

## TCS AIG Partners

TCS recognizes that developing AIG students' potential begins with both academic and social-emotional education, but their success depends upon their finding meaningful, fulfilling pursuits in adult life. AIG students, and many other students, benefit from connecting their school work to activities in which they explore their communities and the larger world and begin forming their identity as citizens.

Various Transylvania County and community agencies actively seek to involve students in leadership-building and community service activities before and during their senior year. Notable examples include:

- Transylvania County Library: Teen Advisory Board and volunteering
- Transylvania County Sheriff's Office: Juvenile Crime Prevention Council
- VISION Transylvania Community Leadership Development Program: VIZ Youth Leadership
- Transylvania County School Board: student representatives attend school board meetings on rotating basis
- Cindy Platt Boys and Girls Club: volunteer staff and tutors
- Neighbors in Ministry's Rise and Shine After-school program: volunteer tutors and homework coaches
- NC Cooperative Extension Service: Transylvania 4-H Club

Many organizations and businesses provide organized, ongoing opportunities for students to develop skills, interests, and talents throughout their school years, such as:

- Transylvania Choral Society; Transylvania Youth Strings
- Brevard Little Theatre summer youth programs
- Transylvania County Library summer reading and year-round Creation Labs, Lego Builders, and Teen Space "Your Future"
- Transylvania Community Arts Council art workshops and classes
- Muddy Sneakers science/outdoors experiential learning sessions for 5th graders

Other organizations communicate and cooperative with TCS to directly support students' academic and social-emotional education:

- The Brian Center Health & Rehabilitation, The Oaks Nursing Home, and Transylvania Regional Hospital: student rotations as students pursue Certified Nursing Assistant credential (prerequisite for pursuing four-year Registered Nurse degree)
- Local businesses/industries which host student interns and accommodate job-shadowing experiences arranged by the TCS Workforce Development Coordinator
- Transylvania Community Arts Council: Arts In Schools program
- Transylvania County Schools Educational Foundation: mini-grants awarded to individual teachers and/or schools
- The *Transylvania Times*: weekly education columns written by teachers, specialists, and students about recent educational events and student accomplishments

All students, including gifted learners, have social-emotional needs mirroring community needs. Organizations whose work affects and benefits TCS students include:

- Transylvania County Commissioners, whose new Early Childhood Initiative and Teens in Crisis (name change pending) initiatives may lead to increased interagency cooperation
- C.A.R.E. Coalition (Community Awareness Recovery Effort), which seeks to reduce substance abuse and underage drinking. Partners include medical and public health agencies, mental and behavioral service agencies, TCS and other educational organizations, and many local nonprofit organizations

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Students' readiness to succeed in academic programs is matched by the community's readiness to financially support their college ambitions:

- State Employees Credit Union/SECU Foundation scholarship
- Connestee Falls scholarship
- Dorothy S. Bjerg Good Citizen award
- Trooper Giles Harmon Memorial scholarship
- Jim Bob and Dottie Tinsley Journalism scholarship
- Terrell Scruggs scholarship
- Daniel Furr Memorial scholarship
- Transylvania County Dental scholarship
- Hendersonville Pediatrics scholarship
- Transylvania Excellence in Education/Excellence in English award
- Transylvania Excellence in Education/Holbrook-Nichols award for construction, drafting, masonry, or mechanical technology
- Cornelius Hunt Memorial scholarship
- Carolyn Lemond Winchester scholarship
- Transylvania Regional Hospital/Jane Walker Freeman Memorial Nursing scholarship
- Transylvania Regional Hospital/Lindgren Memorial Nursing scholarship
- Adrienne Altman nursing scholarship
- Voso Leadership Award providing for a week-long experience in Washington, DC
- Transylvania County Schools superintendent paying tuition for students accepted to North Carolina Governor's School

TCS is currently exploring additional ways to create systemic ties to the community, such as by creating a STEM-themed school to partner with Pisgah Astronomical Research Institute and science/technology businesses in the area and by encouraging elementary schools to transform themselves into theme-based academies.

TCS is fortunate to have many strong partnerships with institutions of higher learning which support the goals of the AIG program and enhance its services to all students.

Partners who help students envision, apply to, and transition into college are:

- Colleges and universities which participate in Brevard High School and Rosman High School College Fairs
- Brevard College, Blue Ridge Community College, University of North Carolina-Asheville, and Western Carolina University which host College Day field trips for TCS juniors and seniors
- Blue Ridge Community College, Western Carolina University, University of North Carolina-Asheville, and University of North Carolina-Greensboro which allow TCS students to dual enroll or enroll early in college classes

Partners who support teachers with professional development to improve their instruction are:

- Blue Ridge Community College which annually offers Career Academy, a three-day behind-the-scenes tour of local businesses and industry, combined with an overview of local economic development and concrete discussions about 21st century skills
- Brevard College which, through its teacher preparation program, extends lecture series on diversity and professional development workshops on Problem-Based Learning to TCS teachers