

**Minutes
Transylvania County Board of Education
June 3, 2019**

INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Public Comment
3. Good News Report
4. Recognition of Retirees 2018-2019
---Reception---
5. Proposal from Teens Advocating for Future Youth
6. Former Students in the Military
7. Consent Agenda:
 - A. Minutes
 - B. Personnel Report
8. Technology Purchase 2019-2020
9. School Nutrition Bid Results for 2019-2020
10. Selection of Architect & CMAR
11. Batting Cage Roof Replacement
12. FY20 Budget
13. Community Relations Board
14. Superintendent's Update
15. Important Dates
16. Public Comment
17. Other Items
18. Closed Session

The Transylvania County Board of Education met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on June 3, 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. In addition to approximately 13 guests, the following board members, staff, and others were in attendance:

BOARD MEMBERS:

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

BOARD ATTORNEY:

Dean Shatley

STAFF:

Dr. Jeff McDaris, Superintendent
Jenny Hunter, Administrative Assistant
Dr. Brian Weaver, Assistant Superintendent
Norris Barger, Director, Business Services
Carolyn Barton, Director, School Nutrition Services
Chris Whitlock, Director, Technology Services
Kevin Smith, School-Community Relations Coordinator
David Wright, School Resource Officer

MEDIA:

John Lanier, *Transylvania Times*

1. **Approval of Agenda**
ON A MOTION BY MRS. DOMOKUR, SECONDED BY MR. GRIFFIN, the meeting agenda for June 3, 2019 was approved as presented.

2. **Public Comment**

None

3. **Good News Report**

Dr. McDaris reported the following items:

Educators of the Year 2019-2020

At the “Teacher of the Year” Awards Reception on May 30, Tammy Moman, Brevard High School, was named as the Transylvania County Schools Teacher of the Year for 2019-2020, and Patti Whitaker, Brevard Elementary School, was named as the Transylvania County Schools Teacher Assistant of the Year for 2019-2020. Congratulations to Ms. Moman, Ms. Whitaker, and all of the educators listed below who were selected as the “best of the best” by their colleagues for 2019-2020. The Teacher of the Year award is sponsored by First Citizens Bank of Brevard.

- Student Services Person of the Year:** Nicole Moman (RES)
- Media/Technology Person of the Year:** Alyse Hollingsworth (BES)
- Principal of the Year:** Carrie Norris (BES)
- Rookie of the Year:** J. C. McCarson (RHS)
- Teacher Assistants of the Year:** Patti Whitaker (BES), Leah Graves (BHS), Brendan Ellsworth (BMS), Andre Hemphill (DRS), Doug Moll (PFES), Rita Whitlock (RES), Sandy O’Rourke (RHS), and Vickie Ayers (TCH)
- Teachers of the Year:** Lauren Wyatt (BES), Tammy Moman (BHS), Sarah Kennedy (BMS), Joe Russo (DRS), Alana Anderson (PFES), John Brinkley (RES), Jake Raines (RHS), Lynn Turner (RMS), and Kim Geer (TCH)

Graduation 2019

Congratulations to the Class of 2019! Everyone is invited to attend the graduation ceremonies, watch them live online, or view the archive after the ceremonies at the link on our TCS YouTube channel, <http://youtube.com/tcsnc>. Davidson River School’s graduation ceremony will be held Thursday, June 6, at 10:00 a.m. on the DRS lawn (weather permitting). Brevard High School will hold graduation on Friday, June 7, at 6:00 p.m. at the Brevard Music Center. Rosman High School’s seniors will graduate Saturday, June 8, at 10:00 a.m. at the Brevard Music Center.

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

4. **Recognition of Retirees 2019-2010**

In June of each year, the Transylvania County Board of Education honors the employees of Transylvania County Schools who are retiring or have already retired during the current school year. Dr. McDaris reported that the 16 people being honored for the 2018-2019 year represent a combined total of 393 years in public education. The board recognized the individuals listed below and thanked them for their years of dedicated service to public education and the students of Transylvania County Schools. Following the presentation, the board recessed at 6:45 p.m. for a short reception in honor of the retirees. Chairman McCoy called the meeting back into order at 7:00 p.m.

Transylvania County Schools Retirees 2018-2019			
Renee Avirett	Teacher Assistant	TCH	20 years

Tammy Gillis-Ducker	Media Coordinator	PFES	30 years
Sondra Green	Teacher	RMS	32 years
Lystra Keever	Teacher	RES	30 years
Sarah Kevitt	Technology Specialist	MEC	26 years
Doug Moll	Teacher Assistant	PFES	35 years
Dan Moore	Groundskeeper	Plant Operations	16 years
Ray Myers	Custodian	BHS	10 years
Valerie Pangle	Teacher Assistant	RES	31 years
Sheila Parris	Cafeteria Worker	BHS	30 years
Bob Pedersen	Maintenance Technician	Plant Operations	23 years
David Siniard	Student Advocate	BHS	28 years
Debbie Siniard	Office Support	BHS	9 years
Timothy Trantham	Teacher	BHS	28 years
Nancy VanNess	Teacher Assistant	PFES	12 years
Donna Wilde	Principal	DRS	33 years

5. Proposal from Teens Advocating for Future Youth

Mr. Bain Brown, Brevard High School senior, and members of the Teens Advocating for Future Youth (T.A.F.F.Y) Committee, presented a proposal to discontinue the practice of assigning C-STOP suspension to students caught in possession or use of e-cigarette products (vaping) on campus. Presenters described the health risks associated with vaping, noting that e-cigarettes contain at least as much nicotine as tobacco cigarettes; their vapor is aerosol, not water; they are addictive; and manufacturers are not required to disclose harmful ingredients. The presenters stated that C-STOP has not been proven to decrease e-cigarette use, it does not offer any help for nicotine addiction, and it isolates addicted teens. Instead of C-STOP, they propose that students receive a single day of in-school suspension, be required to complete a nicotine education program such as ASPIRE, and be provided with nicotine cessation resources. Board members asked several questions and agreed that more education is needed to alert students to the dangers. Mrs. Wellborn suggested that the School Health Advisory Council be tasked with reviewing the proposal and making a recommendation. Dr. McDaris discussed a need to also look at consequences for habitual offenders versus first time offenders. The board thanked Mr. Brown and the members of T.A.F.F.Y. for their initiative in developing an alternative and better solution to this issue.

6. 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 28 new names on the list.

7. Consent Agenda

ON A MOTION BY MR. GRIFFIN, SECONDED BY MR. KIVINIEMI, the board unanimously approved the minutes of the May 20 and May 21, 2019 meetings and the personnel report for June 3, 2019 (attached).

8. Technology Purchase 2019-2020

Technology Director Chris Whitlock presented the annual Chromebook purchase for the 2019-2020 school year. Board approval is required for purchases over \$90,000. The board reviewed a quote for \$184,077.03 from Trinity3 Technology for 625 new units, which includes the required Google license, four-year accidental warranty, power cords, and cases with power cord storage. Mr. Whitlock noted this is a funded, annually recurring item in the capital outlay budget and utilizes the federal TIPS contract for purchasing. Mr. Whitlock reported that per the district's four-year replacement schedule, the new Chromebooks will replace the student devices at Rosman Middle School and Rosman High School. The old devices will be repurposed as loaner machines and for other uses. Mr. Whitlock reported that he has been very pleased with the service and value provided by Trinity3 in the past. ON A MOTION BY MR. GRIFFIN, SECONDED BY MRS. WELLBORN, the board unanimously approved the purchase of \$184,077.03 in new Chromebooks from Trinity3 Technology for the 2019-2020 school year.

9. School Nutrition Bid Results 2019-2020

The School Nutrition Procurement Plan calls for a list of goods and services that go out for bid to be provided to the board of education each year. Invitations for Bid (IFB) are used if the amount of purchase is more than \$90,000. Requests for Proposals (RFP) are used when informal procedures are followed for purchases under \$90,000. Director Carolyn Barton presented the IFB bid results for the 2019-2020 school year. Pet Dairy in Arden was the successful milk bidder at \$125,000; Gordon's Foodservice out of Kannapolis, NC won the grocery bid at \$425,000 and supply bid at \$75,000; and JMJ Tomato Company and the WNC Farmers Market will provide fresh produce at \$98,000. Mrs. Barton described how escalator bids, NC Alliance pricing, fuel costs, and other factors play a role in determining bids. She reported that declining profit margins have caused some food companies to pull back from bidding on school systems. She added that Gordon's recently won the Mission Hospital grocery contract, and is therefore likely to stay in the area for some time. ON A MOTION BY MR. KIVINIEMI, SECONDED BY MRS. DOMOKUR, the School Nutrition bid results for the 2019-2020 school year were unanimously approved.

10. Selection of Architect & CMAR

Dr. McDaris reported that the School Bond Construction Committee (SBCC) interviewed architectural and CMAR (construction manager at risk) firms earlier this spring for the bond construction and renovation projects at Brevard High School and Rosman Middle/High School. After much work, the committee narrowed the field down to its top three choices in each category. At its work session on May 21, the board reviewed the committee's recommendations with an intent to select an architectural firm and CMAR at this meeting. Mr. Barger and Mr. Shatley recommended that the board select a first and second choice in each category to prevent a delay in having to approve a second firm should contract negotiations with the first choice break down. Dr. McDaris reported he had received a letter from PFA/LS3P architects apologizing for the disparaging comments about a competitor that were made by a member of their presentation team. Members asked to see the letter and Dr. McDaris left the meeting briefly to retrieve the letter and make copies. Mr. Barger gave a reminder of the SBCC's top three recommendations. For architectural firms, the top choices were Clark Nexsen and PFA/LS3P (tied for first place) and ADW (third place). For CMAR firms, Vannoy was the unanimous first choice, followed by Beverly Grant/Barnhill (second place) and Edifice (third place).

MR. KIVINIEMI MADE A MOTION to select Vannoy as first choice and Beverly Grant/Barnhill as second choice for the construction manager at risk and to authorize Mr. Barger and Dr. McDaris to open contract negotiations. MRS. DOMOKUR SECONDED. There was no discussion, and the motion passed unanimously.

MR. KIVINIEMI MADE A MOTION to select Clark Nexsen as first choice and PFA/LS3P as second choice for the architectural firm and to authorize Mr. Barger and Dr. McDaris to open contract negotiations. MR. GRIFFIN SECONDED. Chairman McCoy opened the floor for discussion.

Mr. Shatley reported that he believes a good price can be negotiated with either firm. Mr. Barger gave a reminder that the board has about \$60,000 in survey and advance planning work from Clark Nexsen that could be used by another firm if necessary.

Mrs. Domokur stated that she appreciated the letter from PFA and was impressed by the budget aspect of PFA's presentation. She stated that now they have acknowledged one member's mistake, PFA is her top choice. Mr. Shatley discussed how the role of the CMAR is to work up front with the architect to ensure the project stays within budget. Mr. Barger noted that all of the firms know the board has no more than \$68 million to spend and wants to provide exactly what was promised to the taxpayers.

Chairman McCoy stated that Clark Nexsen is her first choice. She believes they too have a strong budgetary focus and gave an outstanding presentation that showed they did not take for granted that they would be awarded the contract.

Mrs. Domokur stated that she would have like to have seen some new ideas from Clark Nexsen. She believes that PFA's emphasis on tight scheduling would save money. Chairman McCoy stated that PFA's advanced schedule does include the use of modular units.

Board members expressed thanks to the community for supporting the bond and excitement about moving forward. There was no other discussion, and ON A 4:1 VOTE, THE MOTION PASSED (FOR: McCoy, Kiviniemi, Griffin, Wellborn; AGAINST: Domokur). The next steps will be contract negotiations with Clark Nexsen and Vannoy.

11. Batting Cage Roof Replacement

Dr. McDaris reported that the roof of the softball batting cage at Brevard High School was destroyed by high winds earlier this year. The board reviewed an estimate of \$13,130.55 from Wilson Services to rebuild the roof. Norris Barger reported that the school system has received an insurance settlement of \$13,536.52 from its insurance carrier. Dr. McDaris recommended a new project line item be approved for the batting cage roof replacement. ON A MOTION BY MR. GRIFFIN, SECONDED BY MRS. WELLBORN, the board unanimously approved the superintendent's recommendation for a new project line item in the amount of \$13,536.52 for the batting cage roof replacement.

12. FY20 Budget

Dr. McDaris reported that the Senate budget proposal has been released. After an agreement is reached between the two chambers, the proposed budget will go the Governor for signature or veto. Mr. Barger discussed some of the differences between the House, Senate and Governor's proposals. Chairman McCoy reported that the board of commissioners would hold a budget work session on June 6. The education budget

will be discussed. It will not be a joint meeting and there will be no opportunity for public comment.

13. Community Relations Board

Dr. McDaris reported that the newly formed Community Relations Board (CRB) of Transylvania County has invited the Board of Education to designate three individuals to be members of the CRB. They would like two appointees to be students from Brevard High School, Davidson River School, or Rosman High School. The third may be anyone of the board's choosing. The CRB would like to have the appointments in time for its organizational meeting in mid-August. Mrs. Domokur asked how the Community Relations Board differs from Project Empathy. Dr. McDaris and Kevin Smith discussed the groups' similarities and differences and agreed that CRB seems to be more focused on specific social issues. The board directed Dr. McDaris to collect names of potential candidates and come back with recommendations at a future meeting. Mr. Griffin suggested that the board appoint high school student body presidents. Mrs. Wellborn suggested looking at a wider pool of candidates in order to consider kids who are not in student government, but may be interested in serving. She also suggested that the third appointee be an adult who works in the school system.

14. Superintendent's Update

Dr. McDaris reported that he attended a meeting in Jackson County last week with representatives of Go Global NC (GGNC). Go Global NC's mission is to connect North Carolina and the world by partnering with school systems to send one teacher per district (i.e., Global Teacher Fellows) to areas such as China and South America in an immersive experiential learning experience. Upon returning, the teacher fellows would translate their experiences into curriculum and lesson plans designed to help their students become global citizens. A fully funded endowment for one teacher is \$100,000. The GGNC would pay half the cost and the district would be responsible for raising the other half. Dr. McDaris reported that some districts in the region are pursuing this endeavor. Board members indicated they would like to hear more about the program and directed the superintendent to arrange for a presentation at a future meeting.

15. Important Dates

Dr. McDaris gave a reminder that the board will resume its once-a-month meeting schedule in July. Meetings will be held on the third Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

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 7-12	Teacher workdays
June 17	4-day summer schedule begins
June 17	REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC
July 4	Holiday
July 15	REGULAR MEETING, 6:30 p.m., MEC

Chairman McCoy suggested that the board revise its schedule to meet on the first and third Mondays of the month throughout the summer in order to discuss budget and other matters. She recommended that one of the monthly meetings be a work session and the other be a regular business meeting. Ms. Hunter reported that most administrators and staff have scheduled vacations in the summer, particularly during the first week of July.

After further discussion, Mr. Griffin recommended scheduling the work sessions immediately before the business meetings so as not to interfere with staff schedules. The board agreed by consensus to maintain the once-a-month meeting schedule and to hold work sessions in conjunction with the monthly business meetings beginning in July. All were in agreement that the work sessions would begin at 5:00 p.m., to be followed by the business meetings at 6:30 p.m.

16. **Public Comment**

None

17. **Other Items**

None

18. **Closed Session**

ON A MOTION BY MRS. MCCOY, SECONDED BY MRS. DOMOKUR, the board went into closed session at 8:25 p.m. to discuss information that is not a public record (employee personnel files), pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 115C-319 and 143-318.11(a)(1). Present in the closed session were board members McCoy, Kiviniemi, Domokur, Griffin, and Wellborn; Dr. Jeff McDaris; Dr. Brian Weaver; and Attorney Dean Shatley. Chairman McCoy called the closed session to order. The board discussed a personnel matter and the superintendent's recommendation. No action was taken in the closed session. ON A MOTION BY MR. KIVINIEMI, SECONDED BY MRS. WELLBORN, the board reconvened in open session at 8:55 p.m. ON A MOTION BY MR. KIVINIEMI, SECONDED BY MRS. DOMOKUR, the board unanimously upheld the superintendent's recommendation in the personnel matter.

There was no further business, and ON A MOTION BY MR. GRIFFIN, SECONDED BY MRS. WELLBORN, the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman

Secretary

**PERSONNEL REPORT
June 3, 2019**

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

Licensed Personnel

Anne Childs, Teacher, BES, effective May 31, 2019

Classified Personnel

Evelyn Chapman, Office Support, RHS, effective August 30, 2019

David Gibbons, Custodian & Bus Driver, PFES, effective May 30, 2019

Amanda Jones, Teacher Assistant, BES, effective May 22, 2019

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

Licensed Personnel

Colleen Fernandez, School Counselor, BMS, effective August 15, 2019

Mackenzie Gaines, Teacher, RMS, effective August 15, 2019

Lisa Malaquin-Prey, Teacher, RES, effective August 15, 2019

Classified Personnel

Haley Melton, Teacher Assistant, PFES, effective August 16, 2019

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

Licensed Personnel

Barbara Grimm, from Interim Principal, DRS, to Principal, DRS, effective July 1, 2019

Tonya James, from Teacher, BHS, to Preschool Program Coordinator, BES-based, effective August 1, 2019

Emily McGraw, from School Counselor, BMS, to School Counselor, DRS, effective August 15, 2019

Classified Personnel

Charles Nicholson, from Bus Driver and Custodian, to Maintenance Worker and Bus Driver, Plant Operations, effective May 28, 2019

- 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

Kimberly Williams

Substitute School Nutrition Workers

None

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

Bryan Abernethy, four-year contract, effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2023
Jeffrey Bailey, four-year contract, effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2023
Arleca Chapman, four-year contract, effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2023
Patrick Chapman, four-year contract, effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2023
Barbara Grimm, two-year contract, effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021
Melonie Harris, four-year contract, effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2023
Carrie Norris, four-year contract, effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2023
Audrey Reneau, four-year contract, effective July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2023

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

Alana Anderson, Teacher, PFES
Christy Bryson, Teacher, RMS
Margaret Buchanan, Teacher, BMS
Charles Burchill, Teacher, BHS
Kristin Burton, Teacher, BHS
Laura Kathleen Butler, Teacher, RMS & RHS
Katerina Canter, Teacher, RMS & RHS
David Cornett, Teacher, BHS
Daniel Courtine, Teacher, BES
Erica Courtine, Teacher, BES
Holly Egan, Teacher, PFES
Paul Fedorczyk, Teacher, BMS
Kimberly Geer, Teacher, TCHES
Elizabeth Hart, School Psychologist, RHS
Sandra Hjelm, Teacher, BES
Alana Hokans, Teacher, RES
Leigh Hyett, Teacher, BES
Margaret Joseph, Teacher, TCHES
Lauren Koons, Teacher, BES
Jessica Kryzenske, Speech-Language Pathologist, BES
Nancy MacDonald, Teacher, TCHES
James Markey, Teacher, BMS
Timothy Masterson, Teacher, RES
John McCarson, Teacher, RHS
Heather McCracken, Teacher, BES
Melissa McKinnon, Teacher, BMS
Donna Millis, Teacher, RMS
Breanna Morris, Teacher, RES
Breana Murfin, Teacher, BES
April Nelson, Teacher, BMS
Kelsey Perley, Teacher, BES
Melinda Reed, Teacher, RES
Candace Reese, Teacher, RES
Dusty Robinson, Teacher, RMS
Cassandra Smatana, Teacher & Coach, BHS
Erica Starr, Teacher, PFES
Richard Stubbs, Teacher, BHS

Kathleen Sullivan, Speech-Language Pathologist, BMS
Parker Swaringen, Teacher & Coach, RHS
Leslie Taylor, Teacher, BHS
Elizabeth Thompson, School Psychologist, BES
Brianna Woody, Teacher, TCHES
Kimberly Wynn, Teacher, RHS

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

Kristina Blankenship, Speech-Language Pathologist, BES
Gary DeHaven, Teacher, BMS
Roman Evans, Teacher, BHS
Marissa Fedorczyk, Teacher, PFES
Noelle Fehn, Teacher, DRS
Nancy Frady, Teacher, BES
Laura Hendrix, Teacher, BES
Verna Jenkins, Teacher, DRS
Sarah Kennedy, Teacher, BMS
Alicia LaDow, Teacher, PFES
Hayley Leland, Teacher, BES
Andrew Lindsey, Teacher, BHS
Jenae Merkle, Teacher, PFES
Katie Messmer, Teacher, BMS
Kimberly Moore, Instructional Coach, BES
Caroline Morrison, Teacher, BHS
Rebecca Claire O'Connor, Teacher, PFES
Jacob Osteen, Teacher, BES
Samantha Osteen, Teacher, BES
Brian Owens, Teacher & Coach, BMS
Haley Patton, Teacher, PFES
Janet Powell, Teacher & Coach, RES
Shanaia Powell, Social Worker, RHS
Richard Ronneburger, Teacher, BHS
Jennifer Speckman, Teacher, RHS
Lynn Turner, Teacher, RMS
Lauren Wyatt, Teacher, BES