

**Inglewood Unified School District**  
**Minutes**  
**Special Board Meeting**  
December 11, 2019, 4:00 PM  
Dr. Ernest Shaw Board Room  
401 S. Inglewood Avenue  
Inglewood, CA 90301

A Special Board meeting of the Inglewood Unified School District was held on Wednesday, December 11, 2019, in the Dr. Ernest Shaw Board Room in the Education Center at 401 S. Inglewood Avenue, Inglewood, CA 90301-2544.

**1. INITIAL CALL TO ORDER**

Minutes:

Dr. Erika F. Torres called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Minutes:

Dr. D'Artagnan Scorza led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ROLL CALL**

**3.a. Board Members: Dr. D'Artagnan Scorza, President (Trustee Area 5); Dr. Dionne Young Faulk, Vice President (Trustee Area 1); Dr. Carliss McGhee, Member (Trustee Area 2); Alice B. Grigsby, Member (Trustee Area 3); Margaret Turner-Evans, Member (Trustee Area 4)**

Minutes:

The following Board members were present:

Dr. D'Artagnan Scorza

Dr. Carliss McGhee

Alice B. Grigsby

Margaret Turner-Evans

Absent

Dr. Dionne Young Faulk

**3.b. County Administrator: Dr. Erika Torres**

Minutes:

Dr. Erika F. Torres was present.

**3.c. Cabinet Members: Hedieh Khajavi, Chief Human Resources Officer; Dr. Bernadette C. Lucas, Chief Academic Officer; and Christine M.I. Dacanay, Chief Business Official**

Minutes:

The following Cabinet members were present:

Hedieh Khajavi

Dr. Bernadette C. Lucas

Christine M.I. Dacanay

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**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Minutes:

Dr. Torres indicated that Item 5.b. was deleted. The Board agenda was approved with the change noted.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDIZED AND NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS:** This portion of the Agenda provides an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the County Administrator and Board of Education on agenda and non-agenda items; however, the Brown Act precludes any action being taken on any items not appearing on the posted agenda for action. A public comment card must be completed and submitted to the School Police Officer who is stationed at the entrance of the meeting room prior to the beginning of the Public Comment period. Members of the public who wish to speak about an item on the posted agenda must indicate the item number on the Public Comment Card. Three [3] minutes will be allotted to each speaker; and a maximum of thirty [30] minutes for public comment on agenda items and [30] minutes on non-agenda items. If the public comment cards exceed [10] cards per section, the County Administrator may reduce the time allowed from three minutes to either two or one minutes, per person to hear from more speakers.

**5.a. Public Comment on Agenda Items**

Minutes:

The following speakers addressed the County Administrator, Board of Education, and Cabinet in opposition of the three public hearings listed on the agenda:

1. Yael Gurse, Teacher at M.H.S. – Spoke in opposition of the three charter schools listed under items 6.a., 6.b., and 6.c.
2. Aba Ngissah, ITA President - Spoke in opposition of the three charter schools listed under items 6.a., 6.b., and 6.c.

**5.b. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

Minutes:

Item 5.b. was deleted from the agenda.

**6. PUBLIC HEARING (S):**

**6.a. Pursuant to Education Code Section 47605: New Charter Petition for Environmental Charter High School (ECHS) #2 for the Period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2025**

Minutes:

Dr. Torres indicated that the purpose of the public hearing was to give the public the opportunity to provide input regarding the charter petition for Environmental Charter High School (ECHS) #2 for the period of July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2025.

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Pursuant to Education Code section 47605 the public hearing would serve to gauge the public's response to the charter school proposal and to consider the level of support from District teachers, other District employees, and parents.

The public hearing opened at 4:16 p.m.

Pursuant to Board Bylaw 9323 the following representatives from the charter school provided a presentation regarding the provisions of the charter petition.

1. Anthony Jowid, ECS Board President
2. Alison Suffet-Diaz, ECS Founder & Director of Growth & Sustainability
3. Dave Trejo, ECHS #2 Founding Principal

The following speakers spoke in favor of the charter petition.

1. Alaina Sanders, Student at ECHS
2. Ana Martinez, Student at ECHS
3. Radames Narvaez, Student of Alison Suffet-Diaz at Leuzinger High School

The County Administrator and Board of Education had a discussion regarding this item.

With no further public comments to be heard the public hearing closed at 4:47 p.m.

**6.b. Pursuant to Education Code Section 47605: New Charter Petition for Truth Academy**

Minutes:

Dr. Torres indicated that the purpose of the public hearing was to give the public the opportunity to provide input regarding the charter petition for Truth Academy.

Pursuant to Education Code section 47605 the public hearing served to gauge the public's response to the charter school proposal and to consider the level of support from District teachers, other District employees, and parents.

Even though representatives of the charter school were given the opportunity to make a presentation regarding the provisions of the petition, Petitioner informed the District that they would not be present for the meeting. The County Administrator noted that the public hearing was scheduled with knowledge and consent of Petitioners on November 20, 2019. Since the Petitioners were not present the County Administrator and Board were unable to ask questions.

The public hearing opened at 4:48 p.m.

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The Dr. Torres reiterated that Petitioners were not present. She further stated that the District takes this process seriously and devotes significant time and resources to the process of considering charter petitions. Also, this is a school that has been operating illegally in our district for many years and is just now seeking to get approval from the District. Yet they aren't here to explain their charter or answer our questions.

Furthermore, the Petitioner is not reflecting the kind of dedication, cooperation and commitment expected of our charter schools.

The Board of Education had a discussion with Sue Ann Evans, IUSD Legal Counsel regarding this item.

With no public comments to be heard the public hearing closed at 4:58 p.m.

**6.c. Pursuant to Education Code Section 47605: Charter Petition Renewal for Children of Promise Preparatory Academy for the Period of July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2025**

Minutes:

Dr. Torres indicated that the purpose of the public hearing was to give the public the opportunity to provide input regarding the charter petition renewal for Children of Promise Preparatory Academy for the period of July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2025. Pursuant to Education Code section 47605 the public hearing served to gauge the public's response to the charter school proposal and to consider the level of support from District teachers, other District employees, and parents.

The public hearing opened at 4:59 p.m.

Pursuant to Board Bylaw 9323 the following representatives from the charter school provided a presentation regarding the provisions of the charter petition.

1. Dr. Carleton Lincoln, CEO and Founder of COPPA
2. Dr. Richelle Brooks, Principal of Children of Promise
3. Kennedy Hilario, Associate Executive Director of Schools

The following speakers spoke in favor of the charter petition.

1. Trena Lawson, Associate Executive Director of Development.
2. Makayla Spain, Alumni (currently attending Southwest Middle College).

The following speaker spoke in opposition of the charter petition.

1. Aba Ngissah, President - Inglewood Teachers Association

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The County Administrator and Board of Education had a discussion regarding this item.

With no further public comments to be heard the public hearing closed at 5:26 p.m.

**7. BOARD MEMBER REMARKS**

**8. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR REMARKS**

**9. NEXT MEETING - January 15, 2020**

Minutes:

Dr. Torres indicated that the next Board meeting would be on January 15, 2020.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned by Dr. Torres at 5:27 p.m.

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Board Clerk