

Dear Carolina Classical Academy families,

Over the past several months, our school community has experienced significant disruption and uncertainty. We recognize this has created understandable concern, frustration, and questions among parents and faculty.

In response to these events, an initial cadre of new members have been appointed to the Board of Directors and have begun the work of restoring stability, accountability, and responsible stewardship of the school.

We want to begin by acknowledging a simple truth: the school community deserved better communication in the past. Moving forward, this Board is committed to operating with transparency, integrity, and respect for the families who entrust their children to this school.

Our first priorities are clear:

- Ensuring full compliance with our charter authorizer
- Strengthening financial oversight and governance procedures
- Supporting school leadership and faculty so that the academic program remains strong
- Establishing consistent and open communication with our families

We feel it is important that you know who the people behind these Board priorities are. We come from different professional backgrounds and varied perspectives that we believe will serve our school's mission and vision well.

Dino Teppara, Chair: Dino served on staff to U.S. Congressman Joe Wilson (SC-02) on Capitol Hill for seven years, including two years as Chief of Staff and Counsel. He oversaw the congressman's education and workforce initiatives. Dino served for more than five years at the S.C. Department of Education, overseeing legislative and public affairs, and serving as a special education attorney. He also worked at the U.S. Department of Education in the special education office.

Dino managed the outreach and public engagement of Lexington County School District One's five-year strategic plan and was also hired to oversee the district's superintendent search. He served as a consultant to the Charter Institute at Erskine and is the general counsel to a public charter school in Camden. In addition to being an attorney, Dino is also a public affairs officer in the U.S. Navy Reserve.

Maria Kunisch, Vice Chair: Maria is an accomplished communications and strategic planning professional with over 20 years of experience in the nonprofit, education, and corporate sectors. She offers a distinct viewpoint to the Board by bridging her professional expertise in institutional strategy with her current, first-hand experience in the classroom as a substitute teacher. Maria has a proven track record in organizational leadership, having developed strategic master plans, managed large-scale fundraising initiatives, and established comprehensive branding guidelines. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations from Barry University and a Master of Arts in Strategic Public Relations from George Washington University. Maria has two children attending Carolina Classical Academy.

Megan Stroud, Secretary: Megan is a former analytics consultant with a background in addressing risk and regulatory compliance challenges at some of the nation's leading financial institutions. She has led projects ranging from small teams to larger cross-functional groups, developing both strategic and tactical plans, guiding execution, and ensuring strong operational outcomes. Supported by her background in accounting and management information systems, Megan has helped complex organizations strengthen controls, improve decision-making processes, and support effective governance. In recent years, her focus has shifted toward education, driven by a strong commitment to child development and academic excellence, and she has spent the past six months actively volunteering in the classroom. She currently serves as President of a small nonprofit organization, where she has improved financial stability to support long-term sustainability. Megan has two children attending Carolina Classical Academy.

Dennis Getter, Treasurer: Dennis is a retired seasoned business professional and entrepreneur. Throughout his career he demonstrated exceptional visionary leadership in his company where he cultivated a culture of excellence in his field. Dennis is currently in "give-back mode". A member of various Boards across our county and state, Dennis is deeply committed to enhancing and improving the lives of his fellow citizens and for future generations. Originally from Minnesota, Dennis demonstrated exceptional visionary leadership as the President of Dimensions Unlimited. His ability to scale a specialized business and successfully navigate its acquisition by Airpax Corporation in 2006 speaks to his profound understanding of institutional growth.

While our school has endured many challenges, the heart of this school, its students, teachers, and classical mission, remains strong. Our goal is to protect and strengthen that mission so the school can continue forming students in truth, virtue, and wisdom.

To that end, the Board will begin implementing several immediate steps:

- Publishing board meeting schedules, agendas, and approved minutes
- Providing regular updates to the school community following board meetings
- Hosting periodic community forums where parents and board members can hear directly from each other
- Establishing stronger governance and financial oversight practices

We ask for your patience and partnership as we do the careful work required to move the school forward. Rebuilding trust takes time, but we are committed to earning it through responsible leadership and clear communication.

Most importantly, we invite you to join us at our virtual Board Meeting this evening at 7pm, notice has been posted at the school and on the website. Thank you for your continued support of our school and its mission.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors

Dino Teppara, Maria Kunisch, Megan Stroud, and Dennis Getter