

**REGULAR 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. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - November 18, 2025

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

3. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. **Alisha Cogburn** - Absent
2. **Gerrett Suarez** – Guided Reading/Data Checks/Food Drive/Library Grant
3. **Barry Watts** – Driver’s Training issues/Cherish a Child/Careers in ED/Football Coach
4. **Tod Tompkins** – Early Grads/Transfers back to Caruthers High

4. COMMUNICATIONS

1. **STUDENTS** – Student Board Rep Marley Velazquez Cisneros – Winter Break Week Events/Formal/Cherish a Child/First Grade Christmas Party/Basketball Homecoming – February 2026

Various students made a proposal to the Board regarding decorating their caps for Graduation. Criteria and guidelines were presented.

2. **PUBLIC** - None
3. **STAFF** - None

5. BUSINESS

1. **Review/Approve - Resolution #2025-25 - Annual Accounting of Developer Fees for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 and Prior Four Years in Fund 2500 - Capital Facilities Fees** Motion to approve Resolution #2025-25 - Annual Accounting of Developer Fees for Fiscal Year 2024/2025 and Prior Four Years in Fund 2500 - Capital Facilities Fees 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

2. **Review/Approve - 2025/2026 Extended Learning Program Salary Schedule (Effective 1/1/26)** Motion to approve the 2025/2026 Extended Learning Program Salary Schedule (Effective 1/1/26) 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 - 2025/2026 Maintenance Agreement - Alvina Elementary Charter School District** Motion to approve the 2025/2026 Maintenance Agreement - Alvina Elementary Charter School District 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

4. **Review/Approve - 2025/2026 Lease Agreement - Easton/Caruthers Youth Baseball League** Motion to approve the 2025/2026 Lease Agreement - Easton/Caruthers Youth Baseball League 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 - Resolution #2025-26 - Electric Vehicle Program - San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Grant** Motion to approve Resolution #2025-26 - Electric Vehicle Program - San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District Grant 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

6. **Review - Board Policy Updates - November 2025 – First Reading**

7. **Review/Approve - Update on Resolution #2025-21 - Declaration of Emergency - Caruthers Elementary 700 Wing Project** Motion to approve the update on Resolution #2025-21 - Declaration of Emergency - Caruthers Elementary 700 Wing Project 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

8. **Review/Ratify - Change Orders - Caruthers Elementary Multi-Purpose Room Gym Flooring Replacement** Motion to ratify Change Orders - Caruthers Elementary Multi-Purpose Room Gym Flooring Replacement 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

9. **Review/Ratify - 2025/2026 Change Order #2.1 - Universal Coatings, Inc. - Monroe Elementary Roof Restoration Project** Motion to ratify the 2025/2026 Change Order #2.1 - Universal Coatings, Inc. - Monroe Elementary Roof Restoration Project 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

10. **Review/Ratify - Caruthers Elementary Multi-Purpose Room Change Order Report** Motion to ratify the Caruthers Elementary Multi-Purpose Room Change Order Report 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

11. **Review/Approve – Financials**

Motion to approve the Financials 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

6. CONSENT AGENDA (may be done with one motion)

Motion to approve Consent Agenda items 6.1 through 6.3 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

1. **Review/Approve - Warrants**
2. **Review/Approve - Purchase Order Report**
3. **Review/Approve - Inter-district Transfer Requests**

7. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dual Enrollment – Partnership with Laton Unified and Lemoore College/Governor’s Budget

8. CLOSED SESSION 6:50 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

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 8:28 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

9. ITEMS FOR EMERGENCY CONSIDERATION

10. ADJOURNMENT 8:30 PM

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