

REGULAR MEETING
10/27/2025 05:30 PM
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
CARUTHERS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
CARUTHERS HIGH MEDIA CENTER

MEETING MINUTES

Attendance

Board Members

James Cummings, Board President
Valori Gallaher, Board Clerk
Darren Gilmore, Board Member
Kathy Spate, Board Member
Mario Alvarado Jr., Board Member

Administration

Orin Hirschhorn, Superintendent
Susan McCoy, Chief Administrative Officer
Debra Haney, Chief Business Official
Alisha Cogburn, CES Principal
Gerrett Suarez, MES Principal
Tod Tompkins, MARC Principal
Barry Watts, CHS Principal

- 1. CALL TO ORDER by President James Cummings at 5:30 PM**
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 3. ROLL CALL**
- 4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion made by: Kathy Spate

Motion seconded by: Valori Gallaher

Voting:

James Cummings - Yes

Valori Gallaher - Yes

Darren Gilmore - Yes

Kathy Spate - Yes

Mario Alvarado Jr. - Yes

- 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - September 22, 2025**

Motion made by: Darren Gilmore

Motion seconded by: Valori Gallaher

Voting:

James Cummings - Yes

Valori Gallaher - Yes

Darren Gilmore - Yes

Kathy Spate - Yes

Mario Alvarado Jr. - Yes

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. **Alisha Cogburn** – Assessments/EL Monitoring/Lockdown Drill/Dental and Vision Check-ups/Pastry with Parents/CHS Pumpkin Patch/Trunk or Treat
2. **Gerrett Suarez** – Assembly-CHARGE Program/ELA and Math/IReady/Collaboration with Raisin City Teachers/Literacy Campaign/Trunk or Treat/Vision Check-ups/Athletics
3. **Barry Watts** – Honor Roll/Counselors Update/Careers in Ed/Career Tech Expo/Senior Recognition/Fair Projects
4. **Tod Tompkins** – Graduates/Great Response – Counselors/Unified Sports

7. COMMUNICATIONS

1. **STUDENTS** – Student Board Rep Marley Velazquez Cisneros highlighted the upcoming student activities – Fowler Game/Spirit Week/Blood Drive/Senior Recognition/Angel Tree-Christmas Party/Winter Formal. Also, a presentation was made regarding adding more opportunities for students to earn Graduation Cords.
2. **PUBLIC** – Parents addressed the Board regarding issues and support for the high school coaching staff. Also, concerns were expressed regarding site administration at sporting events.
3. **STAFF** - None

8. BUSINESS

1. Review/Approve - Resolution #2025-19 - Authorizing Continued Funding - California State Preschool Programs

Motion to approve Resolution #2025-19 Authorizing Continued Funding - California State Preschool Programs as presented.

Motion made by: Kathy Spate

Motion seconded by: Mario Alvarado Jr.

Voting:

James Cummings - Yes

Valori Gallaher - Yes

Darren Gilmore - Yes

Kathy Spate - Yes

Mario Alvarado Jr. - Yes

2. Review/Approve - Resolution #2025-20 - Authorizing the Permanent Inter-fund Transfer from the General Fund to Retiree Benefit Fund for 2024/2025

Motion to approve Resolution #2025-20 Authorizing the Permanent Inter-Fund Transfer from the General Fund to Retiree Benefit Fund for 2024/2025 as presented.

Motion made by: Kathy Spate

Motion seconded by: Valori Gallaher

Voting:

James Cummings - Yes

Valori Gallaher - Yes

Darren Gilmore - Yes

Kathy Spate - Yes

Mario Alvarado Jr. – Yes

3. Review/Approve - Resolution #2025-21 - Declaring an Emergency for Construction Services at Caruthers Elementary without Competitive Bidding

Motion to approve Resolution #2025-21 Declaring an Emergency for Construction Services at Caruthers Elementary without Competitive Bidding as presented.

Motion made by: Valori Gallaher

Motion seconded by: Darren Gilmore

Voting:

James Cummings - Yes

Valori Gallaher - Yes

Darren Gilmore - Yes

Kathy Spate - Yes

Mario Alvarado Jr. - Yes

4. Review/Approve - 2025/2026 Caruthers Unified Expanded Learning Opportunities Program Plan

Motion to approve the 2025/2026 Caruthers Unified Expanded Learning Opportunities Program Plan as presented.

Motion made by: Kathy Spate

Motion seconded by: Valori Gallaher

Voting:

James Cummings - Yes

Valori Gallaher - Yes

Darren Gilmore - Yes

Kathy Spate - Yes

Mario Alvarado Jr. - Yes

5. Review/Approve - 2025/2026 Caruthers High Extended Learning Program Salary Schedule

Motion to approve the 2025/2026 Caruthers High Extended Learning Program Salary Schedule as presented.

Motion made by: Valori Gallaher

Motion seconded by: Kathy Spate

Voting:

James Cummings - Yes

Valori Gallaher - Yes

Darren Gilmore - Yes

Kathy Spate - Yes

Mario Alvarado Jr. - Yes

6. Review/Approve - Safety Plans - Caruthers Elementary/Monroe Elementary/Caruthers High

Motion to approve - Safety Plans - Caruthers Elementary/Monroe Elementary/Caruthers High as presented.

Motion made by: Kathy Spate

Motion seconded by: Valori Gallaher

Voting:

James Cummings - Yes

Valori Gallaher - Yes

Darren Gilmore - Yes

Kathy Spate - Yes

Mario Alvarado Jr. - Yes

7. **Review - Board Policy Updates - September 2025**
8. **Review/Ratify - 2025/2026 Change Order #1 - Universal Coatings, Inc. Monroe Elementary Roof Restoration**

Motion to ratify the 2025/2026 Change Order #1 - Universal Coatings, Inc. Monroe Elementary Roof Restoration as presented.

Motion made by: Valori Gallaher

Motion seconded by: Kathy Spate

Voting:

James Cummings - Yes

Valori Gallaher - Yes

Darren Gilmore - Yes

Kathy Spate - Yes

Mario Alvarado Jr. - Yes

9. **Review/Approve - Financials**

Motion to approve the Financials as presented.

Motion made by: Kathy Spate

Motion seconded by: Darren Gilmore

Voting:

James Cummings - Yes

Valori Gallaher - Yes

Darren Gilmore - Yes

Kathy Spate - Yes

Mario Alvarado Jr. - Yes

9. **CONSENT AGENDA (may be done with one motion)**

Motion to approve Consent Agenda Items 9.1 through 9.5 as presented.

Motion made by: Darren Gilmore

Motion seconded by: Kathy Spate

Voting:

James Cummings - Yes

Valori Gallaher - Yes

Darren Gilmore - Yes

Kathy Spate - Yes

Mario Alvarado Jr. - Yes

1. **Review/Approve - Warrants**
2. **Review/Approve - Purchase Order Report**
3. **Review/Approve - Interdistrict Transfer Requests**
4. **Review/Approve - Overnight Field Trip Requests - Caruthers High Wrestling/Caruthers High Boys Soccer**
5. **Review/Approve - Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints**

10. **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Graduation Cord Discussion

Multi-Purpose Room Flooring Update

11. CLOSED SESSION 6:32 PM

Motion made by: Darren Gilmore
Motion seconded by: Valori Gallaher
Voting:
James Cummings - Yes
Valori Gallaher - Yes
Darren Gilmore - Yes
Kathy Spate - Yes
Mario Alvarado Jr. - Yes

1. **CLOSED SESSION AGENDA ITEMS SECTION 54957** Public Employee Appointment/Employment Title: Administration/Certificated/Classified Formal Compliant – citing Board Policy 1312.3 **SECTION 54957** Public Employee Discipline/Dismissal/Release Title: Administration/Certified/Classified **SECTION 54957** Public Employee Evaluation Title: Superintendent – Orin Hirschhorn **SECTION 54957.6** Conference with Labor Negotiator Agency Negotiator: Orin Hirschhorn Employee Organization: CUTA, CSEA **SECTION 54957.6** Conference with Labor Negotiator Agency Negotiator: Orin Hirschhorn Unrepresented Employee(s) Classified Confidential/Site Administrators/Superintendent
2. **OPEN SESSION AND REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION**

The Board reconvened at 8:30 PM taking no action on any Closed Session Agenda items.

Motion made by: Kathy Spate
Motion seconded by: Mario Alvarado, Jr.
Voting:
James Cummings - Yes
Valori Gallaher - Yes
Darren Gilmore - Yes
Kathy Spate - Yes
Mario Alvarado Jr. - Yes

12. ITEMS FOR EMERGENCY CONSIDERATION

13. ADJOURNMENT 8:31 PM

Motion made by: Valori Gallaher
Motion seconded by: Darren Gilmore
Voting:
James Cummings - Yes
Valori Gallaher - Yes
Darren Gilmore - Yes
Kathy Spate - Yes
Mario Alvarado Jr. - Yes