Evergreen Charter School
Virtual Meeting of the Board of Trustees
605 Peninsula Blvd, Hempstead, NY 11550
August 3, 2026

10:00 am

The meeting was held at 605 Peninsula Boulevard

Members:

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

Also present:

Dr. Elena Litescu, Superintendent
Mr. Broderick Spenser, HS Principal
Dimitrius Lowe, Administrator
Ms. Alicia Morera, Director of World Languages
Ms. Lisett Knox, Director of Finance and Operations
Dr. Wanda Emanuel, Director of ENL

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

Elementary/Middle/High School Proficiency:
Student Assessment:

- The DIAL Assessment (Developmental Indicators for Assessment) continues to be administered to the Incoming Kindergarten students with the completion date of Friday, July 31, 2026.

- The New York State Identification Test for English Language Learners (NYSITELL) will continue to be administered to all new ENL students.

Graduation/College & Career:

- There are several HS students who were hired as interns helping during the summer school at Peninsula and Front St.

ESSA Accountability Designation:

- The application for 2026-2027 is being prepared to be submitted in August.

BENCHMARK 2 UPDATES

Shared Accountability/High Expectations:

- PD schedule is finalized and the PD will take place at Loretto between 8/17-8/24/26. On 8/25 and 8/26 all teachers will conclude the PD in their assigned schools.

Research-based Practices/Instructional Strategies:

- During PD there will be training provided to new and returning teachers on research based practices and instructional strategies.

Curriculum:

- The necessary instructional materials were ordered to be delivered before the new school year starts.

Assessments:

- There are several students who will be administered assignments at the end of the summer school to determine their readiness to be promoted to the next grade.

Educational Success/Gap Closing:

- Summer school will conclude on Thursday, July 30th.

Support for Diverse Learners:

- ELL students received extra support during the summer school.

Academic Enrichment:

- Summer school took place during the month of July providing extra support to students in all grades.

BENCHMARK 3 UPDATES

Chronic Absenteeism:

- The district ended the school year at a high attendance rate.

Out Of School Suspensions:

There were no incidents during the summer school.

Family Engagement:

- The families were sent various documents, i.e. supplies list, classroom assignments, notice of the uniform changes for the HS, to prepare their child on time for the new school year.

School Clubs:

- The fall schedule for Athletics Department is being finalized.

SEL:

- A new SEL Curriculum, the RULER designed by Yale University, is considered and reviewed for grades 7-12.

BENCHMARK 7 UPDATES:

School Leadership:

- The administration is focusing on preparations for the new school year.

Professional Climate/Professional Development:

- The PD Agenda is being finalized.

Staff Feedback:

- Staff who taught during the summer school was invited to provide their feedback regarding the summer school logistics.

Contracted Services:

- Contracts with consultants are reviewed and renewed so they can provide their services for the next school year.

BENCHMARK 8: MISSION AND KEY DESIGN ELEMENTS:

The school is faithful to its mission and hasimplemented the key design elements included in its charter

BENCHMARK 8 UPDATES:

Integration of Ecology:

- Several teachers and two administrators, the DCI and the Superintendent, attended the Ecology implementation in Curriculum training.

Fostering Healthy Life Choices:

- Safety tips were shared with students and their families to implement during the summer break.

Integration of Hispanic Culture and Respect for All Cultures:

- Curriculum was reviewed and instructional materials were ordered for Spanish instruction.

Planning and Using the Workshop Model:

- All faculty will receive a refresher training on generating their lesson plans and on planning their lesson following the mini-workshop model.

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 of Finance and Operations.

Benchmark 4: Financial Condition

- Related to our tuition billing, 16 out of 28 school districts have paid in full the tuition owed to our school for 2025-2026. Since billing 6 of six was sent out there were some enrollment changes in June that caused invoices to be revised for several school districts including Hempstead and Uniondale which leave some pending balances owed for this school year. We have four school districts that are late paying by two billing cycles. Those districts are Bellmore-Merrick, Elmont, Roosevelt and West Hempstead. We are currently finalizing billing 1 of 6 for the 2026-2027 school year and are planning to send it out by July 15, 2026.

Benchmark 5: Financial Management

- All financial reports from July 2025 through June 2026 have been submitted to our Board of Directors and School Administrators including all bank reconciliations.

- Copies of June'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 May to June. For American Express we paid $5,513.06 and for Home Depot we paid $3,823.86. Our American Express June's statement show a total of 375,914 reward points.

- We are finalizing all claims for meals served to students during the month of June and expect to submit the claims to the Child Nutrition Administration by July 15, 2026.

Benchmark 9: Enrollment

- We continued to enroll new students as spaces become available.

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 July 13, 2026

Motion: Trustee Sarah Brewster
Second: Trustee Gladys Rodriguez
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 lead teacher positions:

Teaching and Learning (include professional development, curriculum)

a. Ms. Weigand, Principal of Peninsula, is requesting approval to renew our annual license with Observe4Success.
b. Ms. Weigand, Principal of Peninsula, is requesting approval to offer Kindergarten and First Grade Saturday School again this year in September 2026.
c. Dr. Litescu, Superintendent, is requesting approval for the 2026-2027 Safety Plan for the ECS District and to be posted on the website for public review for 30 days.
d. Dr. Litescu, Superintendent, is asking for approval of the following teachers to be considered for Lead Teacher roles and to be compensated $2,500 for the extra duties:
    - Ms. Bridget Venegas- Kindergarten Lead Teacher
    - Ms. Elena Chwat- First Grade Lead Teacher
    - Ms. Ashley Richards- Support Staff Lead Teacher
    - Mr. Daniel Levitan- Special Subject Area Lead Teacher
    - Ms. Jennifer Gulino- Second Grade Lead Teacher
    - Ms. Patricia Markey- Third Grade Lead Teacher
    - Ms. Danielle Classi- Fourth Grade Lead Teacher
    - Ms. Karla Vasquez- Specials Lead Teacher
    - Ms. Ashley Liebegott- Supports Lead Teacher
    - Ms. Kelly Langan- Fifth Grade Lead Teacher

- Ms. Haydee Ruiz- Seventh Grade Lead Teacher
- Ms. Marianne VonBevern- Eight Grade Lead Teacher

e. Dr. Litescu, Superintendent, is asking for the following staff members to be considered for the district coordinator role and to be compensated $5,000 for the extra duties:
   - Mr. Daniel Levitan- PE Coordinator
   - Ms. Ana Castro- Art Coordinator
   - Mr. Pedro Rincon- Music Coordinator
   - Ms. Joanne Castiglia- Nurse Coordinator
   - Ms. Nathalie Bolanos- SSW Coordinator

f. Dr. Litescu, Superintendent, is asking for approval of the following teachers to be considered for Department Chair and to be compensated $2,500 for the extra duties:
   - Mr. Alexander Eichhorn- Humanities
   - Ms. Kayla Borozny- STEM

g. Dr. Litescu, Superintendent, is asking for approval of the following teachers to be considered for the Mentor role and to be compensated $2,500 for the extra duties:
   - Mr. Thomas Salzarulo
   - Mr. Erin Piersa
   - Mr. Justin Montalvo
   - Mr. John Holt
   - Ms. Vanessa Herbach
   - Ms. Adrianna Flores
   - Ms. Carol Reyes
   - Ms. Kristen Bischoff
   - Ms. Kosta
   - Ms. Manning
   - Ms. Beckwith
   - Ms. Markey

h. Dr. Litescu, Superintendent, is requesting approval of the revised Teacher's Manual, Parent's Manual, and Attendance Policy.

i. Dr. Litescu, Superintendent, is asking for approval to launch the Community Lead Teacher role and for Ms. Cindy Serrano to be considered for this role and compensated $2,500 for her extra time in fulfilling this role.

Motion: Trustee Yvonne Mowatt
Second: Trustee Luis Ras
Vote: 6:0

2) **Resolved**, the Board of Trustees approves the following resolutions under **Culture, Climate, Student/Family Engagement (including activities to meet student/family needs, trips)**

a. Ms. Weigand, Principal of Peninsula, is requesting the First-Grade Team to organize a trip to Bowlero in the Spring of 2027 (date TBD).
b. Ms. Weigand, Principal of Peninsula, is requesting the Kindergarten Team to organize a trip to the Queens Zoo in the Spring of 2027 (date TBD).

Motion: Trustee Gladys Rodriguez
Second: Trustee Sarah Brewster
Vote: 6:0

3) **Resolved**, the Board of Trustees approves the following new staff:

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

Name	Position	Building	Effective
Brittany Romanoff	11th Grade ELA Teacher	33 Laurel Ave	TBD
Brodrick Spencer	HS Principal 9th-12th Grade	33 Laurel Ave	07/26/2026
Nelson Salazar	8th Grade Math Teacher	33 Laurel Ave	08/17/2026
Jada Augustus	7th Grade Math Teacher	33 Laurel Ave	TBD
Kelly Milia	5th Grade Science Teacher	Loretto	08/17/2026
Kevin Bonilla	Attendance Clerk	28 Richardson Place	TBD
Emily Marcus	6th Grade Science Teacher	Loretto	TBD
Kevin Kurka	JHS Technology & HS Gastronomy Teacher	33 Laurel Ave	TBD
Andrew Mesquita	5th Grade ELA Teacher	Loretto	08/17/2026
Pindan Hao	Technology Teacher	Front St.	TBD
Mikayla Ziems	3rd Grade Teacher	Front St.	TBD
Jessica Castaneda	Admissions Clerk	28 Richardson Place	TBD
Alyssa Brandl	4th Grade Special Education Teacher	Front St.	TBD
Sarah Colosono	Leave Replacement ELA AIS Teacher	Front St.	TBD
Michael Ryan	3rd Grade Support Teacher	Front St.	TBD
Joselynn Escobar	K-1 Stem	Peninsula	TBD

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

4) **Resolved,** the Board of Trustees approves the following Vendor proposal

1. Pitney Bowes Stamp Machine Contract Renewal for 605 Peninsula Boulevard (Elementary School Building K-1)
Contract for 60 months. Monthly Cost: $97.29

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

5) **Resolved,** the Board of Trustees approves the following changes to its organizational chart.

Motion: Trustee Luis Ras
Second: Trustee Sarah Brewster
Vote: 5:0

6) **Resolved,** the Board of Trustees approves the following confidentiality agreement.

Motion: Trustee Sarah Brewster
Second: Trustee Gladys Rodriguez
Vote: 5:0

7) **Resolved,** the Board of Trustees approves the submission of its annual report.

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

8) **Resolved,** the Board of Trustees approves the 2026-2027 school budget with modifications.

Motion: Trustee Yvonne Mowatt
Second: Trustee Luis Ras
Vote: 5:0

9) **Resolved,** the Board of Trustees approves the ACH payment to the Village of Hempstead.

See attached.

Motion: Trustee Sarah Brewster
Second: Trustee Luis Ras
Vote: 5:0

XIII. Questions

There were none.

XIV. Additional Reports By President Bernardino

Updates:

Dr. Brewster thanked administrators for their hard work over the summer. She welcome new administrators to the meeting and wished everyone a successful 2026-2027 school year.

XVI. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 12:45

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

Minutes submitted by:

Gladys Rodriguez
Secretary of the Board of Trustee