

**MINUTES**  
**CARO COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**August 12, 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: Brunet, Curtis, McComb, Moore, Gomez

Absent: Holder, Skelton

Also Present: Branding, Bitzer, Moyer, Warren, LaBerge, Kitchen, Moore, Weijola, Dwyer, Henry

**II. RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

1. Approval of Minutes:

Moved by McComb, supported by Moore, to approve the July 8, 2024 minutes, as written.

Ayes: Curtis, McComb, Moore, Brunet, Gomez

Motion carried.

2. Approval of Bills:

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

Payroll: \$1,448,816.30

General Fund: \$136,939.88

Food Service: \$71,022.87

Total: \$1,656,779.05

Ayes: McComb, Moore, Brunet, Curtis, Gomez

Motion carried.

**III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

None

**IV. TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:**

1. Budget Hearing – Truth in Taxation:

Collin Henry, Caro Schools Business Manager, presented information on the Truth in Taxation as well as the 2024-25 budget.

2. Standard Response Protocol:

The new Standard Response Protocol (SRP) created by the company I Love You Guys was presented to the Board by Assistant Principal Bitzer, Assistant Principal Moyer, and Officer Wessels. The team shared information about the wide range of services and materials available, as well as feedback from their recent training provided by the Michigan State Police Office of School Safety.

3. 2024-25 Handbooks:

The 2024-25 handbook updates were provided to the Board for the review.

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

1. Moved by McComb, supported by Curtis, to approve the 2024 Tax Levy L-4029 of 17.8686 Mills of Operating and 5.6 Mills of Debt, as presented.

Ayes: Moore, Brunet, Curtis, McComb, Gomez

Motion carried.

2. Moved by Moore, supported by Curtis, to re-approve the 2024-25 General Fund Budget of \$20,915,065.14, as presented.

Ayes: Brunet, Curtis, McComb, Moore, Gomez

Motion carried.

3. Moved by Brunet, supported by McComb, to approve the school building handbooks for the 2024-25 school year.

Ayes: Curtis, McComb, Moore, Brunet, Gomez

Motion carried.

4. Moved by Curtis, supported by Moore to approve policies 2264 and 2266 in their final form.

Ayes: McComb, Moore, Curtis, Gomez

Nays: Brunet

Motion carried.

5. Moved by McComb, supported by Curtis, to approve the Emergency Operations Plan, as presented.  
Ayes: Moore, Brunet, Curtis, McComb, Gomez  
Motion carried.
6. Moved by McComb, supported by Brunet, to approve the meal prices for 2024-2025 school year, per State requirements as follows: Student Breakfast: \$2.25 and Student a la carte Breakfast: \$1.75; Adult Breakfast: \$3.00 and Adult a la carte Breakfast: \$2.25; Student Lunch: \$3.15 and Student a la carte Lunch \$2.75; Adult Lunch: \$5.11 and Adult a la carte Lunch \$3.25; and Play Pals Lunch: \$2.25.  
Ayes: Brunet, Curtis, McComb, Moore, Gomez  
Motion carried.
7. Moved by Brunet, supported by Curtis, to approve the resignation of Michael Paul as High School Math Teacher.  
Ayes: Curtis, McComb, Moore, Brunet, Gomez  
Motion carried.
8. Moved by Curtis, supported by McComb, to approve the hire of Lindsay Jones as High School English Teacher, Kelli McIntyre as High School Physical Ed and Health Teacher, and Lindsey Parker as Schall Special Ed Teacher for the 2024-25 school year.  
Ayes: McComb, Moore, Brunet, Curtis, Gomez  
Motion carried.

**VI. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:**

Superintendent Rierson shared his deepest gratitude to the community, business owners, the central office staff, and the Board of Education. The timeline for the bond project will be developed in the weeks to come with the hope of starting some work during the summer of 2025. The air conditioning project was reported as close to completion in the Middle School, but the High School is delayed due to some back ordered components. Superintendent Rierson thanked the summer custodial staff for their work over the summer as well as the food service crew for the great service they provided for the families of the community.

**VII. BOARD COMMENTS:**

Moore: Ms. Moore expressed how proud she is of the district and the excitement for the start of the new school year. She shared her great appreciation to Superintendent Rierson; for all of the work, tough decisions and hours he put in to the two elections, passing of the millage and bond, and the excitement of what the future brings.

Gomez: Mrs. Gomez praised Superintendent Rierson for his attendance at so many events to meet with the community members, for his professionalism amidst diversity, and his unwavering dedication. Thank you!

**VIII. CLOSED SESSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS:**

Moved by Moore, supported by Curtis, to go into closed session at 7:11 PM for the purpose of contract negotiations.

Ayes: Moore, Brunet, Curtis, McComb, Gomez

Motion carried.

Moved by Moore, supported by Brunet, to return to open session at 7:46 PM in the Middle School Media Center.

Ayes: Brunet, Curtis, McComb, Moore, Gomez

Motion carried.

Moved by Curtis, supported by McComb, to approve the August 12, 2024 closed session minutes.

Ayes: Curtis, McComb, Moore, Brunet, Gomez

Motion carried.

**IX. OTHER:**

None

**X. ADJOURNMENT:**

Moved by McComb, supported by Moore, to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 PM.

Ayes: McComb, Moore, Brunet, Curtis, Gomez

Motion carried.

  
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Brian McComb, Secretary

