

**Minutes
Transylvania County Board of Education
May 6, 2019**

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. Federal Programs: Notice of Intent to Apply
7. FY20 Budget
8. Flooring Contract Approval
9. Superintendent's Update
10. Important Dates
11. Timeline for Superintendent's Annual Evaluation
12. Report from Board Training Event
13. Public Comment
14. Other Items

The Transylvania County Board of Education met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on May 6, 2019 at the Morris Education Center. Marty Griffin led in a moment of silence and Courtney Domokur led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman McCoy welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. She reported that Alice Wellborn was out of town attending a class reunion and a family member's doctoral graduation. In addition to three guests, the following board members, staff, and others were in attendance:

BOARD MEMBERS:

Tawny McCoy, Chair
Ron Kiviniemi, Vice Chair
Courtney Domokur
Marty Griffin

STAFF:

Dr. Jeff McDaris, Superintendent
Jenny Hunter, Administrative Assistant
Dr. Brian Weaver, Assistant Superintendent
Norris Barger, Director, Business Services
Kevin Smith, School-Community Relations Coordinator
Josh Tinsley, TCAE President
Jim Leatherwood, BHS Band Director
Mark Ellenberger, School Resource Officer

MEDIA:

John Lanier, *Transylvania Times*

1. **Approval of Agenda**
ON A MOTION BY MR. GRIFFIN, SECONDED BY MRS. DOMOKUR, the meeting agenda for May 6, 2019 was approved as presented.
2. **Public Comment**
None
3. **Good News Report**
Dr. McDaris reported the following items:

2019 State Level Science Awards

Congratulations to the TIME 4 Real Science Research Team for their success last month at the 2019 state level science competitions:

John Nguyen and Nicole Rideout: Antifungal Activity of Bacteria Isolated from the Endangered Green Salamander, *Aneides aeneus*

- 1st Place Biological Sciences, North Carolina Student Academy of Science
- Grand Award: Expenses paid trip to represent NC at the [American Academy for the Advancement of Science Meeting in Seattle, Washington](#)
- 1st Place Biology A, North Carolina Science and Engineering Fair
- 1st Award Biology A, US Army, North Carolina Science and Engineering Fair
- Grand Award: All expenses paid trip to represent NC at the [Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Phoenix, Arizona](#)

Chase Bishop and Fritz Ruppert: Evaluation of Magnetoreception in *Culex quinquefasciatus* for Potential Mosquito Control

- 1st Place Behavioral Science, North Carolina Student Academy of Science
- Grand Award: Expenses paid trip to represent NC at the [American Academy for the Advancement of Science Meeting in Seattle, Washington](#)
- 1st Place Biology B, North Carolina Science and Engineering Fair
- 3rd Award Biology B, US Army, North Carolina Science and Engineering Fair
- Grand Award: All expenses paid trip to represent NC at the [Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Phoenix, Arizona](#)

Isaiah Lefler: A Method of Utilizing Nutrients from Martian Resources for Use in a Hydroponic Plant System

- 1st Place Earth and Space Science, North Carolina Student Academy of Science
- Grand Award: Expenses paid trip to represent NC at the [American Academy for the Advancement of Science Meeting in Seattle, Washington](#)
- 2nd Place Biology A, North Carolina Science and Engineering Fair
- NASA Award, North Carolina Science and Engineering Fair
- Grand Award: All expenses paid trip to represent NC at the [Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Phoenix, Arizona](#)

Marli Cohen and Ada Weaver: Testing the Efficiency of Local Cyanobacteria and Microalgae in Biophotovoltaic Solar Cells

- 1st Place Biotechnology, North Carolina Student Academy of Science
- Grand Award: Expenses paid trip to represent NC at the [American Academy for the Advancement of Science Meeting in Seattle, Washington](#)
- 2nd Place Environmental Science, North Carolina Science and Engineering Fair
- Grand Award: All expenses paid trip to represent NC at the [Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Phoenix, Arizona](#)

Frank Parsons and Ben Caroway: Enhanced Sol-Gel Production and Robocasting for Artificial Photosynthesis

- 3rd Place Technology and Engineering, North Carolina Student Academy of Science
- Honorable Mention Engineering, North Carolina Science and Engineering Fair

Sabra Freeman and Jon Gibson: Degradation of Polyethylene Plastic via Locally Sourced Bacterial Cultures

- 3rd Place Environmental Science, North Carolina Student Academy of Science

Governor Visits Brevard High School

On April 11, Governor Roy Cooper visited Brevard High School for an informative and interactive morning. While at the school, Governor Cooper held a roundtable discussion with teachers to hear their concerns and ideas for how the state can better serve public education, toured classrooms and talked with students, and answered questions from local media. Brevard High School was honored to have been selected by the Governor's office to host a visit, and the event was a great experience for everyone involved.

BHS Band Earns Gold at Carnegie Hall

On April 2, members of the Brevard High School band had a once-in-a-lifetime experience performing in the 2019 New York Invitational Music Festival at Carnegie Hall in New York. The group performed "Inferno" and "Ascension" from Robert W. Smith's *First Symphony*, based on Dante Alighieri's epic poem, "The Divine Comedy." On March 20, the band had earned a Superior rating with this program at the state Music Performance Assessment (MPA). Within days, they had retooled and refreshed and packed for New York, where they earned top marks again with a Gold Award at Carnegie Hall. Director Jim Leatherwood and band members Sarah Megown and Clint Harron spoke to the board about their remarkable experience and thanked everyone who helped to make it a reality.

The public will have a chance to hear the band perform in two concerts this month. The first will be the BHS spring band concert on Thursday, May 23, at 7:00 p.m. in the Brevard High School auditorium. Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. The second opportunity will be a fundraiser concert on Wednesday, May 29, at 7:30 p.m. at the Pilot Cove Amphitheater in Pisgah Forest. Tickets for this event are \$20, which includes admission and one entry into a raffle for two tickets to see Paul McCartney in Greenville on Thursday, May 30. Parking will be available in the upper lot at The Hub and Pisgah Tavern, and a shuttle bus will provide transport to and from the amphitheater. Tickets may be purchased at Highland Books and the Cup & Saucer in Brevard.

National Teacher Appreciation Week

The week of May 6-19, 2019 is National Teacher Appreciation Week. Teachers touch the lives of millions of children, and their work and impact extends far beyond the classroom. School and community organizations will have activities throughout the week to honor and thank our teachers for all that they do. As an extension of the celebration, the Transylvania County Association of Educators (TCAE) will hold its "Friends of Education" banquet on Tuesday, May 21, at 6:00 p.m. in the Rogow Room of the Transylvania County Library. The annual "Teacher of the Year" awards reception will be held on Thursday, May 30, at 5:30 p.m. in the Rogow Room of the Transylvania County Library.

National School Principals' Day

School Principals' Day is observed nationally on May 1st each year. It is a time to recognize school principals for their leadership and dedication to providing the best education possible for their students. Principals fill many roles. They allocate financial resources, implement academic goals, work with state and district education officials, communicate with parents, deal with discipline issues, and work long days and weeks. Effective school principals motivate others in many ways, and they have a positive influence on staff, students and the community. We thank the dedicated professionals in our schools who fill this vital role.

National School Nurse Day

May 8, 2019 is National School Nurse Day. School nurses play an integral role in the health of students and the overall health of schools in which they work. In schools nationwide, the number of students with complex physical and mental health conditions, those who are at risk for health concerns, and students who are affected by societal issues, such as living in poverty, increases every year. In addition to one-on-one services to students, school nurses work within a whole child framework to connect providers, parents, and communities to bolster student attendance, wellness, and learning. Many thanks to our wonderful school nurses for all they do.

School Lunch Hero Day

Preparing healthy meals for students, adhering to strict nutrition standards, navigating student food allergies, and offering service with a smile are just some of the things that make school nutrition professionals true heroes. Although Friday, May 3, 2019 was the official School Lunch Hero Day, we think every day is School Lunch Hero Day and a good time to celebrate the hardworking men and women who make a difference for every child who comes through the cafeteria line.

Dr. McDaris recognized the student artwork from Rosman High School that was on display in the board room and thanked Officer Ellenberger for attending the meeting.

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. Mr. Griffin reported that he has spoken with the VFW about getting MIA flags for the schools.

5. Consent Agenda

ON A MOTION BY MR. KIVINIEMI, SECONDED BY MR. GRIFFIN, the board unanimously approved the minutes of the April 8 and April 25, 2019 meetings and the personnel report for May 6, 2019 (attached).

6. Federal Programs: Notice of Intent to Apply

Dr. Brian Weaver 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. He reported that most of the federal funding is for positions, and because many grants are only partially funded, monies from several sources are often combined to fund a full position. No major changes in the grant amounts are expected for next year.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDU-PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT
IDEA PRESCHOOL

IASA TITLE 1-BASIC PROGRAMS
 IDEA VI-B HANDICAPPED
 SUPPORTIVE EFFECTIVE INSTRUCTION (formerly Improving Teacher Quality)
 LANGUAGE ACQUISITION STATE GRANT
 TITLE 1 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT
 Student Support & Academic Enrichment Grant
 LANGUAGE ACQUISITION-SIGNIFICANT INCREASE
 MCKINNEY-VENTO GRANT

7. FY20 Budget

On April 25, the board approved budget requests for the local current expense fund, capital outlay fund, restricted grants fund, and child nutrition allocation for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Norris Barger reported that there is now a House budget in addition to the Governor's proposal; the Senate budget is still being developed. Board members discussed JROTC funding and federal grants funding. Mr. Barger explained that federal grant funds may only be used to supplement, not supplant. This means that if a grant is awarded for something we pay for with local funds, we cannot use the federal money in place of the local expenditure.

8. Flooring Contract Approval

Norris Barger presented pricing for new carpeting at Brevard Middle School and Rosman Elementary School. Board policy 6430 requires all contracts over \$90,000 to be approved by the board. The policy also allows an exception from the bidding process for competitive group purchasing. Young Office Environments has priced carpet at both locations using the Sourcewell competitive group purchasing cooperative. Flooring for Brevard Middle is priced at \$151,075.31 and for Rosman Elementary at \$93,577.22. Both projects are split funded over FY19 and FY20, with total projected budgets of \$156,000 and \$94,000 respectively, including contingency. Mr. Barger noted that Young has been low bidder on the previous three flooring projects. Dr. McDaris recommended approval of the bids. Mr. Griffin asked about carpet life expectancy. Mr. Barger reported that the typical life of classroom carpeting is 7-8 years; our carpets usually have to last about 15 years. He explained the new carpeting will be modular, which allows for easy replacement of damaged squares and extends the overall life. Mr. Barger described how group purchasing cooperatives can increase purchasing power for school systems, municipalities, and other agencies. ON A MOTION BY MR. GRIFFIN, SECONDED BY MRS. DOMOKUR, the board unanimously approved the flooring bids from Young Office Environments in the amounts of \$151,075.31 for Brevard Middle School and \$93,577.22 for Rosman Elementary School.

9. Superintendent's Update

Dr. McDaris reported the following items:

- The Department of Justice has given the go-ahead to IBM's \$34 billion takeover of Raleigh-based Red Hat. Red Hat will be IBM's biggest-ever acquisition when it closes, and one that analysts have said will help the computer giant compete with younger tech companies--such as Amazon, Microsoft and Google--in the cloud computing space. IBM plans to keep the company as an independent unit. IBM has a campus in the Research Triangle Park, and Red Hat is located in downtown Raleigh. Red Hat employs 2,000 people in Raleigh alone and over 12,000 worldwide. This is another example of the effects of urban draw and the employment challenges for rural North Carolina.

- According to research by Dr. Matthew Lynch, a noted educator, author, and futurist with TechAdvocate, our society's collective body of knowledge is doubling at a rate of every twelve months, and that number will narrow to every twelve hours before we reach technological singularity. Because schools are in the knowledge business, there are some far-reaching implications for what and how schools teach. Already it has become impossible to teach everything we know in twelve scant years. Our instructional focus must be on *who* we want our children to become instead of *what* we want them to know. Students can look up the knowledge they need; we must teach them how to think and solve problems. Dr. Peter Diamandis, an engineer, physician, entrepreneur and contributor to Lynch's research, suggests that elementary schools revise what they teach to have modern focus on (a) building communication skills, (b) identifying passion, (c) encouraging curiosity, (d) developing perseverance, (e) mastering technology, and (f) practicing empathy and ethics.
- There are 22 school days left in the school year.

10. Important Dates

May 7	"Taste of Transylvania," 5:30 p.m., Brevard Lumberyard
May 15	BHS Senior Project Presentations
May 16	RHS Senior Project Presentations
May 16	TC Scholars Banquet & Awards Presentation, 5:00 p.m., BHS
May 20	REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC
May 21	TCAE "Friends of Education" Banquet, 6:00 p.m., Rogow Room
May 27	Memorial Day holiday
May 30	"Teacher of the Year" Awards Reception, 5:30 p.m., Rogow Room
June 3	REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC
June 6	Last day for students; early release 12:00 p.m.
June 6	DRS Graduation, 10:00 a.m., DRS
June 7	BHS Graduation, 6:00 p.m., Brevard Music Center
June 8	RHS Graduation, 10:00 a.m., Brevard Music Center
June 17	4-day summer schedule begins
June 17	REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC

Chairman McCoy reported that she may be late for the May 20 meeting as she will be driving back from her son's graduation from law school. Mr. Kiviniemi asked if RHS could try not to schedule senior projects on the same day as the TCS Scholar's Banquet next year.

11. Timeline for Superintendent's Annual Evaluation

Dr. McDaris reported that policy 7805, Superintendent Evaluation, gives the board the responsibility to maintain and improve the quality of the administrative leadership of the school system. The primary method used to carry out this responsibility is to assist the superintendent in improving his or her effectiveness through an annual evaluation. The board reviewed the recommended timeline the 2018-2019 evaluation process:

June 17- Superintendent provides self-assessment to the board. Board members receive individual copies of the evaluation instrument.

Before July 15- Board chair and vice chair meet with superintendent to discuss self-assessment. Board members complete and return individual evaluations to board chair or vice chair.

July 15 - Board members meet in closed session to prepare consensus evaluation.

August 19 - Board meets with superintendent in closed session to discuss the consensus evaluation and agree upon performance goals and recommendations for the new school year.

12. Reports from Board Training Event

On April 30 and May 1, Courtney Domokur attended the NCSBA Public Policy Conference in Raleigh. Mrs. Domokur reported that the conference was very informative. Leanne Winner gave an update on the status of pending bills, and attendees had an opportunity to meet with House members and Senators. There was a session on strategic planning that emphasized bringing in business and community partners to develop ten-year plans. Another session focused on school safety, with a presentation on school shootings and how things have changed since Columbine.

13. Public Comment

None

14. Other Items

None

There was no further business, and ON A MOTION BY MR. KIVINIEMI, SECONDED BY MRS. MCCOY, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman

Secretary

PERSONNEL REPORT
May 6, 2019

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

Licensed Personnel

Loretta Childress, Teacher, TCHES, effective June 30, 2019
Kerriane Hartell, Teacher, PFES, effective June 12, 2019
Sarah Kevitt, Technology Specialist, MEC, effective June 30, 2019
Lauren Montgomery, Teacher, BES, effective June 12, 2019
Laura Stack, Teacher, RHS, effective June 12, 2019

Classified Personnel

Emma Owen, Teacher Assistant, RES, effective May 17, 2019

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

Licensed Personnel

Danielle Ardito, Teacher, PFES, effective August 15, 2019
Bethany Chapman, Media Coordinator, RES, effective August 15, 2019
Dan Essenberg, Temporary Head Football Coach, RHS, effective May 1, 2019, until head football coach selection process is finalized
Courtney Gibson, Teacher, BES, effective August 15, 2019
Melissa Golden, Teacher, RES, effective August 15, 2019
Hannah Green, Teacher, RES, effective August 15, 2019
Crystal Holland, Teacher, RES, effective August 15, 2019
Sheila Mooney, Interim School Counselor, DRS, effective April 29, 2019 through June 12, 2019
Ashlee Steen, Teacher, RES, effective August 15, 2019

Classified Personnel

Patricia Roman, Part-Time Teacher Assistant, RES, effective August 16, 2019
Logan Sales, Teacher Assistant, BHS, effective May 13, 2019

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

Licensed Personnel

Erica Courtine, from Teacher, RES, to Teacher, BES, effective August 15, 2019
Anna Galloway, from Preschool Program Coordinator, BES-based systemwide, to School Psychologist, effective August 1, 2019
Alyssa Miller, from Teacher, RES, to AIG Teacher & Intervention Specialist, RES, effective August 15, 2019
Michael Terry, from Teacher Assistant, PFES, to Teacher, PFES, effective August 15, 2019
Cameron Weaver, from Media Specialist, RES, to Media Specialist, PFES, effective August 15, 2019

Classified Personnel

None

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

Licensed Personnel

None

Classified Personnel

Patricia Daves, Child Nutrition Worker, RHS, short-term disability, effective July 7, 2019 through July 6, 2020

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

Substitute Teachers

None

Substitute School Nutrition Workers

None