

**Carolus Online Academy
Board of Directors Minutes
July 30, 2026**

I. Preliminary Items

Call to Order by John at 5:04

Roll Call by John at 5:05

Pam Sieger

John Pallasch

Kristen Bell

Dave Hanley

Candice Dennis

Annie Polvinen

Eric Mack

Dan Marin

Betsy Carpentier

Ben Davis

Jeanette Reber

Tom Travia

Chad Long

Kanesha Morman

Jackie Reed

Katie Gomersall

Brandy Yates

Elizabeth Nelson

Demi McGloin

Tracey Lee

Ashley Finley

Approval of Minutes from the June Board Meeting: Kristen motioned. Annie seconded. All in favor.

II. Board Chair's Report

Summary: John did not have a current update; however, Jeanette Reber, COA's state transformation lead, discussed the Math VAM: value added metric and how the data is being collected. She explained that she supports school transformations.

Voting on By-Law update: to allow for 3 members on a board committee. Dan motioned. Kristen seconded. All in favor.

Voting on Approving Candice, Kristen, and Annie as the Academic Board Committee: Eric motioned. Dan seconded. All in favor.

III. Agenda Items

Chad Long and Tom Travia - Finance Update:

No major updates. Officially closed the year. The next step will be the audit in October. Final enrollment was 1579. Total funding 17.4 million due to decrease in enrollment. Total expenses were 17.1 million. Surplus is at 300k. Closed the year with fund balance of 1.1 million. John had a question about being 3 below the FTE: full time employee positions due to not needing to hire as many staff.

Academic update:

Pam shared that the school is starting on 8/5. First three days of school will be in orientation. We have 93 new students with IEPs.

John asked how we are going to ensure that transcripts coming in are reviewed to ensure students complete their EOC exam prior to entering the school. Pam explained that the enrollment team is reviewing transcripts.

Pam shared that Act 123 forgave the first year of the report cards. Due to this, the school has only one year of unsatisfactory. Pam shared that the goal for the 2627SY is a C in each campus. The curriculum, using FOCUS Stride courses for all tested grades will help with content. COA also has 11 interventionists supporting tier 2 and tier 3 students. Pam introduced Ben Davis, the new elementary Math Coach, whose goal it will be to grow and support students. Pam shared that we also have a graduation coach, a special education coach, and another reading coach in middle school.

Pam shared that we will look at the data for BOY: beginning of year data and update the board.

IV. School Leadership Report

Alternative Education Campus Update for 6-12 Grades:

Elizabeth shared that they had a large project they needed to complete on July 23. Staffing plan is done, in progress are the charter goals that Elizabeth, Scott, and Pam are working on. Elizabeth shared that the mission and vision statements were completed by Elizabeth, Scott, and Pam. Due in August are students with disabilities, goals, objectives, and assessment plans. Budget and finance, and enrollment and marketing will be updated at the end of August. The Board wants to see the entire application, not in segments, in November. Elizabeth shared that the Board should have 3 weeks to review. Pam emailed the schedule from Elizabeth to the Board.

SC Ready and EOC Preliminary Scores

Pam shared the simulator where we believe we are as of now for SC Ready: 27 in elementary but still need the VAM score. We need 34 to earn a below basic. The campus needs 7 points to earn a below basic in Math VAM.

For HS: we need a 40 for below basic. We are in the correction process for the longitudinal data for the EOCs: end of course assessment. The school is held accountable if students transfer in who did not take their EOC for Algebra I, English II, Biology, and US History. The school cannot have the student retake the EOC when they are not taking the course so COA may earn below a 42 from a below basic.

For MS: must earn a 29 for below basic. The school has a 27 before the Math VAM. We need a 2 for the Math VAM to earn a below basic

John asked how we are going to ensure that transcript

Enrollment Update: 1976 students at this time

Hiring: We have two interventionist positions open. We also have a high school special education position open. We also have a registrar position open due to Demi McGloin on maternity leave. Ashley

Finley will be the interim while Demi is out. The operations team will be reporting to Pam while Demi is out. We also have a high school social studies position open.

School Improvement Plan Update:

Received an additional 165k for the SIP. We used the funding for 3 interventionist positions. We also received 92k for teaching development using UnBounded for the next 3 years to ensure COA has the most engaged students, cameras on, mic being used, and improvement in tier 1 instruction. COA and the state are working well together.

Community Outreach Updates:

Kanesha has events planned for back to school for k-5 grade. We have a PTO and a president for the PTO. Pam shared the PD picture from the opening of the school at 15 staff members to 121 staff members at COA. Pam shared the year one and year 3 pictures for how much the school has grown. Pam shared we have the 2 year Carolus Cares Anniversary on August 14 along with Back to School for students and families.

V. 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 three (3) minutes per person unless otherwise extended by the Board Chair.

VI. Adjournment: John motioned to adjourn. Kristen so moved. Eric seconded. All in favor.