

**Annual Organizational Meeting
12/15/2025 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 - Absent
Gerrett Suarez, MES Principal
Tod Tompkins, MARC Principal
Barry Watts, CHS Principal

- 1. CALL TO ORDER by Superintendent Hirschhorn at 5:48 PM.**
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 3. ROLL CALL**
- 4. ELECTIONS-Orin Hirschhorn, Superintendent**

- 1. Board President Nominations and Election** – Kathy Spate moved to nominate James Cummings for President. Valori Gallaher seconded.

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

- 2. Board Clerk Nominations and Election** – Darren Gilmore moved to nominate Valori Gallaher for Clerk. Kathy Spate seconded.

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

PRESIDENT WILL CONDUCT THE MEETING FROM HERE ON

5. ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS

- 1. Establish time/date for Board Meetings for both Pacific Standard Time and Daylight Savings Time - Date: Fourth Monday of every month at 5:30PM. Place: CHS MEDIA CENTER for regular meetings of the Governing Board**

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

- 2. Appoint Superintendent as Secretary to the Board.**

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

- 3. Appoint Orin Hirschhorn, Superintendent as authorized agent for the Governing Board and School District.**

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. Approve the signing of the verification of signature form authorizing Board Members and Authorized Agents to sign orders and other matters for or in the name of the Governing Board.**

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

- 5. Appoint Board member and Alternate as voting member designated for County Committee on School District Organization elections and approve the signing of the Statement of Facts Roster.** Valori Gallaher motion to appoint Kathy Spate and Darren Gilmore seconded. Kathy Spate motion to appoint Valori Gallaher as the Alternate and Darren Gilmore seconded.

Motion made by: Valori Gallaher/Kathy Spate

Motion seconded by: Darren Gilmore

Voting:

James Cummings - Yes

Valori Gallaher - Yes

Darren Gilmore - Yes

Kathy Spate - Yes

Mario Alvarado Jr. - Yes

- 6. Designate trustee to serve as the District's legislative representative with the Trustee Network established by Fresno County Trustees Association.** Motion to designate Kathy Spate as the District Legislative Representative for the Trustee Network established by the Fresno County Trustees Association.

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

- 7. Authorize the Fresno County Department of Education - Finance Dept. to address the district's mail to Ms. Debra Haney, Chief Business Official.**

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

- 8. Authorize the delegating of authority to the Superintendent/Secretary to approve statements to the State Department of Real Estate for the benefit of sub-dividers under provision of the Business and Professional Code, Section 11010(1).**

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

THE REMAINING ITEMS (9-22) MAY BE DONE IN ONE MOTION

- 9. Appoint Orin Hirschhorn, Superintendent, Debra Haney, Chief Business Official, Marla Enmark, Director of Educational Services, Trisha Hirschhorn, Director of Student Services, Gursharan Rahal, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Susan McCoy, Chief Administrative Officer, Jonny Nason, Director of Maintenance and Operations, Nicole Gibson, Supervisor Family Service Center, Tracy Bratton, Food Service Director to the District's Management**

Team and exclude them for representation by an exclusive representative in any "Collective Bargaining" process.

- 10. Appoint Alisha Cogburn, CES Principal, Larry Almeida, CES Assistant Principal, Gerrett Suarez, MES Principal, Barry Watts, CHS Principal, Julio Zelaya, CHS Vice Principal, Tod Tompkins, Director MARC High, Kasandra Arias, CHS Counselor, Alicia Hardcastle, CHS Counselor, Fernando Sanchez, CHS Counselor, Reyna Sanchez, CHS Counselor, Viviana Guerrero, CES Counselor, Angel Alvarez, Community Schools Coordinator, Raffy Chekerdemian, School Psychologist, Armando Villalobos, School Psychologist and Brett Knott, District Speech Pathologist to the District's Management Team and exclude them from representation by an exclusive representative in any "Collective Bargaining" process.**
- 11. Designate Patrice Woolhouse, Payroll/Benefits Specialist, Kristina Delgado, District Financial Specialist, Tiffany Huber, District Financial Assistant, Jennifer Rodriguez, Administrative Support Specialist/Compliance, Nancy Zuniga, Administrative Support Specialist/Receptionist, Sydney DeLancy, Behavior Health Clinician, Gladys Mendoza, Behavioral Health Clinician, Penny Nason, Food Service Manager and Jack Manser, Food Service Coordinator as confidential employees and exclude these employees from representation by an exclusive representative in any "Collective Bargaining" process as per SB-160, Section 35434.**
- 12. Appoint Orin Hirsch Korn, Superintendent, as the Board's Representative in the "Collective Bargaining" process and spokesperson on related matters.**
- 13. Authorize Orin Hirsch Korn as District Representative to acquire government surplus property.**
- 14. Authorize the Superintendent to approve the use of school facilities under Civic Center Act by individuals, groups, and organizations.**
- 15. Authorize the administration to organize and approve school sponsored recreation programs and otherwise cooperate with local organizations in their sponsored recreation programs.**
- 16. Authorize the Superintendent to make arrangements and sign necessary documents with teacher training institutions for practice teachers and interns.**
- 17. Authorize the Superintendent to approve attendance of Staff, School Advisory Committee members, Trustees, and Administrators at in-service education meetings and conferences with reasonable necessary expenses paid from District funds.**
- 18. Approve renewal of service agreements with Fresno County Dept. of Education for Physically Handicapped Minors, Hard of Hearing Youth, Pupil Personnel, Welfare and Attendance, Learning Handicapped Students, County SELPA, Testing Services, Migrant Education Program, Automated Business Services, Library, and Audio-Visual Services.**
- 19. Authorize the District's participation in the Fresno County School Attendance Review Board.**

20. **Approve renewing the annual authorization for the District to participate in the Fresno County School supply bid list.**
21. **Approve renewing adoption of Free and Reduced-Price Meal Guidelines for breakfast and lunch programs.**
22. **Authorize renewal of the District’s membership in Fresno County School Trustee’s Association, California School Boards Association, California League of Middle Schools, Small School Districts’ Association, California League Of High Schools, School Services of California, California Interscholastic Federation, Accrediting Commission for Schools, California Association of School Business Officials, California School Nutrition Association, Cooperative Organization for the Development of Employee Selection Procedures, National Council for Social Studies, San Joaquin County Office of Education – ED Join, California Association of Directors of Activities and San Joaquin Valley Officials Association**

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

6. CONTINUE WITH REGULAR MEETING