REGULAR MEETING
08/24/2026 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 Hirschkorn, 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

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by: Kathy Spate
Motion seconded by: Valori Gallaher

Voting results: Unanimously Approved
Yes: James Cummings
Yes: Valori Gallaher
Yes: Darren Gilmore
Yes: Kathy Spate
Yes: Mario Alvarado Jr.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - June 22, 2026

Motion made by: Darren Gilmore
Motion seconded by: Valori Gallaher

Voting results: Unanimously Approved
Yes: James Cummings
Yes: Valori Gallaher
Yes: Darren Gilmore
Yes: Kathy Spate
Yes: Mario Alvarado Jr.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. **Alisha Cogburn –** MPR-New lunch schedule-Rally/Sports/New Staff

2. **Gerrett Suarez** – Good Start/Facilities Updates/Back to School Night/In-Service Days/Rally

3. **Barry Watts –** Good Start/Dual Enrollment/CTE-Fire Courses/Williams Visit/Food Pantry/Back to School Night

4. **Tod Tompkins** – SPED Focus/MARC Enrollment

7. COMMUNICATIONS

1. **STUDENTS - None**

2. **PUBLIC –** Parent Lara Main addressed the Board regarding concerns with the current dress code and policies at Caruthers High School and is requesting clarification and criteria on certain items of clothing and hair color.

3. **STAFF - None**

8. BUSINESS

1. Review/Approve - 2025/2026 Unaudited Actuals

Discussion on where the 25/26 budget ended and how we will move forward for the 2026/2027 school year. Motion to approve the 2025/2026 Unaudited Actuals as presented.

Motion made by: Kathy Spate
Motion seconded by: Mario Alvarado Jr.

Voting results: Unanimously Approved
Yes: James Cummings
Yes: Valori Gallaher
Yes: Darren Gilmore
Yes: Kathy Spate
Yes: Mario Alvarado Jr.

2. Review/Approve - 2026/2027 - Budget Revision

Motion to approve the 2026/2027 Budget Revision as presented.

Motion made by: Kathy Spate
Motion seconded by: Mario Alvarado Jr.

Voting results: Unanimously Approved
Yes: James Cummings
Yes: Valori Gallaher
Yes: Darren Gilmore
Yes: Kathy Spate
Yes: Mario Alvarado Jr.

3. Review/Approve - Resolution #2026-09 GANN Amendment

Motion to approve Resolution #2026-09 GANN Amendment as presented.

Motion made by: Darren Gilmore
Motion seconded by: Valori Gallaher

Voting results: Unanimously Approved
Yes: James Cummings
Yes: Valori Gallaher

Yes: Darren Gilmore
Yes: Kathy Spate
Yes: Mario Alvarado Jr.

4. Review/Approve - Resolution #2026-10 Authorizing the Permanent Inter-Fund Transfer from the Retiree Benefit Fund to the General Fund

Motion to approve Resolution #2026-10 Authorizing the Permanent Inter-Fund Transfer from the Retiree Benefit Fund to the General Fund as presented.

Motion made by: Kathy Spate
Motion seconded by: Valori Gallaher

Voting results: Unanimously Approved
Yes: James Cummings
Yes: Valori Gallaher
Yes: Darren Gilmore
Yes: Kathy Spate
Yes: Mario Alvarado Jr.

5. Review/Approve - Application for Exemption from Required Expenditures for Classroom Teacher's Salaries

Motion to approve Application for Exemption from Required Expenditures for Classroom Teacher's Salaries as presented.

Motion made by: Valori Gallaher
Motion seconded by: Kathy Spate

Voting results: Unanimously Approved
Yes: James Cummings
Yes: Valori Gallaher
Yes: Darren Gilmore
Yes: Kathy Spate
Yes: Mario Alvarado Jr.

6. Review/Approve - 2025/2026 Proposition 28 Caruthers Unified School District Annual Report

Motion to approve the 2025/2026 Proposition 28 Caruthers Unified School District Annual Report as presented.

Motion made by: Kathy Spate
Motion seconded by: Valori Gallaher

Voting results: Unanimously Approved
Yes: James Cummings
Yes: Valori Gallaher
Yes: Darren Gilmore
Yes: Kathy Spate
Yes: Mario Alvarado Jr.

7. Review/Approve - Application for Funding Agricultural Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Program Year 2026/2027

Motion to approve the Application for Funding Agricultural Career Technical Education Incentive Grant Program Year 2026/2027 as presented.

Motion made by: Kathy Spate
Motion seconded by: Valori Gallaher

Voting results: Unanimously Approved
Yes: James Cummings

Yes: Valori Gallaher
Yes: Darren Gilmore
Yes: Kathy Spate
Yes: Mario Alvarado Jr.

8. Review/Approve - Caruthers Unified Conflict of Interest Code

Motion to approve the Caruthers Unified Conflict of Interest Code as presented.

Motion made by: Kathy Spate
Motion seconded by: Valori Gallaher

Voting results: Unanimously Approved
Yes: James Cummings
Yes: Valori Gallaher
Yes: Darren Gilmore
Yes: Kathy Spate
Yes: Mario Alvarado Jr.

9. Review/Approve - 2026/2027 Lease Agreement - Easton/Caruthers Youth Baseball League

Motion to approve the 2026/2027 Lease Agreement - Easton/Caruthers Youth Baseball League as presented.

Motion made by: Kathy Spate
Motion seconded by: Valori Gallaher

Voting results: Unanimously Approved
Yes: James Cummings
Yes: Valori Gallaher
Yes: Darren Gilmore
Yes: Kathy Spate
Yes: Mario Alvarado Jr.

10. Review/Approve - Board Policy Updates - May 2026 - Second Reading

Motion to approve the Board Policy Updates - May 2026 - Second Reading as presented.

Motion made by: Kathy Spate
Motion seconded by: Valori Gallaher

Voting results: Unanimously Approved
Yes: James Cummings
Yes: Valori Gallaher
Yes: Darren Gilmore
Yes: Kathy Spate
Yes: Mario Alvarado Jr.

11. Review - Board Policy Updates - August 2026 - First Reading

12. Review/Approve - Financials

Motion to approve Financials for June and July 2026 as presented.

Motion made by: Darren Gilmore
Motion seconded by: Valori Gallaher

Voting results: Unanimously Approved
Yes: James Cummings
Yes: Valori Gallaher
Yes: Darren Gilmore
Yes: Kathy Spate

Yes: Mario Alvarado Jr.

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

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items 9.1 through 9.6 as presented.

Motion made by: Kathy Spate
Motion seconded by: Mario Alvarado Jr.

Voting results: Unanimously Approved
Yes: James Cummings
Yes: Valori Gallaher
Yes: Darren Gilmore
Yes: Kathy Spate
Yes: Mario Alvarado Jr.

1. **Review/Approve - Warrants**
2. **Review/Approve - Purchase Order Report**
3. **Review/Approve - Inter-district Transfer Requests**
4. **Review/Ratify - Hiring of Certificated/Classified Employees**
5. **Review/Ratify - Terminations/Resignations of Certificated/Classified Employees**
6. **Review/Approve - Quarterly Report on Williams Uniform Complaints**

10. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Social Media Campaign/MPR Updates/Data-Test Scores/Enrollment/MARC High-Charter School/Food Service/Dress Code

11. CLOSED SESSION 6:55 PM

Motion made by: Valori Gallaher
Motion seconded by: Kathy Spate

Voting results: Unanimously Approved
Yes: James Cummings
Yes: Valori Gallaher
Yes: Darren Gilmore
Yes: Kathy Spate
Yes: Mario Alvarado Jr.

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 Hirschkorn **SECTION 54957.6** Conference with Labor Negotiator Agency Negotiator: Orin Hirschkorn Employee Organization: CUTA, CSEA **SECTION 54957.6** Conference with Labor Negotiator Agency Negotiator: Orin Hirschkorn Unrepresented Employee(s) Classified Confidential/Site Administrators/Superintendent.

2. **OPEN SESSION AND REPORT ON CLOSED SESSION**

    1. **Review/Approve - 2026/2027 Raisin City Contract Stipend Schedule**

        Motion to approve the 2026/2027 Raisin City Contract Stipend Schedule as presented.

Motion made by: Mario Alvarado, Jr.
Motion seconded by: Valori Gallaher

Voting results: Unanimously Approved
Yes: James Cummings
Yes: Valori Gallaher
Yes: Darren Gilmore
Yes: Kathy Spate
Yes: Mario Alvarado Jr.

12. ITEMS FOR EMERGENCY CONSIDERATION

13. ADJOURNMENT 8:05 PM

Motion made by: Kathy Spate
Motion seconded by: Mario Alvarado Jr.

Voting results: Unanimously Approved
Yes: James Cummings
Yes: Valori Gallaher
Yes: Darren Gilmore
Yes: Kathy Spate
Yes: Mario Alvarado Jr.