

**Minutes
Transylvania County Board of Education
December 18, 2023**

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

WORK SESSION ITEMS:

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Public Comment
3. Budget Update
4. Facilities Update
5. Cathey's Creek Property
6. Setting Agenda for January 16, 2024
7. Closed Session

The Transylvania County Board of Education held a work session on December 18, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Morris Education Center. Tawny McCoy led in a moment of silence and Chris Wiener led the Pledge of Allegiance. Vice Chairman Dalton called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. She announced that Chairman Jackson was absent due to illness. In addition to four guests, the individuals listed below were in attendance.

BOARD MEMBERS:

Tanya Dalton, Vice Chair
Tawny McCoy
Bryan O'Neill
Chris Wiener

BOARD ATTORNEY:

Kris Caudle, Campbell Shatley

MEDIA:

Nick Haseloff, Transylvania Times

STAFF:

Dr. Lisa Fletcher, Superintendent
Jenny Hunter, Administrative Assistant
Dr. Brian Weaver, Assistant Superintendent/HR
Gabi Juba, Finance Officer
Kerry Putnam, Director, Facilities/CTE
Audrey Reneau, Director, Federal Programs
Chris Whitlock, Director, IT Services
Kelly Cook, School Resource Officer

1. **Approval of Agenda**
ON A MOTION BY MR. O'NEILL, SECONDED BY MR. WIENER, the meeting agenda for December 18, 2023 was unanimously approved as presented.
2. **Public Comment**
None

Dr. Lisa Fletcher recognized the student artwork from Pisgah Forest Elementary School that was on display in the board room and thanked Officer Kelly Cook for securing the meeting.
3. **Budget Update**
Finance Officer Gabi Juba presented an expenditure report for review and reported that she would have FY24 budget amendments at a future meeting. There were no questions.
4. **Facilities Update**
Director Kerry Putnam presented on-call professional services contracts with Form & Function Architecture and MSS Solutions for review. Approvals will be requested at the

January 16 meeting. Mr. Putnam shared a handout showing models of all school roofs and estimates of when they were last upgraded in preparation for getting quotes and scope of work for the development of a 30-year facilities plan. He suggested that the board consider asking the commissioners for \$200,000 for roofing improvements. This would help to be prepared for when the capital reserve study comes back. Board members also discussed with Mr. Putnam the services and dispute resolution methods included in the on-call contracts.

Mr. Putnam reviewed three task orders from McGill Associates. He recommended that the board authorize the superintendent to sign off on Task Order No. 1 for miscellaneous on-call services for evaluation, consulting, minor design, repairs or expansions to existing facilities; and Task Order No. 2 for the evaluation of existing stormwater infrastructure and surface drainage patterns for the Rosman High School football field and surrounding areas. He gave estimated costs for improving the field with astroturf (\$900,000 to \$1 million) or natural grass (\$600,000 - \$670,000). He recommended the astroturf option and noted that now would be the time while the field is already being torn up. He reported that Task Order No. 3, the removal and/or safe abandonment of the existing drainage system under the football field to prevent further sinkholes, including the replacement or stormwater conveyance system and regrading to ensure proper drainage, falls outside of the existing budget and requested guidance from the board. Following discussion, Task Order No. 3 was set aside for now. Mr. Putnam requested a decision from the board regarding grass or turf for the RHS football field at the January 16 meeting.

5. Cathey's Creek Property

Board attorney Kris Caudle gave an update on the proposed transfer of the Cathey's Creek property located at 131 Island Ford Road. He reported that in 1983, the General Assembly authorized the board of education to transfer properties for a number of local community clubs (later Community Centers). All were transferred except for the Cathey's Creek property. He presented a resolution for review that would effectively transfer the board property to the Cathey's Creek Community Center under the same terms and conditions as the previous property transfers years ago. A sample deed was also presented for review. The board had no questions. Approval of the resolution will be requested at the next meeting on January 16.

6. Setting Agenda for January 16, 2024

The board designated by consent agreement the following items as information, consent, or action for the January 16, 2024 business meeting agenda:

- Contract with Form & Function Architecture for on-call professional services – consent
- Contract with MSS Solutions for on-call professional services – consent
- Task Order No. 3 for McGill Associates – action if needed
- Resolution conveying Cathey's Creek Property – consent
- FY24 budget amendments – action

7. Closed Session

ON A MOTION BY MRS. DALTON, SECONDED BY MR. WIENER, the board voted unanimously to go into closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 115C-318.11 subsection (a)(1) to prevent disclosure of student information that is confidential under 20 U.S.C. 1232g and employee personnel information that is confidential under N.C.G.S. § 115C-319 et seq., and to discuss; and subsection (a)(3) to consult with an attorney retained by

the board to preserve the attorney client privilege between the attorney and the public body and to discuss Doe v. TCBOE-22-CVS-118. Following a brief recess, the closed session convened at approximately 6:50 p.m. Present in the closed session were board members Tawny McCoy, Tanya Dalton, Bryan O'Neill, and Chris Wiener. Dr. Lisa Fletcher, Superintendent, Dr. Brian Weaver, Assistant Superintendent; and Board Attorney Kris Caudle were also present in the closed session. At approximately 7:11 p.m., BY MOTION MADE BY MR. WIENER AND SECONDED BY MRS. MCCOY, the board adjourned closed session and returned to open session.

There was no further business, and ON A MOTION BY MR. WIENER, SECONDED BY MRS. MCCOY, the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman

Secretary