

MINUTES
CARO COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
September 14, 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 (left at 7:31 PM), Gomez, Hart, Holder, Sawyer, McComb

Absent: Groosbeck

Also Present: Bitzer, Campbell, Bringard, Moyer, Engelmann, Maynard, Dwyer, Henry

II. RECOMMENDED ACTION:

1. Approval of Minutes:

Moved by Curtis, supported by Sawyer, to approve the minutes from the August 10, 2026 meeting, as presented.

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

Motion carried.

2. Approval of Bills:

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

Payroll: \$986,528.39

General Fund: \$175,153.84

Food Service: \$20,067.31

Total: \$1,181,749.54

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

Motion carried.

III. GOOD THINGS:

Board members shared good things.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Chris Wilcox – Parent Comment

Adam Megge – Parent Comment

V. TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Bond Project Update:

Superintendent Rierson shared the most current updates on the active 2024 Bond construction projects and what projects were pending completion.

2. Playground:

The Board's Building and Grounds Committee met on September 10th, 2026 to review several options for relocating or purchasing new playground material for the third through fifth graders. The information was provided to the Board for consideration and discussion.

3. MASB Delegate Assembly:

The Board had the opportunity to discuss the possibility for the District to have a delegate at the MASB Annual Leadership Conference Delegate Assembly and if any members were interested and available to attend.

4. Teacher Tenure:

Superintendent Rierson share information about the 2024 revision to the tenure act that changed the probationary period to four years if an individual earned an effective rating on three year-end performance evaluations.

VI. TOPICS FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION AND/OR ACTION:

1. Moved by Gomez, supported by Curtis, to approve the purchase of the Caro Middle School playground equipment from Sinclair Recreation for \$150,000.00, as presented.

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

Motion carried.

2. Moved by Curtis, supported by Hart, to table this motion indefinitely to designate a voting delegate for the MASB 2026 Delegate Assembly.

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

Motion carried.

3. Moved by Sawyer, supported by Hart, to grant tenure to Tiffany Androl, Joshua Cahoon, Kelsey Dilller, Mary Karavas, and Brady Palmer.
Ayes: Curtis, Gomez, Hart, Holder, Sawyer, McComb
Motion carried.
4. Moved by Holder, supported by Sawyer, to approve the resignation of Junior- Senior High School Teacher Kelli McIntyre.
Ayes: Gomez, Hart, Holder, Sawyer, Curtis, McComb
Motion carried.
5. Moved by Hart, supported by Holder, to approve the hire of Paige Hallock as 5th Grade Teacher, Sarah Lester as 2nd Grade Teacher, Vanessa Sutton as Jr/Sr High School Special Education Teacher, and Alexis Zimmerman as 1st Grade Teacher for the 2026-27 school year.
Ayes: Sawyer, Curtis, Hart, Holder, McComb
Motion carried.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

Superintendent Rierson shared his appreciation for all of the work and support that was poured into the start of the new school year. The Head Start program will receive food service from the district again this year after successfully piloting the service last year. The greenhouse will be delivered on September 24th and placed on the prepared surface near the south end of the Jr/Sr High School's 700 wing. Superintendent Rierson shared changes made to the state's 31aa grant funding for this school year. He shared about the thunderstorm and lightning strike that hit near the building earlier in September and caused some damage to various equipment in the Jr/Sr High School building.

VIII. BOARD COMMENTS:

None

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

Moved by Sawyer, supported by Curtis, to go into closed session at 6:45 PM in pursuant to Open Meetings Act Section 8(1)(c) - collective bargaining agreement negotiations.

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

Motion carried.

Curtis left at 7:31 PM.

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

Ayes: Sawyer, Gomez, Hart, Holder, McComb

Motion carried.

Moved by Holder, supported by Sawyer, to approve the September 14, 2026 closed session minutes.

Ayes: Gomez, Hart, Holder, Sawyer, McComb

Motion carried.

X. OTHER:

Tennis court ribbon cutting ceremony will be held on Wednesday, September 16, 2026 at 3:45 PM.

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Sawyer, supported by Holder, to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 PM.

Ayes: Hart, Holder, Sawyer, Gomez, McComb

Motion carried.



Kathleen Curtis, Secretary