

**MINUTES**  
**CARO COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**August 10, 2026**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

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

Pledge of Allegiance – Moment of Silence

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

Absent: Gomez, Groosbeck

Also Present: Bitzer, Campbell, Bringard, Moyer, LaBerge, Lester, Weijola, Dwyer, Chapelo, Henry

**II. RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

1. Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Sawyer, supported by Curtis, to approve the minutes from the July 20, 2026 meeting, as presented.

Ayes: Hart, Holder, Sawyer, Curtis, McComb

Motion carried.

2. Approval of Bills:

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

Payroll: \$1,652,436.91

General Fund: \$472,247.81

Food Service: \$64,656.55

Total: \$2,189,341.27

Ayes: Holder, Sawyer, Curtis Hart, McComb

Motion carried.

**III. GOOD THINGS:**

Board members shared good things.

**IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

Chris Wilcox – Booster Comment

**V. TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:**

1. Bond Project Update:

Superintendent Rierson shared the most current timeline on the active 2024 Bond construction projects and that the majority was expected to be completed before students start school.

2. Building Consolidation Update:

Gratitude was shared with the custodial summer cleaning and moving crew for all of the work they did to help make our single campus on Hooper Street. Several options for relocating or purchasing new playground material for the third through fifth graders were discussed with the Board.

3. Technology:

Information about the door access control systems was discussed, questions were answered, and a quote was provided for consideration.

4. Capturing Kids Hearts:

The contract for Capturing Kids Hearts was presented to the Board for consideration, which would provide a recharge opportunity for new and returning staff.

5. 2026-27 Student Handbooks:

The updated 2026-2027 student handbooks were provided to the Board for review and consideration.

6. MHSAA Cooperatives:

A MHSAA Cooperative Agreement request by Kingston Jr/Sr High School for boys and girls swimming and diving was provided for consideration.

7. Strategic Plan Report:

Superintendent Rierson shared an annual report on the district's strategic plan which showed work around academic programs and team collaboration over the last year.

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

1. Moved by Curtis, supported by Sawyer, to approve the three year subscription for Access Control Software through Honor Security for \$13,996.80, as presented.  
Ayes: Sawyer, Curtis, Hart, Holder, McComb  
Motion carried.
2. Moved by Sawyer, supported by Holder, to approve the service agreement with Capturing Kids Hearts for \$33,800, as presented.  
Ayes: Curtis, Hart, Holder, Sawyer, McComb  
Motion carried.
3. Moved by Holder, supported by Curtis, to approve the school building handbooks for the 2026-27 school year.  
Ayes: Hart, Holder, Sawyer, Curtis, McComb  
Motion carried.
4. Moved by Curtis, supported by Hart, to approve the 2026-2027 MHSAA Cooperative Agreement for boys and girls swimming and diving to add Kingston High School.  
Ayes: Holder, Sawyer, Curtis, Hart, McComb  
Motion carried.
5. Moved by Sawyer, supported by Hart, to grant tenure to: Cathy Convery, Brendan Galbraith, Elisabeth Lennox, Linda Miller, and Heather Morse; 5th year probation to: Tiffany Androl, Joshua Cahoon, Kelsey Dilller, Mary Karavas, and Brady Palmer; 4th year probation to: Karie Campbell, Shannon Pringle, and Julianna Weidman; 3rd year probation to: Morgan Armstead, Kelsey Eremia, Dustin Dennis, Lindsay Jones, Andrea Oberlin, Nichol Lopez, Lindsey Parker, Johanna Polzin, Imogen Sanders, and Nicolette Younglove; 2nd year probation to: Rebekah Bulgrien, Sabrina Hildinger, Dalice Hudson, Ryan Love, Elizabeth Poirier, Kimberly Rutila, and Aleyhna St. Amand.  
Ayes: Sawyer, Curtis, Hart, Holder, McComb  
Motion carried.
6. Moved by Hart, supported by Curtis, to approve the resignation of 5th Grade Teacher Jeremy Ball, with best wishes.  
Ayes: Curtis, Hart, Holder, Sawyer, McComb  
Motion carried.

**VII. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

Superintendent Rierson shared his excitement for the approaching start of the new school year. A "Meet the Tigers Night" open house was scheduled for August 26 for grades K-12 to meet their teachers, enjoy fun activities and treats, as well as an opportunity to meet with athletic teams. A district artificial intelligence team attended trainings last year and has developed guidance for staff and students that will begin this fall. The new greenhouse is still scheduled for installation at the end of August. Superintendent Rierson plans to work on developing a group of students to work with Board members in a student advisory group.

**VIII. BOARD COMMENTS:**

None

**IX. CLOSED SESSION IN PURSUANT TO OMA SECTION 8(1)(c) - COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS:**

Moved by Holder, supported by Curtis, to go into closed session at 7:09 PM in pursuant to Open Meetings Act Section 8(1)(c) - collective bargaining agreement negotiations.

Ayes: Hart, Holder, Sawyer, Curtis, McComb

Motion carried.

Moved by Sawyer, supported by Holder, to return to open session at 7:57 PM in the Middle School Media Center.

Ayes: Holder, Sawyer, Curtis, Hart, McComb

Motion carried.

Moved by Curtis, supported by Holder, to approve the August 10, 2026 closed session minutes.

Ayes: Sawyer, Curtis, Hart, Holder, McComb

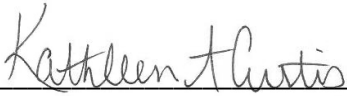
Motion carried.

**X. OTHER:**

None

**XI. ADJOURNMENT:**

Moved by Curtis, supported by Holder, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 PM.  
Ayes: Curtis, Hart, Holder, Sawyer, McComb  
Motion carried.

  
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Kathleen Curtis, Secretary