

APPROVED



Connecting Waters Charter Schools

Minutes

Governance Regular Standing Committee Meeting

(A California Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation)

Date and Time

Tuesday February 10, 2026 at 8:30 AM

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
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.

Committee Members Present

E. Melton, J. Louie-Monzon, K. Corrales

Committee Members Absent

None

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

J. Louie-Monzon called a meeting of the Governance Committee of Connecting Waters Charter Schools to order on Tuesday Feb 10, 2026 at 8:40 AM.

C. Hearing of the Public on Non-Agenda Items

No one in attendance

D. Hearing of the Public on Agenda Items

No one in attendance

II. Items scheduled for Information & Discussion

A. Policy Oversight & Organization Discussion

The Board discussed establishing a standardized process for policy oversight, including creating a master review schedule to ensure compliance throughout the fiscal year. A draft policy inventory spreadsheet was presented that categorizes policies by required or recommended status, includes last adoption dates, and identifies external and internal locations. The Board discussed moving from an alphabetical listing to a categorized and potentially numbered indexing system to improve organization and accessibility. Additional columns were requested to include recommended review frequency and projected next review dates to better manage workload and prevent policy backlogs. It was noted that most policies should be reviewed at least every two to three years, with certain policies requiring annual review. The importance of documenting all revision dates on policies moving forward was emphasized. The Board also discussed maintaining a standardized template and clarifying the internal review process for drafting, legal review, and Board approval of policies.

B. Bylaws Review Discussion

The Committee initiated a comprehensive review of the CWCS bylaws, which were last amended in 2019, to ensure compliance with current California Education Code, the Brown Act, nonprofit law, and charter requirements. It was reported that legal counsel is currently reviewing the bylaws, and the Committee agreed to incorporate its feedback before advancing revisions. Proposed updates discussed included compliance adjustments related to SB 126 and teleconferencing laws, gender-neutral terminology

changes, clarification of officer titles, ethics training requirements, transparency provisions, and documenting revision dates moving forward. The Committee also discussed clarifying governance roles to better distinguish responsibilities between the Board and the Executive Director, including defining powers reserved exclusively to the Board. Additional refinements included updating meeting location requirements for multi-site operations and removing outdated terminology. Members emphasized the importance of strengthening governance language to prevent ambiguity and ensure accountability. No action was taken, and the Committee will await legal feedback before making recommendations to the full Board.

C. Out-of-State Employee Policy Discussion

The Board discussed revisions to the Employee Relocation Policy and agreed that, at this time, the language from the November 21, 2025 memo will remain in place as interim guidance within the Employee Handbook. The relocation notice requirement will be updated to require a minimum of 60 days' written notice, and minor language corrections will be made for clarity and consistency. The Board confirmed that the policy will reside in the Employee Handbook rather than as a standalone policy. Members discussed the need to consult legal counsel regarding multi-state employment compliance, payroll, tax, workers' compensation, and associated cost implications. A cost analysis of current out-of-state employees will be requested to better understand financial and operational impacts. The Board identified key policy considerations, including geographic boundaries, grandfathering of current employees, pay scale implications, time zone expectations, travel reimbursement, and position classifications. Formal policy options will be developed for future Board consideration, and the interim memo language will remain in effect until a final policy is adopted.

III. Items Scheduled for Consideration and/or Action

A. Committee-Level Approval: Motion to Approve Policy Indexing Template

E. Melton made a motion to approve the policy indexing template with modifications.

K. Corrales seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

J. Louie-Monzon Aye

K. Corrales Aye

E. Melton Aye

B. Recommendation to the Board: Motion to recommend Out of State Employment policy for full Board approval at the next scheduled meeting.

E. Melton made a motion to continue to use the memo regarding the employee relocation policy in the 2026-2027 Employee Handbook with the modifications discussed for better clarification.

K. Corrales seconded the motion.

The committee will continue to develop a more comprehensive policy to bring to the Board at a later date.

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

Roll Call

E. Melton Aye
J. Louie-Monzon Aye
K. Corrales Aye

IV. Closing Items

A. Committee Remarks

The Board discussed the desire to review and update the truancy, suspension and expulsion, and independent study policies, noting that some have not been updated for a couple of years and are not fully aligned. The Board committee recommended that these policies be initially reviewed by the Executive Director and legal counsel to ensure accuracy and compliance before coming to the Board for discussion. The Board will rely on the most current guidance from the attorney during the annual review process in August and September.

B. Future Agenda Items

The next Board meeting is scheduled for May 12th from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. The agenda will include updates on the truancy, suspension and expulsion, and independent study policies, as well as progress on the out-of-state employee policy. Finally, the updated bylaws from YMC will also be included for review once they are returned.

C. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. Louie-Monzon

E. Melton made a motion to adjourn meeting.

K. Corrales seconded the motion.

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

Roll Call

E. Melton Aye
K. Corrales Aye
J. Louie-Monzon Aye

LCAP/WASC Goals

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