

**Minutes
Transylvania County Board of Education
May 2, 2016**

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
6. Federal Grants
7. FY17 Budget
8. Timeline for Bond Referendum
9. Superintendent's Update
10. Important Dates
11. Timeline for Superintendent's Annual Evaluation
12. Public Comment
13. Other Items
14. Closed Session (addition)

The Transylvania County Board of Education met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on May 2, 2016 at the Morris Education Center. Cindy Petit led in a moment of silence and Tawny McCoy led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman McCoy welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. In addition to two guests, the following individuals were in attendance:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Tawny McCoy, Chair
Ron Kiviniemi, Vice Chair
Marty Griffin
Cindy Petit
Betty Scruggs

BOARD ATTORNEY:

Chad Donnahoo

MEDIA:

John Lanier, Transylvania Times

STAFF:

Dr. Jeff McDaris, Superintendent
Jenny Hunter, Administrative Assistant
Dr. Jeremy Gibbs, Director, Human Resources
Norris Barger, Director, Business Services
Arleca Chapman, Director, Career/Technical Education
Brian Weaver, Director, 6-12 Curriculum & Instruction
Audrey Reneau, Director, K-5 Curriculum & Instruction
Kevin Smith, School-Community Relations Coordinator
Joe Russo, TCAE President
Jennifer Anderson, BHS Principal
Scott Thomas, School Resource Officer

1. **Approval of Agenda**
ON A MOTION BY MR. GRIFFIN, SECONDED BY MRS. PETIT, the meeting agenda for May 2, 2016 was amended to add a closed session at the end to discuss a personnel matter, pursuant to 143-318.11(a)(1) and 115C-319 through -321.
2. **Public Comment**
There was no public comment.
3. **Good News Report**
Dr. McDaris reported the following items:

NATIONAL TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

The week of May 2-6, 2016 is designated as “Teacher Appreciation Week” across the nation. School organizations will have activities throughout the week to honor and thank teachers for all that they do. As a part of the celebration, the Transylvania County Association of Educators (TCAE) will hold its annual “Friends of Education” banquet on May 17 at 6:00 p.m. in the Rogow Room of the Transylvania County Library. The annual “Teacher of the Year” awards ceremony will be held on May 20 at 11:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall of the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd.

NATIONAL PRINCIPAL’S DAY

May 1st is recognized annually as National Principals’ Day, a time to honor the hard work and leadership of school principals everywhere. National Principals’ Day is our opportunity to say “thank you” to these dedicated professionals and to share with the community all the great things that principals do to support the education of our students.

NATIONAL SCHOOL NURSE DAY

Wednesday, May 11th is National School Nurse Day. School nurses work with a complex array of school health issues included immunizations; health care screenings; hearing and vision testing; home accidents; diseases such as diabetes and asthma; student obesity; special needs like tube feeding; preventing the spread of disease through blood exposure; and the fallout from mental, emotional, and social problems. For some students, the school nurse is the only health care professional they ever see. The board and school system thank our dedicated school nurses who rise to the challenge every day.

SCHOOL NUTRITION EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION WEEK

School Nutrition Employee Appreciation Week is May 2-6, 2016. Our school nutrition professionals deserve recognition because they do it all—preparing healthy meals for students, adhering to strict nutrition standards, navigating student food allergies, catering school system events--and they do it with a smile. School Lunch Hero Day is the perfect opportunity to say thank you to these hardworking superheroes in our school cafeterias. ON A MOTION BY MR. GRIFFIN, SECONDED BY MRS. SCRUGGS, the board unanimously approved a proclamation celebrating School Lunch Hero Day on May 6, 2016 (see attached).

PEACHJAR SAVINGS

Transylvania County Schools saved 59 trees in the past year by sending flyers home digitally through Peachjar. Thanks to everyone for doing their part for the environment.

NEVER STOP LEARNING

Seventh grade students in Rosman recently got to take a tour of Europe using the National Geographic traveling map, one of the world’s largest maps of Europe. The RMS map lesson was featured as a segment on WLOS “Never Stop Learning.” The map’s two week visit was made possible through a Transylvania County Educational Foundation grant.

Dr. McDaris recognized the student artwork from Rosman High School that was on display in the board room and thanked SRO Thomas for being in attendance.

4. 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 on the list.

5. Consent Agenda

ON A MOTION BY MRS. SCRUGGS, SECONDED BY MRS. PETIT, the minutes of the April 18, 2016 meeting were unanimously approved.

6. Federal Grants

Audrey Reneau reported that Transylvania County Schools has given public notice of the following applications for federal grants that have been or will be submitted within the next 30 days. Ms. Reneau and Arleca Chapman gave updates on the grant programs.

IDEA Part B 611	Special Education programs for qualified students ages 5-21
IDEA Part B 619	Special Education programs for qualified students ages 3-5
Title I	Supplementary math and reading instruction for elementary students (poverty based)
Title II A: Improving Teacher Quality	Used for staff development, ensuring all professionals are highly qualified, and for class size reduction
Rural, Low Income Schools (RLIS)	Eligibility for RLIS if 20% or more of children ages 5-17 are from families with income below the poverty line.
Title III: Supplemental LIEP Services	Programs to promote education of Limited English Proficient students
Carl Perkins Act Grant	Programs for Career/Technical Education

7. FY17 Budget

Norris Barger presented the operational and capital outlay budget requests for FY17. He reported that it is unknown what, if any, cost of living increase the legislature may provide, or the amount of charter school funding increase that will be required until the state budget is finalized. Chairman McCoy stated that although the board would not be making a formal request for local current expense (LCE) funds this year due to the new funding formula, she recommended including the LCE budget in the request to the commissioners in order to highlight the areas in which the funding formula falls short. Mr. Kiviniemi agreed, stating that it is the board’s constitutional responsibility to provide the county with a budget request that reflects the school system’s needs. He added that the board was clear in its previous letter to the county that the current funding formula would not cover the needs for this year. He recommended submitting a budget that truly reflects all of the districts’ needs, stating that if the county commissioners choose not to fund it, that it their responsibility. Mr. Griffin asked about the local teacher supplement. Mr. Gibbs reported that the supplement is currently at 8.5%. Mrs. McCoy indicated that the board’s ability to increase the supplement would hinge on the amount of local funding received.

Mr. Barger presented the capital needs list updated to show the projects that would, if funded now, reduce the amount of a future bond issue. Mr. Barger reported that he had also added a critical needs category showing the projects that must be done in FY17 regardless of circumstances. The seven critical items, totaling \$768,400, include a

systemwide VOIP phone upgrade, HVAC repair and renovation at BES, kitchen roof restoration at BHS, railroad tie retaining wall repairs at BMS, HVAC repair and renovation at RES, old gym roof replacement at RHS, and science equipment for the new magnet curriculum at TCH.

Mr. Barger gave a report the county's debt service and history of capital funding for the schools. He reported that the level of capital funding for the school system has decreased by 9.16% since FY05. In dollars, the difference in the amount of capital funding requested and the amount of capital funding received from FY05 to FY16 is cumulatively more than \$5.3 million. Mr. Barger reported that the county would be done paying for the last bond issue in 2018, at which time they could provide over \$3 million for the schools and not have to increase appropriation at all. Board members discussed how many years some of the needed repairs and renovations have been on the books due to insufficient funds. Mrs. Scruggs remarked that she hates that our children and teachers have to continue dealing with these problems when the county has the means and ability to correct the situation. Mr. Kiviniemi stated that when the last bond was passed, it was understood that the money would go toward the capital needs of the schools, and he believes that money should continue to be used for the schools even after it is no longer servicing debt. Board members were in agreement to submit the operational request along with the capital request for FY17. ON A MOTION BY MR. KIVINIEMI, SECONDED BY MR. GRIFFIN, the board unanimously approved Capital Outlay budget request and the Local Current Expense budget for 2016-2017 as presented for submission to the Board of Commissioners.

The board also discussed funding for an additional social worker. Dr. McDaris recommended asking the county to fund the position from its budget rather than including it in the school system's budget request. The board agreed that since the social worker position would be a community resource, it should be funded as such through the county's Department of Social Services. The board directed the superintendent to draft a letter to the county making this request.

8. Timeline for Bond Referendum

Norris Barger presented a draft schedule for a bond referendum for school improvements. The board discussed the following timeline:

January 2017 - Begin work on identifying bond needs
 September 2017 - Joint meeting to review bond needs
 January 2018 - Joint meeting to finalize projects
 March 2018 - Notice of Intent for Bond Issue
 March-November 2018 - Public meetings and information sessions
 November 2018 - Bond referendum
 March 2019 - Sell bonds
 May 2019 - Start projects

9. Superintendent's Update

Dr. McDaris gave the following updates:

- Every Thursday from 12:25 to 1:00 p.m., *TCS Yes!* will broadcast on WSQL and Q102-FM.
- All week, images of teachers explaining #WhyITeach will be posted on social media outlets.

- The school system will be participating in a professional development partnership with the NC Center for the Advancement of Teaching (NCCAT) at Western Carolina University on August 18-19.
- House Bill 539 has been passed by the Senate and is under consideration by the House. The bill would obligate school systems to share certain types of funds with charter schools, even if the charter does not offer that program to its students. The targeted funds include indirect costs such as child nutrition, federal reimbursements such as E-rate, federal grants and appropriations, sales tax revenue regardless of how it is distributed, and private gifts and grants.
- The Governor’s budget is out. Dr. McDaris noted that the House and Senate budgets do not typically follow the Governor’s recommendations.
- Thanks to Frank and Donna Patton for collecting aluminum cans to raise money for the band program.

10. Important Dates

May 3	Taste of Transylvania, 6-9 p.m., Brevard Lumberyard
May 16	REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC
May 17	TCAE Banquet, 6:00 p.m., Rogow Room
May 19	Transylvania Scholars Recognition Evening, 5:30 p.m., BHS
May 20	“Teacher of the Year” Awards Luncheon, 11:30 a.m., Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd
May 30	Annual leave day (no students)
June 6	REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC
June 8	Last student day (noon dismissal)
June 8	DRS Graduation, 10:00 a.m., DRS Lawn
June 9, 10	Teacher workdays
June 10	BHS Graduation, 6:00 p.m., Brevard Music Center
June 11	RHS Graduation, 10:00 a.m., Brevard Music Center
June 13, 14	Teacher workdays
June 13	4-day summer schedule begins
June 20	REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC

11. Timeline for Superintendent’s Annual Evaluation

Dr. McDaris presented a schedule for the superintendent’s 2015-2016 evaluation. Chairman McCoy reported that the board would work on a new evaluation instrument to replace the old evaluation form that has been rescinded from policy.

June 20	Superintendent provides self-assessment to the board. Board members receive individual copies of the evaluation instrument.
Prior to July 18	Board chair and vice chair meet with superintendent to discuss self-assessment.
Prior to July 18	Board members complete and return individual evaluations to board chair or vice chair.
July 18	Board members meet in closed session to prepare consensus evaluation.
August 15	Board meets with superintendent in closed session to discuss the board’s evaluation of the superintendent and agree upon performance goals and recommendations for the subsequent school year.

12. **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

13. **Other Items**

Mr. Griffin asked if the schools have ever flown the POW/MIA flag and whether it would be appropriate to have them do so now. Dr. McDaris reported that he was unaware of the POW/MIA flag ever having been flown at the schools. Mr. Griffin stated that the VFW may be able to provide flags at no cost and asked the superintendent to look into this.

14. **Closed Session**

ON A MOTION BY MRS. MCCOY, SECONDED BY MR. GRIFFIN, the board went into closed session at 7:55 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter, pursuant to 143-318.11(a)(1) and 115C-319 through -321. Present in the closed session were Mrs. McCoy, Mr. Kiviniemi, Mr. Griffin, Mrs. Petit, Mrs. Scruggs, Dr. McDaris, and Mr. Donnahoo. No action was taken in the closed session. ON A MOTION BY MRS. PETIT, SECONDED BY MR. KIVINIEMI, the board reconvened in open session at 8:35 p.m.

There was no further business, and ON A MOTION BY MR. GRIFFIN, SECONDED BY MR. KIVINIEMI, the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman

Secretary



SCHOOL LUNCH HERO DAY

OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, nutritious meals at school are an essential part of the school day; and

WHEREAS, the staff of the school district's school nutrition department are committed to providing healthful, nutritious meals to the district's children; and


WHEREAS, the men and women who prepare and serve school meals help nurture our children through their daily interaction and support; and

WHEREAS, the day of Friday, May 6, 2016 is School Lunch Hero Day;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Transylvania County Board of Education expresses its deep appreciation to these valuable employees and commends their good work on behalf of children.

APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE this the 2nd day of May 2016.


Chairman


Secretary