

**MINUTES**  
**CARO COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**December 9, 2024**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Tina Gomez, President, in the Caro Middle School Media Center.

Pledge of Allegiance – Moment of Silence

Roll Call: Curtis, Holder, Moore, Sawyer (arrived 6:05 PM), Gomez

Absent: Brunet, McComb

Also Present: Branding, Bringard, Moyer, Warren, LaBerge, Kitchen, Johnson, Chapelo, Dwyer, Henry

**II. RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

1. Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Holder, supported by Curtis, to approve the November 11, 2024 minutes, as written.

Ayes: Curtis, Holder, Moore, Gomez

Motion carried.

2. Approval of Bills:

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

Payroll: \$1,251,703.97

General Fund: \$472,862.88

Food Service: \$41,145.96

Total: \$1,765,712.81

Ayes: Holder, Moore, Curtis, Gomez

Motion carried.

**III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Ashley Eskelson – Employee Comment

Shirley Schaefer – Employee Comment

Sawyer arrived at 6:05 PM.

**IV. TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:**

1. Middle School Student Council Presentation:

Members of the Middle School Student Council presented to the Board about their participation in the Leadership Training Institute event in Frankenmuth.

2. 2024-25 Budget Revision:

Business Manager, Collin Henry presented the budget revisions to the general fund and answered questions from the Board.

3. Administrative Salary Schedule:

A new administrative compensation schedule was presented to the Board for consideration and discussion.

4. Michigan Liquid Asset Fund Plus:

The Board was presented with information on the opportunity to join the Michigan Liquid Asset Fund Plus (Mi-LAF+) investment pool with funds received from the bond sale. The Board had the opportunity to ask questions and discuss the information provided.

5. Bid- Temperature Control:

A bid to replace existing Middle School and High School Temperature Controls was presented to the Board for consideration and discussion.

6. Policy Update:

The fall policy revisions recommended by NEOLA were reviewed by the Policy Committee on November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 and provided to the Board for consideration and discussion.

7. Excellence in Education:

A meeting was held on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 with a group of teachers and administrators from McComb Elementary and Caro Middle School, as well a committee of the Board, to discuss the services that the Institute for Excellence in Education has provided to the District in the past and the discussion of additional services for select buildings. Information was shared with the Board for discussion.

8. Athletic Purchase:

Three quotes were presented to the Board for a new scorers' table in the High School that would include digital display. The Caro Athletic Boosters agreed to pay for half of the scorer's table if purchased. Board members discussed the recommendation and questions were answered.

**V. TOPICS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION AND/OR ACTION:**

1. Moved by Curtis, supported by Moore, to approve the revised 2024-2025 General Fund budget, as presented.  
Ayes: Moore, Sawyer, Curtis, Holder, Gomez  
Motion carried.
2. Moved by Moore, supported by Curtis, to approve the new Administrative Salary Schedules, as presented.  
Ayes: Sawyer, Curtis, Holder, McComb, Gomez  
Motion carried.
3. Moved by Holder, supported by Curtis, to approve the resolution to join the Michigan Liquid Asset Fund Plus, as presented.  
Ayes: Curtis, Holder, Moore, Sawyer, Gomez  
Motion carried.
4. Moved by Moore, supported by Sawyer, to approve the bid for High School and Middle School Temperature Control upgrades by Tri-City Controls for \$386,184.00, as presented.  
Ayes: Holder, Moore, Sawyer, Curtis, Gomez  
Motion carried.
5. Moved by Curtis, supported by Sawyer, to approve December 9th as the first reading of revisions and adoption 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: Moore, Sawyer, Curtis, Holder, Gomez  
Motion carried.
6. Moved by Moore, supported by Curtis, to approve the purchase of a new High School scorer's table from Sideline Interactive for \$10,590.00, as presented.  
Ayes: Sawyer, Curtis, Holder, Moore, Gomez  
Motion carried.
7. Moved by Curtis, supported by Holder, to approve the resignation of Transportation Director, Ann Westover, and Varsity Football Head Coach, Jacob Galsterer.  
Ayes: Curtis, Holder, Moore, Sawyer, Gomez  
Motion carried.

**VI. BUILDING REPORTS:**

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

**VII. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

Mr. Rierson shared a brief update on the bond projects that are discussed at the biweekly meetings including the PA and emergency alert system, digital clocks, camera systems, and furniture. Mr. Rierson thanked all those that worked on the USDA Rural Distance Learning Grant project and shared the excitement in being approved for \$844,000 to be used for classroom connection and technology. He also shared that the District received notice of receiving a state EGLE grant for \$47,000 that will be used toward the Filter First Safe Drinking Water program requirements set by the state.

**VIII. BOARD COMMENTS:**

Gomez: Mrs. Gomez shared her deep thanks to Phoebe for all of her dedication and leadership and for always advocating for our students and the best for the district.

Moore: Ms. Moore thanked everyone for teaching her about all that is incorporated in education, for the diverse knowledge that is brought to the Board table, and how proud she is of what the Board and district have done and overcome [during her term]. She encouraged the Board to follow Martin Luther King Jr's words to use intelligence and character in their role.

Holder: Mrs. Holder thanked Phoebe.

Sawyer: Mrs. Sawyer thanked Phoebe.

Curtis: Mrs. Curtis thanked Phoebe.

**IX. CLOSED SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DUE PROCESS DISCIPLINARY HEARING:**

Moved by Curtis, supported by Moore, to go into closed session at 7:39 PM for the purpose of due process disciplinary hearing.

Ayes: Holder, Moore, Sawyer, Curtis, Gomez

Motion carried.

Moved by Holder, supported by Sawyer, to return to open session at 8:40 PM in the Middle School Media Center.

Ayes: Moore, Sawyer, Curtis, Holder Gomez

Motion carried.

Moved by Moore, supported by Holder, to approve the December 9, 2024 closed session minutes.

Ayes: Sawyer, Curtis, Holder, Moore, Gomez

Moved by Moore, supported by Sawyer, to follow the administration's recommendation that, pursuant to 1311(2) of the Revised School Code, that Student 020097504 be expelled at Caro Community Schools for the remainder of the second trimester of the 2024-25 school year. The student may petition the Board for reinstatement no sooner than February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

Ayes: Curtis, Holder, Moore, Sawyer, Gomez

Motion carried.

**X. OTHER:**

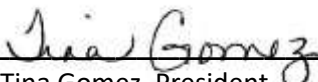
None

**XI. ADJOURNMENT:**

Moved by Moore, supported by Curtis, to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 PM.

Ayes: Holder, Moore, Sawyer, Curtis, Gomez

Motion carried.

  
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Tina Gomez, President