

**Minutes
Transylvania County Board of Education
March 4, 2013**

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Public Comment
3. Good News Report
4. Former Students in the Military
5. Consent Agenda:
 - A. Minutes
 - B. Personnel Report
6. Non-Faculty Coaches
7. School Calendar 2013-2014
8. FY14 Budget
9. Important Dates
10. Public Comment
11. Other Items

The Transylvania County Board of Education met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on March 4, 2013 at the Morris Education Center. Tawny McCoy, Chair; Cindy Petit, Vice Chair; Sue Fox and Ron Kiviniemi were present. Also present were Dr. Jeff McDaris; Jenny Hunter; Norris Barger; Dr. Scott Elliott; Jeremy Gibbs; SRO Scott Thomas; Meredith Licht; Jeremiah Reed, *Transylvania Times*; and approximately 12 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. Mrs. McCoy reported that Mr. Rogers was away attending an NCSBA training session in Raleigh.

1. Approval of Agenda

ON A MOTION BY MRS. FOX, SECONDED BY MRS. PETIT, the meeting agenda for March 4, 2013 was approved as presented.

2. Public Comment

Elizabeth Gentle, parent, expressed concerns about a modified school calendar. She reported that she had not participated in the online survey and was surprised and concerned when she heard the Board is considering a modified calendar for 2014-2015. She stated that the Rise and Shine program and the Boys and Girls Club would be greatly impacted by a change in school calendar, as would families whose children participate in sports and band, and the school employees who supplement their incomes with summer jobs. She feels that the Board is doing the right thing by holding community input sessions on this issue.

Mr. Kiviniemi reported that he has spoken with the director of the Boys and Girls Club and representatives of the day care community, and they have all indicated they would adjust their calendars as needed. He encouraged parents to contact their elected officials in Raleigh to urge them to reinstate calendar flexibility to local boards. He pointed out that if the state would allow school to start just a few days earlier, we would not be having this issue.

3. Good News Report

Dr. McDaris reported the following good news items:

TCH STUDENTS LEARN ROYAL MANNERS

After reading the novel, *Princess Academy*, fourth and fifth graders in Elizabeth Ballard’s class at T.C. Henderson participated in a Royal Academy to learn the manners and etiquette that are expected of real-life princes and princesses. Students researched how to have polite conversation, how to properly shake hands, the correct way to make introductions, and the proper use of tableware. As a final event, the class held a formal brunch to display their skills. Girls wore dresses, boys wore slacks, and the students passed dishes and served one another at tables set with real silverware, dishes and linen napkins. Everyone displayed impeccable manners, even when served undesirable foods such as Brussels sprouts. Many tried them, and some said, “No, thank you.” It was a fun morning for all, including Principal Meachum.

BHS YEARBOOK EARNS HONORS

The 2012 edition of the Brevard High School yearbook, the *Brevardier*, was recognized by the NC-Chapel Hill and the NC Scholastic Media Association as an overall Book of Distinction. It also won second place in the Coverage category, honorable mention in Layout, as well as individual awards for yearbook staff. Hannah Bingle won second place honors in the Captions category; Sarah Skogen received honorable mention in Features Copy; and Hunter Hall took third place in Theme Spread Design. The *Brevardier* staffers perform all photography, design, writing and editing themselves—there are no teacher-created parts. They also use industry standard editing software for design and photo editing, not pre-made templates. They work with teachers and yearbook representatives to create deadlines, and the students are in charge of making sure those deadlines are met. Congratulations to last year’s *Brevardier* staff on all of their accomplishments:

Editor-in-Chief	Jennifer Badger (Jennifer has gone on to work with Yearbook at NC State.)
Captions Editor	Hannah Bingle
Copy and Deadline Editor	Kayla Byrd
Photography Editor	Colin Fenner
Design Editor	Hunter Hall
Organizational Editor	Josh Floyd
Business Editor	Jack Williams and Lexy Combs
Videographers	Sarah Skogen and Porshelyn Owen

BHS CELEBRATES STUDENT IMPROVEMENT

In late January, Brevard High School hosted a celebration for students who have shown improvement since the beginning of the school year. Each teacher selected a student who had shown the most improvement in attitude, study skills, grades, and other areas during first semester, and 39 students were recognized for their achievements.

ALL-DISTRICT BAND

Congratulations to the following Rosman High School students who were selected for All-District Band. The All-District Band performed in concert at WCU on February 9. Tenth grader Annaliese Brown, clarinet, placed high enough to be eligible for the All-State Band auditions that will be held in March. Carolyn Smith is the band director.

Meredith Maiken	MS Concert Band
Madison Allen	MS Symphonic Band
Kristen Zachry	MS Symphonic Band
Anna Cobb	HS Symphonic Band
Rachel Cobb	HS Symphonic Band
Annaliese Brown	HS Symphonic Band

WLOS SPOT

On February 22, 2013, WLOS reporter John Le came to the Education Center and filmed a story on the 50th anniversary of school integration in Transylvania County. The segment featured interviews with Lewis Whiteside and our very own Agnes Wilson. The spot aired during the five o'clock news broadcast that evening.

Dr. McDaris reported that a celebration of the 50th anniversary of integration will be held at Brevard High School on May 8, 2013 starting at 10:00 a.m. A "freedom walk" will be held at 9:00 a.m.

2012 SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION CONTEST WINNERS

Over 850 students from grades 3-6 designed posters and over 200 sixth graders wrote essays for the Transylvania Soil and Water Conservation District's Annual Poster and Essay Contest for 2012. The winners are listed below.

POSTER	1 st Place	2 nd Place	3 rd Place	Honorable Mention
Grade 3	Kaitlyn Heath BES	Bradley Rising PFES	Yuma Eddins PFES Andrew A. RES	Jasmine Powell PFES Porter Schrader BES
Grade 4	Marli Cohen BES	Emma Reese RES	Kylie Worley PFES	Caiti McCall TCH
Grade 5	Brooklyn Rising PFES	Julia Lusk PFES	Caleb Brooks RES Vlad Stavtyskyi TCH	Ashlyn Dodson RES
Grade 6	Rachel Malmin BMS	Luci Eddins BMS	Maggie Morris BMS Cray McCall RMS	Bain Brown BMS Cory Reid RMS
ESSAY	1 st Place	2 nd Place	3 rd Place	Honorable Mention
Grade 6	Cray McCall RMS	James Thompson BMS	Bain Brown BMS	Grace Owen RMS

Additionally, the following students went on to win prizes in the Soil and Water Conservation Area 1 competition that was held in Waynesville on February 26:

Kaitlyn Heath, BES	1 st Place, 3 rd Grade Poster
Marli Cohen, BES	2 nd Place, 4 th Grade Poster
Brooklyn Rising, PFES	2 nd Place, 5 th Grade Poster
Rachel Malmin, BES	1 st Place, 6 th Grade Poster
Cray McCall, RMS	1 st Place, 6 th Grade Essay

Korinne Hawk, RMS	2 nd Place, 7 th Grade Speech
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"MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS MONTH" AT TCS

For years, the dedicated music teachers of Transylvania County Schools have of nurtured a love of music in thousands of local students, many of whom have gone on to achieve successful careers in the field of music. Transylvania residents have enjoyed school music performances throughout the years. The month of March is celebrated as "Music in Our Schools Month" nationwide. Some of the events taking place in our school music programs include the following:

- On February 28, choirs from Rosman Middle School and Brevard Middle School joined together at the Porter Center for the Transylvania Middle School All-County Chorus. The groups performed under the direction of guest clinician, Dr. David Gresham, Director of Choral Activities at Brevard College. In addition to the middle school chorus numbers, the evening included performances by Rosman High School's Female Barbershop Quartet, "A Perfect Fourth," and the Brevard College Chamber Singers. This year's clinic and concert were made possible through a scholarship from the Transylvania Choral Society.
- Every March, the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) sponsors a "Music in Our Schools Month" concert. Formerly known as "The World's Largest Concert," the event features choirs from across the nation joining in a massive online concert that reaches an estimated six million students and music teachers around the world. This year the fourth and fifth grade choir from Pisgah Forest Elementary School, under the direction of teacher Sally Germanaro, were featured in the concert with their performance of "Cripple Creek" that was filmed earlier this year on location in Transylvania County.
- In late February and early March, the Brevard High School Concert Choir went on tour along the Eastern seaboard. The tour included performances at national memorials in Washington, DC, followed by a stop in Philadelphia for a master class with renowned composer and conductor Rollo Dillworth. The tour culminated in New York City with a performance at St. John the Divine, the largest cathedral in the United States. Mary Beth Shumate is the BHS choral director.
- The middle and high school bands and choruses are preparing for District Festivals (Music Performance Adjudication) later this month. A Pre-Festival Concert will be held on Thursday, March 7, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. at Brevard High School. The bands are conducted by Kenny Franklin and Carolyn Smith.
- On March 9, over 130 students from Rosman Elementary, TC Henderson, Pisgah Forest Elementary, and Brevard Elementary will perform at the Transylvania Elementary All-County Chorus Festival. An All-Elementary concert will be held at 3:00 p.m. in the Brevard High School Auditorium under the direction of guest conductor Robert Waller, choral director at Cane Creek Middle School. Winners of the "Music in Our Schools Month" essay contest will also be recognized at this event, and admission is free. The TCS elementary choral directors are Laura Sullivan, Sally Germanaro, and Sarah Moser.

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. Additional names will be included as they are received.

6. Consent Agenda

ON A MOTION BY MRS. PETIT, SECONDED BY MR. KIVINIEMI, the minutes from the February 18, 2013 meeting and the personnel report for March 4, 2013 (see attached) were unanimously approved.

7. Non-Faculty Coaches

ON A MOTION BY MRS. FOX, SECONDED BY MRS. PETIT, the Board approved the following non-faculty coaches for spring sports 2013.

ROSMAN HIGH SCHOOL	
Doug Leonard	Head, Varsity and JV Softball
Eric Owen	Asst., Varsity Softball
Amanda Owen	Asst., JV Softball
ROSMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL	
Brian Bullock	Head, Baseball
Larry Bullock	Asst., Baseball
Scott Limerick	Head, Softball
Jason Fikes	Asst., Softball
Tyrea Allen	Head, Boys' Track
Tom Whitaker*	Head, Girls' Track
BREVARD HIGH SCHOOL	
Chuck Owenby	Asst. Vol., JV Baseball
Hannah Graham	Vol., Women's Soccer
David McNeil	Head, Softball
Chad Owenby	Asst., Softball
Mary Ramey	Head, JV Softball
Biff Jones	Asst., JV Softball
Mike Vandergrift	Head, Men's Tennis
Bill Baldwin	Head, Men & Women's Track
Jackie Witherspoon	Asst., Men & Women's Track
Vic Foster*	Vol. Asst., Men & Women's Track
BREVARD MIDDLE SCHOOL	
Steve Nanney	Asst., Softball
Rick James	Asst., Baseball
Kelly Nicholson	Head, Girls' Soccer
Charles McKellar	Vol. Asst., Girls' Soccer
<i>*first time coach, TCS</i>	

8. School Calendar 2013-2014

Dr. McDaris presented the 2013-2014 school calendar for approval. He reported that Dr. David Sutton was absent due to a death in the family, and there had been no changes to the calendar since the last meeting. There were no questions, and ON A MOTION BY MR. KIVINIEMI, SECONDED BY MRS. FOX, the school calendar for the 2013-2014 year was unanimously approved as presented. The first day for students will be August 19, 2013.

Chairman McCoy discussed the public information sessions that will be held this spring to gather community input on a modified calendar for the 2014-2015 school year. At retreat, the Board had discussed voting on a calendar in late May or early June. Since then, there have been indications that the state legislature may return some measure of calendar control to local boards, and several different calendar bills have been proposed. She recommended that the Board postpone making a decision on the 2014-2015 calendar in order to see what changes, if any, the legislature makes. Regarding the structure of the input sessions, Mr. Kiviniemi recommended limiting the time allotted per speaker and having a method of collecting the data received. Dr. McDaris reported that the earliest possible date for the first input session would be March 26 or 27. Mr. Kiviniemi reported that he would be out of town on those dates. Dr. McDaris stated that he would work on scheduling the sessions after spring break. There was Board consensus to postpone a decision on the 2014-2015 school calendar until August.

9. **FY14 Budget**

Norris Barger presented the latest FY14 budget information and draft documents. The following items were discussed:

- There will be an increase in the unemployment insurance rate.
- There is a strong need for an assistant principal position at BES due to the size and composition of the student body. This school has the largest population of special needs students, which adds to the challenge of handling a diverse 500-member student body with just one administrator.
- Child Nutrition may have to request an increase in meal prices for next year. The numbers of students receiving free and reduced meals are at their highest levels, with one school at over 70%. Reimbursements have not kept pace with the rise in commodities and other costs. Tightening federal regulations have restricted what can be offered, and supplemental food sales are down. All of these factors have resulted in a drop in revenue and a loss of approximately \$116,000 last year. For the program to break even, options are to 1) hope for additional funding from the federal government, 2) ask for additional local funding, or 3) raise meal prices. Meal prices have not increased in at least three years.
- Mr. Barger reported that the Board will have to use \$1.2 million from fund balance this year to balance its operating budget. If the school system receives \$197,559 from the county in partial restoration of the FY13 cut, another appropriation of at least \$1 million in fund balance will be needed next year. A year or so after that, there will not be enough left in fund balance to cover even a month's operating costs. Chairman McCoy stated that the Board has agreed that it needs to keep a minimum of 8-10% in its fund balance. Anything below that amount would be unsustainable.
- Sequestration cuts of approximately six percent are on the horizon. Mr. Barger hopes to be able to cover these cuts with carryover funds.
- Dr. McDaris reported that the state has been underfunding school bus fuel allotments for years, requiring schools districts to use local money to make up the difference. On top of that, a new bill has been proposed to raise the minimum

mileage required to replace a school bus to 250,000 miles. If the bill is passed, school transportation budgets will be further impacted as districts see a rise in repair costs trying to keep aging buses on the road.

- Dr. McDaris reported that a bill is being considered that would allow state lottery proceeds to be used for technology purchases. Currently lottery funds may be used for capital projects only.

Mr. Barger reviewed the latest updates to the capital plan. Principals have ranked security items at the top of their priority lists. The next step is for the Board to prioritize projects system-wide. The Board will meet jointly with the County Commissioners on March 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the Rogue Room of the Transylvania County Library to review and discuss the needs of the school system. Chairman McCoy stated that until the Board has an idea of the level of capital funding to expect, they would not be ready to prioritize. Several big-ticket items such as roofs and HVAC systems are must-haves. Mr. Kiviniemi noted that the Board is asking for only 10% of what is needed in FY14 and 10% in FY15. Eighty percent of the system's overall capital needs are not even being addressed. The Board reviewed the major points to be discussed with the commissioners at the joint meeting.

Mr. Barger presented two bids for the electrical upgrade of the Brevard High School auditorium, one from Hayes Electric and one from Brevard Electric. Mr. Barger stated that he did not think re-advertising would produce any more bids. He recommended that the Board accept the low bid of \$105,000 from Hayes Electric along with Alternate 1 (\$3,400 to replace the transformer) and Alternate 2 (\$11,300 to replace work lights) for a total of \$119,700. Mr. Barger reported that the total budget for the project is \$100,000; the remainder of costs will be paid through general capital improvements. ON A MOTION BY MR. KIVINIEMI, SECONDED BY MRS. FOX, the Board unanimously accepted the base bid plus Alternates 1 and 2 from Hayes Electric for the Brevard High School auditorium electrical upgrade. Mr. Barger reported that work would begin as soon as school lets out for the summer.

10. Important Dates

Mar. 5	Joint Meeting w/Board of Commissioners, 7:00 p.m. Rogue Room
Mar. 7	Pre-Festival Band/Chorus Concert, 7:30 p.m., BHS Auditorium
Mar. 9	Transylvania Elementary All-County Chorus Concert, 3:00 p.m., BHS
Mar. 18	REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC
Mar. 29	Holiday
Apr. 1-5	Spring Break
Apr. 15	REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC
Apr. 24	Early Dismissal
Apr. 25	Kindergarten Registration, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m., BES, PFES, RES, TCHES
May 6	REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC
May 7	"Taste of Transylvania," 6:00 p.m., Brevard Lumber Company
May 8	Celebration of 50 th Anniversary of TCS Integration, TBA, BHS
May 9	TCAE "Friends of Education" Banquet, 6:30 p.m., Rogue Room
May 14	BHS and RHS Senior Project Presentations, 3-6 p.m., BHS and RHS
May 14	Joint Meeting w/Board of Commissioners, 7:00 p.m., Rogow Room
May 16	TC Scholars Recognition Evening, 7:00 p.m., BHS
May 20	REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC
May 21	DRS Senior Project Presentations, 3:30 - 5:30 p.m., DRS

Dr. McDaris announced that more winter weather is predicted for mid-week. If schools are closed, Saturday will not be used as the makeup day due to a number of school events that cannot be rescheduled.

11. **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

12. **Other Items**

Dr. Scott Elliott reported that a bid on the Live Project house on Memory Lane may be forthcoming. He reported a good deal of recent interest in the property.

There was no further business, and ON A MOTION BY MR. KIVINIEMI, SECONDED BY MRS. FOX, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman

Secretary

**PERSONNEL REPORT
March 4, 2013**

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

Licensed Personnel

Gary Massey, Substitute Teacher, TCS, effective March 4, 2013

Classified Personnel

Barbara Kilpatrick, Bus Driver and Child Nutrition Worker, effective July 1, 2013

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

Licensed Personnel

Lee Bishop, Interim Teacher, BMS, effective March 5, 2013 through June 4, 2013

Daniel Sprinkle, Interim Teacher, RMS, effective March 11, 2013 through June 4, 2013

Morgan Sprinkle, Teacher, BES, effective March 4, 2013

Classified Personnel

Lance Elzie, Teacher Assistant, BHS, effective March 5, 2013

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

Licensed Personnel

None

Classified Personnel

None

- 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

Cynthia Aiken

Florence Allbaugh

Rebekah Farmer

Substitute Child Nutrition Workers

None