

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

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, Groosbeck, Hart, Holder, McComb, Sawyer, Gomez

Absent: None

Also Present: Branding, Bitzer, Bringard, LaBerge, Kitchen, Johnson, Maynard, Dwyer, Weijola, Chapelo, Henry

II. RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. Approval of Minutes:

Moved by McComb, supported by Curtis, to approve the September 15, 2025 minutes, as written.

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

Motion carried.

2. Approval of Bills:

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

Payroll: \$1,266,546.11

General Fund: \$204,978.46

Food Service: \$30,894.19

Total: \$1,502,418.76

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

Motion carried.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Zachary Putnam – Parent Comment

IV. TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Capturing Kids Hearts:

Board members that attended the Capturing Kids Hearts Workshop on October 7th shared their feedback about the workshop.

2. 2024 Bond Update- McComb Digital Controls:

Superintendent Rierson shared an update on where the district stands in the second phase of the bond project including projects at McComb, the high school, parking lots, and tennis courts. An estimate for work on the digital control system and panels at McComb Elementary was also presented to the Board for consideration.

3. Filter First Clean Drinking Water Program:

One of the requirements in The Clean Drinking Water Access Act signed by the Governor in 2024 was to have approved filters on all drinkable water sources by the end of the 2025-26 school year. A grant was received by the district to help with the cost of new fixtures and filters. Estimates for the remaining refilling stations needing replacement were collected from multiple providers and were shared with the Board for consideration.

4. Hooper Street Property Discussion:

Superintendent Rierson provided an update on inspections and assessments that the district is in the process of completing at 17 North Hooper Street.

5. CrisisGo Incident Management Platform:

The district's agreement for use of the CrisisGo system is at the point to consider renewal. CrisisGo provides alerts, messages and allows teachers to take attendance through a roster in the event of an emergency to account for students all through district computers or through a mobile app. The Board had the opportunity to discuss and ask questions.

6. District Implementation Team (DIT) Communication Plan:

A draft of the communication plan that has been developed by the District Implementation Team (DIT) was shared with the Board which provided the opportunity for them to ask questions and discuss the plan.

V. TOPICS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION AND/OR ACTION:

1. Moved by McComb, supported by Curtis, to approve the 2024 Bond project for McComb Elementary School digital control system and panels by Tri City Controls for \$54,097.00, as presented.

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

Motion carried.

2. Moved by Holder, supported by Sawyer, to approve the purchase of drinking fountain water bottle refilling stations from Equiparts Corp for \$16,158.82, as presented.

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

Motion carried.

3. Moved by Curtis, supported by McComb, to approve the 2025-2028 three year agreement with CrisisGo for \$17,940.75, as presented.

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 shared a short summary of the state aid funding although the district is still working to determine the impact and some finer details. We will be scheduling meetings this fall with the wellness committee to review policies and gather input from stakeholders. The state updated the health curriculum standards so the district will meet to review changes as well as schedule public hearings to allow the material to be reviewed by parents. October is bullying prevention month and Superintendent Rierson shared about the guest speaker that visited the district last month. He also reminded everyone about the OK2SAY tip line through the OK2SAY.org, phone 8-555-OK2SAY, text OK2SAY, or email OK2SAY@mi.gov, as well as the district phone tip line at 989-672-0679. October is also principal appreciation month and Superintendent Rierson shared his appreciation for the remarkable team of administrators the district is fortunate to have.

VIII. BOARD COMMENTS:

Curtis: Mrs. Curtis recognized all the time, energy, and work provided by the Alternative High School students toward the pumpkin festival and thanked them for all they did.

McComb: Mr. McComb all thanked the Alternative High School for their help with the pumpkin festival, and also thanked the principals and administrators for all that they do.

Holder: Mrs. Holder commented on all that went into this year's homecoming events at Caro High School and thanked the administrators for making it a success.

Gomez: Mrs. Gomez thanked the administrators for always trying to be greater and thinking outside of the box, and assured them that their work is not taken for granted or unnoticed.

Sawyer: Mrs. Sawyer praised the Caro High School on the student lead parent teacher conferences, and the motivation it gave the students to speak and lead the discussions.

IX. OTHER:

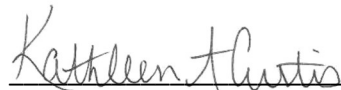
Reminder of the Tuscola County School Board Association dinner on October 30th.

X. ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Curtis, supported by Holder to adjourn the meeting at 7:09 PM.

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

Motion carried.



Kathleen Curtis, Secretary