

MINUTES
CARO COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
January 13, 2025

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by George Rierson, Superintendent, in the Caro Middle School Media Center.

Pledge of Allegiance – Moment of Silence

Oath of Office

Roll Call: Curtis, Gomez, Groosbeck, Hart, Holder, McComb, Sawyer

Also Present: Bitzer, Bringard, Warren, Chapelo, Dwyer

II. RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. Election of President:

Moved by McComb to nominate Tina Gomez for the position of President of the Caro Board of Education.

Roll call vote for Gomez for President:

Ayes: Gomez, Groosbeck, Hart, Holder, McComb, Sawyer, Curtis

Motion carried.

Gomez was declared President for the 2025 calendar year by way of majority vote.

2. Election of Vice-President:

Moved by Holder to nominate Brian McComb for the position of Vice President of the Caro Board of Education.

Roll call vote for McComb for Vice President:

Ayes: Groosbeck, Hart, Holder, McComb, Sawyer, Curtis, Gomez

Motion carried.

McComb was declared Vice President for the 2025 calendar year by way of majority vote.

3. Election of Secretary:

Moved by McComb to nominate Kathleen Curtis for the position of Secretary of the Caro Board of Education.

Roll call vote for Curtis for Secretary:

Ayes: Hart, Holder, McComb, Sawyer, Curtis, Groosbeck, Gomez

Motion carried.

Curtis was declared Secretary for the 2025 calendar year by way of majority vote.

4. Election of Treasurer:

Moved by Curtis to nominate Susan Holder for the position of Treasurer of the Caro Board of Education.

Roll call vote for Holder for Treasurer:

Ayes: Holder, McComb, Sawyer, Curtis, Groosbeck, Hart, Gomez

Motion carried.

Holder was declared Treasurer for the 2025 calendar year by way of majority vote.

5. Approval of Minutes:

Moved by McComb, supported by Curtis, to approve the December 16, 2024 minutes, as written.

Ayes: McComb, Sawyer, Curtis, Groosbeck, Hart, Holder, Gomez

Motion carried.

6. Approval of Bills:

Moved by Holder, supported by Curtis, to approve the bills as follows:

Payroll: \$1,686,217.58

General Fund: \$359,538.31

Food Service: \$74,779.32

Total: \$2,120,535.21

Ayes: Sawyer, Curtis, Groosbeck, Hart, Holder, McComb, Gomez

Motion carried.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None

IV. TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Committees:
The Board discussed the committees previously assigned as well as the process of committees reporting to the Board as a whole for consideration and action.
2. Administrative Salary Schedule:
A few additional administrative compensation schedules were presented to the Board for consideration and discussion.
3. Tutoring Services:
A student tutoring service proposal was presented to the Board for consideration and discussion. The service by BookNook would provide tutoring during the school day for students in grades 4-8 who are behind their grade level in reading and/or math.
4. Strategic Planning:
Strategic planning has been a topic of discussion over the last few years. A proposal from MASB was provided to the Board to discuss.

V. TOPICS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION AND/OR ACTION:

1. Organizational Meeting Resolutions:
 - A. Official School Attorney:
Moved by Curtis, supported by McComb, to approve Thrun Law Firm, PC as our official school attorney in 2025.
Ayes: Curtis, Groosbeck, Hart, Holder, McComb, Sawyer, Gomez
Motion carried.
 - B. Depository Funds:
Moved by McComb, supported by Holder, to approve the following depository of funds in 2025 for General Fund & Debt Retirement, Trust and Agency and Investments: Independent Bank, Huntington Bank, NorthStar Bank, Team One Credit Union, Frankenmuth Credit Union, Corebridge Financial, Ameriprise Financial, Equitable, Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company of Michigan, Franklin Templeton Mutual Funds, GLP & Associates, MEA Financial Services, Putnam Funds, ReliaStar Life, VOYA Financial, and Michigan Liquid Asset Fund Plus.
Ayes: Groosbeck, Hart, Holder, McComb, Sawyer, Curtis, Gomez
Motion carried.
 - C. Official Newspaper:
Moved by Holder, supported by Sawyer, to approve The Tuscola County Advertiser as our official newspaper in 2025.
Ayes: Hart, Holder, McComb, Sawyer, Curtis, Groosbeck, Gomez
Motion carried.
 - D. Emergency Notice Contacts:
Moved by Holder, supported by Curtis, to approve the following emergency notice contacts: Skylert, Caro Community Schools' Facebook page, WJRT-TV12, NBC-TV25, WNEM TV5, and Radio WLEW 102.1 FM/ThumbNet to broadcast any emergency notices.
Ayes: Holder, McComb, Sawyer, Curtis, Groosbeck, Hart, Gomez
Motion carried.
 - E. School Board Stipends:
Moved by Sawyer, supported by McComb, to approve \$25 per meeting with unlimited meetings and a maximum payment of one compensation per day for school board stipends.
Ayes: McComb, Sawyer, Curtis, Groosbeck, Hart, Holder, Gomez
Motion carried.
 - F. School Board Meeting Dates:
Moved by Curtis, supported by Sawyer, to approve the second Monday of each month at 6:00 PM in the Middle School Media Center for school board meetings.
Ayes: Sawyer, Curtis, Groosbeck, Hart, Holder, McComb, Gomez
Motion carried.

G. Committees:

Moved by Curtis, supported by Hart, to continue our practice of three (3) member committees based upon the needs of the district including Budget & Finance Committee, Building & Grounds Committee, Curriculum Committee and Policy Committee.

Ayes: Curtis, Groosbeck, Hart, Holder, McComb, Sawyer, Gomez

Motion carried.

President Gomez assigned the committees as follows:

Budget/Finance Committee: Groosbeck, Holder, McComb

Building/Grounds Committee: Curtis, Gomez, McComb

Curriculum Committee: Hart, Holder, Sawyer

Policy Committee: Curtis, Hart, Sawyer

2. Moved by McComb, supported by Sawyer, to approve the 2024-25 Administrative Schedules, as presented.
Ayes: Groosbeck, Hart, Holder, McComb, Sawyer, Curtis, Gomez
Motion carried.
3. Moved by Holder, supported by Curtis, to approve the use of MDE 23g Grant funds to purchase tutoring services from Book Nook for \$138,456.00, as presented.
Ayes: Hart, Holder, McComb, Sawyer, Curtis, Groosbeck, Gomez
Motion carried.
4. Moved by Sawyer, supported by Hart, to approve the strategic planning process agreement with MASB for \$8,876.32, as presented.
Ayes: Holder, McComb, Sawyer, Curtis, Groosbeck, Hart, Gomez
Motion carried.
5. Moved by Curtis, supported by McComb, to approve January 13, 2025 as the second reading of revisions for NEOLA policies: 1130, 2264, 3113, 3120.08, 4113, 5330.02, 5340, 5500, 6110, 6111, 6112, 6114, 6325, 6550, 7310, 7440.03, 7450, 7540.09, and 8321.
Ayes: McComb, Sawyer, Curtis, Groosbeck, Hart, Holder, Gomez
Motion carried.
6. Moved by Sawyer, supported by Curtis, to approve the resignation of Randy Moore as Athletic Director, with best wishes.
Ayes: Sawyer, Curtis, Groosbeck, Hart, Holder, McComb, Gomez
Motion carried.

VI. BUILDING REPORTS:

The Board received updates from administration and had an opportunity to ask questions.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

Superintendent Rierson recognized each Board member with a certificate of appreciation for their time, courage and leadership as January is Board Appreciation Month. He shared a brief update on the bond projects that have been discussed at the biweekly meetings including the cabling for the new PA and emergency alert system, digital clocks, camera systems, and the upcoming group of McComb staff set to learn more about various furniture options. The new fiber line project to McComb and back to the press box and concession stand began before the December break. Superintendent Rierson expressed his hope to meet with the new budget and finance committee in the near future to discuss the transportation director roll and position moving forward. He also mentioned the recent federal district court issuing a decision vacating the 2024 Title IX Final Rule while the district's policy 2266 with 2020 Title IX regulations will remain in place.

VIII. BOARD COMMENTS:

Holder: Mrs. Holder welcomed Ashley and David on the Board and that she was looking forward to working with them.

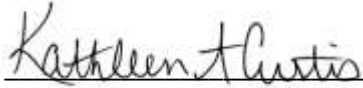
Gomez: Mrs. Gomez shared that she would like the Board to participate in a self-assessment through MASB in the near future to provide direction for the future in hopes of improving Board relations. She also expressed her wish to stick with the MASB calendar of Board and superintendent evaluation cycle.

IX. OTHER:

None

X. ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Holder, supported by Curtis, to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 PM.
Ayes: Curtis, Groosbeck, Hart, Holder, McComb, Sawyer, Gomez
Motion carried.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathleen Curtis". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Kathleen Curtis, Secretary