APPROVED

Connecting Waters Charter Schools

Minutes

CWCS Board of Directors Meeting

Date and Time
Thursday August 13, 2026 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
  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

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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. Members of the public may address the Board on agenda items or matters not listed on the agenda using one of the following methods:
    - In Person: Members of the public may address the Board by completing a “Request to Speak” form prior to the beginning of the meeting or before the agenda item is called. A person may designate a member of the public to speak on their behalf.
    - Written Comment: Written comments may be submitted online using the google form link located on the agenda no later than 4 hours before the start of the meeting. Written comments will be acknowledged by the Board Chair during the meeting and become part of the public record.
    - In accordance with California's open meeting laws, the Board may receive public comment on non-agenda items but may not discuss or take action on those matters during the meeting.
    - 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. Martin, L. Addipah, S. Welch

Directors Absent
K. Corrales

Guests Present
A. DeMore, L. Joseph, T. Hushaw

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 Aug 13, 2026 at 3:00 PM.

B. Roll Call

C. Approval of the August 13, 2026, Board of Directors Agenda

K. Martin made a motion to approve of the August 13, 2026, Board of Directors Agenda. Items I.E-F moved after Section V. Closed Session Report and Section VI. C-D will be moved to Section VI. A-B.
L. Addipah seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

D. Pledge of Allegiance

Stuart Welch led the Pledge of Allegiance

E. Hearing of the Public on Non-Agenda Items

No members of the public were present

F. Hearing of the Public on Agenda Items

No members of the public were present for CW or CV

Lauren Bassard was present at CWEB

II. Hearing of Public on Closed Session Items

A. No public attendees

Went into Closed Session at 3:04 p.m.

III. Report on Closed Session Items

A. Public Employee Appointment

Nothing to report

Returned to Open Session at 3:46 p.m.

IV. Items Scheduled for Consideration and/or Action

A. Approval of Updated 2026-2027 180 Day Education Specialist Pays Rate and Salary Information

The Board discussed ongoing efforts to ensure compliance with AB 197 and related retirement reporting requirements by July 1, 2027. It was clarified that certificated teachers' classes, although considered extra-duty assignments, qualify as teaching duties and will continue to be reported toward defined benefits; no compensation was changed, and the separate salary agreements were implemented to accommodate the fluid nature of class assignments. The Board also discussed whether to maintain the existing pay scale or revise its format for greater clarity and to reduce the potential for future misinterpretation.

Board Member, Stuart Welch, left at 3:55 p.m.

B. Approval of Board Training Summit Dates

The Board received an update on tentative dates and planning for an upcoming event, including scheduling considerations for the presenter and participation by Cabinet. The event agenda is still being finalized and may require minor adjustments, with photography planned to update organizational materials and the website. Previously approved dates remain in place, with any changes to be communicated to the Board once scheduling is confirmed.

C. Review of Chief Business Officer (CBO) Compensation Study

This was reviewed

D.

Approval of Chief Business Officer (CBO) Contract

E. Melton made a motion to approve the Chief Business Officer (CBO) Contract.
L. Addipah seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

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

V. Items scheduled for Information & Discussion

A. Discuss Budgetary Limit for the Executive Director Search Ad Hoc Committee

The Board discussed initiating a search for a future Executive Director and the potential use of an outside executive search firm to assist with the recruitment process. A preliminary estimate of approximately $20,550 was received from one firm, and the Board requested additional research and cost comparisons to establish an appropriate budget and authorization for the search.

Board Vice Chair, Jennifer Louie Monzon, arrived at 4:11 p.m.

B. Review of Executive Director Compensation Study

This was reviewed

C. Discussion on Employee Residency and Relocation Policy

The Board reviewed feedback from current out-of-state employees regarding the proposed residency and relocation policy, with common themes including grandfathering existing employees, concerns regarding trust and continuity for students, and potential personal and financial hardships associated with relocation. The Board requested additional information regarding the number of out-of-state employees who work directly with students, the costs and resources associated with supporting out-of-state employees, and clarification regarding responsibility for required travel expenses. Further discussion of the policy’s sunset provisions was requested, with an emphasis on ensuring the policy is clearly documented and legally compliant.

D. Discussion on Recruitment of New Board Members

The Board reviewed the process for recruiting and selecting new Board members and discussed expanding outreach to staff, parents, and the broader community. The Board emphasized the need for a clear Board member job description that accurately communicates the responsibilities and time commitment of the role and expressed support for broader recruitment efforts, including targeted outreach to parents and community members.

E. Review of the 2025-2026 Graduation Exit Survey

The Board reviewed the graduate exit survey, which included 173 responses and provided generally positive feedback regarding students' experiences and preparation for life after graduation. The Board discussed opportunities to improve the survey's format and data reporting, including more clearly distinguishing response categories and analyzing results by school, as well as using the feedback to identify actionable improvements in student services, career readiness, and post-graduation support. The Board also requested follow-up regarding a concerning response to ensure the student's well-being and determine whether additional support or school-level action may be appropriate.

F. Review the Updated Board Bylaws

- This is for a First Read
- Any questions will be addressed at the Summit

G. Board Remarks

The Board received a positive update on the success of the Tiger Rallies and Ready to Roar events, which expanded beyond traditional new-family orientations to welcome all families and provide opportunities for connection, curriculum distribution, games, resources, and vendor engagement. The Board recognized the strong participation and support from staff, including employees who assisted families beyond their assigned responsibilities, and expressed appreciation for the collaborative effort that helped create a welcoming and successful start to the school year.

VI. Report on Closed Session Actions

A. Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release

Nothing to report

VII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

L. Addipah made a motion to Adjourn Meeting.
K. Martin seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

Roll Call

S. Welch	Absent
K. Corrales	Absent
L. Addipah	Aye

Roll Call

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

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:54 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.