

**Minutes
Transylvania County Board of Education
October 15, 2012**

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Public Comment
3. BHS Student Presentation
4. Award Presentation
5. Good News Report
6. Former Students in the Military
7. Consent Agenda:
 - A. Minutes
 - B. Personnel Report
8. Educator Effectiveness Update
9. NCSBA Voting Delegates Form
10. American Education Week Proclamation
11. Important Dates
12. Public Comment
13. Other Items
14. Closed Session

The Transylvania County Board of Education met in regular session on October 15, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at the Morris Education Center. Chris Whitmire, Chair; Tawny McCoy, Vice Chair; Sue Fox; Shelia Norman and Cindy Petit were present. Also present were Dr. Jeff McDaris; Jenny Hunter; Dr. Scott Elliott; Dr. David Sutton; Meredith Licht; SRO Chad Owen; Jeremiah Reed, *Transylvania Times*; and approximately 25 guests. Mr. Whitmire led in a moment of silence and Mrs. Petit led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Whitmire welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. The Board welcomed BHS student representative, Savannah McBee.

1. **Approval of Agenda**
ON A MOTION BY MRS. NORMAN, SECONDED BY MRS. PETIT, the meeting agenda for October 15, 2012 was approved as presented.
2. **Public Comment**
There was no public comment.
3. **BHS Student Presentation**
Teacher Meredith Licht introduced Brevard High School students, Hannah Field and Kaitlyn McCreery, who gave presentations on their senior project fundraisers. The goal of Hannah's senior project is to combat student hunger by raising at least \$1,200 for the local Backpack Buddies program. Kaitlin's project focuses on enhancing opportunities for advanced science study by raising funds for the TIME Science Research Project. The Board commended Miss Field and Miss McCreery for their projects and wished them success in meeting their goals.

Chairman Whitmire recognized student artwork from RES that was on display in the board room.

4. Award Presentation

Dr. Scott Elliott presented the "Counselor of the Year" award for 2012 to Mrs. Ginger Long, retired BMS counselor. Dr. McDaris noted that Mrs. Long had been named as "Counselor of the Year" at the September 17 awards ceremony, but was unable to attend as she has been away receiving long-term medical treatment. Mrs. Long received a standing ovation as she accepted her award.

5. Good News Report

Dr. McDaris reported the following good news items:

DAVIDSON RIVER SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS WITH BREVARD COLLEGE

Last year Davidson River School strengthened its partnership with Brevard College by having students in the Brevard College teacher education program assist with grading senior research papers and senior portfolios. This was coordinated by DRS staff and Dr. Betsy Burrows. This year, the partnership continues. On September 18, twenty-four BC students taking "EDU 305: Facilitation of Instruction" under Megan Keiser visited DRS and heard from a panel of students about differentiated instruction, technology initiatives, and online learning options at the DRS "School of Alternatives." Thanks to DRS students Brenna Philips, Zach Wiggins, Nakeyah Rabb, Colton Messer, and DRS graduate Josh Schneider who talked about their personal obstacles in school, teaching techniques that helped them, and offered "Tips for New Teachers" to the teachers-in-training.

CHRISTMAS CARD CONTEST

Superintendent McDaris is sponsoring a contest to design the Transylvania County Schools Christmas card for 2012. Students from all grade levels were invited to submit their original designs showcasing the theme, "Holidays in the Mountains." A winner from each grade level (high school, middle school and elementary school) will be announced by October 23.

RHS YEARBOOK WINS HONORS

A new banner is on display at RMS/RHS showcasing the selection of the Rosman High School Yearbook as a National Program of Excellence. Of the 26,000 schools that Josten's serves nationwide, only 400 yearbooks received this honor. The award of excellence is based on meeting deadlines, book sales, and student coverage. Congratulations go to RHS yearbook staff members Maddie Dunning, Bethany Green, Caitlin Owen, Brianna Garber, Jenah McCall, Candace Petit, Kimberly Holliday, Hannah Reese, Hannah Sanders, Samantha Theilke, Julia Crain, Tyler Petit, Vada Judd (Assistant Editor), Baylee Bagwell (Editor) and advisor Tammy Hall.

HAYWOOD ELECTRIC GRANTS

Davidson River School received \$2,000 in grants from Haywood Electric Company. The grants will allow creative modeling and the construction of an outdoor functional building for Taiko and other events at the school. Thanks to Joe Wilbanks for all of his work to help procure the grants. Thirty-eight schools in WNC submitted grant applications and seven were selected. Three of the seven awards were for Transylvania (one for Rosman High and two for Davidson River).

DRS TEACHER PARTICIPATES IN UNIVERSITY STUDY

Joe Russo, Davidson River School teacher, was recommended by Western Carolina University faculty and other teacher leaders in WNC to be a participant in a dissertation research study on effective rural teachers. To date, research

surrounding teacher preparation and professional development in Western North Carolina is limited. This research seeks to provide a deeper understanding of how today's teachers are able to meet the needs of all students in the rural classroom. The research will focus on the experiences, attitudes and beliefs of effective teachers in rural settings; how these experiences, attitudes and beliefs were formed; and the resulting best practices of successful rural teachers in teaching all learners. Principal Donna Wilde states, "Joe is an outstanding teacher whose teaching methods are worthy of replication."

GOLDEN LEAF PRESENTATION

A reception was held on October 9, 2012 to celebrate the presentation of a Golden LEAF grant award to the Transylvania County Schools for its "Mastering the Global World" 1:1 technology initiative in the middle schools. Dan Gerlach, President of the Golden LEAF Foundation, and Mark Sorrells, Senior Vice President, presented a \$200,000 check to the school system. The Golden LEAF Foundation is a non-profit organization that was established in 1999 to help transform North Carolina's economy. Chairman Whitmire, Vice Chair McCoy, Mrs. Fox, Dr. McDaris and Mrs. Merrill were on hand to receive the award.

6. **Former Students in the Military**

The Board reviewed the list of former students from Brevard High School, Rosman High School, and Davidson River School who are currently serving or have previously served in the U.S. Military. One new name, Tyler Hall, had been added to the list.

7. **Consent Agenda**

ON A MOTION BY MRS. MCCOY, SECONDED BY MRS. NORMAN, the minutes from the September 17, 2012 meeting and the personnel report for October 15, 2012 (attached) were unanimously approved.

8. **Educator Effectiveness Update**

Dr. Scott Elliott and Dr. David Sutton gave an update on the new state Educator Effectiveness initiative. The initiative is focused on creating a linkage between student test performance and teacher effectiveness. It will require a number of new state assessments, and there are many unanswered questions about these tests. Over the next few months, a representative Educator Effectiveness Work Group force will be formed to make recommendations on local implementation by Spring 2013. Principals reported that the scope of work ahead is enormous. There was some discussion and concern about the fact that many factors outside of the classroom affect student performance—an issue that hopefully would be fairly addressed under the new system.

9. **NCSBA Voting Delegates Form**

ON A MOTION BY MRS. MCCOY, SECONDED BY MRS. PETIT, the Board designated Shelia Norman and Sue Fox to serve as voting delegates for Transylvania County at the NCSBA 43rd Annual Conference that will be held on November 12-14, 2012 in Greensboro.

10. **American Education Week Proclamation**

Dr. McDaris reported that November 11-17, 2012 is National American Education Week, a time to celebrate public education and honor individuals who are making a difference in ensuring that every child receives a quality education. The weeklong celebration features a special observance each day of the week. They include:

MONDAY, NOV. 12: VETERANS DAY

Schools nationwide will be closed in observance of our armed service veterans.

TUESDAY, NOV. 13: PARENTS DAY

Parents and family members have an opportunity to visit schools for a first-hand look at a typical school day.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 14: EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS DAY

Bus drivers, paraprofessionals, cafeteria workers, maintenance staff, and others who provide invaluable services are recognized for their outstanding work.

THURSDAY, NOV. 15: EDUCATOR FOR A DAY

Elected officials and community leaders are encouraged to serve as “educators for a day” for a hands-on school experience.

FRIDAY, NOV. 16: SUBSTITUTE EDUCATORS DAY

Educators who fill in for regular classroom teachers are honored for their services.

In Transylvania County, all current and retired school system employees are invited to enjoy Thanksgiving lunch as guests of the Board at the school cafeteria of their choice on Thursday, November 15. Members of the Transylvania County Retired School Personnel (TCRSP) will hold their annual fall meeting in conjunction with the lunch at Brevard Elementary School. Chairman Whitmire read a proclamation designating November 11-17, 2012 as American Education Week in Transylvania County (see attached). ON A MOTION BY MRS. FOX, SECONDED BY MRS. NORMAN, the proclamation was unanimously approved.

11. Important Dates

Oct. 17-19	NCSBA Annual Law & Conference, Asheville, NC
Nov. 1	NCSBA Webinar: “Celebrating Holidays in the Public Schools,” 1-2 p.m.
Nov. 6	Election Day
Nov. 7	Early Dismissal
Nov. 12	Veterans’ Day Holiday
Nov. 12-14	NCSBA Annual Conference for Board Member Development, Greensboro
Nov. 15	Thanksgiving Lunch for Current/Retired TCS Staff
Nov. 19	REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC
Nov. 21	Leave Day
Nov. 22-23	Thanksgiving Holidays
Dec. 4	NCSBA Webinar: “Public Records and Personnel Records,” 1-2 p.m.
Dec. 6	Superintendent’s Communication Council, 3:45 p.m., MEC
Dec. 10	Parent Advisory Council, 7:30 a.m., MEC
Dec. 11	BHS Senior Projects, 3:30-5:00 pm, BHS
Dec. 11	RHS Senior Projects, 3:30-5:00 pm, RHS
Dec. 12	Student Advisory Council, 7:30 a.m., MEC
Dec. 13	DRS Senior Projects, 3:30-5:30 pm, DRS
Dec. 17	REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC
Dec. 20	Early Dismissal
Dec. 21	Teacher Workday
Dec 21-Jan 4	Christmas Break
Jan. 3-4	Teacher Workdays

12. Public Comment

Marty Griffin, past president of TCSR, thanked the Board for hosting the Thanksgiving lunch and Brevard Elementary School for hosting the TCSR meeting.

13. Other Items

Chairman Whitmire spoke about the Golden LEAF grant award and its huge impact on our 1:1 technology initiative. He remarked on the arduous approval process and successful completion of the new CTE building at Rosman High School, which culminated in last week's official dedication ceremony. He thanked everyone who worked so hard to make these projects happen and stated that both are essential to the current and future workforce and viability of our county.

14. Closed Session

ON A MOTION BY MRS. MCCOY, SECONDED BY MRS. PETIT, the Board went into closed session at 7:43 p.m. to discuss a confidential personnel matter, pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(1) and 115C-319-321. ON A MOTION BY MRS. NORMAN, SECONDED BY MRS. MCCOY, the Board reconvened in open session at 8:35 p.m. ON A MOTION BY MRS. NORMAN, SECONDED BY MRS. FOX, the Board voted unanimously to uphold the recommendation of the superintendent.

There was no further business, and ON A MOTION BY MRS. MCCOY, SECONDED BY MRS. NORMAN, the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman

Secretary

**PERSONNEL REPORT
October 15, 2012**

- I. ACCEPT THE REPORT OF RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS ACCEPTED/INITIATED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT FROM/FOR THE FOLLOWING PERSONS:

Licensed Personnel

Keisha Dawalt, Teacher, PFES, effective October 26, 2012

Classified Personnel

Jeremy Campbell, Teacher Assistant, BES, effective October 26, 2012

Tamira Carbuhn, Teacher Assistant, PFES, effective October 19, 2012

Larry Miller, Custodian, RHS, effective January 1, 2013

- II. APPROVE THE EMPLOYMENT RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE FOLLOWING PERSONS:

Licensed Personnel

None

Classified Personnel

Mark Curtis, Custodian, BMS, effective October 16, 2012

Terry Morris, Custodian, MEC, RES, and Plant Operations, effective October 16, 2012

Rebecca Worley, Bus Driver, TCS, effective October 16, 2012

- III. ACCEPT THE REPORT OF TRANSFER OF ASSIGNMENT MADE BY THE SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE FOLLOWING PERSONS:

Licensed Personnel

Laura Burgess, from Teacher Assistant, PFES, to Teacher, PFES, effective October 29, 2012

Classified Personnel

Emily Webb, from Part-Time After-School Program Worker, PFES, to Teacher Assistant, BES, effective October 16, 2012

- IV. APPROVE THE LEAVES OF ABSENCE RECOMMENDED BY THE SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE FOLLOWING PERSONS:

Licensed Personnel

None

Classified Personnel

Kathy Reese, Custodian, BMS, Short-Term Disability, effective October 12, 2012 through October 11, 2013.

- V. APPROVE THE SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION FOR THE FOLLOWING SUBSTITUTE EMPLOYEES:

Substitute Teachers

Trent Bass

Whitney Ducker

Cherie Goldsmith
Dana Powers
Melissa Whitmire

Substitute Child Nutrition Workers
None



American Education Week

Proclamation

WHEREAS, public schools are the backbone of our democracy, providing young people with the tools they will need to maintain our nation’s precious values of freedom, civility, and equality; and

WHEREAS, by equipping young Americans with both practical skills and broader intellectual abilities, schools give them hope for, and access to, a productive future; and

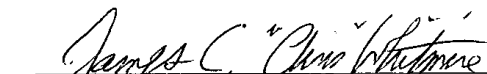
WHEREAS, education employees in every role work tirelessly to serve our children and communities with care and professionalism; and

WHEREAS, schools are community linchpins, bringing together adults and children, educators and volunteers, business leaders and elected officials in a common enterprise;

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, James C. Whitmire, serving as Chairman of the Transylvania County Board of Education, do hereby proclaim November 11-17, 2012 as **AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK** in Transylvania County.

Signed this 15th day of October 2012.


Chairman

