

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**EDISON-BETHUNE CHARTER ACADEMY**

**MARCH 26, 2026 – 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](mailto:info@myebca.com)

**ADA Compliance and Public Accommodation**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and upon request, the Edison-Bethune Charter Academy (EBCA) may furnish reasonable auxiliary aids and services to qualified individuals with disabilities, including **qualified sign language interpreters** and **foreign language interpreters**.

Individuals who require appropriate alternative modification of the agenda or auxiliary aids and services to participate in Board meetings are invited to contact the Executive Director’s office in person or by calling (559) 457-2530.

**To ensure the availability of an interpreter or other auxiliary aids and services, please make your request at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to a regular meeting or as early as possible prior to a special meeting.** This allows EBCA sufficient time to arrange for the provision of such accommodations.

**I. PRELIMINARY**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order by the Board Chair at 5:30 pm.

**B. ROLL CALL**

|                  | Present       | Absent        |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Jere Runciman    | <u>  X  </u>  | <u>      </u> |
| Keisha Shabazz   | <u>      </u> | <u>  X  </u>  |
| Gretchen Saldana | <u>      </u> | <u>  X  </u>  |
| Brenda Paxton    | <u>  X  </u>  | <u>      </u> |
| Fani Lou Taylor  | <u>  X  </u>  | <u>      </u> |

**C. FLAG SALUTE**

**D. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

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

Vote: GS-AB JR-Yes KS-AB BP-Yes FT-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.

**Executive Director/Principal Report (Mr. Garcia):**

- Staffing updates included covering classes for substitutes when none are available.
- Athletics: The Girls Basketball team took 4th place.
- Academic/Campus events: Parent-teacher conferences were held.
- Upcoming: Spring Break is scheduled for the following week.

Report from Curriculum and Instruction Director – Mr. Sprattling

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

**Curriculum and Instruction Director Report:**

- Mr. Sprattling was absent.
- Mr. Garcia reported that the school is preparing for ELPAC testing.

Report from Technology Director – Mr. Lek

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

**Technology Director Report (Mr. Lek):**

- Reported on an internet access issue caused by AT&T vandalism, which resulted in a one-day delay.
- The internet issue has been resolved and systems are ready for testing.
- Future planning: New Chromebooks for grades 3–6 will not be required until the 2027-28 school year.

**III. CLOSED SESSION – 5:41pm**

A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: (1 case)

B. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE

(Pursuant to § 54954.5(e))

**IV. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION – 7:37pm**

- A. No action was taken during closed session.

**V. 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 Meetings:
  - a. Regular Board Meeting – February 26, 2026
  - b. Special Board Meeting – February 26, 2026
  - c. Special Board Meeting – March 4, 2026
- B. Approval of Financial Report and Warrant Report for February 2026.
- C. Approval of the Payroll Registers for February 2026.
- D. New Hires – Amirah Mathershed – BSP, and Natalie Montano – ASP
- E. Employee Resignation – Elisha Cardona

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

Vote: GS-AB JR-Yes KS-AB BP-Yes FT-Yes  
Motion Carried

## **VI. ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR ACTION**

- A. Approval of 2026-27 Calendar

Jere asks for a motion to for the approval of 2026-27 Calendar... Brenda makes the motion to approval of 2026-27 Calendar... Fani seconds the motion...request for discussion-none needed.

Vote: GS-AB JR-Yes KS-AB BP-Yes FT-Yes  
Motion Carried

- B. Approval of Annual Declaration of Need for 30 Day Substitutes

Jere asks for a motion to for the Approval of Annual Declaration of Need for 30 Day Substitutes... Brenda makes the motion to Approval of Annual Declaration of Need for 30 Day Substitutes... Fani seconds the motion...request for discussion-none needed

Vote: GS-AB JR-Yes KS-AB BP-Yes FT-Yes  
Motion Carried

- C. Approval of the Side Letter with Fresno Teachers Association (FTA)

Jere asks for a motion to for the approval of the Side Letter with FTA... Brenda makes the motion to approval of the Side Letter with FTA... Fani seconds the motion...request for discussion-none needed

Vote: GS-AB JR-Yes KS-AB BP-Yes FT-Yes  
Motion Carried

**VII. ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION**

- A. Charter Renewal – June 2027 Update – Discussed the timeline and policies and documents that will need to approved in the next meeting.
- B. Draft Budget for 2026-27 – Discuss adjustments to staffing and refinement of the budget categories resulting projected budget deficit of (\$284,699)
- C. Survey Results from Staff of cost saving suggestions for 2026-27 Budget – information will be reviewed and approved in the next board meeting.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56pm.

**IX. NEXT MEETING: April 23, 2026**