

**Minutes
Transylvania County Board of Education
December 16, 2013**

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Election of Officers
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Public Comment
4. Good News Report
5. Former Students in the Military
6. Consent Agenda:
 - A. Minutes
 - B. Personnel Report
7. Presentation from Artificial Turf Committee
8. Acceptance of Bid for Memory Lane Property
9. DRS Local Option Goals for 2013-2014
10. School Improvement Plans 2012-2014: Section 6 Mid-Point Reports
11. Policy:
 - A. ACAA, "Sexual Harassment"
 - B. ACB, "Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying"
 - C. JFC, "Student Conduct/Discipline"
 - D. GBMA, "Prohibition Against Retaliation"
 - E. DO, Medicaid Funding for Eligible Services"
 - F. GCBDB, "Employee Leaves and Absences"
 - G. IIC, "Field Trip Approval and Cancellation"
 - H. Sample DNR Policies
12. Superintendent's Update
13. Topics for Retreat
14. Important Dates
15. Public Comment
16. Other Items
17. Closed Session

The Transylvania County Board of Education met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on December 16, 2013 at the Morris Education Center. Members Tawny McCoy, Chair; Cindy Petit, Vice Chair; Sue Fox; Ron Kiviniemi and Mike Rogers were in attendance Also present were Dr. Jeff McDaris, Superintendent; Jenny Hunter, Administrative Assistant; Dr. Scott Elliott, Assistant Superintendent; Jeremy Gibbs, Director of Human Resources; Norris Barger, Director of Business Services; DRS Principal Donna Wilde; BHS Principal Jason Ormsby; BHS Assistant Principal John Hart; School Resource Officers Chad Owen and Greg Stroup; Jeremiah Reed, *Transylvania Times*; and approximately 15 guests. Mrs. Fox led in a moment of silence and Mrs. Petit led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman McCoy welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

1. Election of Officers

ON A NOMINATION BY MRS. FOX, SECONDED BY MR. KIVINIEMI, the Board unanimously elected Tawny McCoy as Board Chair for the 2014 year. ON A NOMINATION BY MRS. FOX, SECONDED BY MR. ROGERS, the Board unanimously elected Cindy Petit as Board Vice Chair for the 2014 year.

2. **Approval of Agenda**
ON A MOTION BY MR. KIVINIEMI, SECONDED BY MR. ROGERS, the meeting agenda for December 16, 2013 was approved as presented.
3. **Public Comment**
There was no public comment.
4. **Good News Report**
Dr. McDaris reported the following items:

PFES KICKS OFF JUMPS ROPE FOR HEARTS CAMPAIGN

On November 22, students and staff at Pisgah Forest Elementary School kicked off their annual "Jump Rope for Hearts" campaign with a performance by the Salem Skip-lts. The Skip-lts hail from Salem Elementary School in Wake County and are known for their extreme jump rope routines. Each year the students at PFES raise money for the American Heart Association by jumping rope. The school has consistently been the top fundraiser in the county and among the top 10 fundraisers in the western region. Their main event will be held February 13-14. Pisgah Forest Elementary has set high goals for this year and looks forward to another great turnout.

RMS 6TH GRADE SERVICE PROJECT

Sixth grade students at Rosman Middle School packed Thanksgiving food boxes for the Zion Food Pantry in November to help community members in need. They will return in December to help pack boxes for Christmas as well.

RHS STUDENT COUNCIL VOLUNTEERS

Members of the Rosman High School Student Council donated 34 hours volunteering at the Sharing House and SAFE Attic in November. The students bagged Christmas presents, sorted and straightened racks, and organized donated items for re-sale. Both locations were grateful for the help and invited the students to come back any time. The Student Council members were Candace Petit, Hannah Reese, Jacob Thompson, Dakota Withrow, Morgan Sisk, Lauren Mahoney, Jenah McCall, Tiesha Pressley, Keagan Dalton, Hannah Sanders, Lexy Aiken, Claire Harris, Haley Parker, Julie Crain, and Drey Owen.

BHS STUDENT COUNCIL HOSTS CANNED FOOD DRIVE

The Brevard High School Student Council just completed a canned food drive that brought in 1,164 pounds of food. The "Thoughtful for Waffles" campaign was set up as a competition to see which first period class could bring in the most canned food items. John McDaris' first period class won the contest and will receive a breakfast catered by Waffle House of Brevard. All of the food items were donated to the Sharing House of Brevard.

REGIONAL FBLA COMPETITION

Students from Rosman High and Brevard High recently competed in the regional Future Business Leaders of America competition that was held at North Buncombe High School. The following students placed and qualified for the state FBLA competition that will be held in March 2014:

Rosman High School

Jon Miller, 1st Place, Business Communications
Vada Judd, 1st Place, Word Processing

Brevard High School
 Grace Williams, 1st Place, Business Procedures
 Meredith Barton, 1st Place, Public Speaking I
 Maelin Harris, 2nd Place, Public Speaking II

NBPTS TEACHERS

Trina Hendricks of BHS and Maura Goodrich Brouwer of RHS recently achieved their National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) certifications. Several veteran teachers have achieved their 10-year renewals of NBPTS certification this year as well.

DRS ARTISTS PROJECTS

Davidson River School is integrating the arts into its programs in order to keep at-risk students actively engaged in learning by increasing their ownership and investment in the education process. Earlier in the year, artist/teacher Nachin Bone worked with several "Taiko artists," students who were interested in Taiko but not in performing before a group. The students produced large campus banners to promote the Taiko programs and performances. Ms. Bone also worked with classes to integrate the arts into science. The students used recycled items to make papier maché models of land erosion, DNA molecules and other concepts. They also created a mural that depicted the evolution of the butterfly with the theme, "Without change, there would be no butterflies." During the same week, a local artist worked with business and marketing students in Laura Smith's class to create pottery projects. Thanks to the Transylvania Arts Council for funding the artist residency.

"HOUR OF CODE" AT BHS

In recognition of Computer Science Education Week (December 8-15, 2013), advanced math students at Brevard High School participated in an interactive "Hour of Code" lesson promoted and endorsed by Bill Gates and Mark Zuckerberg. Students in Mrs. Rosselle's, Mrs. Hardy's, and Mrs. Fuller's classes learned to write computer code using their Chromebook, videos, tutorials and animation. Students gained 21st century basic programming skills, allowing them to be not just computer users, but also engaged creators.

Chairman McCoy expressed thanks to the school resource officers for their support of students at the recent Cops for Kids event.

5. 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. There were no new names.

6. Consent Agenda

ON A MOTION BY MRS. PETIT, SECONDED BY MRS. FOX, the minutes from the November 21, 2013 meeting and the personnel report for December 16, 2013 (see attached) were approved.

7. Presentation from Artificial Turf Committee

Brevard High School Principal Jason Ormsby gave a presentation on the Brevard High School football field and a proposal for artificial turf from Medallion Turf Company. Mr. Ormsby reported that the BHS field averages 79 contests in a standard year (not including playoffs). That figure is based on extreme protection of the field by turning

down non-necessary events. The field is currently used by the BHS varsity and JV football programs, BMS football, Brevard Youth League football, varsity and JV men's soccer; varsity and JV women's soccer, the BHS band, Brevard College football, BHS track and field events, and high school PE classes. During years with heavy rainfall, the field's Bermuda grass does not have adequate recovery time, which can result in situations like the "Mud Bowl" of 2009. Medallion Turf estimates that they can provide turf for the field at a cost between \$493,000 and \$500,000. Brevard High School would ask that the Board of Education and the County Commissioners each pay \$246,500 for the project, with the County Commissioners loaning the total amount of \$493,000 to the Board up front and allowing the Board to pay the County back at a rate of \$24,650 per year for a 10-year period at zero percent interest to cover the Board's half of the project. In addition, the BHS athletic department would dedicate \$20,000 per year from the current field maintenance budget to a "re-turf fund" to cover the cost of resurfacing the field in 12-14 years (life expectancy). This would ensure that the field becomes self-sufficient and is a one-time cost to the school board and county.

Mr. Ormsby predicted that installing turf would boost economic development and opportunities for the county by enabling the school to host regional and district band competitions, soccer tournaments, flag football leagues, outdoor concerts, pre-season football jamborees, and additional Brevard College events including more televised games. Installing turf also would allow the field to be used as a practice field by the high school band, soccer, football baseball, softball and track programs and would serve as a recruitment tool for the Brevard College athletic program.

Brevard High School and Brevard College would like the Board of Education and the Board of Commissioners to have an in-depth conversation about the project at the upcoming joint meeting in January. They would like to have a decision in place by the end of February in order to ensure the project scheduling for May of 2014.

The Board discussed the proposal at length and asked several questions of the Medallion representatives. Representatives from Brevard College who were present offered their endorsement of the project. The Board thanked Mr. Ormsby for the presentation and indicated they would like to further discuss the proposal at the next regular meeting.

8. Acceptance of Bid for Memory Lane Property

Dr. McDaris reported that the \$170,000 offer to purchase the Live Project House on Memory Lane had been advertised in the newspaper for 10 days and received no upset offers; therefore, he and Mr. Barger recommended that the Board accept the offer as final. ON A MOTION BY MR. ROGERS, SECONDED BY MRS. FOX, the Board unanimously accepted the offer of \$170,000 from Evelyn Dukes Horne to purchase the Live Project house located on Memory Lane in Brevard and to pay up to \$5,000 of the buyer's closing costs and up to \$500 for a one-year home warranty as stipulated in the purchase contract.

9. DRS Local Option Goals for 2013-2014

Davidson River School Principal Donna Wilde presented the following local option goals for 2013-2014 as required by the North Carolina accountability model for alternative schools:

- 55% of the Davidson River School students who participate in extended learning opportunities will increase academic progress.
- Davidson River School will increase parental involvement through offering monthly “Parent Coffee Clubs” two or more times per quarter.
- Davidson River School will increase foundation donations by 10%.

Mrs. Wilde reported that Davidson River served 148 students last year plus 8 students receiving home-based services. Of the 148, 22% of were enrolled part-time with Brevard High School. Teacher attendance rates for DRS average 97%. Approximately 91-94% of DRS students receive free/reduced meals. Fourteen percent of DRS students were homeless last year. Approximately half of DRS students come to the school on referral in order to receive individualized academic services not readily available at the traditional high schools. A small percentage of alternative school students are there due to administrative placement, truancy or attendance issues.

Mrs. Wilde reported that last year’s afterschool and summer extended learning opportunities at DRS were very successful. This year, the school plans to offer bus transportation during the summer and increased opportunities to earn credits. She thanked the Board for its support. Chairman McCoy expressed admiration for how the school addresses students’ needs. ON A MOTION BY MRS. FOX, SECONDED BY MRS. PETIT, the Davidson River School local option goals for 2013-2014 were unanimously approved.

10. School Improvement Plans Section 6 Mid-Point Reports

Jeremy Gibbs presented the section 6 mid-point reports for each of the 2012-2014 school improvement plans. He reported that the format for the reports has been revised to reduce jargon and make the reports more accessible to general readers. Work on the 2014-2016 school improvement plans will begin this spring and the new plans will be presented to the Board in the fall. Board members had no questions about the reports and complimented the improved format.

The Board took a five-minute recess.

11. Policy

Dr. Scott Elliott reported that the policy committee had met earlier this month and worked on the policies listed below. He reported that the new and revised policies reflect changes in state law, state board policy and regulations, current practices, and/or recommendations from the board attorney. Approval of the new and revised policies and rescission of the obsolete policies will be requested at the next regular meeting.

Code	Name	Status
ACAA	Sexual Harassment	to be rescinded (collapsed into ACB)
ACAA-R	Sexual Harassment	to be rescinded (collapsed into ACB-R)
ACB	Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying	revised
ACB-R	Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying Complaint Procedure	revised
JFC	Student Conduct/Discipline	revised

GBMA	Prohibition Against Retaliation	new
DO	Medicaid Funding for Eligible Services	new
GCBDB	Employee Leaves and Absences	revised
IIC	Field Trip Approval and Cancellation	revised

Mr. Rogers expressed concerns about removing language from Policy IIC, "Field Trip Approval and Cancellation," related to the Homeland Security system of color-coded threat levels for international travel. Mr. Gibbs reported that the federal government no longer uses this color coded system. Dr. McDaris and Dr. Elliott reported that all trips abroad would be considered on a case by case basis and would be approved by the principal, the superintendent and the Board only if travel is considered to be safe for the region based on the state department's most current travel advisories. Mr. Rogers suggested that a waiver form be included for parents to sign confirming they recognize that certain international trips would be non-school sponsored. Dr. Elliott pointed out that the trend has been to remove forms from policies, but that something could be developed. Mr. Rogers stated that he feels the policy needs additional wording regarding security. Dr. Elliott stated that he would work on the policy and bring it back for further review.

Dr. Elliott reported that the School Health Advisory Council has recommended that the Board adopt a policy regulating how schools would respond in the event that a student with a "Do Not Resuscitate" (DNR) order has a medical crisis at school. He reported that the board attorney has indicated this to be relatively uncharted territory for schools, since DNR laws were created with medical providers in mind, mostly doctors and hospitals. School nurses have reported that while most children who have terminal conditions receive homebound services, there could be a situation in which a student who has a DNR order and is well enough to attend school experiences a medical crisis while at school.

Chairman McCoy reported that the members of the School Health Advisory Council were divided on this issue. Dr. McDaris expressed his belief that a teacher's instinct would be to always try and save a child in distress, regardless of the circumstances. Mr. Kiviniemi agreed, saying that teachers are not trained medical professionals and that asking them to deny intervention to a child in their care would not be consistent with their duty to protect students.

Dr. Elliott presented two model DNR policies for the Board's review. One policy, from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg school district, stated that school employees will neither accept nor honor DNR orders. A second policy from the Chapel Hill-Carrboro City system stated that school administrators will follow a DNR order and refrain from medical interventions that are not consistent with it. The Board indicated unanimous preference for the Charlotte-Mecklenburg model. Dr. Elliott and the policy committee will draft a DNR policy based on this recommendation for the Board's future review and adoption.

12. Superintendent's Update

Dr. McDaris gave the following updates on new and ongoing issues for the 2013-2014 school year:

- More policies will be presented at future meetings for revisions and updates. One change will be a new rule that any brick and mortar project over \$10,000 will require the approval of the Board of Education, regardless of the funding source.
- Western region superintendents met recently with State Board of Education member Wayne McDevitt to discuss concerns about the overwhelming number of assessments that teachers are being required to perform.
- The state has done away with the Extend 2 test for special education students. This means that special education students will have the regular test administration.
- The Department of Public Instruction seems to be opposed to retesting and remediation. Dr. McDaris reported that although most districts in the western region have successfully helped students through retesting and remediation efforts, other districts in the state may not see the value.
- Dr. McDaris expressed thanks to our school resource officers, noting that although many of their actions to protect students take place of the public eye, their interventions are invaluable in keeping our schools safe.
- The Board will be asked at a future meeting to consider joining with the NCSBA litigation opposing the constitutionality of a new law that gives public taxpayer money to private schools.
- Dr. McDaris and Mr. Barger are working on a plan to improve the layout and use of space in the Education Center board room.

13. Topics for Retreat

Dr. McDaris reported that the Board will hold its annual planning retreat on February 3, 2014 at the Morris Education Center. The tentative start time is 5:30 p.m. A light supper will be provided. The following topics were suggested for the agenda:

- TCS compensation study (next steps)
- Teacher tenure and 25% plan
- Bond referendum. Mr. Kiviniemi recommended holding "listening" tours at each school in order to solicit input from teachers and the community.

Mrs. Petit suggested that the retreat begin at 4:30 p.m. in order to have more time for discussion and review. The other members had no objections to an earlier start time.

14. Important Dates

Dec. 17	BHS Senior Projects, 3-5 p.m., BHS
Dec. 20	Early Dismissal
Dec. 23-Jan. 1	Christmas Break
Jan. 10, 13	Teacher Workdays
Jan. 13-17	TCS Science Fair, Transylvania Co. Library
Jan. 20	Leave Day (MLK Jr.)
Jan. 20	Miss Bengal Pageant, 6:00 p.m., RHS Auditorium
Jan. 21	REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC
Jan. 27	Science Fair Awards Ceremony, 6:00 p.m., BHS Auditorium
Jan. 28	JOINT MEETING, 7:00 p.m., Rogow Room
Feb. 3	PLANNING RETREAT, 4:30 p.m., MEC

Feb. 12 Early Dismissal
Feb. 13-14 NCSBA February Law Conference, Raleigh, NC
Feb. 17 Leave Day
Feb. 17 REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC

Dr. McDaris gave a reminder that the Board resumes its twice-a-month meeting schedule (first and third Mondays) beginning in February.

15. Public Comment

County Commissioner Larry Chapman recommended that the PowerPoint presentation on artificial turf be more professionally crafted in order to help build public support for the plan via websites and social media links. He also recommended that Brevard College be more integrated into the plan as a partner.

16. Other Items

No other items were discussed.

17. Closed Session

ON A MOTION BY MRS. FOX, SECONDED BY MRS. PETIT, the Board went into closed session at 9:17 p.m. to discuss information that is not a public record (student records), pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(1) and 115C-402. Present in the closed session were Mrs. McCoy, Mrs. Petit, Mrs. Fox, Mr. Kiviniemi, Dr. McDaris, and a parent. Mr. Rogers recused himself from participating in the closed session. No action was taken during the closed session. ON A MOTION BY MRS. MCCOY, SECONDED BY MRS. FOX, the Board reconvened in open session at 10:17 p.m.

There was no further business, and ON A MOTION BY MRS. FOX, SECONDED BY MR. KIVINIEMI, the meeting was adjourned at 10:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman

Secretary

**PERSONNEL REPORT
December 16, 2013**

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

Licensed Personnel

Donna Hoover, Teacher, BMS, effective December 31, 2013

Dony's Merrill, Director of Technology, MEC, effective February 1, 2014

Classified Personnel

Lisa Medley, Interim Teacher Assistant, RES, effective December 20, 2013

Josh Parker, Bus Monitor, TCS, effective December 3, 2013

Kathy Reese, Custodian, BMS, effective January 1, 2013

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

Licensed Personnel

Colby Guice, Teacher, BHS, effective January 20, 2014

Classified Personnel

Sara Transue, Teacher Assistant, RMS, effective December 9, 2013

Krystal Wilson, Bus Monitor, TCS, effective December 17, 2013

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

Licensed Personnel

None

Classified Personnel

Tricia Holliday, from Part-Time Office Support, RMS (50%), to Full-Time Office Support, RMS (50%) and RES (37.5%), effective January 2, 2014

Kyle Musgrove, from Interim Custodian, BMS, to Custodian, BMS, effective October 12, 2013

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

Licensed Personnel

None

Classified Personnel

None

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

Substitute Teachers

Jeffrey Clarke

Martha Curto, effective January 2, 2014

James DeLaRiva
Ellen Hepp
Melissa Margolin
Katie Messmer
Adrian Miller, effective January 2, 2014
Ashley Paytes

Substitute Child Nutrition Workers
None