

APPROVED



Connecting Waters Charter Schools

Minutes

CWCS Board of Directors Meeting

(A California Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation)

Date and Time

Thursday December 11, 2025 at 3:00 PM

Location

Connecting Waters Central Valley Resource Center, Board Room
2300 E. Briggsmore Ave. Modesto, CA 95355

Additional Teleconference Locations:

- Connecting Waters East Bay Resource Center, Room 2
703 C Street, Union City, CA 94587
- Connecting Waters Charter School Waterford Resource Center
12705 Bentley Street, Waterford, CA 95386
- Livestream link view only: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85271398615#success>

Agenda Posting Locations

This agenda was posted at least 72 hours prior to the meeting at the following locations:
Connecting Waters Charter Schools, 12420 Bentley Street, Waterford, CA 95386; Connecting Waters Charter School Resource Center, 12705 Bentley Street, Waterford CA, 95386; Connecting Waters East Bay Resource Center, 703 C Street, Union City, CA 94587; Connecting Waters Central Valley Resource Center, 2300 E. Briggsmore Avenue, Modesto, CA 95355.

Instructions for Presentations to the Board by Parents and Citizens

Connecting Waters Charter Schools (“Schools”) welcomes your participation at the School’s Board meetings. The purpose of a public meeting of the Board of Directors (“Board”) is to conduct the affairs of the Schools in public. Your participation assures us of continuing community interest in our Schools. 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 “Hearing of the Public.” “Hearing of the Public” 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 fifteen (15) minutes. 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. Complaints against specific school employees should be resolved through the school’s Personnel Complaint Procedure. The right to address the Board does not exempt the speaker from any potential liability for defamation. The proceedings of the Board are recorded and are a part of the public record.
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 when the Board discusses that item.
4. When addressing the Board, speakers are requested to state their name and address from the podium and adhere to the time limits set forth.
5. A member of the public requiring a translator will be provided twice the allotted time for public comment per individual speaker in accordance with Section 54954.3 of the Government Code.
6. 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 12420 Bentley Street, Waterford, California

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and upon request, Connecting Waters Charter Schools may furnish reasonable auxiliary aids and services to qualified individuals with disabilities. Individuals who require appropriate alternative modifications in order to participate in Board meetings are invited to contact the Executive Director’s office by calling (209) 874-1119 Ext. 6 as soon as possible prior to the meeting.

Directors Present

E. Melton, J. Louie-Monzon, K. Corrales, K. Fatima, K. Martin, L. Addipah, S. Welch

Directors Absent

None

I. Opening Items

A. Call the Meeting to Order

E. Melton called a meeting of the board of directors of Connecting Waters Charter Schools to order on Thursday Dec 11, 2025 at 3:08 PM.

B. Roll Call

C. Approval of the December 11, 2025, Board of Directors Agenda

K. Martin made a motion to Approve the December 11, 2025, Board of Directors Agenda.

L. Addipah seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

J. Louie-Monzon Aye

K. Corrales Aye

E. Melton Aye

L. Addipah Aye

K. Fatima Aye

K. Martin Aye

S. Welch Aye

D. Pledge of Allegiance

Led by: Kristen Corrales, Board Secretary

E. Hearing of the Public on Non-Agenda Items

No comments from the public on non-agenda items

F. Hearing of the Public on Agenda Items

During public comment on agenda items, multiple staff members addressed the Board regarding the proposed approval Connecting Waters Charter Schools' California Employee Residency and Relocation Policy. Speakers expressed concern that restricting remote work could result in the loss of highly qualified and effective employees.

Comments indicated that some roles can be carried out successfully from out of state without impacting required in-person duties. Staff highlighted the value of retaining experienced personnel to ensure program continuity, compliance, and institutional knowledge. Support was voiced for adding Nevada as an approved remote work location to retain a key English learner program leader. No action was taken at this time.

II. Administrative Reports

A. Prop 28 Annual Report - Presented by Anastasia Legatos, Prop 28 Lead Teacher

The Board received the Proposition 28 annual report and invited questions related to the presentation. Board members asked clarifying questions regarding the curriculum used, applicable grade levels, implementation timeline, use across combined-grade workshops, and whether the report applied to all schools. Staff responded that the presentation applied to all school sites, the curriculum was implemented beginning last year, and instructional standards allow for flexibility across grade spans. Staff also indicated that additional details, including curriculum explanations and updated budget information, would be provided to the Board following the meeting.

III. Directors' Reports

A. Executive Director's Report

The Executive Director presented her report, highlighting plans to complete remaining governance training, upcoming charter renewal activities, and the anticipated launch of a new website in January with a six-month transition period. She shared updates on student award ceremonies, continued family engagement events, and positive progress toward charter renewal. The Board was informed that a payroll study is moving forward with two proposals expected for comparison, with the study planned to begin in January and be completed prior to the development of the 2026–27 contracts. In response to Board questions, the Executive Director also provided an update on early planning for a facilities budget, including upcoming discussions on affordability, financing options, and phased project planning.

B. Deputy Executive Director Spotlight

The Deputy Executive Director shared updates on the launch of the ROAR awards program, which will recognize one classified staff member, one certificated staff member, and one student each month through a nomination process, with formal recognition provided. She also provided details on upcoming student award ceremonies scheduled for January, which will honor recipients across multiple academic and program areas. Additional highlights included a staff appreciation “Friendsgiving” event, site-based family engagement activities, and ongoing efforts to organize and inventory school supplies. The report concluded with updates on parent engagement events, noting positive participation and feedback across the multiple school sites.

IV. Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes - November 20, 2025, Regular Meeting

J. Louie-Monzon made a motion to approve the minutes from the CWCS Board of Directors Meeting on 11-20-25.

L. Addipah seconded the motion.

The CWCS Board of Director Meeting 11-20-2025 minutes were passed as part of the consent agenda.

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

B. Approval of New Hires List

C. Approval of the November 2025 Warrant Report from DMS for Connecting Waters Charter School

E. Melton made a motion to Table November 2025 Warrant Report from DMS for Connecting Waters Charter School.

K. Corrales seconded the motion.

The Board did not have sufficient time to review the final versions and agreed to defer consideration until the next meeting.

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

Roll Call

J. Louie-Monzon	Aye
K. Martin	Aye
K. Fatima	Aye
E. Melton	Aye
S. Welch	Aye
K. Corrales	Aye
L. Addipah	Aye

D. Approval of the November 2025 Warrant Report from DMS for Connecting Waters Charter School, East Bay

E. Melton made a motion to Table the November 2025 Warrant Report from DMS for Connecting Waters Charter School-East Bay.

L. Addipah seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

K. Fatima	Aye
K. Corrales	Aye
K. Martin	Aye
E. Melton	Aye
J. Louie-Monzon	Aye
S. Welch	Aye
L. Addipah	Aye

E. Approval of the November 2025 Warrant Report from DMS for Connecting Waters Charter School, Central Valley

E. Melton made a motion to Table the November 2025 Warrant Report from DMS for Connecting Waters Charter School-Central Valley.

K. Martin seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

S. Welch	Aye
E. Melton	Aye
K. Fatima	Aye
K. Corrales	Aye
K. Martin	Aye
J. Louie-Monzon	Aye
L. Addipah	Aye

F. Approval of the New Vendor List

G. Approval of Items on the Consent Agenda

J. Louie-Monzon made a motion to Approve of Items on the Consent Agenda A-G with the Exception of items C, D, & E. to be placed on the next meetings consent agenda.

L. Addipah seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

S. Welch	Aye
K. Fatima	Aye
K. Martin	Aye
K. Corrales	Aye
J. Louie-Monzon	Aye
E. Melton	Aye
L. Addipah	Aye

V. Items Scheduled for Consideration and/or Action

A. Approval of the CWCS Obsolete and Discarded Textbook Policy and Process

K. Corrales made a motion to Approve the CWCS Obsolete and Discarded Textbook Policy and Process.

J. Louie-Monzon seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

E. Melton	Aye
J. Louie-Monzon	Aye
K. Corrales	Aye
L. Addipah	Aye
K. Martin	Aye
K. Fatima	Aye
S. Welch	Aye

B.

Approval of the Connecting Waters Charter School - Central Valley's Renewal Charter Petition

S. Welch made a motion to Approve the Connecting Waters Charter School - Central Valley's Renewal Charter Petition.

L. Addipah seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

K. Corrales	Aye
E. Melton	Aye
L. Addipah	Aye
J. Louie-Monzon	Aye
K. Fatima	Aye
K. Martin	Aye
S. Welch	Aye

C. Approval of the Connecting Waters Charter Schools' California Employee Residency and Relocation Policy

J. Louie-Monzon made a motion to Table Approval of the Connecting Waters Charter Schools' California Employee Residency and Relocation Policy.

K. Martin seconded the motion.

The board discussed the proposed Connecting Waters Charter Schools' California Employee Residency and Relocation Policy, noting the legal, fiscal, and fairness implications of out-of-state employment. Due to questions about costs, procedures, and criteria for approval, the board emphasized the importance of developing a clear and equitable policy, including job description updates and an appeal process. The matter was tabled for further information from legal counsel and personnel, with the intention of revisiting it at the next meeting.

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

Roll Call

E. Melton	Aye
K. Fatima	Aye
J. Louie-Monzon	Aye
K. Martin	Aye
S. Welch	Aye
L. Addipah	Aye
K. Corrales	Aye

D. Discussion and Approval on Board Standing Committees

K. Corrales made a motion to approve the standing governance committee.

K. Martin seconded the motion.

Three Board Members volunteered to be on the committee.

1. Jennifer Louie-Monzon

2. Erika Melton
3. Kristen Corrales

The motion passed with 6 ayes and 1 no.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

K. Corrales	Aye
K. Martin	Aye
E. Melton	Aye
J. Louie-Monzon	Aye
K. Fatima	Aye
S. Welch	No
L. Addipah	Aye

K. Corrales made a motion to Approve the standing finance committee.
E. Melton seconded the motion.
Two Board Members volunteered to be on the committee.

1. Kaneez Fatima
2. Erika Melton

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

Roll Call

K. Fatima	Aye
S. Welch	Aye
L. Addipah	Aye
J. Louie-Monzon	Aye
E. Melton	Aye
K. Corrales	Aye
K. Martin	Aye

E. Discussion and Approval of updates to the Meeting Agenda template

K. Corrales made a motion to Table until March or April the Discussion and Approval of updates to the Meeting Agenda template.
K. Fatima seconded the motion.
The board discussed updates to the meeting agenda template, and in working with administration, a tracking solution outside of the agenda was offered, so the proposed changes to the agenda template are not needed at this time.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

K. Fatima	Aye
S. Welch	Aye
L. Addipah	Aye
K. Martin	Aye
K. Corrales	Aye

Roll Call

E. Melton Aye
J. Louie-Monzon Aye

F. Approval of the Connecting Waters Charter Schools 2026-2027 School Calendar

"The Board agreed to reorder the agenda, moving the Approval of the Connecting Waters Charter Schools 2026-2027 School Calendar from Item A to Item F. This postponement ensured that staff had sufficient time to provide the Board with the most up-to-date survey data before discussion."

K. Corrales made a motion to Approve the Connecting Waters Charter Schools 2026-2027 School Calendar Draft F.

L. Addipah seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

S. Welch Aye
K. Fatima Aye
K. Corrales Aye
L. Addipah Aye
E. Melton Aye
J. Louie-Monzon Aye
K. Martin Aye

VI. Items scheduled for Information & Discussion

A. Discussion of the Back Office Provider Proposals

The Board reviewed proposals from three back office providers to ensure future financial reporting aligns with the rigorous compliance standards of the school's authorizers. While the Board expressed deep appreciation for the long-standing personal relationships and integrity of the current provider, recurring technical reporting errors have necessitated a strategic transition to safeguard the school's charter standing. Leadership and the Board emphasized that this change is a professional business decision to secure specialized expertise and is not a reflection of their high personal regard for the current service team. Following extensive due diligence, the Board transferred the decision back to the school's Executive team to select and transition to a new provider, with a formal update on the selection, and contract, if available, to be provided at the next meeting.

B. First Read: Board of Director Meeting Dates for 2026-2027

The Board conducted a first read of the proposed 2026-2027 meeting dates, discussing the potential addition of secondary "holding dates" to accommodate special meetings or overflow discussions. Administration will present several calendar options at the next meeting, including versions that incorporate these holding dates and separate committee meeting schedules.

C.

Board Remarks

No board remarks.

VII. Closed Session

A. Public Employee: Discipline/Dismissal/Release

The Board went into Closed Session at 5:38 p.m.

VIII. Report on Closed Session Actions

A. Public Employee: Discipline/Dismissal/Release

No Actions to report.

Return to Open Session at 6:32 p.m.

IX. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

K. Fatima made a motion to A. Adjourn Meeting.

L. Addipah seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

L. Addipah	Aye
E. Melton	Aye
K. Martin	Aye
J. Louie-Monzon	Aye
K. Fatima	Aye
K. Corrales	Aye
S. Welch	Aye

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:34 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
E. Melton

LCAP/WASC Goals

1. Increase the percentage of students who are on track to graduate college and career-ready.
2. Close the achievement gap for low-performing students in English and Math.
3. Increase the percentage of EL students who achieve proficiency in English Language Arts and Math.

4. Foster positive relationships through community outreach.