

**Minutes
Transylvania County Board of Education
March 18, 2013**

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Closed Session
3. Public Comment
4. Good News Report
5. Former Students in the Military
6. Consent Agenda:
 - A. Minutes
 - B. Personnel Report
 - C. Memorial Report
7. FY14 Budget
8. Important Dates
9. Public Comment
10. Other Items

The Transylvania County Board of Education met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on March 18, 2013 at the Morris Education Center. Tawny McCoy, Chair; Cindy Petit, Vice Chair; Sue Fox; Ron Kiviniemi and Mike Rogers were present. Also present were Dr. Jeff McDaris; Jenny Hunter; Norris Barger; Dr. Kim Elliott; SRO Andrew Shook; Meredith Licht; Jeremiah Reed, *Transylvania Times*; and approximately 18 guests. Mrs. McCoy led in a moment of silence and Mrs. Fox led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman McCoy welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

1. Approval of Agenda

Chairman McCoy suggested that the Board have public comment before convening in closed session. ON A MOTION BY MRS. FOX, SECONDED BY MRS. PETIT, the agenda for March 18, 2013 was unanimously revised to move item no. 2, closed session, after public comment.

2. Public Comment

Marcus Dodson, parent, encouraged the Board to move forward with scheduling the planned public input sessions regarding a modified school calendar and also to include magnet schools in the discussions. He suggested making the district calendar committee more representational by having half of the membership comprised of parents and students and half comprised of school employees. Thirdly, he suggested that the Board consider implementing a process of visioning and five-year strategic planning in order to improve the budget process.

3. Closed Session

ON A MOTION BY MRS. PETIT, SECONDED BY MR. ROGERS, the Board went into closed session at 6:37 p.m. to discuss the possible acquisition of real estate, pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(5). Present in the closed session were Mrs. McCoy, Mrs. Petit, Mrs. Fox, Mr. Kiviniemi, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Barger, and Dr. McDaris. Following discussion, ON A MOTION BY MR. KIVINIEMI, SECONDED BY MR. ROGERS, the Board authorized Dr. McDaris and Mr. Barger to explore ways in which the Board might

purchase a particular property. There was no further action, and ON A MOTION BY MRS. MCCOY, SECONDED BY MR. KIVINIEMI, the Board returned to open session at 7:25 p.m.

4. Good News Report

Dr. McDaris recognized the student artwork from RHS that was on display in the board room and reported the following items:

NCAEOP ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Fourteen office support professionals representing the schools and central office traveled to Greensboro on March 6-8, 2013 for the North Carolina Association for Educational Office Professionals (NCAEOP) Annual Conference. Dr. Jeff McDaris, Dr. Scott Elliott, and Mr. Jeremy Gibbs joined the group for portions of the conference. Jenny Hunter (MEC) received her PSP Professional Renewal Certificate and Leigh Anne McJunkin (BHS) represented the Western Region as the District 1 EOP of the Year. In addition, RHS graduate, Devon McIntosh, was awarded a \$1,000 Staples Scholarship for outstanding academic achievement and commitment to furthering her education. Devon is in her first year at UNC-Wilmington.

UNITED WAY AWARDS

At its awards dinner last month, the United Way of Transylvania County presented the Gold Award to Transylvania County Schools for outstanding service to the community. In addition, TCS was honored for having the highest dollar increase in payroll deductions for the 2012-2013 United Way campaign.

HEALTHY EMPLOYEE INITIATIVES

Norris Barger recently announced two new corporate partnerships with the Brevard Health and Racquet Club and the Fitness Factory of Brevard. All full-time and part-time permanent employees of Transylvania County Schools who join the TCS corporate plans at either club are eligible for discount membership pricing--with no enrollment fees. In addition, TCS will be working with BHRC to provide various classes at school locations (depending on participation).

WESTERN DISTRICT MIDDLE SCHOOL BANDS

Congratulations to the following BMS band students who earned positions in the 2013 Western District Bands. Special congratulations go to Tyler Hutchins, Riley Smith, and Quinn Babb. Tyler earned the 10th chair trumpet in the NC All-State Band. He will perform in concert with the All-State Band on May 5 at UNC-Greensboro. Quinn and Riley made 1st and 2nd alternates (snare drums) in the All-State Band. Donnie Mulligan is the BMS band director.

Middle School Symphonic Band	Middle School Concert Band
Lianne Duscio, 6 th chair flute	Katelyn McCarson, 5 th chair flute
Aubri Musser, 9 th chair clarinet	Madison Pulley, 1 st chair bass clarinet
Samuel Kicklighter, 2 nd chair tenor saxophone	Kaeli Tinsley, 5 th chair trombone
Tyler Hutchins, 4 th chair trumpet	Matthew Bailey, 3 rd chair baritone
Emily Treadway, 10 th chair trumpet	Crista Cali, 1 st chair mallets
Ashlea Milligan, 4 th chair French horn	
Julia Smith, 3 rd chair baritone	
Riley Smith, 1 st chair snare drum	

Quinn Babb, 2 nd chair snare drum	
Cameron Wilson, 3 rd chair snare drum	
Noah Graham, 4 th chair snare drum	

FFA CREED COMPETITION

On March 5, Transylvania FFA students, family members, teachers and local Farm Bureau representatives gathered at the Pisgah Forest Fish Camp for the Transylvania County FFA Creed Awards Ceremony. As a part of the National FFA requirements, first-year FFA students must memorize and recite the organization's five-paragraph creed to earn their Greenhand Degree. This year, the Transylvania Farm Bureau sponsored a local creed competition for students from RHS and BHS and awarded prizes to the top five contestants. The top contestant from each school will advance to the regional competition in April. The five creed winners were Haley Parker, Nathan Pierron, Faith Farmer, Amy Badger and Lexy Meyers (overall winner).

TCH STUDENTS HELP ANIMALS

Second grade students in Mrs. Humphrey's class at T. C. Henderson recently hosted a community service project. The students collected supplies to help unfortunate animals in their community.

RHS STUDENTS ACHIEVE SERVSAFE

Billie Wilson recently reported that 100% of her students passed the national ServSafe exam. Mrs. Wilson teaches Family and Consumer Sciences at Rosman High School.

FRACTURED FAIRY TALES AT PFES

Earlier this month, third grade teacher Sabrina Rhodes and others transformed the Pisgah Forest Elementary School media center into a Neverland playground with food, decorations and games from famous fairy tales. Students enjoyed Snow White's apples, three little pig pops and more. Borrowing from famous storylines and adding their own characters and props, each of Mrs. Rhodes' students wrote and illustrated an original fairy tale, all of which were then compiled to create the class' very own book of *Fractured Fairy Tales*.

GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL

Brevard High School student, Anna L. Fuller, has been selected to attend the 2013 session of the North Carolina Governor's School. Her area of study is Natural Science.

YMCA CAMP GREENVILLE AT PFES

Thanks to the Transylvania Youth Association and United Way of Transylvania County for bringing YMCA Camp Greenville to Pisgah Forest Elementary School. Second graders studied historical artifacts to gain insight into how the mountain environment shaped the way our ancestors stayed healthy, played, communicated, and met basic needs.

STATE SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS

On March 16, students from Transylvania County Schools competed in the state science fair competition. Twelve TIME science research students presented 7 different projects in 2 different competitions. Each student project won at least one award, and a total of 13 awards were presented in all. The only school receiving

more total awards was the North Carolina School of Science and Math. In addition to the high school awards, a Brevard Middle School student placed second in the state in her division. The TCS winners are listed below:

NORTH CAROLINA STUDENT ACADEMY OF SCIENCE:

- 1st Place High School Biology A: Abby Williams and Carly Onnink, "Olfactometer Assays to Determine an Effective Pheromone Trap Bait for the Bean Plataspid, *Megacopta cribraria*"
- 2nd Place High School Biology A: Joe Roberts, "Antibiotic and antioxidant extracts of endophytes from *Juglans nigra* and *Liquidambar styraciflua*"
- 2nd Place High School Biology B: Justin Coye, "The Isolation and Identification of Endophytes in American and Chinese Chestnut trees"
- 2nd Place Advanced High School Biology: Kaitlin McCreery, "Investigation of motility and adhesion of *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* zoospores"
- 2nd Place High School Technology and Engineering: Cody Lupo, "Development of an effective electrolysis system powered by hydroelectric generators to obtain hydrogen as an alternative energy source"
- Navy Award: Cody Lupo, "Development of an effective electrolysis system powered by hydroelectric generators to obtain hydrogen as an alternative energy source"
- High School Teacher Award: Jennifer Williams

NORTH CAROLINA SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR:

- 3rd Place Biology A: Joe Roberts, "Antibiotic and antioxidant extracts of endophytes from *Juglans nigra* and *Liquidambar styraciflua*"
- 2nd Place Biology B: Kaitlin McCreery, "Investigation of motility and adhesion of *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* zoospores"
- 3rd Place Biology B: Abby Williams and Carly Onnink, "Olfactometer Assays to Determine an Effective Pheromone Trap Bait for the Bean Plataspid, *Megacopta cribraria*"
- Honorable Mention Chemistry: Erin Smith, Cameron McCathern, and Elizabeth Johnson, "Evaluation of antibiotic and antioxidant extracts from *Trifolium pratense* and *Pueraria lobata*"
- Honorable Mention Environmental Science: Leah Johnson, Carly Farrar, Ellie Rudd, "Evaluating the Efficacy of the Jumping Branch Wetland"
- Honorable Mention High School Technology and Engineering: Cody Lupo, "Development of an effective electrolysis system powered by hydroelectric generators to obtain hydrogen as an alternative energy source"
- Genius Olympiad Nomination: Cody Lupo, "Development of an effective electrolysis system powered by hydroelectric generators to obtain hydrogen as an alternative energy source"

MIDDLE SCHOOL LEVEL:

- 2nd Place Environmental Division: Sara Branagan, grade 7, Brevard Middle School

DANISH EXCHANGE STUDENTS AT BHS

Brevard High School hosted 27 Danish exchange students and two visiting teachers in March. The exchange students have been attending classes at BHS and staying with families in the community to learn more about American culture. They have enjoyed bluegrass music, hiking in Pisgah National Forest, watching high school baseball games and shopping. The group visited the Biltmore House on March 15, and will visit Brevard College on March 19. A closing ceremony will be held at BHS at 7:00 p.m. on March 20, and the group will fly home on March 21. Brevard High School Principal Jeremy Gibbs introduced the Danish teachers, eight of the exchange students and the BHS staff and host families who were in attendance. The teachers described their experiences with the exchange program over the years and invited TCS to visit their country next year.

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 MR. KIVINIEMI, the minutes from the March 4, 2013 meeting, the personnel report for March 18, 2013 (attached), and the memorial report for March 18, 2013 (see below) were unanimously approved.

The book, *Mountain Tales*, by John Parrish, has been placed in the Rosman High School media center in memory of Becky N. Wilson, mother of Sharon Eubanks. Sharon is a bus driver at RHS.

The book, *Hatchet*, by Gary Paulsen, has been placed in the Rosman High School media center in memory of Billy F. Payne, father of Rae Parker. Rae is an instructional technology facilitator at RHS.

7. FY14 Budget

Norris Barger presented a first draft ranking of board priorities for capital outlay needs systemwide. The report showed total projected costs of \$2,687,000 for FY14 and \$2,169,000 in county appropriation. The following items were discussed:

- Mr. Barger reported that a new leak has developed in the ceiling of the BHS cafeteria. Repair efforts have revealed that the beams between the curved arches near the glass windows are rotted. Mr. Barger has therefore added \$90,000 to the estimated cost for roof repairs at BHS, increasing the total to \$220,000.
- Mrs. Petit noted that the report shows almost \$1 million in recurring costs and another million in needed repairs, which is further evidence of the Board having to “kick the can” over the last four years.
- Mr. Barger reported a current total of \$455,000 in unassigned capital fund balance, of which approximately \$100,000 would be appropriated for FY14.
- The Board discussed some items they would like to see moved up in priority and discussed the dilemma of choosing between security items and other expensive

items such as HVAC systems and roof replacements. Chairman McCoy expressed hope that the Board would get some indication of the level of funding that could be expected before having to finalize the list. Mr. Barger noted that the commissioners have traditionally requested the Board's prioritized list before deciding on the funding allocation. Mr. Rogers stated that now is best opportunity for the Board to get the funding needed to improve front security at the schools.

- Mr. Rogers asked whether any of the projects listed could be performed by local jail detainees or Job Corps students in order to save money. Mr. Barger reported that prisoners are sometimes used for projects such as exterior painting and weeding that do not require specialized tools or skills. He noted that prisoners are never allowed to be on campus when students are present. Mr. Kiviniemi indicated that the Job Corps had not accepted any new students this year.
- Dr. McDaris suggested creating two priority lists for comparison purposes, one for security items and one for repair items. Board members were in agreement that having separate lists would be helpful in evaluating needs.
- Dr. McDaris reported that the county typically wants to have the Board's budget request by the first week of May. All members agreed that further study and discussion of priority needs would be needed at the next meeting on April 15.
- Mr. Barger pointed out that if the schools were to be funded at the same level as last year, and the Board were to add lottery proceeds and fund balance, the capital outlay allotment would cover only through item number 5 on the priority list. The list currently includes over 160 items.
- Mr. Rogers commended Commissioners Mike Hawkins and Page Lemel for taking the time earlier this month to tour the schools and view firsthand the schools' facility needs.

8. Important Dates

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., Rogow 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
June 3	REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC
June 17	REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC

Dr. McDaris reported that the 2013 graduation ceremonies would likely be scheduled for the first weekend in June.

9. **Public Comment**

Teresa Hutchins, parent, stated that she was struck by how much money the Board is considering allocating to improve front access at the schools considering how, in her opinion, all campuses have other more glaring safety vulnerabilities.

10. **Other Items**

ON A MOTION BY MR. ROGERS, SECONDED BY MR. KIVINIEMI, the Board unanimously approved Hugh Green as a volunteer assistant coach for 2013 BHS softball.

Mr. Rogers stated that some districts have added minutes to the school day as way to build more instructional time into the school calendar, and asked whether the Board would consider this option for Transylvania County Schools. He calculated that adding 15 minutes per day could add 7 days to the calendar. Dr. McDaris reported that the Board and administration have discussed this option previously; however, teachers have indicated that adding a few more minutes per class would not be as effective qualitatively as having additional full instructional days. Mr. Rogers asked TCAE President Meredith Licht if she had to make a choice between adding minutes per day or having first-semester EOC exams in January, which option she would choose. Mrs. Licht stated that while it would be good to be able to have high school EOCs before Christmas, having fewer instructional days would not be the solution. She indicated that quality time is more important in terms of teaching and learning.

There was no further business, and ON A MOTION BY MRS. FOX, SECONDED BY MRS. PETIT, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman

Secretary

PERSONNEL REPORT
March 18, 2013

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

Licensed Personnel
None

Classified Personnel
Joanna Randolph, NovaNet Coordinator, DRS, effective May 28, 2013

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

Licensed Personnel
None

Classified Personnel
Pam Wilkie, Bus Driver, TCS, effective March 19, 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
Cathy Chumbley
Heather Corn

Substitute Child Nutrition Workers
None