AGENDA

February 2026 Board Minutes
Carolus Online Academy

- **Preliminary Items**
  - Call to Order at 5:01 by John Pallasch
  - Roll Call at 5:02 by John Pallasch
- **Preliminary Items**
  - Call to Order by John Pallasch at 5:03
  - Roll Call:

Sieger, Pamela
Scott, Bradley
Martin, Dan
Pallasch, John
Reed, Jacqueline
Mack, Eric
Mcgloin, Demi
Long, Chad
Polvinen, Annie
Travia, Tom
Dennis, Candice
Carpentier, Betsy
Bell, Kristen
Sides, Scott
Gomersall, Katie

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

  Approving minutes: Board minutes request made by John motioned, Kristen moved to approve, seconded by Dan Martin: all in favor.

  Approval of Bylaw update led by Betsy Carpentier. By Law request motioned by John Pallasch, Kristen moved to approve and it was seconded by Eric Mack. All in favor.

- **Regular Agenda Items:**

  Update for board reelection: Pam updated the board that Jordan Lanier from the Public Charter School Alliance of South Carolina would be collaborating with Pam to run the Board elections. Pam updated the Board that she and Jordan would be meeting early March to discuss the next steps since Kristen Bell, Dan Martin, and Dave Hanley are up for renewal. Kristen and Dan are board elected and Dave is board appointed. Pam will update the Board in March and will ask Jordan to attend.

  Financial Update from Chad included no significant changes. COA is expecting a few more enrollments in k-2. 16.2 million in current expenses for the year. COA has 99 FTEs at the school. COA is currently expecting a $700,000 surplus for the year. John asked about the backlog and moving forward. Pam said we have 1767 students and stated we have k-2 open, and 9-12 was closed on November 1, 2025. COA is on track to grow at a slower place. COA is expecting dual enrollment and 4-12 grade content recovery for students. Pam explained that we have extensive chronic absenteeism at COA and we have an Attendance Intervention Plan. There are over 6,000 students waiting to attend cyber charter schools in South Carolina. Chad stated the school should end with a $1.1 million for the year.

- **School Leadership Report**
  - CSI update: Pam explained that the school is considered an improvement school with the state since COA is one of the lowest 5% for school report cards in the state. Pam stated that she is collaborating with a transformational coach to support the school to ensure that COA does not earn a third unsatisfactory in October of 2026. Pam explained that she is collaborating with Kecia Ray, Hope Dugan, and Amy Dellinger from the state to address the three areas that qualified COA for the school improvement plan. COA will be required to create a SIP: school improvement plan by March 9 in EpiCenter for the District to review and the state to approve toward receiving $202,000.00 in funding for three years while on the CSI. The goals written must align to why the school is the bottom 5% at the state. Pam stated that the goals will align to the math, reading, attendance, and PD needs for the school. John stated that any additional help that is needed with being a surplus school should be used to support the school. Pam stated that everyone is putting forth the extreme effort to ensure the school will be successful and prepared for the SC Ready in May. Scott stated that Stride has met the needs to support COA. Pam explained how often she meets with Kecia weekly and creates a DIAO: data, insight, action, outcome and will share the SIP with the Board in the One Note.
  - Alternative Education update: Pam shared the update on the timeline for writing the alternative education application. She also shared who is working on which part during the next few months. Pam shared that during the month of May that administration will not write the plan since everyone will be out for testing; however, Demi McGloin will oversee writing of the plan in May.
  - Enrollment: Pam shared that enrollment is now open for the upcoming school year.
  - Hiring: Pam shared there are two positions open. One is for the Grants Coordinator, and one is for a third grade teacher who resigned. Pam shared that she wrote an offer for the Grants Coordinator position; however, the candidate declined and Pam interviewed a candidate she wrote an offer for today.
  - Marketing plan: Pam shared the COA website update where the blogs are located. She also shared that there is a new application that families will be able to use a new tool to navigate updates.
  - School community outreach: Pam shared that there are three events across the school. She shared the Smores newsletter for community outreach where events in March will be in Greenville, Charleston, and Columbia. Pam also shared what the school is doing for Read Across America. She also shared that

one of COA's students is in a national poetry contest across Stride. Pam will update the Board in March if the student won the poetry contest. Pam shared that COA earned a gold star for attending the January school choice and being in the news. Some board members stated that they cannot access their COA emails. Demi will investigate the resolve after working with Zach.

- **Public comments:** no 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.

- **Adjournment:** John Pallasch thanked the COA and Stride team for the work they are doing to help the students. Pam thanked John and the Board for believing in COA and persevering through the challenges and to put kids first. Pam stated COA will not earn an unsatisfactory this Fall. John stated he is hopeful we will open the Alternative Education campus.

    - At 5:58 John Pallasch voted to adjourn the meeting. Kristen Bell moved to approve, and Dan Martin seconded. All in favor**.**