

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
EDISON-BETHUNE CHARTER ACADEMY**

OCTOBER 23, 2025 – 5:30pm

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR PRESENTATIONS TO
THE BOARD BY PARENTS AND CITIZENS**

The Edison-Bethune Charter Academy (“EBCA”) welcomes your participation at the EBCA Board meetings. The purpose of a public meeting of the Board of Directors (“Board”) is to conduct the affairs of the EBCA in public. Your participation assures us of continuing community interest in our EBCA. 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 “Oral Communications.” “Oral Communications” 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.
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 five (5) 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. 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 1616 S Fruit Ave, Fresno, CA 93706 or email: info@myebca.com

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and upon request, the Edison-Bethune Charter Academy may furnish reasonable auxiliary aids and services to qualified individuals with disabilities. Individuals who require appropriate alternative modification of the agenda in order participate in Board meetings are invited to contact the Executive Director’s office in person or by calling (559) 457-2530. Please contact EBCA at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to a regular meeting or as early as possible prior to a special meeting to allow EBCA sufficient time to arrange for the provision of such auxiliary aids and services.

I. PRELIMINARY

A. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order by the Board Chair at 5:34pm.

B. ROLL CALL

	Present	Absent
Jere Runciman	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Frances Davis	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Gretchen Saldana	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Keisha Shabazz	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Brenda Paxton	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

C. FLAG SALUTE

D. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Jere asks for a motion to for the approval of the agenda... Frances makes the motion to approval of the agenda for the regular meeting... Brenda seconds the motion...request for discussion-none needed

Vote FD-Yes GS-Yes JR-Yes KS-Yes BP-Yes
Motion Carried

II. COMMUNICATIONS

A. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: Non-agenda items: no individual presentation shall be for more than three (3) minutes and the total time for this purpose shall not exceed fifteen (15) minutes. Ordinarily, Board members will not respond to presentations and no action can be taken due to California’s public meeting laws. However, the Board may give direction to staff following a presentation.

The Board may not have complete information available to answer questions and may refer specific concerns to the Executive Director for attention. The Board requests that any person wishing to make complaints against EBCA or EBCA employees file the appropriate complaint form prior to this meeting. We appreciate your input and EBCA will respond to your compliant in accordance with our complaint policies and procedures.

B. For Information:

This is a presentation of information which has occurred since the previous Board meeting. No action will be taken as the report is purely for informational purposes.

Report from Executive Director/Principal – Mr. Garcia

The Executive Director will update the Board on current events on campus, including but not limited to the events and important information around campus.

- Attendance was promoted for October 1 (count day) to break the attendance record. The record was broken with only 3 absences.
- Students received hot dogs and a week of free dress for breaking the record.
- Tardies are being addressed. There were 492 tardies in the first quarter, down from 647 last year.
- As a reward, 260 students with 100% attendance or only 1 absence were taken to John's Incredible Pizza.
- The school is working to motivate students with a high number of tardies to show improvement.
- Red Ribbon Week events included dress-up days and a Red Ribbon Rally.
- Regarding a recent student death: A viewing was held on 10/23 and a service on 10/24. A counselor is ready and available for students.
- In response to a Board question about student detention for tardies, Mr. Garcia noted there is some pushback from parents. The school is using its attendance policy and having conversations with students and parents to offer help. Most parents correct the behavior.

Report from Curriculum and Instruction Director – Mr. Sprattling

The Curriculum and Instruction Director will update the Board regarding student assessments and curriculum.

- An AI issue was identified in 5th and 6th grade. 6th-grade students were found to be using Google Lens and cheating on STAR Testing.
- The availability of these tools has been shut down, and Kiosk mode is being used for all testing platforms.
- A staff development training on using AI in the classroom was held on 10/17, conducted by FCOE (Fresno County Office of Education).
- For assessments, the school is using Multitudes Reading Screens. Data analysis of struggling students and strategies to help them have been sent to administration.
- Mr. Sprattling is working with FCOE on grade-level skills with EL instruction and improvement science.

Report from Technology Director – Mr. Lek

The Technology Director will update the Board regarding technology on campus.

- Mr. Lek discussed three AI platforms: Chat GPT, Copilot, and Gemini.
- An Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) for all staff regarding AI needs to be created.
- Gemini is being recommended as it has privacy protection.
- The school's webpage, analytics, and data are being reviewed, along with social media posts on Facebook.

III. 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 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 votes on them. The director recommends approval of all consent agenda items.

- A. Approval of Minutes of Board Meeting of September 25, 2025
- B. Approval of Financial Report and Warrant Report for September 2025.
- C. Approval of the Payroll Registers for September 2025.
- D. Resignations: Yanira Arcila – After School Program, Courtney Deaton-Chaffin – Noon Time Assistant, Giovana Vasquez – Instructional Aide

Jere asks for a motion to for the approval of the consent agenda... Keisha makes the motion to approve the consent agenda ... Frances seconds the motion...request for discussion-none needed

Vote FD-Yes GS-Yes JR-Yes KS-Yes BP-Yes
Motion Carried

IV. ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR ACTION

- A. None

V. ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION

- A. Board Training
 - It was noted that the Board needs to complete Brown Act and Ethics trainings.
 - The Board discussed the training through Fresno Unified.
 - Restructuring the agenda was discussed.
 - A decision was made to add wording to the agenda to allow for translation requests, to be made 48 hours in advance.
 - The Board also spoke about Charter Renewal from the perspective of the authorizers.
- B. Comprehensive School Safety Plan Status
 - New board policies will be brought to the board to ensure compliance.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:18pm.

VII. NEXT MEETING: November 20, 2025