



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
May 19, 2026 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
HIGH TECH HIGH**

Date: May 19, 2026

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Place: HTH Main Commons, 2861 Womble Rd. San Diego, CA 92106
 Village-based Zoom accessibility:
 Conference Room, High Tech High Mesa, 5331 Mt Alifan Dr, Bldg. 900 San Diego, CA 92111
 Conference Room, High Tech Middle North County, 1460 W San Marcos Blvd, San Marcos, CA 92078
 Conference Room, High Tech High Chula Vista, 1945 Discovery Falls Dr, Chula Vista, CA 91915

Zoom(Video):
<https://hightechhigh-org.zoom.us/j/83267657740?pwd=ShihzGHxaBCCHLzGRQOGrASExd3xKi.1&jst=2>

Trustees present: Gary Jacobs, Chairman; Christine McComish, Secretary; Albert Lin, Trustee; Hadassah Avila, Student Board Member; Diego Harris, Student Board Member

Board Member	Present
Gary Jacobs, Chairperson	X
Christine McComish, Secretary	X
Albert Lin, Trustee	X
Lida Rafia, Trustee	X
Randolph Ward, Trustee	
Hadassah Avila, Student Trustee	X
Diego Harris, Student Trustee	X

Staff Present: Diana Cornejo-Sanchez, CEO; Isaac Jones, COO; Bobbi Norris, CFO; Patrick Frost, GC; Janie Griswold, CLO; Veronica Martinez, Interim Executive Assistant to the Officers

Others present: Rodolfo Valentan, interpreter
 Kathy Figueroa, interpreter
 High Tech High staff
 Members of HTH community

CALL TO ORDER at 5:06pm by Gary Jacobs, Chairman. A roll call of trustees confirmed a quorum.

CEO Cornejo-Sanchez acknowledged the tragic events that took place on May 18th, 2026. She thanked the staff and faculty of HTHM for their care and swift actions in keeping our community safe.

Chairman Jacobs observed a moment of silence.

1.0 BOARD CONSENT ITEMS

1.1 Approve the March 11, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes

1.1.1 Discussion: Staff members provided the Board an opportunity to review and discuss the Board consent agenda items.

1.1.2 Motion: There being no further discussion upon motion duly made by Diego Harris and seconded by Albert Lin, a roll call was taken to approve the motion.

Board Member	Ayes	Nos	Abstain	Absent
Gary Jacobs, Chairperson	X			
Christine McComish, Secretary	X			
Albert Lin, Trustee	X			
Lida Rafia, Trustee	X			
Randolph Ward, Trustee				X
Hadassah Avila, Student Trustee	X			
Diego Harris, Student Trustee	X			

2.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

2.1 Report of the Officers

Officer comments included the following:

- Maria Elena Valenzuela and Meghan Paddy were introduced by CLO Griswold as presenters for today’s board meeting. Maria Elena shared an update on the current EML population and expressed pride in the program’s incredible linguistic diversity. She also reviewed the process of completing the EML Guiding Plan, which was originally written in 2022. The EML department has secured funding to provide ELD curriculum and professional development opportunities. Family engagement partnered with Encuentros Leadership - families feel this is a positive space where they can come and learn best practices to support students. Maria Elena also shared this year is the first year a student receives Seal of Biliteracy in Hebrew. Student Board Member Hadassah was recognized as she will also be receiving her Seal of Biliteracy.
- Meghan Paddy shared on College & Career Week. 3400 students will participate in this week, 5th through 10th graders. All 16 schools will be

participating and will experience a university-like setting. 5 days have been prepared for this event. Students will have the opportunity to learn how to start their own business and job shadow. A small business fair will be held so students can have built-in mentors and connections with small businesses. Students will also have the opportunity to do university tours and visit STEM Labs. SDGE, SeaWorld, Costco Optical lab etc. Student Board Member Diego commented that including younger students in these opportunities is a great idea. Secretary McComish acknowledged the benefits of this event as well. The sooner children have these resources, the sooner parents have time to think and plan for it.

- CFO Norris presented the first reading and draft of the initial budget presentations. She shared that there are approximately three more weeks to finalize the budgets and noted that board approval is not required at this stage of the budget planning process. All 16 schools were included in the presentation. CFO Norris also shared that the district is planning to utilize reserves to support various initiatives and priorities. Trustee Lin asked if statutory was projected to go up, and CFO Norris affirmed, yes. May Revisions proposes a full statutory COLA of 2.8% for 26-27. There is additional money coming. The reason for that is a proposal to do a 14 week maternity leave obligation. The governor is trying to offset that cost. These are major things from what we have seen in the past. CFO Norris has been meeting with directors consistently.

3.0 COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

3.1 Members of the public were provided time to address the board.

4.0 BOARD REPORT AND COMMENTS

4.1 Chairman's Report

4.2 Board Member Comment

Chairman and Board Member comments included the following:

- General Counsel Frost shared that 4 bargaining sessions have taken place so far, and 8 or 9 TAs. We have been waiting for May revise. Additional information will help move bargaining along. The following session is this Friday, May 22nd.
- Chairman Jacobs spoke on events of the shooting. Chairman Jacobs has worked to build relationships with group from Islamic Center of San Diego. He reiterated that violence is not the answer. We must figure out ways to support people struggling with depression.
- Student Board Member Diego shared out about the student senate house representatives. We have been realising that with the end of the year and end-of-year activities, it would be best to push it to the next school year. We will be talking with new student board members to help with the transition. We feel this program will help new student board members in transition.

5.0 PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

5.1 First Reading: Information Only – Local Control and Accountability Plans (LCAP)

Chairman and Board Member comments included the following:

- CLO Griswold gave an update on LCAP goals. For each goal, specific plans were presented to obtain each of those goals. Culture of belonging for students, families, and physically & emotionally safe school environment. There are plans in place for high needs students. Secretary McComish asked why the goals appeared to have been scaled down. CLO Griswold explained that there has been collaboration with other schools and EdTech partners, and that a common practice is to streamline goals into broader focus areas related to academics, belonging and school safety, and school climate. She clarified that all actions included in the previous LCAP are still present in the updated version, but the goals themselves have been more streamlined. There was further discussion among board members concerning student safety and the social and emotional well-being of students.

6.0 CEO CONSENT ITEMS

6.1 Ratify the 2026-2027 Powerschool Contracts

6.1.1 Discussion: Staff members provided the Board an opportunity to review and discuss the CEO consent agenda items.

6.1.2 Motion: There being no further discussion upon motion duly made by Lida Rafia and seconded by Christine McComish, a roll call was taken to approve the motion.

Board Member	Ayes	Nos	Abstain	Absent
Gary Jacobs, Chairperson	X			
Christine McComish, Secretary	X			
Albert Lin, Trustee	X			
Lida Rafia, Trustee	X			
Randolph Ward, Trustee				X
Hadassah Avila, Student Trustee	X			
Diego Harris, Student Trustee	X			

7.0 ACTION ITEMS

7.1 Approve High Tech High Declaration of Need (DON) for Fully Qualified Educators 2026-27 School Year

7.1.1 Discussion: Staff recommends the Board Approve High Tech High Declaration of Need (DON) for Fully Qualified Educators 2026-27 School Year.

Trustee Lin asked how we are doing on staffing. CLO Griswold shared the anticipated need for individuals to be on waivers or permits who are out of state. We will come back in early Fall with actual individuals. In order to do that, we will take these preliminary steps.

7.1.2 Motion: There being no further discussion upon motion duly made by Lida Rafia and seconded by Albert Lin, a roll call was taken to approve the motion.

Board Member	Ayes	Nos	Abstain	Absent
Gary Jacobs, Chairperson	X			
Christine McComish, Secretary	X			
Albert Lin, Trustee	X			
Lida Rafia, Trustee	X			
Randolph Ward, Trustee				X
Hadassah Avila, Student Trustee	X			
Diego Harris, Student Trustee	X			

7.2 Approve Playground Quotes for High Tech Elementary and High Tech Elementary Explorer

7.2.1 Discussion: Staff recommends the Board Approve Playground Quotes for High Tech Elementary and High Tech Elementary Explorer.

7.2.2 Motion: There being no further discussion upon motion duly made by Diego Harris and seconded by Lida Rafia, a roll call was taken to approve the motion.

Board Member	Ayes	Nos	Abstain	Absent
Gary Jacobs, Chairperson	X			
Christine McComish, Secretary	X			
Albert Lin, Trustee	X			
Lida Rafia, Trustee	X			
Randolph Ward, Trustee				X
Hadassah Avila, Student Trustee	X			
Diego Harris, Student Trustee	X			

8.0 CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

8.1 No action was taken.

9.0 RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

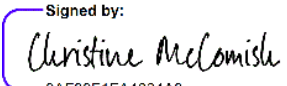
9.1 N/A

10.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, it was the consensus of the Board to adjourn the meeting at 7:00pm

Next Scheduled Meeting:

- Thursday, June 18, 2026 at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:  Signed by:
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Christine McComish, Secretary, High Tech High Board