion ensued about how the position had been previously in place at the school, previously discussed at previous Board meetings, and included in the LCAP, but this process is to officially codify the position and salary on the salary table.

Mr. Solkovits expressed disagreement, noting that the position which has not yet been funded has been offered to someone, which is a backward way of doing business and not a good way to do business.

Mr. Hussey noted that the position is budgeted per previous board approval, and that tonight's vote is to add the position's salary to the salary table.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

Linda Ibach	Absent
Brad Wright	Aye
Alexandra Ramirez	Aye
Gregg Solkovits	Abstain
Danielle Malconian	Aye
Daniela Lopez-Vargas	Aye
Steven Kofahl	Aye

The Board entered Closed Session at 6:25 p.m.

VI. Closed Session

A. Public Employee Discipline / Dismissal / Release

This item was discussed.

B. Conference with Legal Counsel - Anticipated Litigation

This item was discussed.

C. Conference with Labor Negotiators

This item was discussed.

D. Conference With Labor Negotiators

This item was discussed.

VII. Reconvene to Open Session

A. Report on Actions Taken in Closed Session, If Any

The Board Reconvened to Open Session at 7:25 p.m.

Mr. Wright Reported that no actions were taken during Closed Session.

VIII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

Steven Kofahl made a motion to adjourn today's November Regular Board Meeting.
Alexandra Ramirez seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** 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 7:26 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kurt Lowry