APPROVED

El Camino Real Charter High School

Minutes

Special Board Meeting

08/24/2026 Special Board Meeting

Date and Time
Monday August 24, 2026 at 10:00 AM

Location
North Campus - 7401 Shoup Ave. West Hills CA 91307

TELECONFERENCE LOCATION:

15892 Standish Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92647

Meeting can also be seen and heard at:

El Camino Real Charter High School - A206

5440 Valley Circle Woodland Hills CA 91367

SPECIAL 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 of the Special Baord Meeting.

"Public Comments" is set aside for members of the audience to raise issues that are 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 and total time allotted is only for the topics in the agenda items and will not exceed sixteen(16) 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, and the total allocated time shall be appropriately increased as well.

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. 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.

4. 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 Emilie Larew, in person, by email at comment@ecrchs.net, or by calling (818) 595-7500.

Directors Present
Brad Wright, Joe Kolkowitz, Linda Ibach, Ronald Laws, Steven Kofahl (remote)

Directors Absent
Alexandra Ramirez, Norris Gunby

Guests Present
Emilie Larew, Vania Rodriguez

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 Monday Aug 24, 2026 at 10:11 AM.

B. Record Attendance and Guests

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

Ms. Rogers led Board member and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America (USA).

D. Public Comments

1. Karen Jones

Connection to El Camino:

35-year teacher at El Camino, with 40 years of teaching experience overall.

National Board Certified Teacher.

Retired for 16 years but remains deeply involved in the school community.

Proudest accomplishment:

Named Teacher of the Year 15 times.

Believes this reflects how much her students valued her support and involvement.

Family connection:

Two children attended El Camino.

One served as the school's first African American student body president in 1995.

The other became the second African American student body president in 1996.

Husband's connection:

Her husband was a tennis coach at El Camino.

He won the championship five times.

Why she is speaking to the board:

Wants the board to understand how much she loves El Camino.

Describes the school as a deeply meaningful community for her and her family.

Is concerned about what is happening with the school's coaches.

2. Brian Somoza

Connection to El Camino:

El Camino alumnus and former athlete.

His child currently attends the school.

Main concern:

Believes school morale is at its lowest point ever.

Feels the school's reputation is suffering because of ongoing issues.

Concern about media coverage:

Says the situation looks bad for the community regardless of how it is presented.

Is upset that the school has been allowed to reach this point.

Questions about the investigation:

Wants to know where the investigation stands.

Says there has been no transparency about the investigation.

Questions about the CBO:

Raises concerns about possible miscommunication or overlap involving the CBO and the Delgado family.

Says he does not know whether there was fraud and is not making that claim.

Wants clarification on:

Who did the CBO report to?

Who signed the CBO's contract?
Financial concerns:
Questions why the school is paying certain administrators.
Wants answers about how those payments and responsibilities are being handled.

3. Aaron Sanders
Connection to El Camino:
Parent and community member.
Lives next to the school.
Advocates for students and athletes.
Parent representative position:
Wants to know when the parent representative position will be publicly announced.
Also asks about the two other positions that have not yet been made public.
Board communication concerns:
Expresses disappointment with how the board communicates with parents and the community.
Says emails often go unanswered or unaddressed.
Parents and students sometimes struggle to find someone who can provide answers.
Community members frequently ask him how to navigate the system.
Says it is shameful that students have also been ignored.
Aquatic program and trust fund:
Raises concerns about the elimination of the aquatic program, which had been at the school for at least 25 years.
Says the program's elimination was very sad for students.
Wants an update on a purchase order involving the remaining aquatic trust fund balance.
Says the business department had previously clarified how the funds could be spent.
Is now being told that additional approvals are needed.
Wants to know why the approvals have not been completed.
Scholarship concerns:
Says many athletes are preparing to go to college soon.
Shares the example of an athlete who contacted him about two weeks before school ended.
The athlete had questions about the status of scholarship essays that had already been approved.
Says the student's counselors and athletic department administrators were not acknowledging the questions.
He intervened because he wanted to help the student get answers.
Notes that a scholarship had been awarded the previous year, but students were not given clear information about the process.

4. Naomi McCoy
Connection to El Camino Real High School:
Former college counselor and English department staff member.
Led student clubs, including the Pet Club.

Served as an Academic Decathlon assistant coach for many years.
Helped write the school's charter with other teachers, including Miss Jones and Miss Webster.

Concerns about the school:

Says El Camino was once a distinguished high school.
Is surprised by the amount of chaos and issues happening now.
Believes many things expected when the charter was written are not happening.

Teacher representative election concerns:

Questions inconsistencies in the voting process for the two teacher representatives.
Says she submitted her name because she cares about El Camino and helped write the charter.
Feels her concerns have been met with repeated non-answers.

Requests for accountability:

Says a report about the election concerns has been brought to:
UTLA
Charter School Division
Interim Executive Director Emily Larew
Wants to know what action Emily Larew has taken.
Emphasizes that the concerns do not prove anyone manipulated the election.
Says the concerns are serious enough that they should not be dismissed without review.

Requested action:

Calls for the board to immediately preserve the complete electronic records related to the election.
Ends by making clear that she has serious concerns about the election process and school governance.

5. Lindsey Shano

Connection to El Camino Real High School:

Counselor at El Camino for 16 years.
Also an alumna, and her children attend the school.
Heavily involved in student activities and school events.
Describes El Camino as "home" to her.

Main concern:

Expresses deep sadness and heartbreak over what is happening at the school.
Speaks on behalf of the counseling team.

Request to retain Juan Alba:

Respectfully asks the board to retain Juan Alba as an ECR administrator.
Says he has been the counseling team's leader for over eight years.
Describes him as a leader who serves with integrity, compassion, and a strong work ethic.

Impact of the administrator vacancy:

Says the counseling team has been without an administrator for almost four weeks.
This is happening during one of the most crucial times of the school year.
The situation has caused significant stress and feelings of being overwhelmed.

More than 1,000 students visit the counseling office during the first two weeks of the school year.

Why Juan Alba is important:

Has supported the counseling team both as a department and individually.

His leadership has helped the counseling team achieve national recognition through the American School Counselor Association.

Believes losing him would be a loss for the counseling team and the entire ECR community.

6. Jill Raleigh December

Connection to El Camino Real High School:

Parent of twins in the baseball athletic program.

Speaks about the impact of the coaching situation on student-athletes.

Main concern:

Believes the issue may be deeper than just the coaches.

Wants to understand how the situation reached this point.

Safety and certification requirements:

Acknowledges that coaches must have proper CPR, first aid, and safety certifications.

Says parents are not asking the school to ignore these requirements.

Questions why certifications were not reviewed, verified, and resolved during the summer before students returned.

Impact of coach removals:

Says coaches were suddenly removed after the school year and seasons had already begun.

Believes students are paying the price.

Notes that extracurricular activities are very important to many students, especially seniors.

Impact on student-athletes:

Students need practices, games, film, statistics, recommendations, and consistency.

Some seniors are actively communicating with colleges and trying to get recruited.

Says weekly disruptions are causing tremendous stress and uncertainty.

Believes students should be focused on school, their teams, and their futures.

Communication concerns:

Says parents have asked legitimate questions but received vague or incomplete answers.

Understands that confidential personnel matters may not be discussed.

Believes confidentiality should not prevent the board from sharing:

A timeline

An explanation of the process

What is being done to restore stability

Requested solution:

If the issue is certification, she wants the school to explain what needs to be verified.

Hopes the coaches can safely return as soon as possible.

Believes the situation has become unnecessarily prolonged.

7. Ashley Kraft
Says a petition is being circulated to support the athletes and coaches.
Wants the concerns to be formally documented.
Support for the coaches:
Says 700 people are supporting the coaches.
Believes the coaches did their job and submitted the required cards.
Concerns about the athletic director:
Questions why the athletic director is still being paid.
Questions why he is still on campus.
Questions why he is allowed to coach two other teams.
Certification concerns:
Says the athletic director reportedly had no CPR certification.
Also raises concerns about concussion certification, based on her understanding of the softball program.

Mr. Brad Wright
Says the meeting must move forward because of time.
Indicates that someone has not yet signed a required document.
Encourages everyone to sign before or during the meeting on the 27th.
Reason for signing:
Says the signing is needed to stay within the active process.
Appears to be related to getting people properly admitted or included in the meeting.
Meeting proceedings:
Says the board cannot respond to additional comments at that time.
Moves the meeting forward to the next agenda item.
Refers to the board's consent agenda.

II. Consent

A. Approve Minutes of June 9, 2026 Regular Board Meeting

Steven Kofahl made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Board Meeting on 06-09-26.
Ronald Laws seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

B. Approve Minutes of June 17, 2026 Regular Board Meeting

Steven Kofahl made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Board Meeting on 06-17-26.
Ronald Laws seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

C. Approve Minutes of the June 25, 2026 Special Board Meeting

Steven Kofahl made a motion to approve the minutes from Regular Board Meeting on 06-25-26.
Ronald Laws seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

D. Approve Minutes of the July 6, 2026 Special Board Meeting

Steven Kofahl made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Board Meeting on 07-06-26.
Ronald Laws seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

E. Approve Minutes of the July 9, 2026 Special Board Meeting

Steven Kofahl made a motion to approve the minutes from Special Board Meeting on 07-09-26.
Ronald Laws seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

III. School Business

A. Discuss and Vote on Los Angeles County of Education (LACOE) Certificate of Signatures

Presenter: Mrs. Janneyra Verduzco

- The signature sheet has not yet been circulated for signatures.
- The board's approval is needed before adding the interim executive director as an authorized signer.

Why the new signer is needed:

- There is currently no CBO or executive director available to approve transfers from LACOE.

Is the money needed immediately?

- No. The organization is financially okay for now.
- The organization plans and forecasts three to six months ahead and wants to ensure someone is available to approve transfers when needed.
- The request is part of forward planning to avoid delays in future transfers.

Joe Kolkowitz made a motion to Approve Los Angeles County of Education (LACOE) Certificate of Signatures.
Steven Kofahl seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
Ronald Laws	Aye
Linda Ibach	No
Norris Gunby	Absent
Alexandra Ramirez	Absent
Steven Kofahl	Aye
Joe Kolkowitz	Aye
Brad Wright	No

B. Discussion and Vote on City National ECRA Signatories

Presenter: Mrs. Janneyra Verduzco

Purpose of the item:

Add Interim Executive Director Emilie Larew and Administrative Director Minita Clark as authorized signers on City National bank accounts.

Accounts included:

T-Bill
Payroll
Checking
General
Fundraising
Associated Student Body (ASB)

Reason for the request:

Ensure proper signing authority is in place across all operating accounts.

Why it is important:

A second approver is needed immediately to sign checks over $10,000.

Timing:

This needs to be completed today, unlike the previous item, which was for planning ahead over the next three months.
The new signers are needed now to avoid delays in approving large checks.
Joe Kolkowitz made a motion to Approve City National ECRA Signatories.
Ronald Laws seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

C. Discuss and Vote on US Bank Authorized Signers

Presenter: Mrs. Janneyra Verduzco

Purpose of the item:

Update the authorized signers for the U.S. Bank OPEB and General Investment Accounts.

OPEB means:

Other Post-Employment Benefits.
Proposed changes:
Remove: Fernando Delgado
Add: Interim Executive Director Emilie Larew
Reason for the change:
The account can only have two executive directors as authorized signers.
Forms:
Mrs. Janneyra Verduzco has the forms ready for signing.
Timeline:
The process may take approximately 30 days to complete.
Approval is needed to update the account signers and allow the interim executive director to be added.
Brad Wright made a motion to Approve US Bank Authorized Signers.
Joe Kolkowitz seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

D. Discuss and Vote on Beacon Pointe and Midland Investments Adding Authorized Users

Presenter: Mrs. Janneyra Verduzco
Purpose of the item:
Add Interim Executive Director Emilie Larew as an authorized user on the Beacon Pointe and Midland Investments accounts.
Reason for the request:
Update the investment account access to include the interim executive director.
Timeline:
The process is expected to take approximately 30 days.
Approval is needed to add the interim executive director as an authorized user on both investment accounts.
Joe Kolkowitz made a motion to Approve Beacon Pointe and Midland Investments Adding Authorized Users.
Brad Wright seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

E. Discuss and Vote on US Bank CAL-Card Credit Card Accounts Authorized User

Presenter: Mrs. Janneyra Verduzco
Purpose of the item:
Add Interim Executive Director Emilie Larew as an authorized user on the U.S. Bank CAL-Card credit card account.
Current authorized users:
Fernando Delgado and David Hussey.
Who can have a CAL-Card:
Only an Executive Director or Chief Business Official (CBO) can be an authorized user.
Why the change is needed:

Add the interim executive director to ensure the appropriate executive-level credit card access is in place.

Approval:

Approval is needed to add Emilie Larew as an authorized user on the U.S. Bank CAL-Card.

Ronald Laws made a motion to Approve US Bank CAL-Card Credit Card Accounts Authorized User.

Joe Kolkowitz seconded the motion.

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

The board entered the closed session at 10:43 AM on the 24th of August, 2026.

IV. Reconvene to Open Session

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

Nothing to report out

The board reconvene to open session at 12:02 PM on the 24th of August, 2026.

B. Discuss and Vote on the Possible Approval of Employment Agreements for Administrative Directors

Brad Wright made a motion to Approve the Employment Agreements for Administrative Directors for Discipline/Athletics and Student Support Services.

Joe Kolkowitz seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

Joe Kolkowitz	Aye
Alexandra Ramirez	Absent
Norris Gunby	Absent
Steven Kofahl	Aye
Brad Wright	Aye
Linda Ibach	Abstain
Ronald Laws	Aye

V. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

Joe Kolkowitz made a motion to Adjourn meeting.

Linda Ibach 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 12:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vania Rodriguez