

**MINUTES**  
**CARO COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**February 13, 2023**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Tina Gomez, President, in the Caro Middle School Media Center.

Pledge of Allegiance – Moment of Silence

Roll Call: Curtis, Holder, McComb, Skelton, Gomez

Absent: Brunet, Moore

Also Present: Branding, Bitzer, Bringard, Moyer, Warren, LaBerge, Chapelo, Sanders, Dwyer, Weijola, Henry

**II. RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

1. Approval of Minutes:

Moved by McComb, supported by Holder, to approve the January 9, 2023 minutes, as written.

Ayes: Curtis, Holder, McComb, Skelton, Gomez

Motion carried.

2. Approval of Bills:

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

Payroll: \$1,125,273.71

General Fund: \$596,824.53

Food Service: \$42,122.26

Total: \$1,764,220.50

Ayes: Holder, McComb, Skelton, Curtis, Gomez

Motion carried.

**III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

None

**IV. TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:**

1. Budget Revisions:

Business Manager Collin Henry presented the budget revisions to the general and food service funds and answered questions from the Board.

2. Academic Goals Review:

Superintendent Rierson discussed the mid-year assessment achievements and the goals that were established by each of the school buildings. As data is collected and reviewed, the administrative team is continually learning and understanding more about the assessments and the data provided. Board members shared their thoughts and questions were answered.

3. Technology Purchase:

Information was shared about the need to purchase Chromebooks to replace those that will expire at the end of this school year. The proposed purchase was approved by ECF (Emergency Connectivity Fund) and would be fully funded through ECF.

4. MASB Region 5 Ballot:

MASB provided information to the Board regarding the two candidates that were on the ballot for three year terms in Region 5. The Board had the opportunity to review and discuss the potential candidates.

5. Meet of Champs "Friend of Youth":

The Board was presented with a list of Caro School's previous Friend of Youth honorees and were given the opportunity to discuss potential nominees for the 2023 Meet of Champs.

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

1. Moved by McComb, supported by Holder, to approve the revised 2022-2023 General Fund budget, as presented.

Ayes: McComb, Skelton, Curtis, Holder, Gomez

Motion carried.

2. Moved by McComb, supported by Curtis, to approve the purchase of 240 Chromebooks from Presidio for the amount of \$80,712.00 with funding provided by the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF), as presented.

Ayes: Skelton, Curtis, Holder, McComb, Gomez

Motion carried.

3. Moved by McComb, supported by Curtis, to nominate Richard Hill for the 2023 MASB Region 5 Board of Directors Election.  
Ayes: Curtis, Holder, McComb, Skelton, Gomez  
Motion carried.
4. Moved by Holder, supported by Curtis, to nominate Fred Galsterer as Caro Schools' "Friend of Youth" for the 2023 Thumb Meet of Champs.  
Ayes: Holder, McComb, Skelton, Curtis, Gomez  
Motion carried.
5. Moved by McComb, supported by Holder, to approve the hire of Myron Jackson as Varsity Bowling Coach, Alyssa Rahn as Varsity Volleyball Coach, and Robert McDaniel as Varsity Football Coach for the 2023 season.  
Ayes: McComb, Skelton, Curtis, Holder, Gomez  
Motion carried.

**VI. BUILDING REPORTS:**

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

**VII. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

Capturing Kids' Hearts is encouraging kindness throughout the district this month and Superintendent Rierson thanked the board for moving forward with their support of the CKH program which is spreading positivity through the staff and students. He acknowledged our school counselors and how lucky the district is to have them available to help our students, and also congratulated the High School administrators, staff and students on earning an A in "Performance Among Peers" through the Reward School Status on the state school grading system. Superintendent Rierson spoke about the Governor's recently released executive budget proposal for 2023-24 with the proposed increase in per pupil funding. The House and Senate will release their proposals in the spring and hopes a final budget will be approved by June 1 so that schools can have reliable information on which to base the 2023-24 budget on. He also shared that the bylaws that are being refined for districts in the Thumb for the athletic Mega-League and expects commitment by districts in the coming months.

**VIII. BOARD COMMENTS:**

Skelton: Mrs. Skelton expressed a shout out to Mrs. Hall for her accomplishment in publishing a poetry book.

Holder: Mrs. Holder thanked the staff for all of their work putting on the Coming Home events last week, and also thanked Collin for answering all of the questions that were asked during the Budget and Finance Committee meeting.

Gomez: Mrs. Gomez praised the school on the great turnout at the Coming Home events on Friday.

Curtis: Mrs. Curtis shared her admiration for Mr. Myron Jackson and the many years he coached the boys and girls bowling team as a volunteer. She also shared criticism on how a recent athletic issue was handled.

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

Moved by Holder, supported by McComb, to go to closed session at 8:34 PM for the purpose of due process reinstatement and disciplinary hearing.

Ayes: Skelton, Curtis, Holder, McComb, Gomez

Motion carried.

Moved by Holder, supported by Curtis, to return to open session in the Middle School Media Center at 10:25 PM.

Ayes: Curtis, Holder, McComb, Skelton, Gomez

Motion carried.

Moved by Curtis, supported by Holder, to approve the February 13, 2023 closed session minutes.

Ayes: Holder, McComb, Skelton, Curtis, Gomez

Motion carried.

Moved by McComb, supported by Holder, to approve the reinstatement of Student A (020096123), effective March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 with a strict transition plan in place.

Ayes: McComb, Skelton, Curtis, Holder, Gomez

Motion carried.

Moved by McComb, supported by Skelton, to follow the administration's recommendation that, pursuant to 1311(1) of the Revised School Code, that Student B (9020096449) be expelled from Caro Community Schools. The student may petition the Board for reinstatement no sooner than July 31, 2023.

Ayes: Skelton, Curtis, Holder, McComb, Gomez

Motion carried.

**X. OTHER:**

None

**XI. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:28 PM by Tina Gomez, President.

Ayes: Curtis, Holder, McComb, Skelton, Gomez

Motion carried.

  
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Brian McComb, Secretary