

**Minutes
Transylvania County Board of Education
May 18, 2009**

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Public Comment
2. Good News Report
3. Resolution of Recognition, Thanks, Commendation and Congratulations
4. Former Students in the Military
5. Consent Agenda:
 - A. Minutes
 - B. Personnel Report
6. CTE Plan 2009-2010
7. BHS "No Trespassing" Request
8. Student Handbooks 2009-2010
9. Important Dates
10. Other Items
11. Public Comment
12. Closed Session (Personnel; Acquisition of Real Estate)

The Transylvania County Board of Education met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on May 18, 2009 at the Morris Education Center. Present were Mike Rogers, Chairman; Tawny McCoy, Shelia Norman; and Cindy Petit. Also present were Dr. Sonna Lyda, Superintendent; Jenny Hunter, Administrative Assistant; and approximately 40 staff members, guests, and media. Mrs. McCoy gave the invocation and Mrs. Petit led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Rogers welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

1. Public Comment

Tracie Hebrock, parent, expressed concerns about dress codes for middle and high school students. She described an incident in which her daughter was disciplined for wearing denims with a hole above the knee. She feels that the dress code is not enforced consistently and also that her child had been singled out for her attire while other students wear similar attire without comment. She requested that the Board require teachers and administrators to be consistent in dress code enforcement. She indicated that she had already discussed her concerns with the school administrator(s). Chairman Rogers asked Dr. Lyda to follow up on this matter with Mrs. Hebrock.

2. Good News Report

- Dr. Lyda introduced BHS student representative, Melanie Miller, to the Board.
- The Transylvania County Association of Educational Office Professionals held its annual awards banquet on April 27, 2009 at St. Philip's Fellowship Hall. Marinda Parris, School/Community Relations Assistant, was named as EOP of the Year. Jason Merrill, Plant Operations Supervisor, was given the Administrator of the Year award. Two \$500 scholarships were awarded to Cassandra Green, RHS; and Christopher Mulenex, BHS. New officers for 2009-2011 were installed. Debbie Kever, BMS, was sworn in as President; Marinda Parris (MEC) as Vice President; Julie Roberts, CTE, as Secretary; and Jenny Owenby, MEC, as

Treasurer. District I President, Tonja Hall, presented an award to Principal David Williams as the NCAEOP District I Administrator of the Year.

- Lisa Gillespie at Rosman High School was awarded a Haywood Electric Bright Ideas Grant last fall. The grant was made to fund participation in *Books of Hope*—a program to provide books for school children in third world nations. Lisa's students have authored and published books for students in Uganda. Photos of Christina Bracken's and Louissa Moore's ABC book have been posted online and may be viewed at the following link: <http://picasaweb.google.com/booksofhope/LaloqiPrimarySchool#5334321914060160930>. Before the books are shipped, the school will add a collection of used books donated by the RHS library and students. They will also supplement the shipment with needed school supplies using the rest of the grant money and donations.

3. Resolution of Recognition

ON A MOTION BY MRS. MCCOY, SECONDED BY MRS. NORMAN, the Board approved the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Transylvania County Board of Education that commendations, thanks, congratulations and appreciation be expressed to those named:

The following RHS students for achievement in the FCCLA State Competition:		
Zack Hatton	Gold Medal	Nutri-Snacks
Alaina Pangle, Blakely Reid, Cassandra Green	Silver Medal	Chapter Service Project Display
Brittany Nelson	Silver Medal	Interpersonal Communication
Haley Owen	Bronze Medal	Promote and Publicize
Brittany Godwin	Participation	Food I
Nichole McGaha	State President	"Order of the Rose" Award
Billie Wilson	Teacher/Advisor	
The following individuals and businesses for their contributions toward construction of the new track at Rosman Elementary School:		
Johnny Powell, Powell Construction		
Carrie Johnson, RES PTO President		
Buster McCall, McCall's Grading		
Sherry Whitmire, LBM Industries		
Moore and Sons		
Ann Daves		
The following students for being awarded Teaching Fellows Scholarships:		
Cassandra Lauren Green	RHS	
Alaina Lynn Pangle	RHS	
Blakely Lauren Reid	RHS	
Amanda Lynette Whitlock	BHS	

Mr. Rogers conveyed Chris Whitmire's appreciation to all of those recognized. Mr. Whitmire was unable to attend the meeting. Dr. Lyda expressed her pride in the accomplishments and the community support that were represented. She was most

pleased to note that all four of the Teaching Fellows scholarships that had been applied for by Transylvania students had been awarded.

4. **Former Students in the Military**

In honor of Memorial Day, the Board read aloud the list of former TCS students who are currently serving or have served in the U.S. Military. Chairman Rogers expressed the Board's appreciation to all of the individuals and their families for their dedication and sacrifice. The list will be updated as more names are received.

5. **Consent Agenda**

ON A MOTION BY MRS. NORMAN, SECONDED BY MRS. PETIT, the following consent items were approved:

Minutes from April 6, 2009
Minutes from April 21, 2009
Minutes from April 23, 2009
Minutes from April 25, 2009
Personnel report (see attached)

6. **CTE Plan 2009-2010**

Dr. Jeff McDaris presented the Career and Technical Education Plan for 2009-2010. The full plan is available for review and comment at <http://ctelaps.dpi.state.nc.us>. Dr. McDaris reported that the plan would be the basis for the next 4-5 years. Approval of the plan will be requested at the next regular meeting.

Dr. McDaris reported that the state had "lost" 500 technical attainment scores from the previous year. The missing scores would make Transylvania's results rank in the 50th percentile. To compensate for this system error, the state set 50 as the benchmark for the affected areas. Dr. McDaris also reported that, against the recommendation of local CTE directors, the state would be tying certain CTE scores to *No Child Left Behind*. What this means is that the scores would be compared with NCLB standards in courses that students may not take until later years.

7. **BHS "No Trespassing" Request**

Mr. John Tinsley presented a request from BHS Athletic Director, Mark Robinson, to post signs on the Brevard High School campus to prevent the use of athletic fields and grounds by unauthorized persons. The signs would include the following language:

"No trespassing by order of the Transylvania County Board of Education.
Trespassers will be prosecuted under N.C. General Statute 14-159.13."

Mr. Tinsley reported that BHS has experienced problems for years with misuse and abuse of athletic fields and facilities after school hours. The problem has intensified recently, especially the misuse and vandalism of soccer, softball and baseball fields by non-authorized users. The school has had to repair goal posts, re-seed/re-lime fields, repair ruts from vehicles, and repair fencing frequently. Golf balls and trash left lying on game and practice fields also present problems. Mr. Robinson explained that the signs would not be intended to discourage the legitimate use of facilities by the community and approved organizations. The aim would be to reduce vandalism and damage to facilities and also lessen the district's liability in the event of injury. He pointed out that law enforcement officers may not legally ask trespassers to leave without posted signage. Mr. Robinson also recommended modifying the current facilities use contract to include

outdoor facility use. Mr. Robinson, Mr. Tinsley, and Principal Doug Odom addressed questions from the Board:

- Mrs. McCoy expressed concern that the signs would discourage casual users such as track walkers, dog walkers, etc. Mr. Robinson stated that the police would have few problems discerning troublemakers from casual users. He stated that most damage occurs after dark or over the weekends with large groups. Mrs. McCoy suggested making the signs more specific to the athletic fields/areas and less general in nature.
- Mrs. Norman expressed concern that a lack of communication with the community on this matter could lead to problems with harassment.
- Mr. Rogers asked whether the signs would be limited to athletic fields or encompass the entire campus. Mr. Odom responded that the goal is to protect the fields, not limit all facility use. He noted that the school has never had to turn anyone away for a legitimate indoor event unless there was a scheduling conflict. He envisions a similar openness for outdoor events as well.
- Mr. Rogers asked about usage fees. Mr. Robinson stated that fees would be based on whether outdoor lights and bathrooms would be used.
- Mr. Rogers asked about procedures in other districts. Mr. Robinson reported that Henderson County has signs posted for all of its outdoor facilities, as does Haywood and perhaps Buncombe.
- Mr. Rogers asked whether increased fencing would take care of the problem. Mr. Robinson explained that fences might interfere with legitimate users. Also, police and fire department access may not be blocked.
- Mr. Tinsley recommended having bilingual signs for the Hispanic community.
- Mr. Rogers pointed out that the outcome of the BHS decision would impact other Transylvania County schools as well.

Chairman Rogers thanked Mr. Robinson, Mr. Odom and Mr. Tinsley for bringing this matter to the Board's attention. He recommended that the Board take this issue as information and get community feedback before taking action. The request for "no trespassing" signs at Brevard High School will be scheduled for action at the June 15 meeting.

8. Student Handbooks 2009-2010

Dr. Scott Elliott presented updates to the student handbooks for 2009-2010. All handbooks are available in print and online. The overall goal is consistency and communicating expectations. Dr. Elliott reviewed the procedures common to all schools. Major changes include the revised cell phone policy, revised Policy IK-R and the anti-bullying policy. He also reviewed the changes for individual schools and addressed questions from board members regarding absences, lunch charges, fighting, new Junior Marshal procedures, and school buses. There was considerable discussion regarding student dress codes, and Mr. Rogers recommended that this be a discussion topic for a

future meeting. Mr. Rogers reported that there have been some concerns about staff dress codes. Dr. Elliott stated that staff members are expected to follow the same guidelines as those set for students. Student Melanie Miller suggested the word “ethnicity” be substituted for the word “race” in the district’s statement of non-discrimination. Dr. Elliott explained that the district uses the language that is recommended as the federal standard. Dr. Lyda and the Board commended Dr. Elliott and principals for their great work on the handbooks. Approval of the handbooks will be requested at the next regular meeting.

9. Important Dates

May 19	RHS Senior Projects	2:00 p.m.	RHS
May 21	DRS Senior Projects	3:30 p.m.	DRS
May 22	BMS Spring Band & Chorus Concert	7:00 p.m.	BHS Auditorium
May 25	BHS Senior Projects	3:30 p.m.	BHS
May 26	Scholars’ Recognition Evening	5:30 p.m.	BHS
May 28	BHS Spring Band & Chorus Concert	7:00 p.m.	BHS Auditorium
June 1	REGULAR MEETING	6:30 p.m.	MEC
June 8	National Technical Honor Society Inductions	5:30 p.m.	Transylvania Co. Library
June 9	School Bus Drivers’ Banquet	6:00 p.m.	Twin Dragons
June 10	Last pupil day		
June 10	DRS Graduation	1:00 p.m.	DRS
June 11-16	Teacher Workdays		
June 12	CTE Luncheon & Awards Meeting	12:00 p.m.	BHS Health Occupations Classroom
June 13	BHS Graduation	10:00 a.m.	Brevard Music Center
June 13	RHS Graduation	6:00 p.m.	RHS Gym
June 15	REGULAR MEETING Reception for Retirees	6:30 p.m.	Transylvania Co. Library
June 18-26	Summer School		

Make-up Days

1. December 1 will be made up on June 9.
2. January 21 was made up on February 16.
3. March 2 will be made up on June 10.

10. Other Items

Chairman Rogers offered student Melanie Miller an opportunity to share her comments or concerns. Miss Miller asked why class rank is determined by unweighted GPA. Dr. Lyda and Dr. Elliott stated they would confirm this, but they each believe that class rank is based on *weighted* GPA. Mr. Rogers asked Miss Miller for her thoughts on calendar. Miss Miller believes that having first semester exams before Christmas would reduce stress for many students.

Dr. Lyda announced that she had received a letter on Friday stating that Attorney Chris Campbell is leaving the firm of Roberts & Stevens P.A., effective at the close of business on June 12, 2009. He and Attorney Dean Shatley are starting their own firm in the Asheville area with an emphasis on public education law. The Board has been asked by Roberts & Stevens to indicate its intent to either 1) stay as clients with Roberts & Stevens as general counsel; 2) transfer to Chris Campbell, Esq., or a law firm with which he is associated and designated as its counsel; or 3) select another law firm or individual attorney. Board members agreed that they are happy with Mr. Campbell's representation and would be very comfortable going with his new firm. ON A MOTION BY MR. ROGERS, SECONDED BY MRS. MCCOY, the Board voted unanimously to transfer all legal representation and records to Chris Campbell, Esquire, effective June 13, 2009. Mr. Rogers reported that Vice Chairman Whitmire had given his previous agreement on this matter as well.

11. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

12. Closed Session

ON A MOTION BY MRS. MCCOY, SECONDED BY MRS. NORMAN, and pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1), 143-318.11(a)(5), and 115C-319, the Board went into closed session at 8:25 p.m. in order to discuss 1) information that is not a public record [employee personnel files], and 2) the possible acquisition of real estate. Present in the closed session were Mr. Rogers, Mrs. McCoy, Mrs. Norman, Mrs. Petit, Dr. Lyda, and Dr. McDaris. No action was taken in the closed session. ON A MOTION BY MRS. PETIT, SECONDED BY MRS. NORMAN, the Board reconvened in open session at 9:22 p.m.

There was no further business, and ON A MOTION BY MRS. NORMAN, SECONDED BY MRS. MCCOY, the meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman

Secretary

PERSONNEL REPORT
May 18, 2009

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

Licensed Personnel

Tricia Pfister, Teacher, PFES, effective June 17, 2009

Classified Personnel

None

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

Licensed Personnel

Trina Hendricks, Teacher, BHS, effective August 18, 2009

Classified Personnel

None

- 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

Janna Laughridge, School Counselor, BES, Family Leave under local BOE policy
GCBDB effective June 10, 2009, through June 17, 2009

Classified Personnel

None

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

Substitute Teachers

Katie Lillian Gray
Ronnie Monroe Morgan

Substitute Child Nutrition Workers

None

For Information

The administrators named here are eligible for renewal of their contracts:

Alan Justice, four-year contract, effective July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2013
Tony Meachum, four-year contract, effective July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2013
Kerry Putnam, four-year contract, effective July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2013
Thomas Sweet, four-year contract, effective July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2013

The licensed employees named here are eligible for a one-year renewal of their probationary contracts:

Brian Bailey, Teacher and Coach, RHS
Margaret Bayne, Media Coordinator, RES
Lynne Beeson, Teacher, BMS
Beth Branagan, Social Worker, DRS
Benjamin Briggs, Teacher, BMS
Christy Bryson, Teacher, RHS
Daniel Calhoun, Teacher, BHS
Stephanie Caracci, Teacher, RES
Linda Carrillo, Teacher, RMS and RHS
Harry Connor, Teacher and Athletic Director, RHS
Marlene Cronin, Teacher, BES
Angela Davidson, Teacher, PFES
Ange Davis, Teacher, BMS
Patrick Davis, Teacher, BHS
Marie Dean, Teacher, RES
Clare Desmelik, Teacher, BHS
Sarah Dooley, Teacher, BHS
Carrie Elmore, Teacher, BHS
Kelley Eyster, Teacher, BMS
Sara Germanaro, Teacher, BMS
Trevor Gibbs, Teacher, RES
Dennis Gilfillan, Teacher, RHS
Michael Ginnane, Teacher, BHS
Maura Goodrich, Teacher, RHS
Meredith Guice, Teacher, BES
Laurie Hadden, Teacher, BMS
Adria Hardy, Teacher, BHS
Kristy Hasman, Teacher, RMS
John Hogan, Teacher, BHS
Crystal Holland, Teacher, BES and PFES
Deanna Huffman, Teacher, BES
Derrick Huggins, Teacher and Coach, RES and RHS
Chesley Huskins, Media Coordinator, BHS
Holly Jones, Teacher, RHS
Anna Klosek, School Psychologist, RES and TCH
Jessica Levesque, Teacher, DRS
Keri Mann, Teacher, RES
Deborah Masengill, Teacher, RES
Shella McCall, Teacher, BHS
Mark McCann, Teacher, BHS

Rebecca McCord, Teacher, BHS
Amanda Mohammed, Teacher, BES
Dustin Morgan, Teacher, RMS
Heidi Morgan, Teacher, BES
Tammy Morris, Teacher, BES
Julie Nederveld, Teacher, RES
Claire Olinik, Teacher, RHS
Brooks Owenby, Teacher, BHS
Laura Patch, Teacher, BHS
Shannon Patton, Teacher, RHS
Patricia Pfister, Teacher, PFES
Scott Phelps, Media Coordinator, TCH
Melinda Quarles, Teacher, BHS
Melissa Redden, Teacher, BES
James Reid, Teacher and Coach, RHS
Kristine Renner, Media Coordinator, BMS
Sabrina Rhodes, Teacher, PFES
Dusty Robinson, Teacher and Coach, RHS
Erin Rogers, Teacher, BES
Katrina Ronneburger, Teacher, BHS
Stacey Seefeldt, Counselor, BHS
Sarah Shawver, Counselor, RHS
Erin Shelton, Counselor, PFES
Debora Smith, Teacher, PFES
Laura Smith, Teacher, DRS
Lisa Smith, Teacher, BMS
Brooke Snipes, Teacher, PFES
Heidi Spradlin, Teacher, BMS
Kevin Spradlin, Teacher, BHS
Daniel Sprinkle, Teacher, BMS
Jessica Stepp, Teacher, BHS
Joshua Tinsley, Teacher, BHS
William Tobias, Teacher, RMS
Erik Wahus, Teacher, BHS
Eve Walker, Teacher, PFES
Cameron Weaver, Teacher, BES
Carol Weeks, Teacher, RES
Adam Westhouse, Teacher, RHS
Tammy Westover, Teacher, RMS
Bridgette Whitlock, Teacher, BHS
Aaron Whitmire, Teacher, RMS
Matthew Witt, Teacher, RHS
Catherine Zandecki, Teacher, BMS