Evergreen Charter School
Virtual Meeting of the Board of Trustees
605 Peninsula Blvd, Hempstead, NY 11550
May 27, 2026

8:00 pm.

The meeting was held at 605 Peninsula Boulevard

Members:

Mr. Gil Bernardino	**Present**
Dr. Sarah Brewster	**Present**
Ms. Nancy Iglesias-Gillen	**present**
Ms. Yvonne Mowatt	**Present**
Ms. Gladys Rodríguez	**Present**
Mr. Luis Ras	

Also present:

Dr. Elena Litescu, Superintendent
Ms. Christine Weigand, Principal K-1
Mr. Nicolas Agosti, Principal 2-4
Ms. Christine Civitano, Principal 5-8
Ms. Lisa Camilli, AP K-1
Ms. Nancy Noris, AP 2-4
Ms. Brianna Golio, 5-6 Curriculum, Coordinator
Ms. Alicia Morera, Director of World Languages
Mr. Matthew Baruch, Director of Data and Attendance

Note: As always, the Board Meeting was conducted in English and Spanish.

I. Call to Order By President, Mr. Gil Bernardino

Mr. Bernardino welcomed everyone.

II. Superintendent's Report By Superintendent, Dr. Elena Litescu

BENCHMARK 1 UPDATES

Elementary/Middle/High School Proficiency:

Student Assessment:

- The fourth grading quarter for all grades will end on June 18, 2026.
- Students in grades K-9 will take the final i-Ready Diagnostic at the end of May.
- NYS exams, ELA, MATH, NYSESLAT, and Science were administered.

Graduation/College & Career:

- The last college visit for this school year took place mid-May.

ESSA Accountability Designation:

- ESSA funds are monitored to ensure they are all allocated for this school year.

BENCHMARK 2 UPDATES

Shared Accountability/High Expectations:

- Classroom observations were conducted in all our schools, and by the end of the first week of June, the formal and informal observations will be concluded.

Research-based Practices/Instructional Strategies:

- During the last half-day of PD this school year, all faculty participated in planning for the next school year, including vertical alignment discussions, recommendations for classroom rosters, and curriculum pacing.

Curriculum:

- Curriculum meetings have continued throughout May with administrators from all grade levels to finalize plans for the upcoming school year.

Assessments:

- HS Students are getting ready for the Regents exams starting at the beginning of June.
- The 8th grade students enrolled in the LE will take the Regents exam in June.

Educational Success/Gap Closing:

- Intervention and support teachers are tracking the students' progress during their small group instructional sessions.
- Before- and after-school sessions will continue as scheduled.
- Saturday school programming is offered for two more weeks.

Support for Diverse Learners:

- All lesson plans submitted by teachers and reviewed by administrators include differentiation and support for diverse learners.

Academic Enrichment:

- Regents support is provided to all HS students scheduled to take the Regents exam in June.

BENCHMARK 3 UPDATES

Chronic Absenteeism:

- Meetings with families of students who demonstrate excessive late arrivals or absences habits continue to be scheduled with the Principals.

Out Of School Suspensions:

- Reported by the Deans of Students.

School Climate, Culture Evaluation:

- Teachers and Staff Appreciation week was well received in the entire district.

School Spirit:

- Several events are planned to send our students off to their next grade.
- At the end of May, K-4 grade students will have the chance to invite their parents to participate in the "Bring your parent to PE" initiative.

Behavior Management & Safety:

- The students are reminded daily to make good choices and keep the promise they make every morning during the MA.

DASA & Bullying/Harassment:

- NA

Family Engagement:

- The "Mothers and Mentors" (MoM) event was attended by more than 260 family members of students at Front St.
- Parent-Teacher Conferences were well attended by families.
- World Languages Awards ceremonies were held at all four schools.

School Clubs:

- Several clubs are meeting weekly in all schools.

McKinney-Vento and Unaccompanied Minors:

- There are 16 students in the district receiving support from Mr. Skariah, the district's McKinney-Vento Liaison, who continues to coordinate and address the support needs of eligible families.

SEL:

- The SEL curriculum continues to be implemented.

BENCHMARK 7 UPDATES:

Professional Climate/Professional Development:

- The half-day PD on 5/22/26 gave the faculty and staff the opportunity to collaborate and begin preparations for the next school year.

Staff Feedback:

- Feedback is collected from faculty and staff both formally and informally.

Contracted Services:

- BOCES is scoring the exams administered to our students.

BENCHMARK 8 UPDATES:

Mission:

- Key design elements are promoted during the morning assembly in all four schools.

Spanish Instruction:

- The Director of the World Languages coordinated the administration of the Checkpoint A and Checkpoint B exams.

Integration of Ecology:

- At Peninsula, the hydroponic plants were harvested, and a new cycle began.

Fostering Healthy Life Choices:

- The Director of Food Services and the HS Chefs continue to prepare and provide healthy breakfast and lunches to students in all four schools.

Integration of Hispanic Culture and Respect for All Cultures:

- The HS Orchestra will perform at all four schools, touring all our buildings.

Planning and Using the Workshop Model:

- Lesson plans and instruction reflect the workshop model.

Recruitment and Enrollment Efforts:

- The administrative team started planning and recruiting for the next school year.

BENCHMARK 9 UPDATES:

Enrollment Data:

- Presented by Finance

Retention Data:

- Families of the students whose promotion to the next grade is at risk, will receive a written notification in the mail to set-up an appointment with the Principal to determine if their grade promotional will be conditional.

Updates Recruitment & Enrollment Efforts:

- Faculty recruitment had started for the next school year.

IV. Questions and Comments from the Board related to Superintendent's Report:

None.

V. Questions and comments from the public related to the Superintendent's Report.

None.

VI. Business Office Report, By Dr. Sarah Brewster VP of Board of Trustees in the absence of Ms. Knox, Director o of Finance and Operations.

Benchmark 4: Financial Condition

- District billing 6 of 6 for this school year was mailed out May 18, 2026. A total of 21out of 28 districts are up to date with tuition payments for billing 5 of 6. Two districts have paid in full for the entire year and one district is late more than one billing cycle. That district is Elmont. All claims to The Child Nutrition Administration for meals served to students from September through April have been submitted and we have received all reimbursements that amount to $688,827. The next claim for meals served in May will be sent out the first week in June.

Benchmark 5: Financial Management

- All financial reports from July through April for this fiscal year have been submitted to our Board of Directors and School Administrators including all bank reconciliations.

- The ECS Parent Association April's 2026 bank statements show a total balance of $2,856.72.

- Copies of April's Home Depot and American Express statements have been provided to our Board of Directors and our School Superintendent. This month we paid in full all balances incurred from March to April. For American Express we paid $8353.70 and for Home Depot we paid $3,857.39 Our American Express March's statement show a total of 363,791 reward points.

Benchmark 9: Enrollment

- We currently have 5 students going through the registration process. Parents of new students starting in the school year 2026-2027 are also going through the registration process.

VII. Questions and Comments from the Board related to Superintendent's Report:

None.

VIII. Questions and comments from the public related to the Superintendent's Report.

None.

IX. Approval of Minutes

Resolved the Board of Trustees approves the minutes April 30, 2026

Motion: Trustee Yvonne Mowatt
Second: Trustee Sarah Brewster
Vote: 5:0

X. Reading of the Resolutions:

The resolutions were read in English and Spanish. Resolutions were explained.

XI. Questions and comments from the public related to resolutions:

There were none.

XII. Voting of the Resolutions:

1) **Resolved,** the Board of Trustees approves the following resolution under Student Performance (including proposals to support achievement in these areas)

a. Mr. Agosti, Principal at Front St, is requesting approval for NYC Children's Theatre Anti-Bullying Presentation be presented to the students on Monday June 15th through Wednesday June 17th.
b. Mr. Agosti, Principal at Front St, and Ms. Markey, is requesting approval to host The Royal Breakfast Ceremony on Wednesday June 24, 2026.
c. Ms. Delia at Front St, is requesting approval to install an Outdoor Little Library to provide students with easy access to books.
d. The Middle School Team is requesting approval to host a 5th and 6th Grade Spring Showcase on Friday, June 12, 2026.
e. The Team at Loretto is requesting approval for a proposed budget of $796.96 for Carnival Day on Thursday, June 25, 2026.
f. Ms. Morera, Director of World Languages, is requesting approval for additional proctoring support for the upcoming Checkpoint B exam on Monday, June 22, 2026, and any associated compensation.
g. Ms. Morera, Director of World Languages, is requesting approval to shift Checkpoint B Agency from NYSWALA to Oneida-Herkimer-Madison BOCES.
h. Mr. Pumar, Assistant Principal at Laurel, is requesting approval to have a Dance Club Celebration (Cooking Lesson) on Monday, June 22, 2026.
i. Mr. Pumar, Assistant Principal at Laurel, is requesting approval to have a Summer Send Off Showcase on Friday, June 26, 2026.
j. Dr. Litescu, Superintendent, is asking permission for the Board to approve the 2026-2027 school year calendar.
k. Dr. Litescu, Superintendent, is asking permission to have the summer school budget approved by the Board.

All trips and events are conditionally approved pending safety and other relevant reviews.

Motion: Gladys Rodriguez
Second: Yvonne Mowatt
Vote: 5:0

2) **Resolved,** the Board of Trustees approves the following professional development proposals

a. Professional Development has been approved for Ms. Morera to attend two trainings to support leadership development and working with teams using a Gestalt holistic framework. See attached.

Motion: Yvonne Mowatt
Second: Sarah Brewster
Motion 5:0

3) **Resolved** the Board of Trustees approves the following resolution regarding staffing:

(Some of these were approved earlier this month. This resolution ratifies their approval).

Name	Position	Building	Effective
Susana Canela	Admissions Assistant Director	28 Richardson Pl	05/26/26
Roxana Torres	Lunch Aide	Peninsula	TBD

Employee Position and Salary Changes:

Name	Current Position	New Position	Effective
Christina Ras	Spanish Teacher	ENL Teacher	09/01/2025
Ruth Contreras Guzman	Kitchen Cleaner	Lunch Aide	06/01/2026
Alicia Morera	Dir. of World Languages	Dir. Of World Languages	06/01/2026

Additional Positions

a. Mr. Agosti, Principal at Front St, is requesting approval to hire a Grade Level Support Floater for Grades 3 & 4.
b. Mr. Agosti, Principal at Front St, is requesting approval to hire a Science Teacher for Grades 2-4.
c. The Board is approving the hiring of additional Spanish teachers to support school needs.

Motion: Gladys Rodriguez
Second: Yvonne Mowatt
Motion 5:0

XII. Questions

There were none.

XII. Additional Reports By President Bernardino

Updates:

Dr. Brewster reminded everyone to check school calendar with school events as we have a busy month. She reminded parents to enjoy the school wide art show on Thursday, May 28th.

Dr. Brewster thanked staff and administrators for their support.

XV. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:34

Motion: Yvonne Mowatt
Second: Nancy Iglesias-Gillen
Vote: 5:0

Minutes submitted by:

Gladys Rodriguez
Secretary of the Board of Trustee