

AGENDA
Board of Directors Election Meeting - via Conference Call

Board of Directors
Carolus Online Academy
May 15, 2025
5:00 p.m.

Location: Zoom

Instructions for Presentations
to the Board of Parents and Citizens

The Carolus Online Academy (School) welcomes your participation at the School Board meetings. The purpose of the public meeting of the Board of Directors (Board) is to conduct the affairs of the school in public. We are pleased that you are in attendance and hope that you will attend these meetings often. Your participation assures us of continuing community interest in our school. To assist you with the ease of speaking/participating in our meetings, the following guidelines are provided.

1. Agendas are available to all audience members via COA.k12.com.
2. "Requests to Speak" forms are available to all audience members who wish to speak on any agenda items or under the general category of "Communications".
3. The "Communications" portion is set aside for members of the audience to address items on the published agenda. Audience members may offer objective criticisms of school operations and programs, but the Board will not hear complaints about school personnel or other people during a public session. The process for complaints involving school personnel or other people is provided through other channels. The Board will not respond to remarks made in this manner during the meeting but may issue a written response after the meeting. These presentations are limited to three (3) minutes. Extensions of time will be at the sole discretion of the Board Chair.
4. When addressing the Board, speakers are requested to state their name and address from the podium and adhere to the time limits set forth.
5. Individuals may request that a topic related to school business be placed on future agenda by submitting a written request at least two (2) weeks or ten (10) working days before the scheduled board meeting. Once such an item is properly placed on the agenda and publicly noticed, the Board can respond, interact, and act upon the item.

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May 15, 2025, at 5:00 pm EST

- **Preliminary Items**

- Call to Order at 5:03
- Roll Call: present: John Pallasch, Bassanya Bryant-Spann, Kristen Bell, Dan Martin, Eric Mack, Scott Sides, Chad Long, Pam Sieger, Josie White, Jackie Reed, Chris Webber, Angela Jones-Howze, Crystal Cumbee, Betsy Carpentier, Tracey Lee, Brad Scott, Tom Travia, John Kramer
- Board minutes: motioned made by Kristen Bell, seconded by Dan Martin: unanimously approved.

- **Board Chair Report**

- Board updates: John reminded everyone that graduation was on Saturday at the District office. John is the guest speaker and will be present along with Eric Mack.

- **Action Agenda Items to Vote on:**

- April minutes: motioned by Eric Mack and seconded by Bassanya Bryant-Spann: unanimously approved.

- **School Leadership Report**

- Finance with Chad: Chad shared part one of the 2526SY finance budget. He explained that due to the weighted funding change in SC, that the budget included adjustments to that. Chad shared the increase in FTEs for Special Education: nine additional, for a truancy office and social worker, for another registrar, for 1 FTE in Elementary, 5 FTEs in High School, and 12 FTEs for Middle School. We also are hiring an additional counselor for k-8 grade. We will have 5 Admin at COA to start the school year. Staff will get a 2.5% increase for the Fall. Chad shared that the goal for enrollment is 4079. John asked if this was feasible due to the concerns with DCAPs and areas of concern from this current school year. Pam said that due to the increase in operations and the support within operations and the registrars, we will be able to handle the growth. Scott shared that we will be able to handle the growth and that the operations team will be prepared for the growth. John said he agrees; however, is concerned about the vast growth of 2000 students to almost 4100 students by October and would like the board to be updated on when the new staff in operation starts.
- Introducing Jackie: Pam introduced Jackie to everyone, who is the new Academic Administrator for Special Education/programming. Everyone welcomed Jackie to the school.
- Community outreach: Carolus Cares has a one-year anniversary which will be held at the 101 Westpark Blvd Suite C location in August. All will be invited. This will mark one year of giving back to MKV families, as well as community families. The board, District, Stride, staff, and school will be invited.
- Enrollment update: Pam shared the enrollment update that we are at 2162. Pam shared that COA is now required to require seven documents to start and four to stay per District request.
- Accountability framework updates: Pam shared that COA ended at 97% SC Ready completion and received a green check reference for all categories within the 3-8 grade accountability for state report card reporting. Pam shared that COA met the school climate survey. Pam shared that we did not test 3 ML students due to Immigration and parent WD request and notified the district. We tested 100% of our alternative assessment students. We tested 92% of WIN/Career. We tested 95.1% of EOC.
- Academic updates: Pam shared that the s771 is at an 87% pass all for elementary,

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an 80% pass all for middle school, and a 77% pass all for high school. Pam shared plans for the fall to increase academic performance and expectations from day one by requiring learning coaches to complete a portion of the orientation to become aware of the requirements for public school online learning.

- o CTE pilot for the Fall: Pam shared that COA was approved to have twenty-five students in a pilot program for CTE. The program will provide additional pathways for twenty-five students as a pilot. The program will continue to support ensuring students grow in their durable life skills.
- o Grant update: Pam shared that COA partnered with Sylvan Learning Center through the Palmetto Math Project and we are working through the 184k grant received by the state. We will use funds over the summer and into the fall to improve scores. Stride will continue to provide tutoring support for reading while Sylvan will focus on math.

- **Public comments: no public comments**
- Comments from individual(s) who have completed a request to speak form and wish to make comments to the Board. Limited to 3 minutes per person unless otherwise extended by the Board Chair.

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- **Adjournment**

Adjournment: John requested to adjourn the meeting at 5:51pm. Kristen motioned and Bassanya seconded. All in favor of closing the meeting.